

Planning Commission

Staff Report

May 11, 2017



Case No:	16ZONE1081
Request:	R-4 to R-7
Project Name:	Six Mile Lane Apartments
Location:	6710 and 6714 Six Mile Lane
Owner:	J.G. Homer Burgin
Applicant:	EMM3, LLC
Representative:	Bardenwerper, Talbott & Roberts, PLLC
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro
Council District:	26 – Brent Ackerson
Case Manager:	Laura Mattingly, Planner II

REQUEST

- Change in zoning from R-4 to R-7
- Detailed District Development Plan

CASE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND/SITE CONTEXT

The applicant is proposing four 2-story apartment buildings containing a total of 36 units on 1.83 acres, located .1 mile southwest of the intersection of Six Mile Lane and Breckenridge Lane in the Buechel neighborhood. The site also includes 59 total parking spaces, located in the middle of the site with two apartment buildings on either side. The area is predominantly single family uses, although there is a commercial center at the northeast side of Breckenridge and Six Mile Lane, as well as a mix of condominiums, a religious facility, a warehouse and a retail facility just west of the proposal on Six Mile Lane.

LAND USE/ZONING DISTRICT/FORM DISTRICT TABLE

	Land Use	Zoning	Form District
Subject Property			
Existing	Vacant	R-4	N
Proposed	Multi-Family Residential	R-7	N
Surrounding Properties			
North	Single Family Residential	R-4	N
South	Railroad	R-4	N
East	Daycare	R-4	N
West	Single Family Residential	R-4	N

PREVIOUS CASES ON SITE

16168: A request for a change in zoning from R-4 to C-2 and a Conditional Use Permit for proposed mini-warehouses. This was continued indefinitely at the December 15, 2011 hearing of the Planning Commission.

INTERESTED PARTY COMMENTS

None received.

APPLICABLE PLANS AND POLICIES

Cornerstone 2020
Land Development Code

STANDARD OF REVIEW FOR REZONING

Criteria for granting the proposed form district change/rezoning: KRS Chapter 100.213

1. The proposed form district/rezoning change complies with the applicable guidelines and policies Cornerstone 2020; OR
2. The existing form district/zoning classification is inappropriate and the proposed classification is appropriate; OR
3. There have been major changes of an economic, physical, or social nature within the area involved which were not anticipated in Cornerstone 2020 which have substantially altered the basic character of the area.

STAFF ANALYSIS FOR REZONING

Following is staff's analysis of the proposed rezoning against the Guidelines and Policies of Cornerstone 2020.

The site is located in the Neighborhood Form District

The Neighborhood Form is characterized by predominantly residential uses that vary from low to high density and that blend compatibly into the existing landscape and neighborhood areas. High-density uses will be limited in scope to minor or major arterials and to areas that have limited impact on the low to moderate density residential areas.

The Neighborhood Form will contain diverse housing types in order to provide housing choice for differing ages and incomes. New neighborhoods are encouraged to incorporate these different housing types within a neighborhood as long as the different types are designed to be compatible with nearby land uses. These types may include, but not be limited to large lot single family developments with cul-de-sacs, neo-traditional neighborhoods with short blocks or walkways in the middle of long blocks to connect with other streets, villages and zero lot line neighborhoods with open space, and high density multi-family condominium-style or rental housing.

The Neighborhood Form may contain open space and, at appropriate locations, civic uses and neighborhood centers with a mixture of uses such as offices, retail shops, restaurants and services. These neighborhood centers should be at a scale that is appropriate for nearby neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Form should provide for accessibility and connectivity between adjacent uses and neighborhoods by automobile, pedestrian, bicycles and transit.

Neighborhood streets may be either curvilinear, rectilinear or in a grid pattern and should be designed to invite human interaction. Streets are connected and easily accessible to each other, using design elements such as short blocks or bike/walkways in the middle of long blocks to connect with other streets. Examples of design elements that encourage this interaction include narrow street widths, street trees, sidewalks, shaded seating/gathering areas and bus stops. Placement of utilities should permit the planting of shade trees along both sides of the streets.

This proposal provides for a better variety and more inclusive housing choice in this area by proposing higher density multi-family housing in a predominantly single family neighborhood. It is located near an activity center with a mix of commercial uses, as well as other multi-family developments to the east and west. Pedestrian and transit access is provided with the addition of public sidewalks along the Six Mile Lane frontage and nearby transit stops at the corner of Six Mile Lane and Breckenridge Lane. Adequate landscape buffering is

provided along all sides and the building design and materials are compatible with existing development in the area.

A checklist is attached to the end of this staff report with a more detailed analysis. The Louisville Metro Planning Commission is charged with making a recommendation to the Louisville Metro Council regarding the appropriateness of this zoning map amendment. The Louisville Metro Council has zoning authority over the property in question.

STANDARD OF REVIEW AND STAFF ANALYSIS FOR DDP

- a. The conservation of natural resources on the property proposed for development, including: trees and other living vegetation, steep slopes, water courses, flood plains, soils, air quality, scenic views, and historic sites;

STAFF: The proposal is preserving a portion of the existing trees on site and providing landscaping that will improve scenic views from Six Mile Lane.

- b. The provisions for safe and efficient vehicular and pedestrian transportation both within the development and the community;

STAFF: Provisions for safe and efficient vehicular and pedestrian transportation within and around the development and the community have been provided through adequate vehicular access, as well as the proposed public sidewalk, two pedestrian connections to the public sidewalk and pedestrian connections throughout the site.

- c. The provision of sufficient open space (scenic and recreational) to meet the needs of the proposed development;

STAFF: Open space requirements have been met.

- d. The provision of adequate drainage facilities on the subject site in order to prevent drainage problems from occurring on the subject site or within the community;

STAFF: The Metropolitan Sewer District has approved the preliminary development plan and will ensure the provision of adequate drainage facilities on the subject site in order to prevent drainage problems from occurring on the subject site or within the community.

- e. The compatibility of the overall site design (location of buildings, parking lots, screening, landscaping) and land use or uses with the existing and projected future development of the area;

STAFF: The overall site design and land uses are compatible with the existing and future development of the area, as this proposal is similar to existing multi-family developments in the area, in site layout, design and massing. Appropriate landscape buffering and screening will be provided to screen adjacent properties and roadways.

- f. Conformance of the development plan with the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code.

STAFF: The development plan conforms to applicable guidelines and policies of the Comprehensive Plan and to requirements of the Land Development Code.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

- The plan is in order and has received preliminary approvals from Transportation and MSD.

STAFF CONCLUSIONS

The development plan conforms to applicable guidelines and policies of the Comprehensive Plan and meets the standard of review.

Based upon the information in the staff report, the testimony and evidence provided at the public hearing, the Planning Commission must determine if the proposal is in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan; OR the existing form district/zoning classification is inappropriate and the proposed classification is appropriate; OR if there have been major changes of an economic, physical, or social nature within the area involved which were not anticipated in Cornerstone 2020 which have substantially altered the basic character of the area.

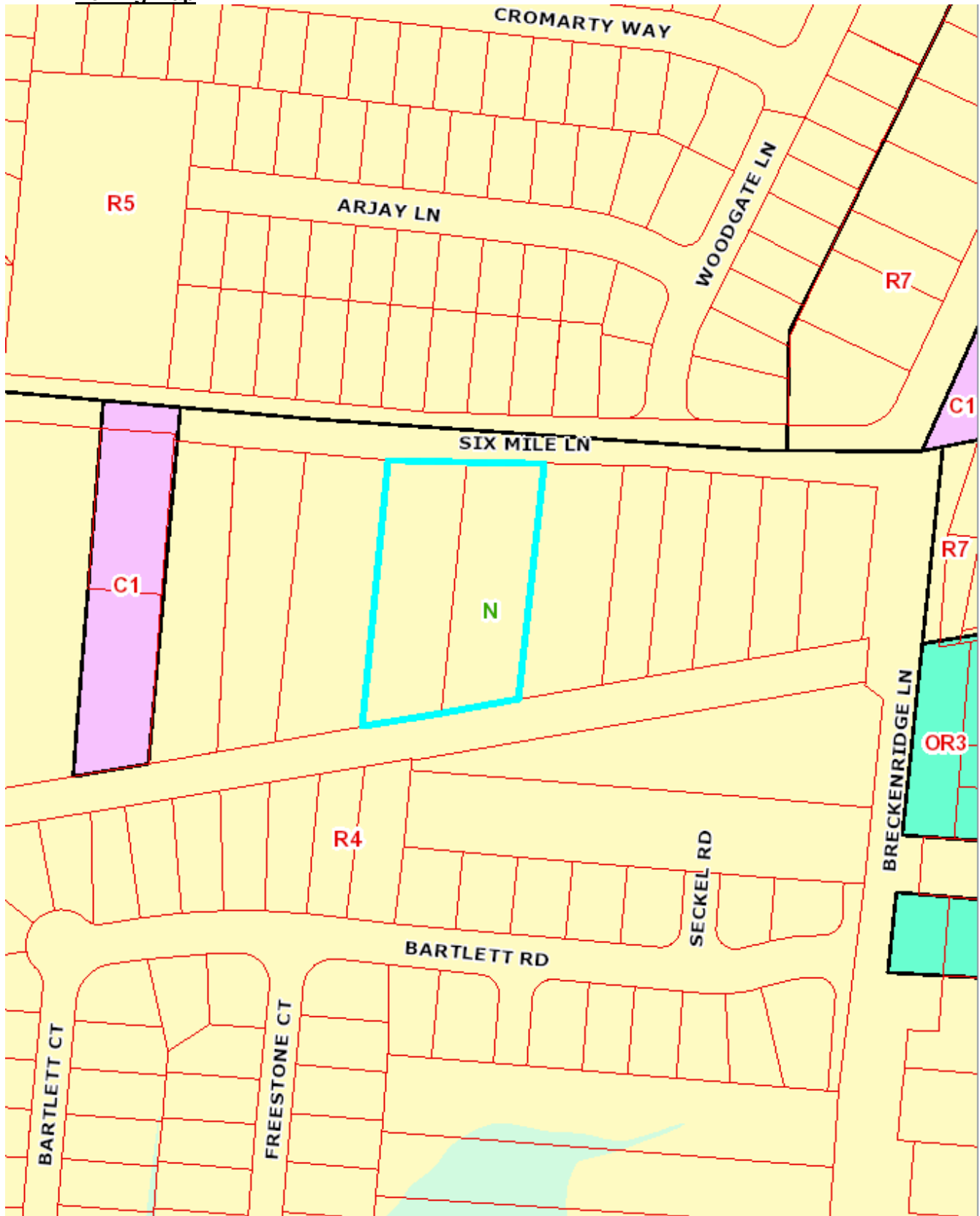
NOTIFICATION

Date	Purpose of Notice	Recipients
3/30/17	Hearing before LD&T	1 st and 2 nd tier adjoining property owners Speakers at Planning Commission public hearing Subscribers of Council District 10 Notification of Development Proposals
4/27/17	Hearing before PC / BOZA	1 st and 2 nd tier adjoining property owners Speakers at Planning Commission public hearing Subscribers of Council District 10 Notification of Development Proposals
4/26/17	Hearing before PC / BOZA	Sign Posting on property
5/4/17	Hearing before PC / BOZA	Legal Advertisement in the Courier-Journal

ATTACHMENTS

1. Zoning Map
2. Aerial Photograph
3. Cornerstone 2020 Staff Checklist
4. Proposed Binding Elements

1. Zoning Map



2. **Aerial Photograph**



3. Cornerstone 2020 Checklist

- + Exceeds Guideline
- ✓ Meets Guideline
- Does Not Meet Guideline
- +/- More Information Needed
- NA Not Applicable

Neighborhood: Residential

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
1	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.3: The proposal supports the creation of a mix of residential housing choices and densities for the neighborhood.	✓	This area is predominantly single family with some multi-family. The addition of this development adds to the diversity of housing choices in the area.
2	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.3: If the proposal is classified as high density (greater than 12 dwelling units per acre), it is located on a major or minor arterial or in a location that has limited impact on adjacent low or moderate density developments.	✓	While the proposed development is located on a collector level road, it is just one-tenth of a mile away from an arterial and a small activity center.
3	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.3: If the proposal introduces a new housing type to the neighborhood, it is designed to be compatible with nearby land uses.	✓	The scale and massing, as well as site layout is compatible with the surrounding single family uses and similar to a multi-family development just west on Six Mile Lane.
4	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.3: Neighborhood streets are designed to invite human interaction and easy access through the use of connectivity, and design elements such as short blocks or bike/walkways in the middle of long blocks to connect with other streets.	NA	This is a compact apartment development with no new streets being created.
5	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.1. Locate activity centers within the Neighborhood Form District at street intersections with at least one of the intersecting streets classified as a collector or higher, AND one of the corners containing an established non-residential use.	NA	This proposal is not an activity center.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
6	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.2: Develop non-residential and mixed uses only in designated activity centers except (a) where an existing center proposed to expand in a manner that is compatible with adjacent uses and in keeping with form district standards, (b) when a proposal is comparable in use, intensity, size and design to a designated center, (c) where a proposed use requires a particular location or does not fit well into a compact center, (d) where a commercial use mainly serves residents of a new planned or proposed development and is similar in character and intensity to the residential development, or (e) in older or redeveloping areas where the non-residential use is compatible with the surroundings and does not create a nuisance.	NA	This development is residential only.
7	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.4: Encourage a more compact development pattern that results in an efficient use of land and cost-effective infrastructure.	✓	With the orientation of the buildings and parking located in the middle of the site, this site design is an efficient use of the land.
8	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.5: Encourage a mix of compatible uses to reduce traffic by supporting combined trips, allow alternative modes of transportation and encourage vitality and sense of place.	✓	This development is located just one-tenth mile away from an activity center and there are a mix of other uses scattered near the intersection of Six Mile Lane and Breckenridge Lane.
9	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.6: Encourage residential uses in centers above retail and other mixed-use multi-story retail buildings.	NA	This residential use is not located in a center.
10	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.7: Encourage new developments and rehabilitation of buildings to provide residential uses alone or in combination with retail and office uses.	✓	This new development is near a mix of commercial uses.
11	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.8/11: Allow centers in the Neighborhood Form District that serve the daily needs of residents and that are designed to minimize impact on residents through appropriate scale, placement and design.	NA	This proposal is not a center.
12	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.10: Encourage outlot development in underutilized parking lots provided location, scale, signs, lighting, parking and landscaping standards are met. Such outlot development should provide street-level retail with residential units above.	NA	This proposal is not compatible with outlot development.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
13	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.12: Design large developments to be compact, multi-purpose centers organized around a central feature such as a public square, plaza or landscape element.	NA	This proposal is a multi-family development only and does not fit the definition of a large development.
14	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.13: Encourage sharing of entrance and parking facilities to reduce curb cuts and surface parking.	✓	This proposal has a single access point for this development only, but a shared access in this location is not appropriate for the adjacent uses.
15	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.14: Design and locate utility easements to provide access for maintenance and to provide services in common for adjacent developments.	✓	MSD and other utility agencies have reviewed the plan and have no issues.
16	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.15: Encourage parking design and layout to balance safety, traffic, transit, pedestrian, environmental and aesthetic considerations.	✓	The parking is located in the most appropriate area of the site, with the required buffers in place and all required pedestrian and vehicular connections.
17	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 2: Centers	A.16: Encourage centers to be designed for easy access by alternative forms of transportation.	NA	This development is not an activity center.
18	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.1: The proposal is generally compatible within the scale and site design of nearby existing development and with the form district's pattern of development.	✓	The scale and massing, as well as site layout is compatible with the surrounding single family uses and similar to a multi-family development just west on Six Mile Lane.
19	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.2: The proposed building materials increase the new development's compatibility. (Only for a new development in a residential infill context, or if consideration of building materials used in the proposal is specifically required by the Land Development Code.)	✓	The elevations are in compliance with the multi-family standards found in the Land Development Code.
20	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.3: The proposal is compatible with adjacent residential areas, and if it introduces a new type of density, the proposal is designed to be compatible with surrounding land uses through the use of techniques to mitigate nuisances and provide appropriate transitions between land uses. Examples of appropriate mitigation include vegetative buffers, open spaces, landscaping and/or a transition of densities, site design, building heights, building design, materials and orientation that is compatible with those of nearby residences.	✓	All compatibility requirements have been met.
21	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.6: The proposal mitigates any adverse impacts of its associated traffic on nearby existing communities.	✓	By having its own entrance, being located near an activity center and providing for pedestrian and transit access, the proposal mitigates for the additional traffic that may be increased by this development.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
22	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.8: The proposal mitigates adverse impacts of its lighting on nearby properties, and on the night sky.	✓	A note has been placed on the plan indication all lighting shall be directed downwards, in compliance with the LDC.
23	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.10: The proposal includes a variety of housing types, including, but not limited to, single family detached, single family attached, multi-family, zero lot line, average lot, cluster and accessory residential structures, that reflect the form district pattern.	✓	The proposal adds diversity in housing choices to the area by proposing multi-family in a predominantly single family area.
24	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.11: If the proposal is a higher density or intensity use, it is located along a transit corridor AND in or near an activity center.	✓	The proposal is higher density and it is located one-tenth of a mile from an activity center.
25	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.13: The proposal creates housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities, which is located close to shopping, transit routes, and medical facilities (if possible).	✓	The proposal is located close to a mix of uses, transit and is ADA compliant.
26	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.14/15: The proposal creates appropriate/inclusive housing that is compatible with site and building design of nearby housing.	✓	The proposal is appropriate and inclusive in that it offers a different housing choice for those that may not be able to afford or prefer single family homes.
27	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.21: The proposal provides appropriate transitions between uses that are substantially different in scale and intensity or density of development such as landscaped buffer yards, vegetative berms, compatible building design and materials, height restrictions, or setback requirements.	✓	Buffers and setbacks are in compliance with the Land Development Code.
28	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.22: The proposal mitigates the impacts caused when incompatible developments unavoidably occur adjacent to one another by using buffers that are of varying designs such as landscaping, vegetative berms and/or walls, and that address those aspects of the development that have the potential to adversely impact existing area developments.	✓	The LBAs along the east and west property lines are adequate to provide transition between the higher density residential use and abutting properties.
29	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.23: Setbacks, lot dimensions and building heights are compatible with those of nearby developments that meet form district standards.	✓	All setbacks and building heights are within LDC standards and are compatible with surrounding development.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
30	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 4: Open Space	A.2/3/7: The proposal provides open space that helps meet the needs of the community as a component of the development and provides for the continued maintenance of that open space.	✓	Open space requirements have been met.
31	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 4: Open Space	A.4: Open space design is consistent with the pattern of development in the Neighborhood Form District.	✓	The proposed open space is consistent with other developments within the Neighborhood form district.
32	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 4: Open Space	A.5: The proposal integrates natural features into the pattern of development.	✓	The proposal provides LBA and ILA plantings where required, with the exception of the rear property line.
33	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 5: Natural Areas and Scenic and Historic Resources	A.1: The proposal respects the natural features of the site through sensitive site design, avoids substantial changes to the topography and minimizes property damage and environmental degradation resulting from disturbance of natural systems.	✓	The proposal is preserving a portion of the trees that currently exist on site.
34	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 5: Natural Areas and Scenic and Historic Resources	A.2/4: The proposal includes the preservation, use or adaptive reuse of buildings, sites, districts and landscapes that are recognized as having historical or architectural value, and, if located within the impact area of these resources, is compatible in height, bulk, scale, architecture and placement.	NA	The site does not appear to have any historically significant structures or features.
35	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 5: Natural Areas and Scenic and Historic Resources	A.6: Encourage development to avoid wet or highly permeable soils, severe, steep or unstable slopes with the potential for severe erosion.	✓	LOJIC does not show any hydric soils or steep slopes.
36	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.1/2: The proposal will contribute its proportional share of the cost of roadway improvements and other services and public facilities made necessary by the development through physical improvements to these facilities, contribution of money, or other means.	✓	Transportation has approved the site plan.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
37	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.6: The proposal's transportation facilities are compatible with and support access to surrounding land uses, and contribute to the appropriate development of adjacent lands. The proposal includes at least one continuous roadway through the development, adequate street stubs, and relies on cul-de-sacs only as short side streets or where natural features limit development of "through" roads.	✓	The proposal has a single access to the development's parking lot and is not required to connect to any other abutting use due to the lower intensity of uses surrounding the development.
38	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.9: The proposal includes the dedication of rights-of-way for street, transit corridors, bikeway and walkway facilities within or abutting the development.	✓	The applicant is dedicating 10 feet of ROW.
39	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 8: Transportation Facility Design	A.8: Adequate stub streets are provided for future roadway connections that support and contribute to appropriate development of adjacent land.	NA	There are no private or public streets associated with this site.
40	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 8: Transportation Facility Design	A.9: Avoid access to development through areas of significantly lower intensity or density if such access would create a significant nuisance.	✓	This site is accessed directly from a collector level road.
41	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 8: Transportation Facility Design	A.11: The development provides for an appropriate functional hierarchy of streets and appropriate linkages between activity areas in and adjacent to the development site.	✓	By having a single access, dedicating right-of-way and providing for pedestrian and transit access, the proposal meets the requirements for linkages between the development and surrounding uses.
42	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 9: Bicycle, Pedestrian and Transit	A.1/2: The proposal provides, where appropriate, for the movement of pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users around and through the development, provides bicycle and pedestrian connections to adjacent developments and to transit stops, and is appropriately located for its density and intensity.	✓	The proposal includes the addition of public sidewalks and pedestrian connections to the sidewalk and throughout site.
43	Livability/Environment Guideline 10: Flooding and Stormwater	The proposal's drainage plans have been approved by MSD, and the proposal mitigates negative impacts to the floodplain and minimizes impervious area. Solid blue-line streams are protected through a vegetative buffer, and drainage designs are capable of accommodating upstream runoff assuming a fully-developed watershed. If streambank restoration or preservation is necessary, the proposal uses best management practices.	✓	MSD have approved the site plan.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
44	Livability/Environment Guideline 13: Landscape Character	A.3: The proposal includes additions and connections to a system of natural corridors that can provide habitat areas and allow for migration.	✓	The applicant has provided the 25' LBA along the railway to the south, which also could serve as a natural corridor.
45	Community Facilities Guideline 14: Infrastructure	A.2: The proposal is located in an area served by existing utilities or planned for utilities.	✓	There are existing utility connections on site.
46	Community Facilities Guideline 14: Infrastructure	A.3: The proposal has access to an adequate supply of potable water and water for fire-fighting purposes.	✓	There are existing public water connections.
47	Community Facilities Guideline 14: Infrastructure	A.4: The proposal has adequate means of sewage treatment and disposal to protect public health and to protect water quality in lakes and streams.	✓	There are existing MSD connections on site.

4. Proposed Binding Elements

1. The development shall be in accordance with the approved district development plan, all applicable sections of the Land Development Code (LDC) and agreed upon binding elements unless amended pursuant to the Land Development Code. Any changes/additions/alterations of any binding element(s) shall be submitted to the Planning Commission or the Planning Commission's designee for review and approval; any changes/additions/alterations not so referred shall not be valid.
2. No outdoor advertising signs, small freestanding signs, pennants, balloons, or banners shall be permitted on the site.
3. Construction fencing shall be erected when off-site trees or tree canopy exists within 3' of a common property line. Fencing shall be in place prior to any grading or construction to protect the existing root systems from compaction. The fencing shall enclose the entire area beneath the tree canopy and shall remain in place until all construction is completed. No parking, material storage or construction activities are permitted within the protected area.
4. Before any permit (including but not limited to building, parking lot, change of use, site disturbance, alteration permit or demolition permit) is requested:
 - a. The development plan must receive full construction approval from Develop Louisville, Louisville Metro Public Works and the Metropolitan Sewer District.
 - b. Encroachment permits must be obtained from the Kentucky Department of Transportation, Bureau of Highways.
 - c. The property owner/developer must obtain approval of a detailed plan for screening (buffering/landscaping) as described in Chapter 10 prior to requesting a building permit. Such plan shall be implemented prior to occupancy of the site and shall be maintained thereafter.
 - d. A minor plat or legal instrument shall be recorded consolidating the property into one lot. A copy of the recorded instrument shall be submitted to the Division of Planning and Design Services; transmittal of the approved plans to the office responsible for permit issuance will occur only after receipt of said instrument.
 - e. A Tree Preservation Plan in accordance with Chapter 10 of the LDC shall be reviewed and approved prior to obtaining approval for site disturbance.

5. A certificate of occupancy must be received from the appropriate code enforcement department prior to occupancy of the structure or land for the proposed use. All binding elements requiring action and approval must be implemented prior to requesting issuance of the certificate of occupancy, unless specifically waived by the Planning Commission.
6. There shall be no outdoor music (live, piped, radio or amplified) or outdoor entertainment or outdoor PA system permitted on the site.
7. The applicant, developer, or property owner shall provide copies of these binding elements to tenants, purchasers, contractors, subcontractors and other parties engaged in development of this site and shall advise them of the content of these binding elements. These binding elements shall run with the land and the owner of the property and occupant of the property shall at all times be responsible for compliance with these binding elements. At all times during development of the site, the applicant and developer, their heirs, successors; and assignees, contractors, subcontractors, and other parties engaged in development of the site, shall be responsible for compliance with these binding elements.
8. The materials and design of proposed structures shall be substantially the same as depicted in the rendering as presented at the May 11, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.