DeKalb County Department of Planning & Sustainability



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Planning Commission Hearing Date: July 1, 2018, 6:30 P.M. Board of Commissioners Hearing Date: July 24, 2018, 6:30 P.M.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Case No.: Z-18-22310 Agenda #: N. 2

Location/Address: 2144, 2054, 2050, and 2038 Lawrenceville Commission District: 2 Super District: 6

Highway, 1086 Birch Road, and 2692 Sweet

Briar Road, Decatur

Parcel ID(s): 18-100-02-005, -040, -041, -049 & -057 and 18-100-04-014

Request: To rezone property from C-1 (Local Commercial) to MU-4 (Mixed Use-4) for

redevelopment of the North DeKalb Mall into a mixed retail, multifamily residential, hotel,

and office development. The property is located on the west side of Lawrenceville Highway, approximately 92 feet south of the southwest corner of Lawrenceville Highway and North Druid Hills Road, at 2144, 2054, 2050, and 2038 Lawrenceville Highway, 1086

Birch Road, and 2692 Sweet Briar Road, Decatur.

Property Owner(s): LCI-SVAP NDM JV, LP

Applicant/Agent: LCI-SVAP NDM JV, LP c/o Kathryn M. Zickert

Acreage: 78.09 acres

Existing Land Use: The North DeKalb Mall

Surrounding Properties: To the north, northeast, east, and southeast: commercial and office uses; to the south

and southwest: undeveloped floodplain; to the west and northwest: single-family

residential.

Adjacent Zoning: North: NS and C-1 South: R-75 and C-2 East: C-1 and Lawrenceville Hwy West: R-75

Northeast: C-1 Northwest: R-75 and RSM Southeast: Lawrenceville Hwy and R-75

Southwest: R-75

Comprehensive Plan: TC (Town Center) and COS (Conservation Open Space) X Consistent

Proposed Density: 6.5 units/acre

Proposed Units/Square Ft.: 500 units/6,496 s.f./acre

Proposed Lot Coverage: approx. 67% (no discernable increase over existing lot coverage)

Existing Density: No residential

Existing Units/Square Feet: 7,051 s.f./acre

Existing Lot Coverage: (estimate) 67%

Companion Application

The applicant has filed a companion application (SLUP -18-22311) for Costco fuel pumps as part of the redevelopment of the mall into a mixed retail, multifamily residential, hotel, and office development.

Development of Regional Impact

As a mixed use project with over 700,000 square feet of space, the redevelopment proposal meets the threshold for a development of regional impact as defined by the Atlanta Regional Commission. The number of proposed residential units (500) was multiplied by 500 square feet, which is the smallest unit size allowed in MU-4, in accordance with ARC rules. When the resulting 225,000 square feet was added to the 507,271 square feet of non-residential space, the project square footage exceeded the maximum for the region core. If hotel square footage had been added, the total of 732,271 square feet would have been even higher.

In order to meet ARC's review schedule, the applicant plans to request a deferral until the September zoning cycle.

Zoning History

The property was zoned to C-1 (Local Commercial) in 1973 pursuant to CZ-73054. In 1985, a 25.176-acre parcel to the south of the proposed development was rezoned from R-75 (Single-Family Residential) to C-1 pursuant to CZ-85160 to allow for renovations to the Mall. In 2008, a parcel at the northwest corner of the Mall property was rezoned from NS (Neighborhood Shopping) to C-1 to allow for construction of a Costco gas station, which has not been constructed to date.

PROJECT ANALYSIS

The subject property is a 78-acre site that is developed with the North DeKalb Mall, a regional shopping center. The Mall was constructed 1965 with 54 stores including a Rich's department store and a Woolworth dime store. In 1986, North DeKalb Mall was expanded and renovated with two new anchor stores and renamed Market Square at North DeKalb. A movie theater was added in the mid- 1990s. In 2016, the anchor store Macy's closed, and a number of smaller retailers have subsequently left the mall.

Because the site of the mall is approximately 20 feet lower in grade than Lawrenceville Highway and is located behind the commercial uses that front on North Druid Hills Road, the buildings of the mall currently cannot be seen from either street, and the mall relies on signs for visibility. The floodplain of the South Fork Peachtree Creek is located along the southwest and south borders of the property. The applicant has stated that there is an opportunity for a connection at the southern property line for a connection to the PATH trail along South Fork Peachtree Creek.

The Mall is located at the southwestern corner of North Druid Hills Road, a four-lane major arterial, and Lawrenceville Highway, a five-lane major arterial and State highway (Route 29). Land uses at this intersection form an intensive commercial node. Shamrock Plaza, a shopping center anchored by a Publix grocery store, is located on the northwest corner of the intersection, and North DeKalb Square, anchored by Goodwill Industries Store and Career Center, is located at the northeast corner. A Home Depot store is located approximately 1,000 feet to the north of the intersection, on Lawrenceville Highway. Other nearby properties are developed with retail, fast food restaurants, banks, and gas stations. The southeast corner of the intersection is used for on- and off-ramps for U.S. 78.

The application states, "The decline in traditional enclosed shopping concept is reflected in other malls throughout the Atlanta area, including Gwinnett Place and Northlake Mall. These malls, similarly situated to North DeKalb Mall, are also the subject of potential redevelopment plans." The application goes on to state, "the North DeKalb Mall property offers a golden opportunity to transform the deteriorating mall into a modern, mixed-use development that offers the retail sought after by the community as well as the residential component needed for the area's continued growth."

The proposal to redevelop the Mall would involve the demolition of the existing buildings and construction of the following:

- A 152,221 square foot Costco Wholesale Warehouse retail store in a stand-alone building;
- A 115,000 square foot block of retail spaces that would include current Mall tenants Burlington Coat Factory and Marshalls;
- 73,750 square feet of retail space in six buildings of various sizes, which appear to be clustered around a plaza;
- A 14,500 square foot food hall;
- A 48,000 square foot theater,
- A 12.45-acre portion of land for residential consisting of approximately 450 units of multifamily residential and 50 townhomes;
- A 150-room hotel; and
- 1,964 surface and parking deck spaces for the commercial and hotel uses.

LAND USE AND ZONING ANALYSIS

Section 27-832 of the Zoning Ordinance, "Standards and factors governing review of proposed amendments to the official zoning map" states that the following standards and factors shall govern the review of all proposed amendments to the zoning maps.

A. Whether the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the comprehensive plan:

Redevelopment of the Mall to include a more diverse mix of uses is consistent with the following policy of the 2035 Comprehensive Plan for Regional Center character areas: "Create compact mixed use districts and reduce automobile dependency and travel to obtain basic services." (No. 5) The mixture of uses and density and intensity of development is consistent with Policy No. 21: "Each Regional Center shall include a very high-density mix of retail, office, services, and employment opportunities to serve several neighborhoods." Although a regional mall is conceived to be a destination that most customers reach by automobile, the land uses within the mall can be connected by a system of sidewalks and street crossings with street trees that provide shade to encourage the use of the sidewalks. The cluster of land uses at the southeastern corner of the site around what appears to be a plaza appears to be consistent with Policy No. 17: "Design shall be pedestrian-oriented with walkable connections between different uses." Pedestrian connections throughout the development need to be improved in order for the overall development to be considered pedestrian-oriented. The site plan does not depict enough detail to determine whether the development will include traffic calming features.

B. Whether the zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby properties:

The zoning proposal expands upon the character of the existing mall, which has established itself as an important part of the commercial node at North Druid Hills Road and Lawrenceville Highway. Adjacent and nearby commercial properties at this node support the mall as a regional shopping and entertainment destination and are, in turn, supported by the mall.

C. Whether the property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned:

The property has reasonable economic use as currently zoned; however, the proposed zoning category of MU-4 is much more desirable as it would allow the mixture of non-residential and residential uses that have the potential to reduce automobile trips.

D. Whether the zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby property:

The mall will continue to be separated from single-family residential neighborhoods to the southwest and south by the floodplain of the South Fork Peachtree Creek. A 50-foot buffer is proposed along the west property line to reduce impacts on the residential neighborhood to the west.

E. Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property, which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal:

The DeKalb County Lawrenceville Highway Corridor study (November 2016) identified the commercial area around the North DeKalb Mall as "needing re-tenanting". In other words, it asserted that "... the retailers present no longer fit the service area demographics adequately." It did not identify the mall itself as obsolete, although its vacancies indicate that obsolescent may be an issue. It is possible that redevelopment of the mall would spur a revitalization of the area around the mall.

F. Whether the zoning proposal will adversely affect historic buildings, sites, districts, or archaeological resources:

No historic buildings, sites, districts, or archaeological resources are located on the property or in the surrounding area.

G. Whether the zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools:

There has been no indication that the zoning proposal will overburden surrounding street, utilities, or schools.

H. Whether the zoning proposal adversely impacts the environment or surrounding natural resources:

The mall currently is almost completely paved, so there is little natural area on the property. Redevelopment of the site presents opportunities to increase the amount of landscaping in the parking lots.

Compliance with District Standards:

| MU-4 STANDARD | REQUIRED/ALLOWED | PROVIDED/PROPOSED | COMPLIANCE |
|---|---|---|--------------------|
| MAX. D.U.s/ACRE (BASE, W/BONUSES) | Base: 24 d.u.s/acre; w/bonuses: 40 d.u.s/ac. | 6.5 units/acre | Yes |
| MIN. STREET FRONTAGE | 50 | 145 feet on Lawrenceville Highway | Yes |
| OVERALL SITE SETBACK | Front, Side: None; Rear: Min. 10 ft. | Information not provided | Info. not provided |
| MIN. OPEN SPACE | 10% of total parcel acreage | 45% (including floodplain) | Yes |
| MIN. TRANSITIONAL BUFFER | 50 feet next to R district | 50 feet | Yes |
| MIX OF USES (SQUARE FOOTAGE OF BUILDING(S)) | Min. 20% non-residential | (Assuming 225,000 s.f. residential) 69% | Yes |

| MU-4 STANDARD | REQUIRED/ALLOWED | PROVIDED/PROPOSED | COMPLIANCE |
|--|---|---|--|
| MINIMUM UNIT SIZE | 1 brm. – 500 s.f.; 2 brm. – 650 s.f.; 3-brm. – 800 s.f. | Information not provided | Info. not provided |
| MAX. BLDG. HEIGHT (w/out bonuses) | 8 stories or 100 ft., whichever is less | | |
| TRANS'L HEIGHT PLANE | Applicable to proposed Costco Building | Information not provided | Info. not provided |
| PARKING | Total non-residential required/allowed: | Total non-residential spaces: 1,964 | Yes |
| Retail – Min. 1/500 sf.; Max. 1/200 s.f. = min. 711 spaces; max. 1,777 spaces | Min. 1,021 spaces Max. 2,341 spaces | Residential spaces : information not provided | Info. not provided |
| Theater – Min. 1/300 s.f.; Max. 1/125 s.f. = min. 160 spaces; max. 384 spaces | | Bicycle parking: Information not provided | Info not provided |
| Hotel – Min. 1/unit + 1/150 s.f. banquet or assembly area; Max. 1.2/unit + 1/100 s.f. banquet or assembly area = (assuming no assembly space) min. 150 spaces; max. 180 spaces | | | |
| Multifamily residential – Min. 1.5/d.u.; Max. 3/d.u. = min. 675 spaces; max. 1,350 spaces | | | |
| Attached s-f townhomes— Min. 1.75/d.u.; Max. 3.25/d.u. = min. 1 spaces; max. 1,777 spaces | | | |
| Bicycle parking : 1 space/20 vehicular parking spaces = 98 spaces | | | |
| PEDESTRIAN PATHS FROM SIDEWALKS TO BLDG. ENTRANCES (Sec. 5.4.3(B)(5)) | Min. 3 ft. wide | Not shown for all buildings. | Not shown for all buildings. |
| LANDSCAPE STRIPS ALONG PEDESTRIAN PATHS (Sec. 5.4.4(B)) | Min. 3 ft., planted | Shown along sidewalks except | |
| TREE ISLANDS IN PARKING LOT | One island for every 10 parking spaces | Parking lot in front of big box stores: approx. 1.5 islands for every 7 spaces. Costco pkng. Lot: 1 island for every 6 – 15 spaces | Costco pkng. lot will need to be reconfigured or a variance will be necessary. |

| MU-4 STANDARD | REQUIRED/ALLOWED | PROVIDED/PROPOSED | COMPLIANCE |
|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| PERIMETER LANDSCAPE STRIP (Sec. 5.4.4(C)) | Min. 5 ft. wide; landscaping as per Sec. 5.4.4(C)(2) | Information not provided. | Information not provided. |

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The applicant has requested a deferral to allow for review of the application by the Atlanta Regional Commission as a Development of Regional Impact. The Department of Planning and Sustainability agrees with the request and recommends "Full Cycle Deferral".

Attachments:

- 1. Department and Division Comments
- 2. Board of Health Comments
- 3. Board of Education Comments
- 4. Application
- 5. Site Plan
- 6. Zoning Map
- 7. Land Use Plan Map
- 8. Aerial Photograph
- 9. Site Photographs

NEXT STEPS



Following an approval of this zoning action, one or several of the following may be required:

- **Land Disturbance Permit** (Required for of new building construction on non-residential properties, or land disturbance/improvement such as storm water detention, paving, digging, or landscaping.)
- **Building Permit** (New construction or renovation of a building (interior or exterior) may require full plan submittal or other documentation. Zoning, site development, watershed and health department standards will be checked for compliance.)
- **Certificate of Occupancy** (Required prior to occupation of a commercial or residential space and for use of property for a business. Floor plans may be required for certain types of occupants.)
- **Plat Approval** (Required if any parcel is being subdivided, re-parceled, or combined. Issued "administratively"; no public hearing required.)
- **Sketch Plat Approval** (Required for the subdivision of property into three lots or more. Requires a public hearing by the Planning Commission.)
- **Overlay Review** (Required review of development and building plans for all new construction or exterior modification of building(s) located within a designated overlay district.)
- **Historic Preservation** (A Certificate of Appropriateness is required for any proposed changes to building exteriors or improvements to land when located within the Druid Hills or the Soapstone Geological Historic Districts. Historic Preservation Committee public hearing may be required.)
- Variance (Required to seek relief from any development standards of the Zoning Ordinance. A public hearing and action by the Board of Appeals are required for most variances.)
- Minor Modification (Required if there are any proposed minor changes to zoning conditions that were approved by the Board of Commissioners. The review is administrative if the changes are determined to be minor as described by Zoning Code.)
- **Major Modification** (Required submittal of a complete zoning application for a public hearing if there are any proposed major changes to zoning conditions that were approved by the Board of Commissioner for a prior rezoning.)
- **Business License** (Required for any business or non-residential enterprise operating in Unincorporated DeKalb County, including in-home occupations).
- **Alcohol License** (Required permit to sell alcohol for consumption on-site or packaged for off-site consumption. Signed and sealed distance survey is required. Background checks will be performed.)

Each of the approvals and permits listed above requires submittal of application and supporting documents, and payment of fees. Please consult with the appropriate department/division.

DeKalb County Long Range Planning Division

Supplemental Land Use Report (for developments proposed in Activity Centers)

| Case No. | Existing FLU: Town Center | BOC Hearing Date | Staff Recommendation | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Project | Proposed FLU: Town Center | Click here to enter a | Choose an item. | | | | |
| Name: | | date. | | | | | |
| 7 10 22210 | Town Center Drawies These policies are primarily applicable to activity centers that do not have adented studies | | | | | | |

Z-18-22310

Town Center Premise - These policies are primarily applicable to activity centers that do not have adopted studies. Studies that are adopted for Town Centers are referred to as Small Area Plans (SAP), and they provide more detailed guidelines and recommendations for land use, zoning, development, transportation, housing, economic development, and green space. If there are conflicts between SAP and Town Center policies, SAP policies shall take precedence.

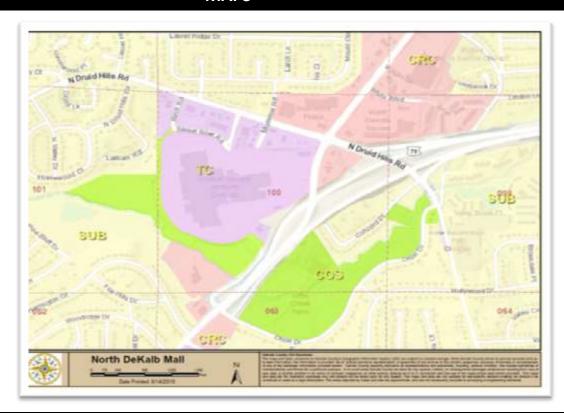
Town Center Intent - The intent of the Town Center Character Area is to promote the concentration of residential and commercial structures, which serve many communities in order to reduce automobile travel, promote walkability and increased transit usage. The areas consist of a focal point for several neighborhoods with a variety of activities such as general retail, commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses that are easily accessible by pedestrians. This character area is similar to neighborhood center, but at a larger scale. The preferred density for areas of this type is up to 60 dwelling units per acre.

MAPS

Land Use Town Center 60 dwelling units per acre

Primary Uses

- Townhomes
- Condominiums
- Apartments
- Health Care Facilities
- Retail and Commercial
- Office
- Institutional
- Entertainment and Cultural Facilities
- Park and Recreational Facilities
- Public and Civic Facilities





Project Description

Location: This proposed development is in unincorporated DeKalb County on the site of the existing North DeKalb Mall, southwest of the intersection of Lawrenceville Highway (US 29/78/SR 8) and North Druid Hills Road. North DeKalb Mall located at 2050 Lawrenceville Hwy, Decatur, GA 30033.

Developer/Owner: LCI-SVA NDM JV, LP ("Sterling") intends to redevelop the existing

Estimated Completion: The estimated build-out year is 2021.

Project Size (Acres, Square Footage, etc.)

Acres: 78-acre

Retail SF: 298,121 Restaurant SF: 60,350 SF Office SF: 50,400 SF

Hotel SF: Rooms: 150 hotel rooms Entertainment: 48,000 SF movie theatre

Residential SF: Units: 500 multi-family residential units.

Other: Total SF:

| Land Use Policy Analysis | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Town Center Policies | | | ant with ensive Plan | Additional comments that justify staff recommendation | | | | |
| | YES | NO | Not Applicable | | | | | |
| Protect Single Family Neighborhoods - Preserve and enhance the integrity and quality of existing residential neighborhoods. | | | ⊠ | | | | | |
| 2. Maximum Density— Encourage the maximum density of residential in mixed use projects not to exceed 60 dwelling units per acre, with the most intense development located towards the commercial and/or office core of the Town Center. Properties located along the outer edges of the Town Center shall be sensitive to the building height and density of adjacent single family residential. (Refer to Figure 7.3, page 60 of the comprehensive plan) | | | | | | | | |
| Retrofitting - Foster retrofitting for conformity with traditional neighborhood principles. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 4. Pedestrian Scale Development - Create pedestrian scale communities that focus on the relationship between the street, buildings, streetscaping and people. | | \boxtimes | | Does not foster the pedestrian scale development that encourages the relationship between street, buildings, streetscaping and people. Recommendations: reconfigure design layout of site. | | | | |
| 5. Mixed Use Development - Create compact mixed use districts and reduce automobile dependency and travel to obtain basic services. | \boxtimes | | | | | | | |
| 6. Transitional Buffers - Require greater setbacks and/or transitional buffers for developments when located adjacent to lower density residential uses. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 7. Enhanced Buffers - Require the incorporation of enhanced buffers in efforts to protect single family neighborhoods. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 8. Staggered Heights - Require the consideration of staggered height implementation when developments are adjacent to single family residential neighborhoods. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 9. Streetscaping - Improve street character with consistent signage, lighting, landscaping and other design features. | \boxtimes | | | | | | | |
| 10. Pocket Parks - Create focal points through the use of existing pocket parks and squares for community activities. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 11. Cultural Diversity - Promote activities to highlight historic and cultural assets in the community and provide opportunities for community interaction. | | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| 12. Infill Development - Utilize vacant properties in the neighborhood as an opportunity for infill development of compatible structures. | \boxtimes | | | | | | | |
| 13. Parking - Clearly define road edges by locating buildings near the roadside with parking in the rear. | | | \boxtimes | According to policy, parking should remain in the rear of the building to creating a pedestrian friendly site. | | | | |
| 14. Open Space and linkages - Encourage that all development and redevelopment in activity centers provide open space and/or contribute to the public realm with wider public sidewalks, pedestrian | | | \boxtimes | Does not meet the pedestrian friendly linkages. | | | | |

| linkages and other design features. 15. Healthy Neighborhoods - Promote healthy | | | | | In o | rder to achieve this policy, a pedestrian | | |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| living in neighborhoods by incorporating a | | | | | | ndly environment that encourages biking | | |
| pedestrian environment that encourages socialization, walking, biking and connectivity. | | \boxtimes | | | | connectivity is needed per the Master | | |
| Implement the recommendations of the Master Active Living Plans (MALPs). | | | | | Acti | ve Living Plan. | | |
| 16. High Density Residential - Residential | | | | | | | | |
| development shall reinforce the center by locating higher density housing options adjacent to the | \boxtimes | | | | | | | |
| center. Housing in Town Center shall be targeted to a broad range of income levels. | | | | | | | | |
| 17. Pedestrian Enhancements - Create a | | | | _ | Doe | s not meet the requirements | | |
| pedestrian-friendly environment by adding sidewalks that link neighborhood amenities. | | \boxtimes | | | | | | |
| 18. Traffic Calming - Organize circulation patterns | | | | | Doe | s not meet the requirements | | |
| through traffic calming techniques and access management. Add traffic calming improvements, | | \boxtimes | | П | | | | |
| sidewalks, and increased street interconnections to | | | | _ | | | | |
| increase safety and improve walkability. 19. Pedestrian Oriented Design - Design shall be | | | | | Doe | s not meet the requirements | | |
| pedestrian-oriented with walkable connections | | \boxtimes | | | | | | |
| between different uses. 20. VMT - Promote new and redevelopment at or | | | | | Tran | nsit access within ½ mile? Yes | | |
| near activity centers as a means of reduce vehicle | \boxtimes | | | | | | | |
| miles traveled (VMT). 21. High Density Development - Each Town | | | | | Perc | entage of mixed use: | | |
| Center shall include a very high-density mix of | \boxtimes | | | | Re | sidential Office RetailOpen Space | | |
| retail, office, services, and employment opportunities to serve several neighborhoods. | | | | | | Creation Numbers: onstruction Permanent Jobs Wages | | |
| 22. Small Area Plans (SAPs) -Implement | | | | | | s project is within the following SAP of the | | |
| appropriate sub-policies (pages 85-114 in the comprehensive plan) and | | | | | | wn Center: //edline Activity Center | | |
| development guidelines in Town Centers | | | | | $\square W$ | esley Chapel LCI | | |
| that have Small Area Plans, which provide more guidance to the development of | | | | \boxtimes | | □Candler Road Flat Shoals LCI □Redan Road Indian Creek Master Active Plan | | |
| mixed use and transition down to single | | | | | □То | oco Hills Node of the North Druid Hills LCI | | |
| family residential. | | | | | | If one of the above is checked, provide policies and | | |
| | | | | | | ofor that particular study, that supports ommendation. | | |
| 23. Preferred Uses – Each Town Center shall | | | | | | entage of mixed use: | | |
| include a high density mix of retail, office, services, and employment to serve | \boxtimes | | | | | esidential Office RetailOpen Space Creation Numbers: | | |
| neighborhoods. | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | | <u> </u> | onstruction Permanent Jobs Wages | | |
| (In support of Section 27-7-3.4 of the DeKalh County Co | | | | alysis | | rds and factors shall aggern the review of all proposed | | |
| (In support of Section 27-7.3.4 of the DeKalb County Code states that the following standards and factors shall govern the review of all proposed amendments to the Official Zoning Map.) | | | | | | | | |
| Questions | | | YES | mplia NO | nt N/A | Comments to support zoning proposal | | |
| A. Zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy | and in | tent | 1E3 | 140 | IV/A | The site is located within a designated Town Center | | |
| of the comprehensive plan: | | | \boxtimes | | | Character Area by the 2035 Comprehensive Plan. Town Centers allow a residential density of up to 60 | | |
| | | | | | | units per acre. | | |
| | zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in of the use and development of adjacent and nearby | | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| properties: | | - | | | | | | |
| C. The property to be affected by the zoning prop | oosal h | ias a | \boxtimes | | | | | |
| reasonable economic use as currently zoned: | | use | | \boxtimes | | | | |

| | or usability of adjacent or nearby property: | | | | |
|----------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| E. | There are other existing or changing conditions affecting | | | | |
| | the use and development of the property, which give | | | | |
| | supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of | | | | |
| | the zoning proposal: | | | | |
| F. | The zoning proposal will adversely affect historic | | | | |
| | buildings, sites, districts, or archaeological resources: | | \boxtimes | | |
| G. | The zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could | | | | |
| | cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, | | \boxtimes | | |
| | transportation facilities, utilities, or schools: | | | | |
| Н. | The zoning proposal adversely impacts the environment | | | | |
| | or surrounding natural resources. | | \boxtimes | | |
| | Transportation | Plan | ning / | Analys | is |
| | (Based on the DeKalb County 201 | | _ | _ | |
| Pol | icies | | nplian | | Additional comments that justify staff |
| | | | the CT | | recommendation |
| | | Yes | No | N/A | |
| Fur | nctional Classification for the project site: | | | | |
| □F | reeway ⊠Major Arterial □Minor Arterial | \boxtimes | | | |
| | collector □Local | | | | |
| | ight | | | | |
| | ocated on a truck or sanitation route | _ | _ | _ | |
| | roximity of Landfill or Transfer Station | \boxtimes | Ш | Ш | |
| | ocated on a state route | | | | |
| | ocated in proximity of rail lines and / or crossings | | | | |
| | ess Management | \boxtimes | | | |
| | mplete Streets Policy | | | | |
| | unty / Developer will consider installing bicycle and / or lestrian facilities, and Transit facilities. | | \boxtimes | | |
| | sign: The following street design guidelines and best | | | | |
| | ctices are listed on page 16 in the Appendix document of the | | | \boxtimes | |
| СТІ | | _ | | | |
| | plication: See page 16 in the Appendix document of the | | | \boxtimes | |
| CTI | | | | | |
| | emptions: | | | | |
| | coadway corridor legally prohibits specific users (e.g. relists and pedestrians on interstate) | | | | |
| | cost of providing bicycle or pedestrian facilities is excessively | | | \boxtimes | |
| | proportionate to the need or probable use | ш | | | |
| | bsence of current and future need is documented | | | | |
| □R | loadways not owned or operated by DeKalb County. | | | | |
| | formance Measures. Success of complete streets include: | | | | |
| \Box N | files of new on-street bicycle routes | | | | |
| \Box N | files of new or reconstructed sidewalks | | | | |
| □P | ercentage completion of bicycle and pedestrian networks as | | П | \boxtimes | |
| | isioned by the latest DeKalb County Comprehensive | | | | |
| | nsportation Plan | | | | |
| | ncrease in pedestrian and bicycle volumes along key | | | | |
| | ridors nan Services Transportation | | | | |
| | <u> </u> | | Ш | | |
| | ycle and Pedestrian Level of Service Goals and | | | | |
| | nnectivity OS B (within an activity center) | | | | |
| | OS C (not within an activity center) | \boxtimes | | | |
| | xisting PATH Trail | | | | |
| | prity Bicycle Network | | | <u> </u> | A trail path is recommended along the |
| | irst Tier Priority Network Second Tier Priority Network | | | | |
| | xisting PATH ⊠Future PATH | \boxtimes | | | Multi-Family parcel. |
| | • | | | | |
| I | | l | 1 | 1 | |

| | or usability of adjacent or nearby property: | | | | |
|----------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
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| Pol | icies | | nplian | | Additional comments that justify staff |
| | | | the CT | | recommendation |
| | | Yes | No | N/A | |
| Fur | nctional Classification for the project site: | | | | |
| □F | reeway ⊠Major Arterial □Minor Arterial | \boxtimes | | | |
| | collector □Local | | | | |
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LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

June 15, 2018

Chris Kapper Sterling Organization 340 Royal Poinciana Way Palm Beach, Florida 33480

RE: Decatur Landing (DRI#:2820)

Dear Mr. Kapper:

The purpose of this letter is to document the discussions during the Pre-Review and Methodology Meeting held at ARC's office on June 1, 2018 regarding **2820 Decatur Landing** development of regional impact. Some of the following items were discussed in this meeting and should assist you and your consultant team in preparing the DRI Review Package.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The project is located in DeKalb County, in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of North Druid Hills Road and Lawrenceville Highway.
- The DRI trigger for this development is a rezoning.
- The project is planned as a mixed-use development consisting of 298,121 SF of retail, 60,350 SF of restaurant, 50,400 SF of office, 500 residential units, 48,000 SF of a theater, and 150-room hotel.
- The vehicular trip generation is estimated to be 22,812 gross daily trips based on the ITE Trip Generation
 Manual 10th edition. However, the adjusted new gross trips will be determined by subtracting the existing
 trip generation of the site from the proposed project's trip generation.
- The development site proposes access via three existing full movement driveways. There are two existing
 movement driveways along North Druid Hills Road and two full movement driveways along Lawrenceville
 Highway. The applicant should study these intersection as full-movement, as well as prohibiting left-turn
 movements out of the site at one driveway on Lawrenceville Highway and one driveway at Oak Tree
 Road. Access point discussions are ongoing and should be discussed with GDOT and the local
 governments.
- The projected build-out is one phase, to be completed by 2021.
- The applicant is applying for approval under GRTA's non-expedited review process.

STUDY NETWORK

- 1. North Druid Hills Road at Lawrenceville Highway (US 29/SR 8)
- 2. North Druid Hills Road at Stone Mountain Freeway (US 78/SR 410) Eastbound Ramps
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- 4. Scott Boulevard (US 29/US 78/SR 8) at DeKalb Industrial Way
- 5. North Druid Hills Road at Willivee Drive
- 6. All Site Accesses

| MARTA and TOD | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|
| Bus Routes ⊠ Project is on a bus route ⊠ Project is near a bus route □ Project is not close to a bus route | \boxtimes | | |
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- 6. All Site Accesses

Furman, Melora L.

From:

Keeter, Patrece

Sent:

Friday, June 22, 2018 4:54 PM

To:

Hill, LaSondra

Cc:

Alexander, Michelle M.; Furman, Melora L.; Reid, Robert; Hill, Karen F.

Subject:

Zoning Comments- Transportation

N1. Alton Road is classified as a local road. See Chapter 5 of the zoning code Table 5.1 and Chapter 14, Section 190 of the Land Development Code for permit requirements. Street lights are required. New road to be private. Add sidewalks on the existing county right of way between new road and Chamblee Tucker Road. Sight Triangles for access point will be required at Land Development Permit submittal.



N2. Lawrenceville Hwy (SR 8) and North Druid Hills Road are both major arterials and both are on the Bike Network as Second Tier Priority. See Chapter 5 of the zoning code Table 5.1 and Chapter 14, Section 190 of the Land Development Code for permit requirements. Street lights required. Request to comment at a future date when the traffic GRTA/ARC DRI required traffic study is complete and a Notice of Decision is given. Transportation is requesting a deferral, as any action taken by the county prior to NOD may jeopardize federal transportation funding. At a minimum, we want a PATH connection along the southern property line as part of the South Fork Peachtree Creek Trail and a direct, buffered ped/bike connection between the PATH and the neighborhood, crossing at the signal at Mistletoe Road. In addition, the access point on Lawrenceville Hwy just south of NDH will be restricted to right in/right out/left in. Sight Triangles for access point will be required at Land Development Permit submittal. Other comments later once traffic study is received.

N3. See N2.

N3. Does a recycling plant automatically trigger a DRI? Lancaster Road is classified as a local road. This property is in the Bouldercrest Overlay District Tier 4- verify infrastructure requirements in Code. It appears to be a packed gravel, unimproved road, not up to current standards with a right of way corridor of only 35 feet. DeKalb County has no current plans to upgrade this road to modern standards. Right of way dedication of 27.5 from centerline is required.

N4. Does a recycling plant automatically trigger a DRI? Fleetwood Drive is classified as a local road. Please note that there is an effort to make the private railroad crossing to the private properties a Quiet Zone- no RR train horns will be sounded. The property owner needs to pave their approach to the crossing to reduce the amount of sediment tracked onto the county road.

N5. Columbia Drive is classified as a minor arterial and on the second tier bike network. Requires right of way dedication of 40 feet from centerline and bike lanes (Land Development Code Section 14-190). In lieu of the bike lane, a 10 foot multiuse path is suggested. Per Zoning Code- Street lights (80' on center- DeKalb County will layout design in Land Development Permit process), 6 foot sidewalk and 10 foot landscape zone are required. Sight Triangles for access point will be required at Land Development Permit submittal.

N6. Memorial Drive is a state route. GDOT review and permits required. Transportation is requesting a traffic study be performed. This development will have a hard time getting thru the land development process. Chapter 14 requires 3 access points. See Chapter 14, Section 14-200 (6) for the requirements of separation of access points. Requests deferral until the traffic study is completed for additional comments. This seems like a large development for such a small parcel. Sight Triangles for access point will be required at Land Development Permit.

N7. See N6.

N8. No Comment.

N9. Mountain Dr is a state route. GDOT review and permits are required. Not enough information to comment about the change in alleys. Public alleys must connect to public street on both ends. Private alleys may end in a turn around. See section 14-195 of the Land Development Code for more information related to alleys.

N10. No comments.



DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION FORM

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN ALL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR FAX TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS TO MADOLYN SPANN MSPANN@DEKALBCOUNTYGA.GOV OR JOHN REID JREID@DEKALBCOUNTYGA.GOV

COMMENTS FORM: PUBLIC WORKS TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

| Case No.: Z-18-223 Address: 2144,2054,2 | A 1 1 | 00-02-,005-041-040 -049,057 8-100-04-014 | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------|
| LAWTENCEY; | 115 High way | | |
| DECATUR 6 | • | | |
| • | Adjacent Road | war (e). | |
| | Temperature Trings | | |
| | (classification) | (classification) | |
| Сар | acity (TPD) | Capacity (TPD) | |
| Hou Peal Exis Exis Prop | est Count (TPD) rly Capacity (VPH) k Hour. Volume (VPH) sting number of traffic lanes ting right of way width cosed number of traffic lanes cosed right of way width | Latest Count (TPD) Hourly Capacity (VPH) Peak Hour. Volume (VPH) Existing number of traffic lanes Existing right of way width Proposed number of traffic lanes Proposed right of way width | |
| Please provide additional info | ormation relating to the following statem | ent. | |
| generate an average of fifteen factor. Based on the above for with approximately peak Single Family residence, on the | i (15) vehicle trip end (VTE) per 1, 000 somula, thesquare foot place of value to the control of the cont | ITE) 6/7 TH Edition (whichever is applicable), churquare feet of floor area, with an eight (8%) percer worship building would generate vehicle to TE's per day per dwelling unit, with a ten (10%) | nt peak hour rip ends, |
| a maximum ofunits per | acres, and the given fact that the project | (Single Family Residential) District designation w site is approximately acres in land area, | hich allows daily |
| COMMENTS: | k hour vehicle trip end would be generate | ed with residential development of the parcel. | |
| Plan and field | REU: EWEd. No problem - | that would | |
| Intenfere with | TRAFFIC Flow | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | Signature: Jenny White | |
| | | 0 0 | |



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COMMENTS FORM: PUBLIC WORKS WATER AND SEWER

| Case No.: Z-18-22310 | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Parcel I.D. #:18-100-02-005, -040, -041, -049, -057 and 18-100-04-014 | | | | |
| Address: 2144, 2054, 2050 and 2038 Lawrenceville Highway, 1086 Birch Road and 2692 Sweet Briar Road | | | | |
| Decatur, Georgia | | | | |
| | | | | |
| WATER: | | | | |
| Size of existing water main: 6" Cl. 6" AC, 8" DI, 30" CS Water Main (adequate/inadequate) | | | | |
| Distance from property to nearest main: Adjacent to Property | | | | |
| Size of line required, if inadequate: N/A | | | | |
| | | | | |
| SEWER: | | | | |
| Outfall Servicing Project: South Fork Peachtree Creek Basin | | | | |
| Is sewer adjacent to property: Yes (X) No (_) If no, distance to nearest line: | | | | |
| Water Treatment Facility: RM Clayton WTF () adequate () inadequate | | | | |
| Sewage Capacity; * (MGPD) Current Flow: 122 (MGPD) | | | | |
| COMMENTS: | | | | |
| * Please note that the sewer capacity has not been reviewed or approved for this project. A Sewer Capacity Request (SCR) must be completed and submitted for review. This can be a lengthy process and should be addressed early in the process. | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| (FKL) Signature: MA MAN | | | | |

DeKalb County School District Zoning Review Comments

Submitted to: Dekalb County Case #: Z-18-22310

Parcel #:

Analysis Date:

6/11/2018

Name of Development: Decatur Landing

Location: Current North DeKalb Mall

Description: Mixed-use redevelopment of the mall including 500 housing units

Impact of Development: If approved, this development is expected to generate 49 students: 21 students at Laurel Ridge

ES, 7 students at Druid Hills MS, 8 students at Druid Hills HS, 8 students in another DCSD school, and 5 in private school. The additional students at Laurel Ridge would result in more

overcrowding and may require additional portable classrooms.

| Current Condition of Schools | Laurel Ridge ES | Druid Hills MS | Druid Hills HS | Other DCSD Schools | Private Schools | Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Capacity | 435 | 1,182 | 1,405 | | | |
| Portables | 6 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Enrollment (Fcst. Oct. 2018) | 495 | 947 | 1,302 | | | |
| Seats Available | -60 | 235 | 103 | | | |
| Utilization (%) | 113.8% | 80.1% | 92.7% | | | |
| New students from development | 21 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 49 |
| New Enrollment | 516 | 954 | 1,310 | | | |
| New Seats Available | -81 | 228 | 95 | | | |
| New Utilization | 118.6% | 80.7% | 93.2% | | | |

Summary of Student Calculations

| | APT (450) | TH (50) | TOTAL |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Laurel Ridge ES | 18 | 3 | 21 |
| Druid Hills MS | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Other DCSD Schools | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Other DSCD Schools | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| Private Schools | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Total | 41 | 8 | 49 |



Page 1 of 3

DeKalb County Department of Planning & Sustainability

Michael L. Thurmond **Chief Executive Officer**

Andrew A. Baker, AICP Director



| APPLICATION TO AMEND OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF DEKAUB COUNTY, GEORGIA |
|---|
| MAY 0 3 2018 Date Received: LCI-SVAP NDM JV, LP. Applicant: |
| Applicant Mailing Address: 1230 Peachtree St., NE, Ste. 3100, Atlanta, GA 30309 |
| Applicant Phone: 404-815-3704 Fax: 404-685-7004 |
| Owner(s): See attachment A. E-Mail: E-Mail: |
| Owner's Mailing Address: |
| Owner(s) Phone: Fax: |
| Address/Location of Subject Property: See Attachment A |
| District(s): 18 Land Lot(s): 100, 101 Block: 02, 04 Parcel(s: See Att. A |
| Acreage: 78.09 Commission District(s): 2 / 6 Present Zoning Category: C-1 Proposed Zoning Category: MU-4 |
| Present Zoning Category: C-1 Proposed Zoning Category: MU-4 |
| Present Land Use Category: TC & COS |
| PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE SIGNING |
| This form must be completed in its entirety before the Planning Department accepts it. It must include the attachments and filing fees identified on the attachments. An application, which lacks any of the required attachments, shall be determined as incomplete and shall not be accepted. |
| Disclosure of Campaign Contributions n accordance with the Conflict of Interest in Zoning Act, O.C.G.A., Chapter 36-67A, the following questions nust be answered: lave you the applicant made \$250 or more in campaign contributions to a local government official within wo years immediately preceding the filling of this application?YesNoLet attacked |
| f the answer is yes, you must file a disclosure report with the governing authority of DeKalh County |
| thowing; 1. The name and official position of the local government official to whom the campaign |
| contribution was made. 2. The dollar amount and description of each campaign contribution made during the two years immediately preceding the filing of this application and the date of each such contribution. |
| The disclosure must be filed within 10 days after the application is first filed and must be submitted to the C.E.O. and the Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur, Ga. 30030. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT / DATE |
| XPIRATION DATE SEAD IARY |
| 330 West Place de Leon Avenue – Suites 100-500 – Decatur, Georgia – 30030 Tvoice 404 B/0 Ross A[Planning Fax] (404) 371-4556 [Development Fax] (404) 371-3007 March 16/Veo delress http://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning Email Address: planninganddevelopment@dekalbcountyga.gov |
| Page 1 of 3 Revised 1/1/17 |

ATTACHMENT A To LCI-SVAP NDM JV, LP Rezone and SLUP Applications

18-100-020-040; 2144 Lawrenceville Hwy. 18-100-02-041; 2054 Lawrenceville Hwy. LCI SVAP NDM MCY LLC c/o Christopher Kapper Sterling Organization 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Ste. 316 Palm Beach, Florida 33480

18-100-02-005; 2050 Lawrenceville Hwy. 18-100-02-049; 1086 Birch Road 18-100-02-014; 2692 Sweet Briar Road 18-100-02-057; 2038 Lawrenceville Hwy. LCI SVAP NDM JV LP c/o Christopher Kapper Sterling Organization 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Ste. 316 Palm Beach, Florida 33480

Sign in Sheet

ALL VISITORS must sign in using the visitor sign in sheet before entering the North DeKalb Mall office.

Thanks Management!

| Date: 3/7/26/8/ Time In: | Name: Reason for visit: Mall Pederelepment |
|--------------------------|---|
| | Dawn Laner Ryphilosof |
| 3/7 | GAIL RICHMAN Valley wall sell opnen |
| 3/7 | Theresa Same - Medlock mall development MARY GHELLMAN-GOODGROUTH DEXASTS |
| 3-7 | Marylee Ritran-Laurel Ridge Stromack |
| 3/7 | Erik Koalune |
| 5/7 | Justin Houston |
| 3/7 | Emily Frood |
| 2/2/2 | |
| 317/18 | Michael Dowling/Clairmont Heights Civic Assn. |
| 3-7-18 | Der wash, |
| 3-7-18 | Chris Beil Clycle Skyrhed Nature Preserve Eugabeth Roberts Walley Brook Cor Assoc |
| 317/15 | Elizabeth Roberts Willey Brook Com Assoc |
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April 26, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. **COMMUNITY MEETING**

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| Pam Daily | 610 Park lane Decame | ppdaily@yahou.com |
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I. INTRODUCTION

This Application seeks to rezone ± 78.09 acres of land located approximately 415 feet south of the intersection of Lawrenceville Highway and North Druid Hills Road ("Subject Property") from C-1 (Local Commercial) to MU-4 (Mixed Use High Density). The Subject Property is comprised of four parcels that form the existing North DeKalb Shopping Mall. The Applicant plans to redevelop the Subject Property as a high-end, walkable, mixed-use development.

The existing North DeKalb Mall opened in 1965 and served as the principal shopping mall for the central DeKalb region for several decades. In more recent times, however, the mall has experienced the loss of a number of its anchor tenants, as well as many smaller merchants, as more and more customers have abandoned the traditional enclosed mall shopping experience for that of open air malls and mixed-use developments. The decline in traditional enclosed shopping concept is reflected in other malls throughout the Atlanta area, including Gwinnett Place and Northlake Mall. These malls, similarly situated to North DeKalb Mall, are also the subject of potential redevelopment plans. As a result, North DeKalb Mall is poised to be the model for the revitalization of distressed and underutilized shopping mall property throughout the region.

The Subject Property is ideally located for the type of mixed-use facility sought after by contemporary consumers and residents. The existing mall's early success is due in part to its location at near two major roadways and its quick access to Highway 78, a U.S. freeway. In addition, the Subject Property is located within quick walking or diving distance from numerous residential neighborhoods that would utilize the modern commercial retail brought through redevelopment. Indeed, it is not the location, but the outdated enclosed mall concept and the incompatible tenants that have deterred the existing customers from shopping at the mall. This is

a fact that DeKalb County has recognized in several of its planning studies. See *DeKalb County Lawrenceville Highway Corridor Existing Conditions and Recommendations*, November 2016 ("In this report, the commercial area around the mall was listed as an area needing Retail ReTenanting. That is, the retailers present no longer fit the service area demographics adequately."), citing *DeKalb County Transportation Plan 2014*.

In addition, the site is located in close proximity to a number of major employers, such as Emory University, the Centers for Disease Control, the Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center, the DeKalb Medical Center and many smaller employers along Lawrenceville Highway and in in nearby downtown Decatur. The centralized location to employers lends itself to upscale, higher-density housing options that attract the young professionals employed in the area. The housing preference from many younger professionals is one that offers walkability to commercial retail, restaurant, and recreational uses, integral to the mixed-use concept. The North DeKalb Mall property offers a golden opportunity to transform the deteriorating mall into a modern, mixed-use development that offers the retail sought after by the community as well as the residential component needed for the area's continued growth. Taking this into consideration, the Applicant/Owner of the North DeKalb Mall property now seeks to transform the Subject Property for this exact purpose.

Specifically, the Applicant proposes the development of a 152,221 square foot Costco Wholesale Warehouse retail store; 148,900 square feet of shopping and retail space; a 14,500 square foot food hall; 45,850 square feet of restaurant and food service; the relocation of the existing AMC Theater to a new 48,000 square foot building; 50,400 square feet of office space; a 150-room hotel; approximately 450 units of multifamily residential; and 50 townhomes (the "Proposed Development"). The Applicant's plans incorporate some of the existing tenants,

including Marshall's, Burlington Coat Factory and others, into the retail component of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development will enhance shopping experience through the introduction of new retailers, food options, and open space for pedestrian gathering.

Furthermore, the Applicant intends to promote walkability into and within the development through a network of sidewalks, plazas and other pedestrian oriented amenities allowing easy access. The interior drives will provide a streetscape with sidewalks as well as a landscaped area with street trees, adding to the pedestrian experience. Additionally, many of the retail shops and restaurants, including the Food Hall, will have a direct connection to the sidewalk and opportunities for outdoor dining, activating the sidewalks and promoting the pedestrian flow through the development. To add to its pedestrian connectivity, the Proposed Development is also located adjacent to the South Fork of Peachtree Creek which will allow a future connection to the PATH system of walkways as it is extended eastwards.

The site will be supported by revised access drives interior to the site, along with a parking deck and new surface parking. Parking for the commercial and hotel development will be provided through a combination of surface parking lots and the multi-level parking structure. The residential development will be served by its own internal parking spaces and garages for its residents and guests. The Proposed Development will incorporate a proposed network of internal drives that connect to the existing access points on North Druid Hills Road via Sweet Briar Road, Birch Road and Mistletoe Road, as well as maintaining access to the signalized intersection at Lawrenceville Highway and Orion Drive.

Concurrent with this Application, the Applicant filed an application for a Special Land Use Permit to allow fuel pumps associated with the Costco Wholesale Warehouse. This document is submitted as a Statement of Intent with regard to this Application, a preservation of

the Applicant's constitutional rights, a Written Justification for the Application as required by the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance §27-832, and a Written Statement as required by §27-649.3(2).

II. HISTORY

The Subject Property is zoned C-1 and designated as "Town Center" on the County's Future Land Use Map. The North DeKalb Mall property was zoned subject to ordinances Z-73054, CZ-85160, CZ-08-14806 and CZ-08-14809. The site was rezoned to C-1 under Ordinance Z-73054¹. The 25.176 acre parcel to the south of the Proposed Development was rezoned from R-75 to C-1 under Ordinance CZ-85160 to allow for renovations to North DeKalb Mall. Ordinances CZ-08-14806 and CZ-08-14809 rezoned a portion of the Subject Property located in its northwest corner, along Sweet Briar Road, from Neighborhood Shopping (NS) to Local Commercial (C-1) to be consistent with the remainder of the North DeKalb Mall property and to allow for the construction of a then anticipated Costco gas station. However, that plan was not approved.

III. IMPACT ANALYSIS

A.

THE ZONING PROPOSAL IS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE POLICY AND INTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Subject Property is designated as "Town Center" (TC) and Conservation and Open Space (COS) by the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.² The TC and the COS character

¹ DeKalb County's records for Ordinance Z-73054 do not indicate the exact area to be rezoned and a site plan is not attached to the rezoning. Consequently, the Applicant is unable to identify the extent of Z-73054.

² The COS character area is entirely confined to the 25.176 acre parcel to the south of the Proposed Development and no portion of the Proposed Development lies within the COS character area. Since the floodplain property will not be utilized in the development no additional analysis is required. However, the Applicant's proposed reservation of an easement area for a future PATH trail is fully consistent with the COS character area.

areas both allow the MU-4 zoning. The TC character area promotes the concentration of residential and commercial structures, which serve many communities in order to reduce automobile travel, promote walkability and increased transit usage. The areas consist of a focal point for several neighborhoods with a variety of activities such as general retail, commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses that are easily accessible by pedestrians.

This proposal fosters a number of general policies and strategies for Town Centers in the County's Comprehensive Plan, including:

- Pedestrian Scale Development Create pedestrian scale communities that focus on the relationship between the street, buildings, streetscaping and people.
- Mixed Use Development Create compact mixed use districts and reduce automobile dependency and travel to obtain basic services.
- Parking Clearly define road edges by locating buildings near the road-side with parking in the rear.
- Open Space and Linkages Encourage development and redevelopment in activity centers to provide open space and/or contribute to the public realm with wider public sidewalks, pedestrian linkages, and other design features.
- Healthy Neighborhoods Promote healthy living in neighborhoods by incorporating a
 pedestrian environment that encourages socialization, walking, biking and
 connectivity.
- High Density Residential Residential development shall reinforce the center by locating higher density housing options adjacent to the center.

- Pedestrian Enhancements Create pedestrian-friendly environment, by adding sidewalks that link neighborhood amenities.
- Traffic Calming Organize circulation patterns through traffic calming techniques and access management. Add traffic calming improvements, sidewalks, and increased street interconnections to increase safety and improve walkability.
- Pedestrian Oriented Design Design shall be pedestrian-oriented with walkable connections between different uses.
- Preferred Uses Each Town Center shall include a high-density mix of residential,
 retail, office, services, and employment to serve several neighborhoods.

B.

THE PROPOSED REZONING PERMITS A USE THAT IS SUITABLE IN VIEW OF THE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ADJACENT AND NEARBY PROPERTY

The Subject Property is immediately adjacent to a number of commercial uses and in the nearby vicinity of several residential neighborhoods. However, it actually adjoins only seventeen residential lots on Homewood Court and Latham Road and only two of which touch that portion of the existing mall which is to be redeveloped. Moreover, the vast majority of the adjoining residential lots, fifteen lots, abut the Applicant's property within the floodplain, which will remain undeveloped. To the north of the Subject Property are various commercial properties along North Druid Hills Road, zoned C-1 and NS; to the east is the right-of-way of Lawrenceville Hwy and US-78; to the south the property is bounded by the South Fork of Peachtree Creek and beyond that are properties owned by the Shepherd Nature Center and one zoned General Commercial (C-2), Stivers Decatur Subaru. To the west are other properties zoned R-75 as referenced above.

The proposed uses will be in harmony with the current character of the property, as well as with the character of the adjacent properties. Redevelopment of North DeKalb Mall will add much needed new retail to support the existing residential in the area and the multi-family component will offer an infusion of upscale housing to support the surrounding businesses.

In addition, DeKalb County has identified North DeKalb Mall as an area for potential redevelopment in several of its studies. The Lawrenceville Highway Corridor Study identifies North DeKalb Mall as an issue area and notes that it is "currently a missed opportunity". See DeKalb County Lawrenceville Highway Corridor Existing Conditions and Recommendations, November 2016, pg. 14. Furthermore, the DeKalb County Transportation Plan 2014 explicitly states the North DeKalb Mall is one of its identified redevelopment opportunities:

"Promote and coordinate the bundling of redevelopment sites and deals for potential developers and investors. This bundling could expedite investment in key redevelopment areas, including the Northlake area, the Buford Highway corridor, the North DeKalb Mall area, the Memorial Drive corridor, and other areas that have aging assets with potential redevelopment market opportunities."

The proposed development is therefore consistent with and suitable in light of the current and future development patterns; in fact, the Applicant hopes that the intended final appearance of this development will serve as a model for future development in the area. Appropriate attention to scale, buffering, setbacks, landscaping, and tree preservation has been given by the Applicant to ensure that this Project will blend harmoniously with its surroundings.

C.

THE SUBJECT PROPERTY DOES NOT HAVE A REASONABLE ECONOMIC USE AS PRESENTLY ZONED.

As stated in earlier paragraphs, North DeKalb Mall has failed to remain economically viable as consumer preferences have moved away from smaller, traditional enclosed malls in favor of walkable mixed-use developments. The C-1 zoning will allow redevelopment of the

property into a number of smaller commercial developments, but prohibits the type of large-scale mixed-use redevelopment that the Applicant envisions. The small-scale development allowed under the C-1 zoning will not spur the growth and revitalization of the area and the Lawrenceville Highway Corridor that DeKalb County has envisioned in its 2035 Comprehensive Plan, DeKalb County Lawrenceville Highway Corridor Existing Conditions and Recommendations, and DeKalb County Transportation Plan 2014. In fact, DeKalb County states as one of its economic development policies that "[t]o ensure economic relevance, DeKalb County must encourage redevelopment." See DeKalb County 2035 Comprehensive Plan, pg 48. There is no better catalyst to the economic growth of the region than to rezone a dysfunctional and underutilized property in a prime location to allow a large-scale redevelopment.

D.

THE PROPOSED REZONING WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE EXISTING USE OR USABILITY OF ADJACENT OR NEARBY PROPERTY

In advance of filing this Application, the Applicant has engaged and will continue to engage in discussions with the community in the vicinity to make sure its proposal is acceptable to these neighbors. As stated in earlier paragraphs, the Proposed Development will result in a use that will be compatible and complementary to the existing surrounding uses.

The primary goal of land use planning is to eliminate or minimize the potential adverse effect of the dissimilar uses of adjacent tracts of land by establishing a harmonious transition between them. The traditional method of achieving this goal is through both "off-site" and "on-site" transition. Off-site transition consists of avoiding the placement of dissimilar uses next to each other by placing uses of intermediate density between them. On-site transition, which might either supplement or replace off-site transition, consists of measures imposed on or adjacent to the more intensive use to protect neighborhoods from adverse effects. Thus, this

method of land use planning includes measures such as maintenance of buffers; walls, fences or berms; lighting control; noise control; aesthetic control; limitations on building location and orientation; location of or restrictions upon accessory uses; and prohibition of certain uses or hours of use normally permitted for that district. All of these devices have been utilized in this Application.

E.

THERE ARE OTHER EXISTING OR CHANGING CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTY

The Applicant's proposal will result in a practical, useful, and marketable development, revitalizing a deteriorating shopping mall, creating an asset for the immediate area and the county as a whole. The development will blend in with the commercial and residential sites in the surrounding area. Moreover, this type of mixed-use development should be encouraged so as to create walkability, minimize sprawl and encourage less use of automobiles.

F.

THE ZONING PROPOSAL WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT HISTORIC BUILDINGS, SITES, DISTRICTS OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No such sites, buildings, or resources are on or near the Parcel.

G.

THE REQUESTED REZONING WILL NOT RESULT IN A USE WHICH WILL OR COULD CAUSE EXCESSIVE OR BURDENSOME USE OF EXISTING STREETS, TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES, UTILITIES, OR SCHOOLS

This Project, if approved, certainly will not affect existing transportation facilities. Requisite parking is provided incidental to this development. As indicated above, the Subject Property has direct access to North Druid Hills Road and Lawrenceville Highway, both classified as major arterial roadways and has a quick access to US 78, classified as a freeway. See DeKalb

County 2014 Transportation Plan, Figure 5-2, Functional Classification Map: DeKalb County. The traffic to be generated by the proposed Project should not significantly affect traffic capacities along these roadways and surrounding streets, even at peak hours, and can be accommodated.

This Application is a Development of Regional Impact (DRI) and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. has been engaged to perform the voluminous traffic study required by the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority. However preliminarily, the Applicant used the Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual (Ninth Edition) to calculate vehicle trips for (a) a Shopping Center (ITE 820)³; (b) Discount Club, i.e. Costco (ITE 857); (c) Hotel (ITE 310); (d) Mid-Rise Apartments (ITE 386); and (e)Low-Rise Townhomes (ITE 231). According to ITE, the Proposed Development will result in a net increase of 431 trips during a weekday a.m. peak hour and a net reduction of 493 trips during a weekday p.m. peak hour. The proposed trips generated will actually be even less when one accounts for internal capture trips, such as on-site residents walking or driving from their homes to the adjacent retail, restaurants, and office without entering the public roadway.

The school children living in the residential portion of the development will attend Laurel Ridge Elementary School; Druid Hills Middle School; and Druid Hills High School.⁴ All three schools are listed as under capacity according to DeKalb County Schools' FTE Enrolment Report, dated October 3, 2017. As a result, the proposed development is not anticipated to have

³ The Institute of Transportation Engineers Manual Trip Generation Manual (Ninth Edition) defines shopping centers as neighborhood or retail centers that may contain non-merchandising facilities, such as office buildings, movie theaters, and restaurants, among others. As a result, the trips generated by the commercial portion of the development were considered as part of the shopping center. The Costco Wholesale Warehouse and hotel were taken as separate and distinct uses and their trips were calculated independent of the remaining commercial use.

⁴ Historically, mixed-use developments like that proposed do not attract families. They are designed for young professionals and "empty-nesters." The Applicant expects that to be the case on the Subject Property. Hence, any impact on schools should be minimal, at best.

a significant impact on local schools.

As for utilities, the Subject Property has access to water and sewer.

IV. NOTICE OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGE TO UNDERLYING ZONING AND PRESERVATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

The Applicant respectfully submits that the current zoning classification of and rules relative to the Subject Property owner's right to use the Property established in the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance, to the extent they prohibit this use, constitute an arbitrary, irrational abuse of discretion and unreasonable use of the zoning power because they bear no substantial relationship to the public health, safety, morality or general welfare of the public and substantially harm the Applicant in violation of the due process and equal protection rights guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment and Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and Article I, Section I, Paragraph I and Article I, Section III, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia. Further, the failure to allow this use would constitute a taking of private property without just compensation and without due process in violation of the Fifth Amendment and Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and Article I, Section I, Paragraph I and Article I, Section III, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, and would be in violation of the Commerce Clause, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Board of Commissioners' failure to approve the requested rezoning would be unconstitutional and would discriminate in an arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable manner between the Subject Property's owner and owners of similarly situated property in violation of Article I, Section III, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

A refusal to allow the rezoning in question would be unjustified from a fact-based

standpoint and instead would result only from constituent opposition, which would be an

unlawful delegation of authority in violation of Article IX, Section II, Paragraph IV of the

Georgia Constitution.

A refusal to allow the rezoning in question would be invalid inasmuch as it would be

denied pursuant to an ordinance which is not in compliance with the Zoning Procedures Law,

O.C.G.A. § 36-66-1 et seq., due to the manner in which the Ordinance as a whole and its map(s)

have been adopted.

V. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Rezoning

Application at issue be approved. The Applicant also invites and welcomes any comments from

Staff or other officials of DeKalb County so that such recommendations or input might be

incorporated as conditions of approval of this Application.

This 3rd day of May, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn M. Zickert Dennis J. Webb, Jr.

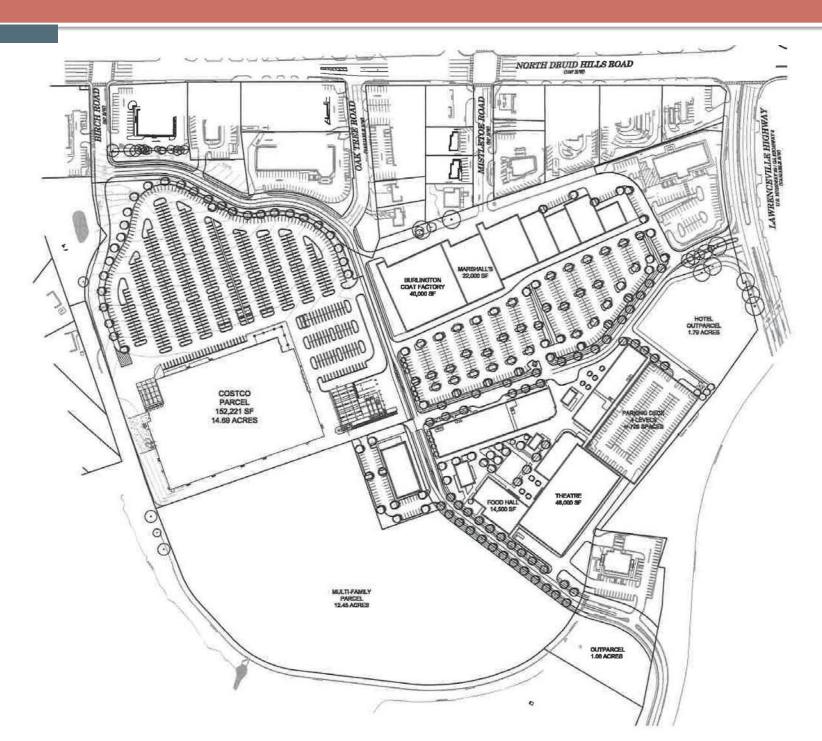
J. Alexander Brock

Smith, Gambrell & Russell, L.L.P.

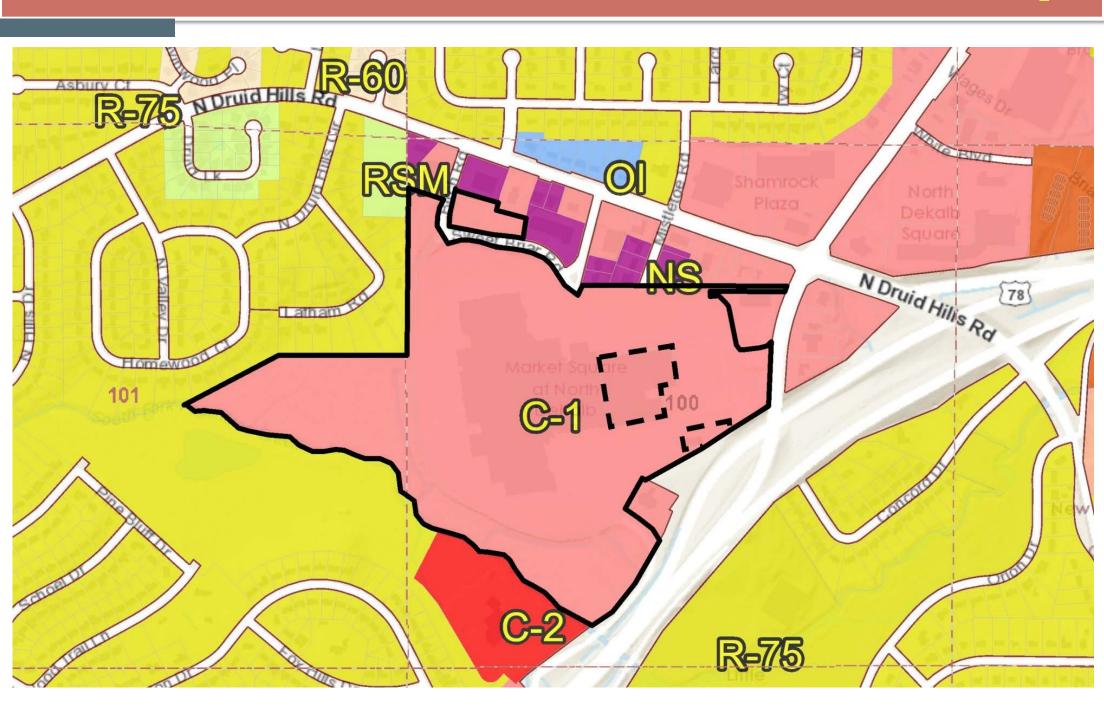
Promenade II, Suite 3100 1230 Peachtree Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30309 404-815-3704

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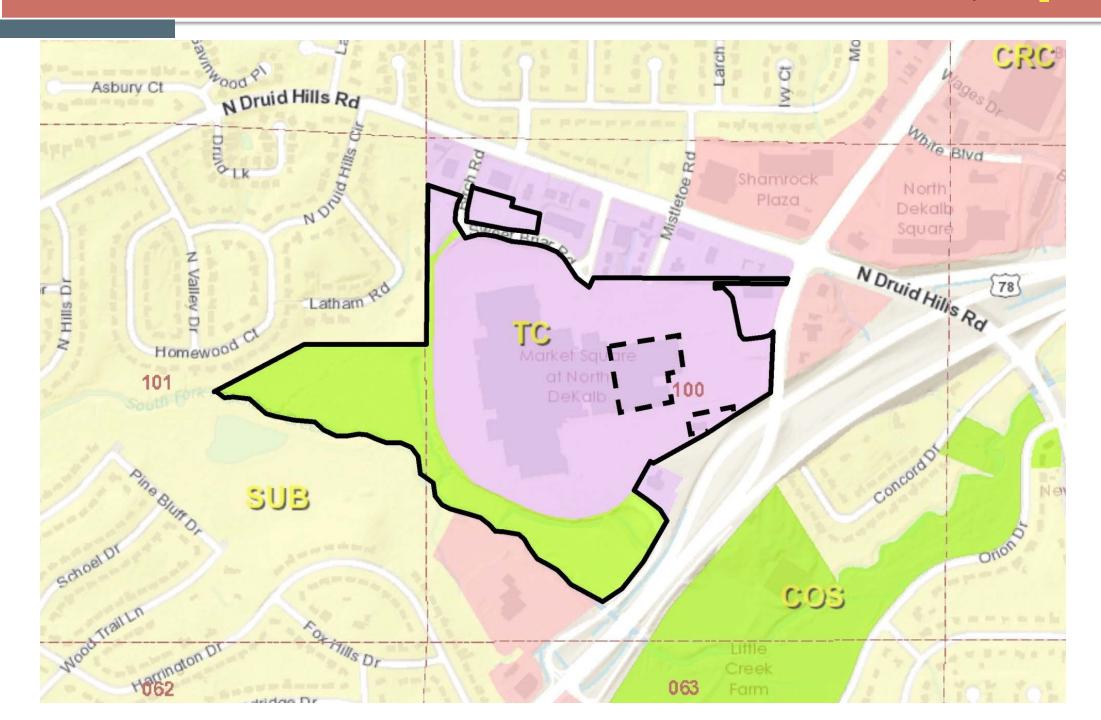
Site Plan



Zoning Map



Land Use Map



Aerial Photo



Site Photos



View from Lawrenceville Highway entrance, looking northwest.

View from Lawrenceville Highway entrance, looking southwest.