

Planning Commission Memorandum

To: Planning Commission

From: Justin Fortney, City Planner

Date: February 14, 2022

Item: Public Hearing: Rezoning, Preliminary & Final Plat, and Site Plan – 2022-12 –

Apartments – Vermillion St & 33rd St W

Planning Commission Action Requested: The Planning Commission is asked to hold a public hearing, review the following proposals, and make a recommendation to the City Council.

- 1. Rezoning from C-4 to R-4
- 2. Preliminary and final plat
- 3. Site Plan for two apartment buildings and garages (211 units)

Background Information:

The subject property was guided and zoned commercial (C-4) for many years without any interest in commercial development. The area was studied during the last Comprehensive Plan update and changed to medium density residential (R-3/R-4).

Rezoning Review

The property is guided for medium density residential, which allows for the density that is being proposed (211 units). Both R-3, Medium Density and R-4, high density would allow for the proposed density. Apartment buildings with singular entrances are permitted within the R-4 district, but only within R-3 districts when part of a PRD (planned residential development).

The Cari Park Subdivision to the south is zoned R-3 - PRD, making the proposed R-4 district a good transition between existing residential and the commercial development.

Aside from the subject property, there are 6.31 acres of vacant commercial property in this area for future development. There is also a similar amount of commercial redevelopment potential.

Zoning Classification

The subject property is zoned C-4, Regional Shopping Center, which allows commercial retail sales and services.

Adjacent Zoning and Land Uses

<u>Direction</u>	Existing Use	Zoning	Comp Plan
North	Me and Julio's & H. County Inn/Ste	C-4	Commercial
East	V State Bank/ Cross Rd Center	C-4	Commercial
South	Cari Park Subdivision	R3 - PRD	Medium Density
West	T Hardware/ Dugarel's	C-4	Commercial

Platting Review

The Preliminary Plat will organize the parcels of land from different subdivisions and create a developable lot of record for the project. It's reviewed to assure it meets all the ordinance requirements for land subdivision, along with technical requirements. The Final Plat approval would create the official plat to be recorded with the County Records, obligate the applicants to applicable development fees, and allow for the construction of approved plans.

Fees

Final Platting approval requires parkland dedication or cash in lieu of land to be used for area park improvements. This area has not been identified as a park location, so the \$1,100 per unit cash rate for multi-family buildings would be applicable. There is an existing credit of \$12,180 from the original County Crossroads Center Addition. Sewer interceptor fees are required at a rate of \$485 for all residential units.

Cash parkland dedication- 211 units X 1,100 = \$232,100 - \$12,180 = \$219,920Sewer interceptor 211 units X \$485 = \$102,335

Minnesota Department of Transportation Review

Plans have been sent to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN DOT) as required for plats and site plans proposed that access state highways like 61. No comments have been received at this time.

Site Plan Review

Existing Condition

The 15.66-acre site is currently vacant land. The southeast corner contains a drainage feature utilized by the commercial development to the east.

Building Setbacks

The proposed building setbacks are more than the required minimums of 20-feet front and rear. The sides are also more than the minimum of 23-feet (half of the building height).

Vehicular Access and Circulation

The site maintains the existing access areas and connects them through this site. There is a drive off the central entrance from 33rd Street that served little purpose other than access to the subject property if developed with multiple outlots. The drive connects to the back of

the parking lot to the east. The parking lot still has access straight north to 33rd street and to this site by the southern connection.

The Fire Marshal with the HFD has stated that they have adequate access to the proposed site.

Some sidewalk connections are needed from the front of building two to the general site sidewalks. If building two has use of building one amenities, the main entrance or a secondary entrance should be considered on the north side of building two. This would significantly reduce the distance between the buildings.

Parking and Loading

Buildings with regular deliveries are required to have loading spaces. While there may not be regular deliveries for the building itself, there will surely be a lot of loading activity of people, packages, and mail. Due to the high number of units, delivery vehicles may be there for some time. Without a loading zone, the delivery vehicles will block parking spaces, garages, and drive isles. Loading zones near the main entrances would affect the proposed parking layout, but are necessary.

The current parking standards are two spaces for each unit. With 211 units proposed, 422 parking spaces are required by ordinance. The site plan shows 391 total spaces on the site. Garage stalls make up 210 and the remaining 181 spaces are surface stalls. This is a rate of 1.85 spaces per unit. The applicant believes that is adequate for the project based on their experience. As an ordinance requirement, the minimum parking requirement must be satisfied. Available off-street parking within close proximity is allowed to satisfy the requirement.

The entire Crossroads Center development is covered by an existing shared parking and access agreement. This provides the tenants and their visitors use of the existing parking in the center. This agreement satisfies the parking requirement. The center has far more parking available than is required or needed.

Architectural Standards

Architectural standards for multiple-family residential buildings require that front facades and other elevations that are highly visible from public streets and residential districts must be composed of at least 25% of Class 1 materials, and at least 25% of Class 2 materials.

All elevations meet the minimum requirements of class 1 (glass and brick) and class 2 (fiber cement panels and siding or equivalent). There are no class 3 building materials proposed on the apartment buildings. The garages are proposed to have black asphalt shingles and white horizontal fiber cement siding or similar.

Architectural standards material list

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	
Brick	EIFS or Drivit	Industrial grade concrete precast panels	
Natural Stone	Masonry Stucco	Smooth concrete	
Glass (including block, windows, or opaque mirrored panels)	Specialty Integral Colored Concrete Block (including textured, burnished block, rock face block)	Ceramic	
Seamless metal panels (including copper)	Architecturally textured concrete precast panels	Wood	
Other materials not listed elsewhere as approved by the Administrative Official	Tile (masonry, stone, or clay)	Aluminum or Vinyl Siding	
	Other materials not listed elsewhere as approved by the Administrative Official	Other materials not listed elsewhere as approved by the Administrative Official	
	fiber cement panels/ siding		

Landscaping

Based on the site size and amount of pavement, the zoning ordinance requires the following number of plantings:

Type	Required	Proposed
Tree	149	149
Shrubs	129	250

Staff believes the landscaping meets the ordinance requirements. At least one landscape island in needed on the south side of the north parking lot.

Lighting

A photometric plan must be submitted to assure light levels at the south property line are below .5 foot-candle adjacent to residential. The lighting plan must show that downfacing fixtures are utilized with auto switching controls.

Notification

Notice was published and sent to property owners within 350' of the proposal. No specific comments have been received.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the rezoning, preliminary and final plat, and site plan, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Conformance with the Planning Commission Staff Report and plans dated February 14, 2022.
- 2) All disturbed areas of the property shall be stabilized with rooting vegetative cover to eliminate erosion problems.
- 3) Any uncompleted site work must be escrowed at 125 percent of the estimated value prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

- 4) The perimeter of the site must have erosion control, as approved by the City Engineering Department.
- 5) Approval is subject to a one-year Sunset Clause; if significant progress is not made towards construction of the proposal within one year of City Council approval, the site plan approval is null and void.
- 6) In addition to the landscaping shown on the plan, at least one landscape island is required on the south side of the north parking lot.
- 7) A right-of-way permit is required for any work in the public-rights-of-way.
- 8) Accommodate and or resolve any pending comments from the Minnesota Department of Transportation regarding their review of the project.
- 9) Provide waste enclosure designs/ elevations.
- 10) Submit a photometric plan.
- 11) The City Engineering Department must approve any required drainage plan, including:
 - a. Stormwater Maintenance Agreement, which the City will draft for the infiltration basin.
 - b. NPDES Permit Required since project disturbs over 1 acre.
 - c. The drainage area discharging to the infiltration basin should be expanded to include a portion of 33rd St (through the CBs) and possibly the parking lot of Hastings Country Inn. Adjust size of infiltration basin accordingly.
- 12) Water Service Show any patchwork for the 33rd Street connection. City may require a gate valve where connection on to existing system.
- 13) Sanitary Service Re-alignment of sanitary will require coordination with Crossroads Mall Inc.
- 14) Right after City Council approval of the final plat, submit the following prior to recording:
 - a. Three owner signed mylar plats for city signatures
 - b. Payment of \$219,920 for cash in lieu of parkland dedication.
 - c. Payment of \$102,335 for sewer interceptor fees.
- 15) Connect the front of building two, to the site sidewalk system.
- 16) Include loading zones at the entrees of both buildings.
- 17) Submit a photometric plan .5 foot-candle adjacent to residential and auto switching controls.

Attachments:

- Aerial photograph with general site layout
- Photographs
- Elevation drawings
- Floor Plan, level one, building one
- Site plans





Looking East

Looking Southeast



Looking Southwest



Looking North from Tiffany Drive at path connection.



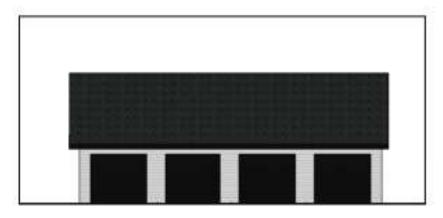


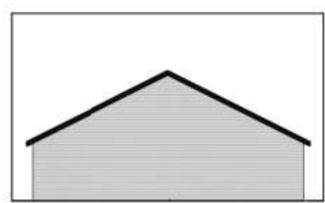
West

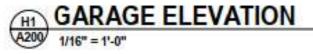
Looking North from Tiffany Drive at path connection.

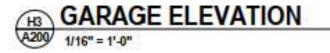






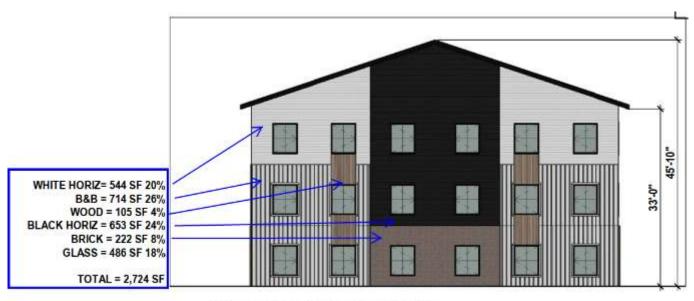








Elevation Drawings



WEST ELEVATION END

WHITE HORIZ= 1,003 SF 18%

B&B = 2,006 SF 36%

WOOD = 266 SF 5%

BLACK HORIZ = 857 SF 16%

BRICK = 84 SF 2%

GLASS = 1,287 SF 23%

TOTAL = 5,503 SF





SOUTH ELEVATION





EAST ELEVATION





- WHITE HORIZ= 2,177 SF 15%
 - B&B = 4,354 SF 30%
 - WOOD = 324 SF 2%
- BLACK HORIZ = 3,637 SF 26%
 - BRICK = 682 SF 5%
 - GLASS = 3,293 SF 22%

TOTAL = 14,467 SF



WEST ELEVATION



WEST END ELEVATION



SOUTH END ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



