

JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

Thornton's, Inc.

13820 Old Henry Road

Case No. 18ZONE1055

INTRODUCTION

Thornton's, Inc. (the "Applicant") proposes to re-zone the property located at 13820 Old Henry Road from OR-3 Office Residential to C-2 Commercial and re-develop the site into a mixed-use development, including a hotel, restaurants, and retail. For the reasons set out below, the proposed rezoning complies with the Cornerstone 2020 Comprehensive Plan.

GUIDELINE 1 - COMMUNITY FORM

The proposal complies with the intent of Guideline 1, Community Form. The subject property is located in the Suburban Workplace Form District, which the Comprehensive Plan states is a form "characterized by predominately industrial and office uses where the buildings are set back from the street in a landscaped setting. Suburban workplaces often contain a single large-scale use or a cluster of uses within a master planned development." Here, the proposal is consistent with the form district and pattern of development in the area, which features buildings set back from the street in a landscaped setting. The proposal includes significant landscaping between the edge of pavement and the property line of the proposed development site. The proposed development is also consistent with the proposed C-2 zoning district and the intent and policies of Guideline 1 as it will provide a greater integration of uses by increasing commercial and office development along the Old Henry Road corridor.

GUIDELINE 2 - CENTERS

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 2, Centers. The subject property is located within an existing activity center along Old Henry Road. The proposal includes neighborhood and regional serving uses: restaurants, retail, and a hotel. The proposed uses will provide supportive services to employees and nearby residents in the area. The proposed hotel will be conveniently located near entrance to I-265 and provide for short-term stays for applicant's clients or temporary workers, as well as those visiting other businesses in the area.

GUIDELINE 3 - COMPATIBILITY

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 3, Compatibility. The proposal is not a non-residential expansion into an existing residential area as the subject site is currently zoned for mixed-use development, and is surrounded by other mixed-use zones. The proposal will not have adverse traffic, parking, noise, or visual impacts on

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the surrounding lower intensity uses due to the subject property's location in an existing activity center and the proximity of transportation facilities. The applicant will work with Louisville Metro Public Works to determine the traffic impact of the proposed uses as it compares to the previously approved office uses. The subject property is located within an existing activity center along a minor arterial (Old Henry Road), with easy access to I-265. The proposed parking area locations are consistent with the pattern of development in the area, and the applicant proposes to provide significant landscaping between the edge of Old Henry Road and the proposed parking area

GUIDELINE 4 - OPEN SPACE

GUIDELINE 5 - NATURAL AREAS AND SCENIC AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 4, Open Space, and Guideline 5, Natural Areas and Scenic and Historic Resources. The applicant proposes commercial uses that do not require open space, but each use will include some outdoor features (seating or pool area) to serve customers and visitors to the site. No natural or historic resources are located on the site.

GUIDELINE 6 – ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 6, Economic Growth and Sustainability. The proposal is to develop a currently undeveloped tract of land into a mixed-use development with regional and neighborhood-serving commercial uses. The proposed hotel, restaurants, and retail uses are a natural fit for the existing activity center along Old Henry Road.

GUIDELINE 7 - CIRCULATION

GUIDELINE 8 - TRANSPORTATION FACILITY DESIGN

GUIDELINE 9 – BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, AND TRANSIT

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 7, Circulation, and Guideline 8, Transportation Facility Design, and Guideline 9, Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit. The proposal includes adequate parking to support the proposed uses, and the development will connect directly to minor arterial Old Henry Road via the existing connector James Thornton Way. Old Henry Road provides easy access to the nearby I-265. The proposal provides for internal pedestrian connection to the existing development to the west and via connector Wickham Green Way on the north end of the site. Access to future development to the north is provided via connectors Wickham Green Way and James Thornton Way. The proposal also includes sidewalks for pedestrian access to Old Henry Road, to the adjacent development to the west, and within the development. Bike parking will be provided at convenient locations.

GUIDELINE 10 - FLOODING AND STORMWATER

GUIDELINE 11 - WATER QUALITY

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The proposal should have very little impact, if any, on the surrounding waterways, complying with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 10, Flooding and Stormwater, and Guideline 11, Water Quality.

GUIDELINE 12 - AIR QUALITY

The proposal complies with the intent and applicable policies of Guideline 12, Air Quality. The proposal should not have adverse impacts on traffic or air quality due to its location near the existing activity center on Old Henry Road.

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