

Planning Commission Staff Report

June 15, 2023



Case No:	23-ZONE-0017
Project Name:	Romero Minor Plat
Location:	4027 and 4029 Churchman Ave
Owner(s):	Romero Properties, LLC.
Applicant:	Luis Romero
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro
Council District:	15 – Jennifer Chappell
Case Manager:	Jay Lockett, AICP, Planner II

REQUEST(S)

- **Change-in-Zoning** from R-5, Single-family Residential to UN Urban Neighborhood
- **District Development Plan**

CASE SUMMARY

The applicant is proposing to subdivide an existing lot into two lots for the construction of a single-family home. Proposed lots match the original lotting pattern of the surrounding area; the lots were previously separate, and the vacant area is already addressed.

STAFF FINDING

The proposal will provide an opportunity to construct an infill housing unit that is consistent with the existing pattern of the surrounding area.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

MSD and Transportation Planning have approved the preliminary development plan.

INTERESTED PARTY COMMENTS

None received.

REQUIRED ACTIONS

- **RECOMMEND** that Louisville Metro Council **APPROVE** or **DENY** the proposed **Change-in-Zoning** from R-5, Single-family Residential to UN, Urban Neighborhood.
- **APPROVE** or **DENY** the **Detailed District Development Plan with Replacement of Binding Elements**

STANDARD OF REVIEW FOR ZONING DISTRICT CHANGES

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 Plan 2040; **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 Plan 2040 which have substantially altered the basic character of the area.

STAFF ANALYSIS FOR CHANGE IN ZONING

The Following is a summary of staff's analysis of the proposed rezoning against the Land Use and Development Policies of Plan 2040:

The site is located in the Traditional Neighborhood Form District

Traditional Neighborhood: This form is characterized by predominantly residential uses, by a grid pattern of streets with sidewalks and often including alleys. Residential lots are predominantly narrow and often deep, but the neighborhood may contain sections of larger estate lots, and also sections of lots on which appropriately integrated higher density residential uses may be located. The higher density uses are encouraged to be located in centers or near parks and open spaces having sufficient carrying capacity. There is usually a significant range of housing opportunities, including multi-family dwellings. Traditional neighborhoods often have and are encouraged to have a significant proportion of public open space such as parks or greenways, and may contain civic uses as well as appropriately located and integrated neighborhood centers with a mixture of mostly neighborhood-serving land uses such as offices, shops, restaurants and services. Although many existing traditional neighborhoods are 50 to 120 years old, the Traditional Neighborhood Form may be used when establishing new developments and redevelopments. Revitalization and reinforcement of the Traditional Neighborhood Form will require particular emphasis on (a) preservation and renovation of existing buildings in stable neighborhoods (if the building design is consistent with the predominant building design in those neighborhoods), (b) in the case of new developments or redevelopments using traditional building scales and site layouts, (c) the preservation of the existing or establishing a new grid pattern of streets and alleys, and (d) preservation of or creation of new public open spaces.

The proposed zoning and uses is similar in intensity to the adjacent properties. The subject site is approximately 2700 feet from Taylor Blvd, a major arterial roadway with public transit as well as a variety of services, amenities and employment opportunities.

The proposal will provide an opportunity to construct an infill housing unit that is consistent with the existing pattern of the surrounding area, as well as facilitate the renovation of an existing house on the subject site.

The Louisville Metro Planning Commission is charged with making a recommendation to the Louisville Metro Council regarding the appropriateness of this zoning map amendment. Louisville Metro Council has zoning authority over the property in question.

STANDARD OF REVIEW AND STAFF ANALYSIS FOR (R)DDDP and/or AMENDMENT TO BINDING ELEMENTS

- (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 site does not contain environmentally sensitive areas.

- (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 has been provided, and Metro Public Works has approved the preliminary development plan.

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

STAFF: There are no open space requirements pertinent to the current proposal.

- (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.

- (f) Conformance of the development plan with the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code. Revised plan certain development plans shall be evaluated for conformance with the non-residential and mixed-use intent of the form districts and comprehensive plan.

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

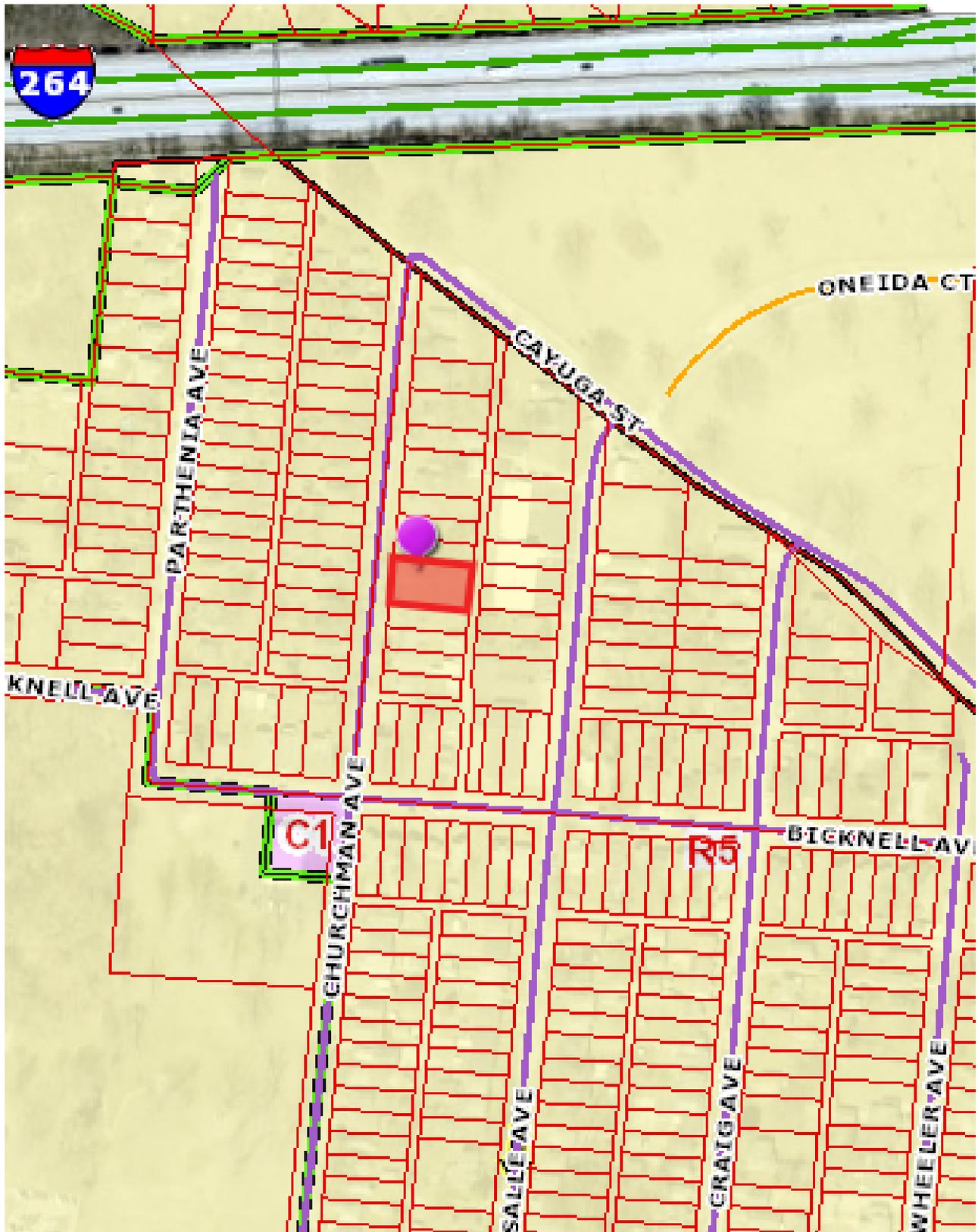
NOTIFICATION

Date	Purpose of Notice	Recipients
5-5-23	Hearing before LD&T	1 st and 2 nd tier adjoining property owners Registered Neighborhood Groups in Council District 15
6-1-23	Hearing before Planning Commission	1 st and 2 nd tier adjoining property owners Registered Neighborhood Groups in Council District 15
5-30-23	Hearing before PC	Sign Posting on property
	Hearing before PC	Legal Advertisement in the Courier-Journal

ATTACHMENTS

1. Zoning Map
2. Aerial Photograph
3. Comprehensive Plan Checklist
4. Proposed Binding Elements

1. Zoning Map



2. Aerial Photograph



3. Staff Plan 2040 Checklist

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

Traditional Neighborhood: Residential

#	Plan 2040 Plan Element	Land Use & Development Policy	Staff Finding	Staff Analysis
1	Community Form: Goal 1	7. Locate higher density and intensity uses near major transportation facilities and transit corridors, employment centers, in or near activity centers and other areas where demand and adequate infrastructure exists or is planned.	✓	The subject site is approximately 2700 feet from Taylor Blvd, a major arterial roadway with public transit as well as a variety of services, amenities and employment opportunities.
2	Community Form: Goal 1	9. Ensure an appropriate transition between uses that are substantially different in scale and intensity or density of development. The transition may be achieved through methods such as landscaped buffer yards, vegetative berms, compatible building design and materials, height restrictions and setback requirements.	✓	The proposed zoning and uses is similar in intensity to the adjacent properties.
3	Community Form: Goal 2	9. Encourage new developments and rehabilitation of buildings that provide commercial, office and/or residential uses.	✓	The proposal includes rehabilitation of an existing structure for residential use.
4	Community Form: Goal 3	10. Encourage development to avoid wet or highly permeable soils, severe, steep or unstable slopes where the potential for severe erosion problems exists in order to prevent property damage and public costs associated with soil slippage and foundation failure and to minimize environmental degradation.	✓	The site does not have environmental concerns.
5	Community Form: Goal 4	2. Encourage preservation of distinctive cultural features including landscapes, natural elements and built features.	✓	The proposal includes renovation and reuse of an existing home on the subject site.
6	Community Form: Goal 4	3. Encourage preservation and/or adaptive reuse of historic sites listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and/or recognized by the Louisville Metro Landmarks Commission or other national, state or local government historic preservation agencies.	✓	The proposal includes renovation of a house on the subject site.

#	Plan 2040 Plan Element	Land Use & Development Policy	Staff Finding	Staff Analysis
7	Mobility: Goal 1	4. Encourage higher densities and intensities within or near existing marketplace corridors, existing and future activity centers, and employment centers to support transit-oriented development and an efficient public transportation system.	✓	The subject site has ready access to services, amenities and job opportunities.
8	Mobility: Goal 2	4. Avoid access to development through areas of significantly lower intensity or density development if such access would create significant nuisances.	✓	The site will be accessed via existing public streets.
9	Mobility: Goal 3	2. To improve mobility, and reduce vehicle miles traveled and congestion, encourage a mixture of compatible land uses that are easily accessible by bicycle, car, transit, pedestrians and people with disabilities. Housing should be encouraged near employment centers.	✓	The proposed zoning would permit a variety of housing types and densities in an area well served by multimodal transportation networks.
10	Mobility: Goal 3	5. Evaluate developments for their impact on the transportation network (including the street, pedestrian, transit, freight movement and bike facilities and services) and air quality.	✓	The subject site is served by existing transportation networks. Transportation Planning Staff has reviewed and approved the preliminary plan.
11	Mobility: Goal 3	6. Ensure that those who propose new developments bear or share in rough proportionality the costs of transportation facilities and services made necessary by development.	✓	The subject site is served by existing transportation networks. Transportation Planning Staff has reviewed and approved the preliminary plan.
12	Mobility: Goal 3	9. When existing transportation facilities and services are inadequate and public funds are not available to rectify the situation, the developer may be asked to make improvements, roughly proportional to the projected impact of the proposed development, to eliminate present inadequacies if such improvements would be the only means by which the development would be considered appropriate at the proposed location.	✓	The subject site is served by existing transportation networks. Transportation Planning Staff has reviewed and approved the preliminary plan.
13	Mobility: Goal 3	10. Ensure that necessary improvements occur in accordance with long-range transportation plans and level of mobility criteria for all modes of travel.	✓	The subject site is served by existing transportation networks. Transportation Planning Staff has reviewed and approved the preliminary plan.
14	Mobility: Goal 3	21. Prevent safety hazards caused by direct residential access to high speed roadways.	✓	The site has alley access for parking.

#	Plan 2040 Plan Element	Land Use & Development Policy	Staff Finding	Staff Analysis
15	Community Facilities: Goal 2	1. Locate development in areas served by existing utilities or capable of being served by public or private utility extensions.	✓	Utility service will be coordinated.
16	Community Facilities: Goal 2	2. Ensure that all development has an adequate supply of potable water and water for fire-fighting purposes. Locate only very low-density land uses on sites that use on-lot sewage disposal systems or on a private supply of potable water.	✓	Water service will be coordinated.
17	Community Facilities: Goal 2	3. Ensure that all development has adequate means of sewage treatment and disposal to protect public health and to protect water quality in lakes and streams as determined by the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD).	✓	MSD has reviewed and approved the preliminary plan.
18	Livability: Goal 1	5. Encourage development that recognizes and incorporates the unique characteristics of identified general landscape types and native plant communities (e.g., upland hardwood forest) throughout Louisville Metro.	✓	The subject site does not contain distinctive natural features.
19	Livability: Goal 1	17. Determine site susceptibility to erosion; identify the presence of on-site carbonate conditions and features that are vulnerable to site disturbance; identify the extent of existing groundwater use and the impacts of the project on groundwater resources, flow patterns, and existing and proposed surface drainage. Then mitigate potential hazards to such systems resulting from the project.	✓	The subject site does not have potential for unstable soils.
20	Livability: Goal 1	21. Mitigate negative development impacts to the integrity of the regulatory floodplain by encouraging development patterns that minimize disturbance and consider the increased risk of more frequent flooding events.	✓	The site is not in the floodplain.
21	Housing: Goal 1	1. Encourage a variety of housing types including, but not limited to, detached and attached single family, multi-family, mixed use, zero lot line, average lot, cluster, and co-housing. Allow for accessory residential structures and apartments. Housing types should reflect the Form District pattern.	✓	The proposed zoning would allow a variety of housing types and densities appropriate for the form district.

#	Plan 2040 Plan Element	Land Use & Development Policy	Staff Finding	Staff Analysis
22	Housing: Goal 1	2. Promote housing options and environments that support aging in place. Encourage housing for older adults and people with disabilities to be located close to shopping and transit routes and, when possible, medical and other supportive facilities.	✓	The proposed zoning would allow a variety of housing types and densities that support aging in place.
23	Housing: Goal 2	1. Encourage inter-generational, mixed-income and mixed-use development that is connected to the neighborhood and surrounding area.	✓	The proposed zoning would allow a variety of housing types and densities in a well-connected location that supports a mixed-income neighborhood.
24	Housing: Goal 2	2. Locate housing within proximity to multi-modal transportation corridors providing safe and convenient access to employment opportunities, as well as within proximity to amenities providing neighborhood goods and services. Higher density, accessible residential uses should be located along transit corridors and in or near activity centers.	✓	The proposed zoning would allow a variety of housing types and densities in an area that is connected to a multimodal transportation network with a variety of services and amenities.
25	Housing: Goal 3	1. Encourage provision of fair and affordable housing by providing a variety of ownership options and unit costs throughout Louisville Metro. Expand opportunities for people to live in quality, variably priced housing in locations of their choice by encouraging affordable and accessible housing in dispersed locations throughout Louisville Metro.	✓	The site is near a wide variety of services, amenities and employment opportunities.
26	Housing: Goal 3	2. As neighborhoods evolve, discourage displacement of existing residents from their community.	✓	Residents would not be displaced by the proposal.
27	Housing: Goal 3	3. Encourage the use of innovative methods such as clustering, mixed-use developments, co-housing, and accessory apartments to increase the production of fair and affordable housing.	✓	The proposed zoning allows for a variety of housing options that promotes the provisioning of fair and affordable housing.

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. 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.
3. 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 Construction Review, Louisville Metro Public Works and the Metropolitan Sewer District.
4. 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.
5. 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.