

BARDENWERPER, TALBOTT & ROBERTS PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1000 N. HURSTBOURNE PARKWAY, SUITE 200 • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222 • (502) 426-6688 • FAX (502) 425-0561 • WWW.BARDLAW.NET

PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES OF THE CORNERSTONE 2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Owners: LRH Family, L.L.C.

Applicant: Hollenbach-Oakley, LLC

Location: Block 3672, Lot 1 (no address per PVA)

Proposed Use: Addition to the Blankenbaker Station Business Park as common area open space and to increase the size of lots

Engineers, Land Planners and Landscape Architects: Mindel Scott & Associates

Request: Zone Change from R-4 to PEC

The Louisville Metro Planning Commission, having heard testimony before its Land Development & Transportation Committee, in the Public Hearing held on May 11, 2017 and having reviewed evidence presented by the applicant and the staff's analysis of the application, make the following findings:

INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, the overall plan for Blankenbaker Station involved phases I-IV, which runs from the subject property on the north along I-64 to the railroad tract on the south, just north of the new "PDD" zoned area known as Tyler Town Center; the four phases are very much related for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that of the long planned extension of the Urton Lane Corridor from Shelbyville Road on the north to Bardstown Road on the south; and

WHEREAS, the some 600 acres of combined commercial, office and workplace development within Blankenbaker Stations I-IV are about 25% sold and under contract; as a part of this rezoning, additional common area open space, including the existing lake, will be added to the Blankenbaker Station Business Park as a common amenity to be maintained by the business association, as well as additional land being added to the existing lots in the business park; and

GUIDELINE 1: COMMUNITY FORM

WHEREAS, the application complies with the applicable Intents and Policies of the Suburban Workplace Form District as this is a very small addition to the currently existing Blankenbaker Station Business Park that is already zoned PEC; Guideline 1 says that Suburban Workplace is a form characterized by predominantly industrial and office uses where buildings are set back from the street in a landscaped setting; Suburban Workplaces also often contain a cluster of uses

within a master planned development, of which this would be a small addition, predominantly for additional open space purposes; and

GUIDELINE 2: CENTERS

WHEREAS, the application complies with the applicable Intents and Policies 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12, and 13 of this Guideline because Guideline 2 is intended to promote the efficient use of land and investment in existing infrastructure, to lower utility costs by reducing the need for extensions, to reduce commuting time and transportation related air pollution, to provide an opportunity for a mixture of different land uses, to provide an opportunity for a marketplace that includes a diversity of goods and services, to encourage vitality and a sense of place, and to avoid individual or isolated commercial uses from developing along streets and noncommercial areas; and

WHEREAS, the intents of this Guideline 2 are fully met because the proposed open space amenity addition and lake, as well as the additional land added to individual lots, will provide additional common area and amenity without increasing the number of businesses or the intensity of the development; this open space area will also provide an additional buffer to the neighboring residentially zoned land; and this rezoning will not result in additional utility demand or traffic pollution; and

GUIDELINE 3: COMPATIBILITY

WHEREAS, the application complies with the applicable Intents and Policies 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 21, and 22 of this Guideline because the intent of this Guideline 3 is to allow a mixture of land uses and densities near each other as long as they are compatible to each other, to prohibit the location of sensitive land uses where accepted standards for noise, lighting, odors or similar nuisances are violated or visual quality is significantly diminished, and to preserve the character of existing neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Blankenbaker Stations I - IV have covenants, conditions and restrictions (“CCRs”), plus specific binding elements agreed to with the Planning Commission, to assure quality development that has few, if any, negative impacts on nearby residential developments; and the proposed rezoning property will be annexed into the CCRs and deed restricted in the same manner as the rest of the Business Park; and

WHEREAS, Policy 4 of Guideline 3 addresses the issue of non-residential expansion into existing residential areas; this is appropriate when an applicant can demonstrate that adverse impacts of uses will be mitigated which is the case with additional open space through the lake, added as a common amenity; Policies 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this Guideline 3 mention some of those possible adverse consequences, notably odor and air quality emission, traffic, noise, lighting and visual impacts, none of which apply here; and

WHEREAS, with no detailed district development plan submitted, only a general plan, any proposal in the future would have to go through a detailed district development plan review to address compatibility, if it should ever occur; and

GUIDELINES 4 AND 5 – OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL AREAS/SCENIC AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the proposed rezoning conforms with the overall intent of and specifically with applicable Policies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 of Guideline 4 and with the intent of Guideline 5 for all the reasons described above and because it will feature an open space lake added to the Blankenbaker Station Business Park; the proposal will also provide an additional buffer to the residentially zoned property adjoining it; maintenance of landscaping, natural and open space areas will be done by professionals and contracted for business park association; this maintenance arrangement will result in a higher and more consistent level of maintenance of this property; and no portion of the subject property has been designated as a natural, historic or scenic preservation site; and

GUIDELINE 6: ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

WHEREAS, the application complies with the applicable Intents and Policies 1 and 9, of this Guideline because the intents of this Guideline are to insure the availability of necessary usable land to facilitate commercial, industrial and residential development, to reduce public and private cost for land development, to insure that regional scale workplaces and industrial uses have access to people, goods and services and appropriate locations needed for them to conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, this application fully addresses the intents of this Guideline because it is very important for the Blankenbaker Station Business Park’s ability to grow to add additional common area open space to help attract tenants and purchasers; the overall Blankenbaker Crossing/Blankenbaker Station developments, plus the older Bluegrass Industrial Park located adjacent to these business parks, is generally considered to be one of the largest overall industrial/business parks in the United States, if not the world; it is an area to which businesses already located in Louisville and wishing to expand, and those coming to Louisville, have gravitated and continue to gravitate; and they have good transportation access, and they are proximate to the locations where people desire to live; and

GUIDELINES 7, 8 AND 9: CIRCULATION; TRANSPORTATION FACILITY DESIGN; AND BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN AND TRANSIT

WHEREAS, the application complies with the applicable Intents and Policies of this Guideline because these Guidelines are intended to provide for safe and proper functioning of street networks to insure that new developments do not exceed the carrying capacity of streets, to assure that internal and external circulations provide for safe and efficient travel movements for all types of transportation, to address congestion and air quality issues, and to assure opportunities for transit and non-motorized methods of travel; because there is no proposed development or detailed district development plan, the property would simply be added as a common area open space, with a portion added to existing lots with no new development thereon; and as such, there are no impacts references in these Guidelines to be mitigated and all Policies are fully complied with; and

**GUIDELINES 10, 11, & 12: FLOODING AND STORMWATER, WATER QUALITY
AND AIR QUALITY**

WHEREAS, the Intents and Policies of these Guidelines are to address specifically the titles of these Guidelines; the property being rezoned and added to the business park will include a lake which will be maintained by the business association and may serve and help with detention; and

WHEREAS, the policies of Guideline 11 pertaining to water quality are addressed in this community through storm water management and through the temporary construction arrangements of erosion and sediment and control basins, and there is no development on the property planned; and

WHEREAS, the Policies of Guideline 12 largely relate to commuting distances and use of alternative modes of transportation, all of which would be addressed when a detailed district development plan is proposed in the future, if ever; and

GUIDELINE 13: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

WHEREAS, the intent and Policies of this Guideline 13 are to locate landscaping throughout any new development, whether it be via tree preservation, following the specifics of the tree canopy regulation, or to use new plantings to screen and buffer uses, one from the other; and this property being rezoned already contains an existing lake that will be enhanced and property maintained by the business association in the future improving the appearance thereof; and

GUIDELINES 14 & 15: INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

WHEREAS, these Guidelines are intended to assure that adequate infrastructure and other community facilities exist to support proposed rezoning; and if a development is proposed on this property in the future, these impacts will be fully addressed then, but none are planned currently; and

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WHEREAS, for all the reasons explained at LD&T and the Planning Commission public hearing and also in the public hearing exhibit books and on the approved General district development plan, this application also complies with all other applicable Guidelines and Policies of the Cornerstone 2020 Comprehensive Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Louisville Metro Planning Commission hereby recommends to the Louisville Metro Council that it rezone the subject property from R-4 to PEC and approves the General District Development Plan.