Thursday, December 18, 2008

Neighborhood Planning & Zoning RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 31

Subject: Approve a resolution to initiate code amendments to Chapter 25-2 of the City Code (Transit Oriented Development) related to compatibility standards, affordability requirements, and to eliminate a height prohibition in the Plaza Saltillo TOD, and other conforming amendments necessary to reflect adoption of transit oriented development (TOD) base district zoning and station area plans.

For More Information: Sonya Lopez, 974-7694; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Prior Council Action: November 6, 2008 - Council recommended the initiation of code amendments to the TOD Ordinance.

On November 6, 2008, the City Council approved second reading of the Station Area Plans and related neighborhood plan amendments. As part of their approval, Council directed staff to process code amendments to the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Ordinance in order to adopt the Station Area Plans as proposed. The three amendments include the following:

- 1. Removing the provision in Section 25-2-1052.F which states that compatibility standards is not triggered by single family properties inside a TOD District once a Station Area Plan is approved (all TODs).
- 2. Removing the provisions in Section 25-2-766.22.B.8(b) which prohibit a height increase (through a height bonus) on properties in the Community Preservation and Revitalization Zone (CP&R) unless 25% affordability is provided. This is necessary to allow the height bonus strategy in the MLK and Plaza Saltillo Station Area Plans where the developer is required to provide 15% affordability with the City financing the gap, if able, to reach the 25% goal.
- 3. Removing the provision in Section 25-2-766.22.B.8 that prohibits a height increase (through a height bonus) on properties in the Plaza Saltillo TOD outside of the 11-acre Capital Metro property. This is necessary to allow the height bonus strategy in the Plaza Saltillo Station Area Plan, which proposes a height bonus on the 11-acre Capital Metro property and a select number of other properties around the station.

This action will authorize staff to process the requested amendments for Council approval in late February.