Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 133

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2, Subchapter E, of the City Code (Design Standards and Mixed Use) regarding Vertical Mixed Use and the Opt-In/Opt-Out process.

For More Information: George Adams, 974-2146; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by Planning Commission.

Prior Council Action: 8/31/06 - The City Council adopted Subchapter E: Design Standards and Mixed Use.

5/17/07 - the City Council directed the City Manager to initiate this amendment to Subchapter E.

The Design Standards defined a new Vertical Mixed Use (VMU) building type and specific standards for VMU buildings, established locations where VMU buildings may be built, defined development standards that may be relaxed to encourage construction of VMU buildings and established a process whereby neighborhoods may provide recommendations on the standards for VMU buildings (the "Opt-In/Opt-Out Process").

The Design Standards established a 90-day period in which neighborhoods must submit opt-in/opt-out applications. It also states that the council may by ordinance within 45 days of the submittal day, make a determination on the request. On May 17, 2007, the City Council directed the City Manager to initiate an amendment to the Vertical Mixed Use provisions of the Design Standards to allow a neighborhood to file an amended application under certain conditions and to delete the reference to the 45-day period for City Council action.

The proposed amendment authorizes the neighborhoods that submitted an application on June 4, 2007 to file an amendment to the application on or before August 9, 2007. It also removes the 45-day reference to Council action.