

Board of Zoning Adjustment

Staff Report

August 21, 2017



Case No:	17CUP1042
Project Name:	None
Location:	4211 Poplar Level Road
Owner(s):	Patricia Redman Smith & Robert Redman
Applicant:	Aaron Watkins & Joanna Morse
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro
Council District:	10 – Pat Mulvihill
Case Manager:	Jon Crumbie, Planning & Design Coordinator

REQUEST(S)

- Conditional Use Permit to allow off-street parking in an R-5 zoning district.
- Waivers to reduce the required landscape buffer area along the perimeter of the site.

Location	Requirement	Request	Waiver
East Property Line	35"	10'	25'
South Property Line	35'	0	35'

CASE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The applicant is proposing expansion and renovation of an existing office and proposing to add 23 parking spaces to the existing office building site. 5 of those will be in the conditional use permit area.

STAFF FINDING / RECOMMENDATION

The proposal meets the applicable policies of the Comprehensive Plan and there are six specific standards required to obtain the conditional use permit requested and all will be met. Based upon the information in the staff report, the testimony and evidence provided at the public meeting, the Board of Zoning Adjustment must determine if the proposal meets the standards established in the Development Code for a conditional use permit and landscape waivers.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

There are no outstanding technical review items.

INTERESTED PARTY COMMENTS

A neighborhood meeting was held on May 22, 2017 and six people attended the meeting.

STANDARD OF REVIEW AND STAFF ANALYSIS FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

1. Is the proposal consistent with the applicable policies of the Comprehensive Plan?

STAFF: The proposal is consistent with the applicable policies of the Comprehensive Plan. The required tree canopy and landscape requirements will be provided.

2. Is the proposal compatible with surrounding land uses and the general character of the area including such factors as height, bulk, scale, intensity, traffic, noise, odor, drainage, dust, lighting, appearance, etc?

STAFF: The proposal is compatible with the general character of the surrounding neighborhoods in terms of scale, intensity, traffic, noise, drainage and appearance.

3. Are necessary public facilities (both on-site and off-site), such as transportation, sanitation, water, sewer, drainage, emergency services, education, recreation, etc. adequate to serve the proposed use?

STAFF: The proposal has been reviewed by MSD and Transportation Planning and both have approved the plan. The Louisville #4 Fire Protection District did not comment on the proposal.

4. Does the proposal comply with the following specific standards required to obtain the conditional use permit requested?

An Off-Street Parking Area may be permitted in a district where it is ordinarily prohibited, provided it serves a use in a building for which insufficient off-street parking space is provided, and where the provision of such parking space will materially relieve traffic congestion on the streets and when developed in compliance with the listed requirements. There are six requirements and all have been met.

A. The area shall be located within 200 feet of the property on which the building to be served is located measured by the shortest walking distance (using sidewalks and designated crosswalks).

B. Walls, fences, or plantings shall be provided in a manner to provide protection for and be in harmony with surrounding residential property.

C. The minimum front, street side, and side yards required in the district shall be maintained free of parking.

D. The area shall be used exclusively for transient parking of motor vehicles belonging to invitees of the owner or lessee of said lot.

E. The approval of all plans and specifications for the improvement, surfacing, and drainage for said parking area will be obtained from the appropriate Director of Works prior to use of the parking area.

F. The approval of all plans and specifications for all entrances, exits, and lights shall be obtained from the department responsible for transportation planning prior to the public hearing on the Conditional Use Permit.

STANDARD OF REVIEW AND STAFF ANALYSIS FOR WAIVER

- (a) The waiver will not adversely affect adjacent property owners; and

STAFF: The waiver will not adversely affect adjacent property owners because additional landscaping will be placed in the area where the waiver is requested.

- (b) The waiver will not violate specific guidelines of Cornerstone 2020; and

STAFF: Guideline 3, Policy 9 of Cornerstone 2020 calls for protection of the character of residential areas, roadway corridors and public spaces from visual intrusions and mitigation when appropriate. Guideline 3, Policies 21 and 22 call for appropriate transitions between uses that are substantially different in scale and intensity or density, and mitigation of the impact caused when incompatible developments occur adjacent to one another through the use of landscaped buffer yards, vegetative berms and setback requirements to address issues such as outdoor lighting, lights from automobiles, illuminated signs, loud noise, odors, smoke, automobile exhaust or other noxious smells, dust and dirt, litter, junk, outdoor storage, and visual nuisances. Guideline 3, Policy 24 states that parking, loading and delivery areas located adjacent to residential areas should be designed to minimize impacts from noise, lights and other potential impacts, and that parking and circulation areas adjacent to streets should be screened or buffered. Guideline 13, Policy 4 calls for ensuring appropriate landscape design standards for different land uses within urbanized, suburban, and rural areas. Guideline 13, Policy 6 calls for screening and buffering to mitigate adjacent incompatible uses. The intent of landscape buffer areas is to create suitable transitions where varying forms of development adjoin, to minimize the negative impacts resulting from adjoining incompatible land uses, to decrease storm water runoff volumes and velocities associated with impervious surfaces, and to filter airborne and waterborne pollutants.

- (c) The extent of the waiver of the regulation is the minimum necessary to afford relief to the applicant; and

STAFF: The extent of the waiver of the regulation is the minimum necessary to afford relief to the applicant since the site layout allows the minimum area needed to allow the conditional use permit parking area.

- (d) Either:

(i) The applicant has incorporated other design measures that exceed the minimums of the district and compensate for non-compliance with the requirements to be waived (net beneficial effect); OR

(ii) The strict application of the provisions of the regulation would deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of the land or would create an unnecessary hardship on the applicant.

STAFF: The strict application of the provisions of the regulations would deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of land because the applicant would have to remove existing concrete parking and due to an access easement to the north of the site, no additional parking can be added except in the conditional use permit area.

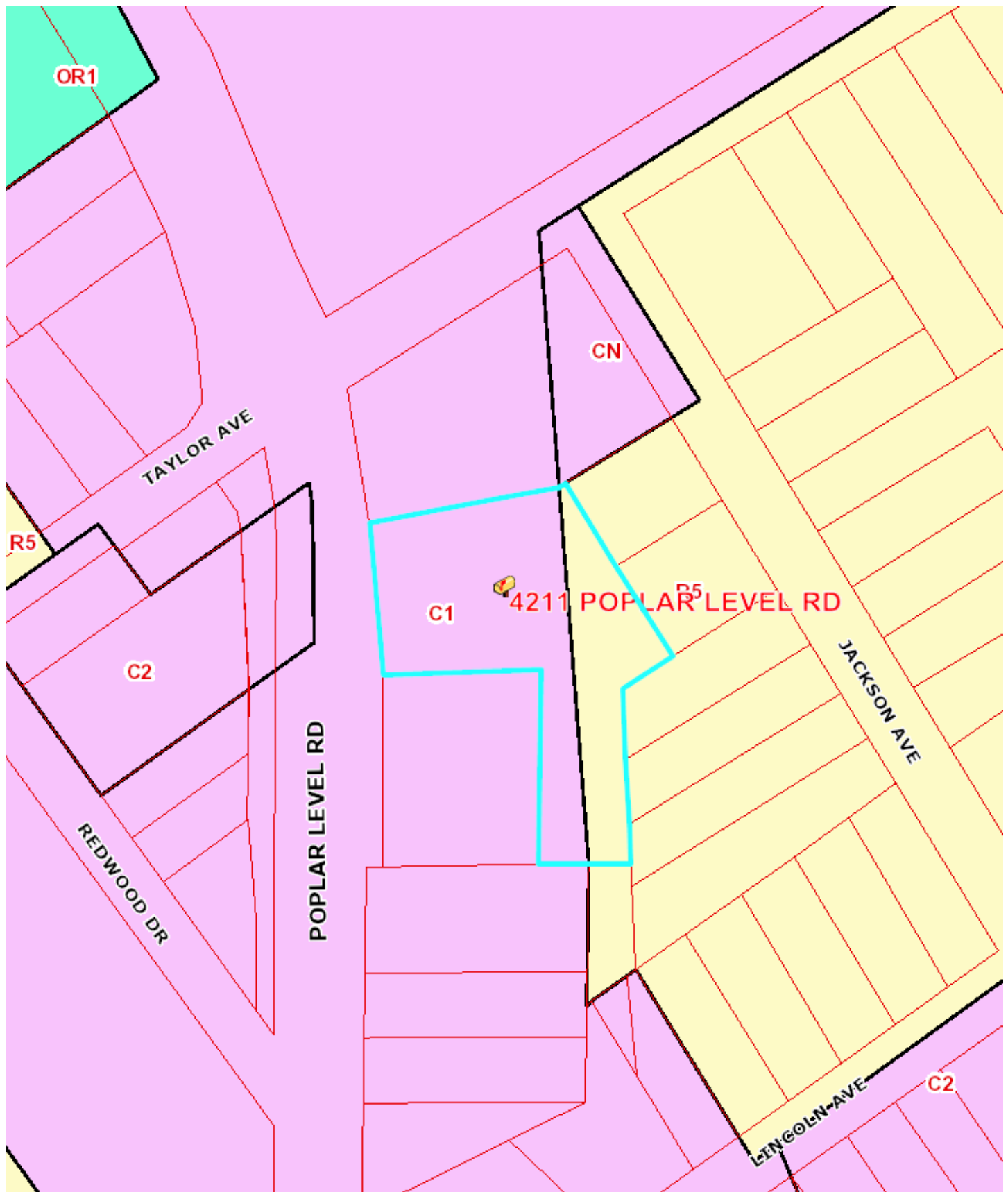
NOTIFICATION

Date	Purpose of Notice	Recipients
8/4/17	Hearing before BOZA	1 st and 2 nd tier adjoining property owners Registered Neighborhood Groups in Council District 2

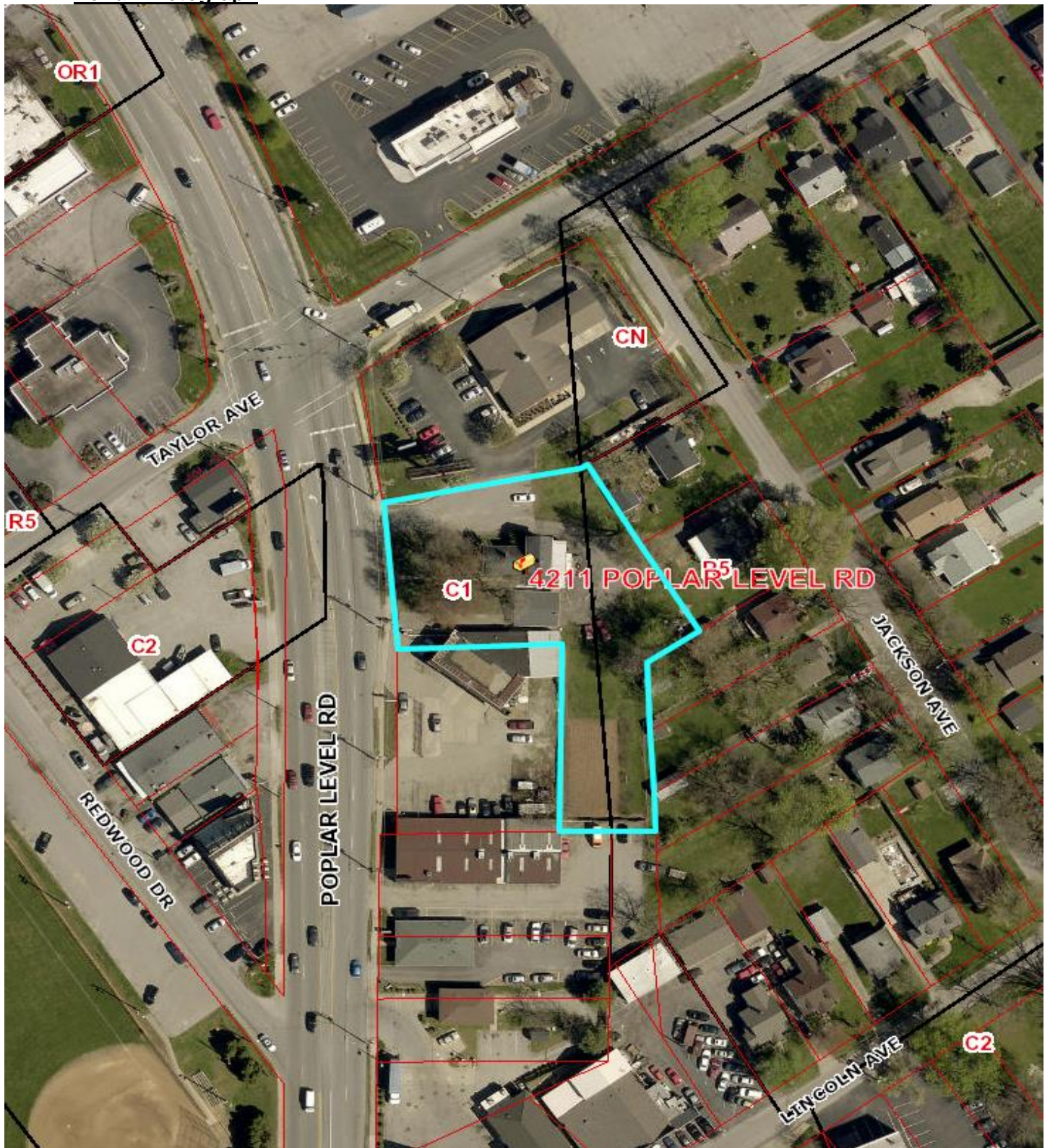
ATTACHMENTS

1. Zoning Map
2. Aerial Photograph
3. Staff Checklist Cornerstone 2020
4. Conditions of Approval

1. **Zoning Map**



2. Aerial Photograph



3. Staff Checklist Cornerstone 2020

Suburban Workplace: Non-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.10: The proposal integrates into the pattern of development, which features buildings set back from the street in a landscaped setting.		
2	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.10: The proposal integrates into a planned development that features a mixture of related uses, and that may contain either a single major use or a cluster of uses.		
3	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 1: Community Form	B.10: The proposal incorporates connected roads, encourages access to public transportation, and provides for pedestrians.		
4	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.2: The proposed building materials increase the new development's compatibility.		
5	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.4/5/6/7: The proposal does not constitute a non-residential expansion into an existing residential area, or demonstrates that despite such an expansion, impacts on existing residences (including traffic, parking, signs, lighting, noise, odor and stormwater) are appropriately mitigated.		
6	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.5: The proposal mitigates any potential odor or emissions associated with the development.	✓	APCD has reviewed the proposal and does not have any comments.
7	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.6: The proposal mitigates any adverse impacts of its associated traffic on nearby existing communities.	✓	Transportation Planning has reviewed and approved the proposal.
8	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.	+/-	Lighting is not shown on the proposal.
9	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.		

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
10	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.		
11	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.		
12	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.		
13	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.24: Parking, loading and delivery areas located adjacent to residential areas are designed to minimize adverse impacts of lighting, noise and other potential impacts, and that these areas are located to avoid negatively impacting motorists, residents and pedestrians.	+/-	A LBA is provided adjacent to residential, but waiver may be needed to decrease the LBA width.
14	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.24: The proposal includes screening and buffering of parking and circulation areas adjacent to the street, and uses design features or landscaping to fill gaps created by surface parking lots. Parking areas and garage doors are oriented to the side or back of buildings rather than to the street.	+/-	A LBA is provided adjacent to residential, but waiver may be needed to decrease the LBA width.
15	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.25: Parking garages are integrated into their surroundings and provide an active, inviting street-level appearance.		

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
16	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 3: Compatibility	A.28: Signs are compatible with the form district pattern and contribute to the visual quality of their surroundings.	+/-	Signage is not shown on the proposal.
17	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.		
18	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.		
19	Community Form/Land Use Guideline 4: Open Space	A.5: The proposal integrates natural features into the pattern of development.		
20	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.		
21	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.	✓	The proposal will use an existing structure and make improvements.
22	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.		
23	Marketplace Guideline 6: Economic Growth and Sustainability	A.1: Limit land uses in workplace districts to those land uses necessary to meet the needs of the industrial subdivision or workplace district and their employees.		

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
24	Marketplace Guideline 6: Economic Growth and Sustainability	A.3: Encourage redevelopment, reinvestment and rehabilitation in the downtown where it is consistent with the form district pattern.		
25	Marketplace Guideline 6: Economic Growth and Sustainability	A.4: Encourage industries to locate in industrial subdivisions or adjacent to existing industry to take advantage of special infrastructure needs.		
26	Marketplace Guideline 6: Economic Growth and Sustainability	A.6: Locate retail commercial development in activity centers. Locate uses generating large amounts of traffic on a major arterial, at the intersection of two minor arterials or at locations with good access to a major arterial and where the proposed use will not adversely affect adjacent areas.		
27	Marketplace Guideline 6: Economic Growth and Sustainability	A.8: Require industrial development with more than 100 employees to locate on or near an arterial street, preferably in close proximity to an expressway interchange. Require industrial development with less than 100 employees to locate on or near an arterial street.		
28	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.		
29	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.3/4: The proposal promotes mass transit, bicycle and pedestrian use and provides amenities to support these modes of transportation.	✓	Mass transit is located along Popular Level Road.

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
30	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.		
31	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.		
32	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.10: The proposal includes adequate parking spaces to support the use.	✓	Transportation Planning has reviewed and approved the proposal.
33	Mobility/Transportation Guideline 7: Circulation	A.13/16: The proposal provides for joint and cross access through the development and to connect to adjacent development sites.		
34	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.		
35	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.		
36	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.		
37	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.		

#	Cornerstone 2020 Plan Element	Plan Element or Portion of Plan Element	Staff Finding	Staff Comments
38	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 has reviewed and approved the proposal.
39	Livability/Environment Guideline 12: Air Quality	The proposal has been reviewed by APCD and found to not have a negative impact on air quality.	✓	APCD has reviewed the proposal and does not have any comments.
40	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.		
41	Community Facilities Guideline 14: Infrastructure	A.2: The proposal is located in an area served by existing utilities or planned for utilities.	✓	The proposal is served by existing utilities.
42	Community Facilities Guideline 14: Infrastructure	A.3: The proposal has access to an adequate supply of potable water and water for fire-fighting purposes.	✓	The proposal is located in Louisville Fire District #4.
43	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.		

4. **Conditions of Approval**

1. The site shall be developed in strict compliance with the approved development plan (including all notes thereon). No further development shall occur on the site without prior review and approval by the Board.
2. The Conditional Use Permit shall be "exercised" as described in KRS 100.237 within two years of the Board's vote on this case. If the Conditional Use Permit is not so exercised, the site shall not be used for off-street parking without further review and approval by the Board.