



Agenda Item # 12

MOD-003155-2024 & MOD-003148-2024

View additional details on this proposal and all application materials using the following links:

[Applicant Materials for Consideration – Planning Approval Modification](#)

[Applicant Materials for Consideration – Planned Unit Development Modification](#)

DETAILS

Location:

6208 Grotto Road (Private Street)

Applicant / Agent:

Brian Courtney, Spring Hill College (Evan M. Geerts, P.E., Duplantis Design Group, Agent)

Property Owner:

Spring Hill College

Current Zoning:

R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District

Future Land Use:

Institutional, Mixed Density Residential, and Traditional Neighborhood Center

Applicable Codes, Policies, and Plans:

- Unified Development Code
- Subdivision Regulations
- Map for Mobile Comprehensive Plan

Schedule for Development:

- Not provided.

Proposal:

- Modification of a previously approved Planning Approval
- Modification of a previously approved Planned Unit Development

Considerations:

1. Modification of a previously approved Planning Approval with ten (10) conditions; and
2. Modification of a previously approved Planned Unit Development with ten (10) conditions.


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PLANNING COMMISSION VICINITY MAP - EXISTING AERIAL



The site is surrounded by schools, and residential and commercial units.

APPLICATION NUMBER <u>12</u> DATE <u>December 19, 2024</u>	
APPLICANT <u>Brian Courtney, Spring Hill College (Evan M. Geerts, P.E., Duplantis Design Group, Agent)</u>	
REQUEST <u>PUD Modification, Planning Approval Modification</u>	

SITE HISTORY

The site has been before the Planning Commission several times for Planned Unit Development approval to allow multiple buildings on a single property with shared access and parking, as well as Planning Approvals to allow a college to be located in an R-1 District. The site was most recently before the Planning Commission on June 4, 2015.

There have been no Board of Zoning Adjustment cases associated with the site.

STAFF COMMENTS

Engineering Comments:

ADD THE FOLLOWING NOTES TO THE PUD SITE PLAN:

1. Any work performed in the existing ROW (right-of-way) such as driveways, sidewalks, utility connections, grading, drainage, irrigation, or landscaping will require a ROW permit from the City of Mobile Engineering Permitting Department (251-208-6070) and must comply with the City of Mobile Right-of-Way Construction and Administration Ordinance (Mobile City Code, Chapter 57, Article VIII).
2. A Land Disturbance Permit application shall be submitted for any proposed land disturbing activity with the property. A complete set of construction plans including, but not limited to, drainage, utilities, grading, storm water detention systems and paving will need to be included with the Land Disturbance permit. This Permit must be submitted, approved, and issued prior to beginning any of the construction work.
3. Any and all proposed land disturbing activity within the property will need to be submitted for review and be in conformance with Mobile City Code, Chapter 17, Storm Water Management and Flood Control); the City of Mobile, Alabama Flood Plain Management Plan (1984); and, the Rules For Erosion and Sedimentation Control and Storm Water Runoff Control.
4. Any existing or proposed detention facility shall be maintained as it was constructed and approved. The Land Disturbance Permit application for any proposed construction includes a requirement of a Maintenance and Inspection Plan (signed and notarized by the Owner) for the detention facility. This Plan shall run with the land and be recorded in the County Probate Office prior to the Engineering Department issuing their approval for a Final Certificate of Occupancy.
5. The approval of all applicable federal, state, and local agencies (including all storm water runoff, wetland and floodplain requirements) will be required prior to the issuance of a Land Disturbance permit. The Owner/Developer is responsible for acquiring all of the necessary permits and approvals.
6. The proposed development must comply with all Engineering Department design requirements and Policy Letters.

Traffic Engineering Comments:

Driveway number, size, location, and design to be approved by Traffic Engineering and conform to AASHTO standards. Any required on-site parking, including ADA handicap spaces, shall meet the minimum standards as defined in Article 3, Section 64-3-12 of the City's Unified Development Code.

Urban Forestry Comments:

Property to be developed in compliance with state and local laws that pertain to tree preservation and protection on both city and private properties [Act 929 of the 1961 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature (Acts 1961, p. 1487), as amended, and City Code Chapters 57 and 65]. Private removal of trees in the right-of-way will require

approval of the Mobile Tree Commission. Removal of heritage trees from undeveloped residential sites, developed residential sites in historic districts, and all commercial sites will require a tree removal permit.

Fire Department Comments:

All projects within the City Limits of Mobile shall comply with the requirements of the City of Mobile Fire Code Ordinance (2021 International Fire Code). Fire apparatus access is required to be within 150' of all non-sprinklered commercial buildings and within 300' of all sprinklered commercial buildings. Fire water supply for all commercial buildings will be required to meet the guidance of Appendices B and C of the 2021 International Fire Code. The minimum requirement for fire hydrants is to be within 400' of non-sprinklered commercial buildings, within 600' of sprinklered commercial buildings, and within 100' of fire department connections (FDC) for both standpipes and sprinkler systems.

Planning Comments:

The applicant is proposing the demolition of an existing building, and the construction of a new building in the same location. Detailed descriptions of the request are available via the links on page 1 of this report.

The site is surrounded by properties that are mostly zoned R-1, Single Family Residential Suburban District and developed residentially. There is also St. Paul's Episcopal School, zoned R-1, which abuts the site, in addition to various commercially zoned and developed sites.

The site plan depicts the existing development, the proposed new building, and eight (8) additional parking spaces. The location of the proposed structure is interior to the existing college, and will comply with all setback and buffer requirements. The application states that 11 parking spaces are to be removed with the demolition of the existing building, making for a total loss of three (3) parking spaces, as proposed. If approved, the site plan should be revised to indicate that the site will still have a compliant amount of parking spaces overall.

A previously approved tree and landscape area plan is on file with the Planning and Zoning Department and will need to be amended to reflect the additional building and parking spaces. The revised plan should be submitted at the time requests for permits are made, and notes should be placed on the Planning Approval and PUD site plans stating the site will maintain compliance with the tree planting and landscape area requirements of Article 3, Section 64-3-7 of the UDC.

A dumpster is illustrated on the site plan. If approved, a complaint enclosure for the dumpster should be indicated on the site plan.

It should be noted that future development or redevelopment of the site may require additional modifications of the Planning Approval and PUD to be approved by the Planning Commission and City Council. A note stating as much should be placed on the recorded site plans, if approved.

PLANNING APPROVAL / PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT MODIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Standards of Review:

The Unified Development Code (UDC) in Section 64-5-8-B.(5) states the following concerning Planning Approval / Planned Unit Development Modifications:

Approval Criteria. The Planning Commission shall not recommend a major modification for approval, and the City Council shall not approve the modification, unless the proposed modification:

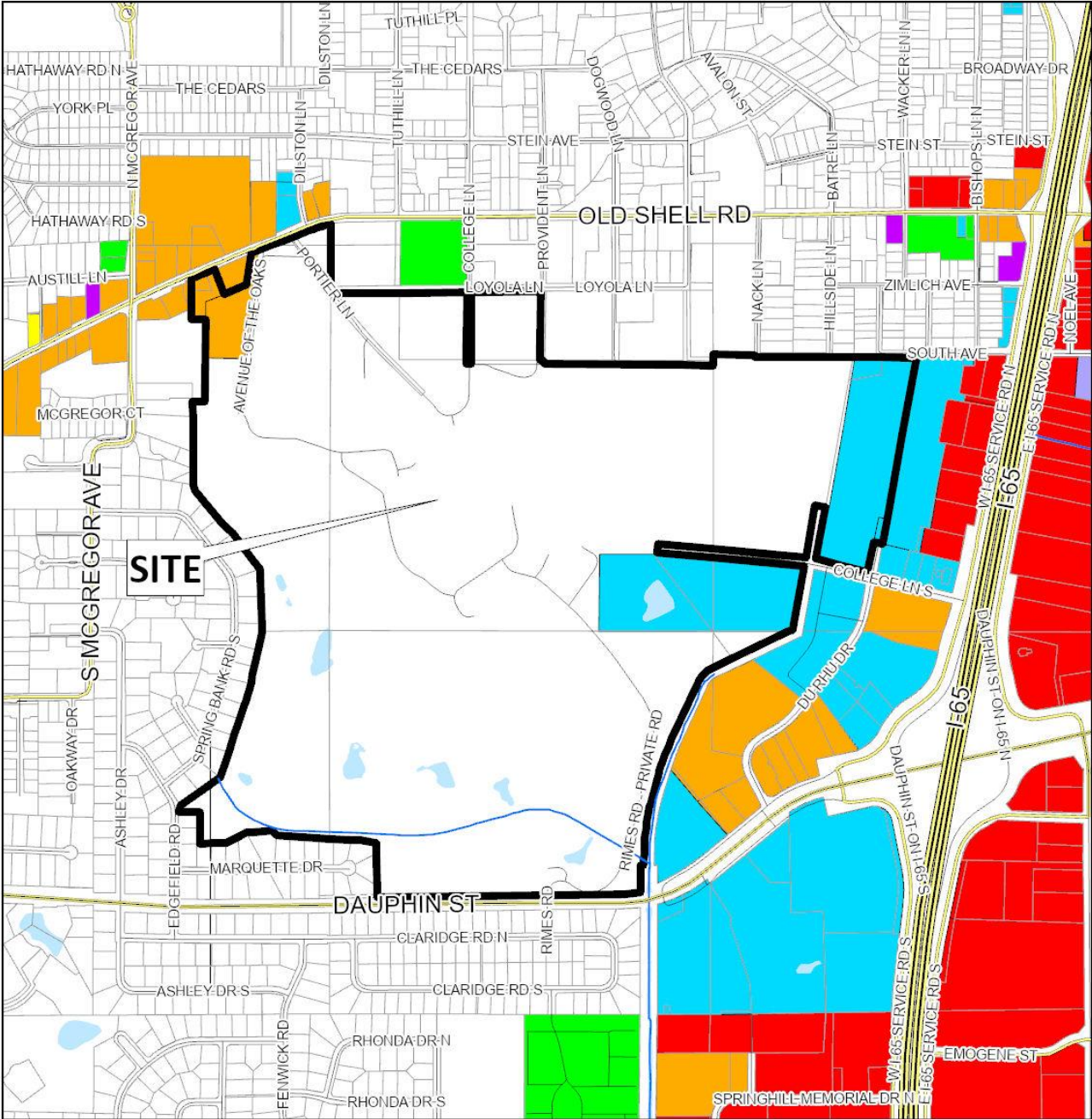
1. Is consistent with all applicable requirements of this Chapter;
2. Is compatible with the character of the surrounding neighborhood;
3. Will not impede the orderly development and improvement of surrounding property;
4. Will not adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of persons living or working in the surrounding neighborhood, or be more injurious to property or improvements in the neighborhood:
 - a. In making this determination, the Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the location, type and height of buildings or structures, the type and extent of landscaping and screening, lighting, hours of operation or any other conditions that mitigate the impacts of the proposed development; and
 - b. Includes adequate public facilities and utilities;
5. Is subject to adequate design standards to provide ingress and egress that minimize traffic hazards and traffic congestion on the public roads;
6. Is not noxious or offensive by reason of emissions, vibration, noise, odor, dust, smoke or gas; and
7. Shall not be detrimental or endanger the public health, safety or general welfare.
8. Benefits Consideration. In addition, consideration should also be given to the City's and the larger community's best interests and the need, benefit, or public purpose of the proposed request.

Considerations:

If the Planning Commission considers a recommendation of approval of the Modified Planning Approval / Planned Unit Development, the following conditions should apply:

1. Provision of a note on the Planning Approval and PUD site plans stating the site will maintain compliance with the tree planting and landscape area requirements of Article 3, Section 64-3-7 of the UDC;
2. Revision of the site plan to indicate a complaint enclosure for the dumpster;
3. Revision of the site plan to indicate that the site will have a compliant amount of parking overall;
4. Provision of a note on the Final Planning Approval and PUD site plans stating future development or redevelopment of the property may require approval by the Planning Commission and City Council;
5. Compliance with all Engineering comments noted in this staff report;
6. Compliance with all Traffic Engineering comments noted in this staff report;
7. Compliance with all Urban Forestry comments noted in this staff report;
8. Compliance with all Fire Department comments noted in this staff report;
9. Provision of revised Planning Approval and PUD site plans for review by Planning and Zoning prior to recording, and provision of copies of the recorded site plans (hard copy and pdf) to Planning and Zoning; and,
10. Full compliance with all municipal codes and ordinances.

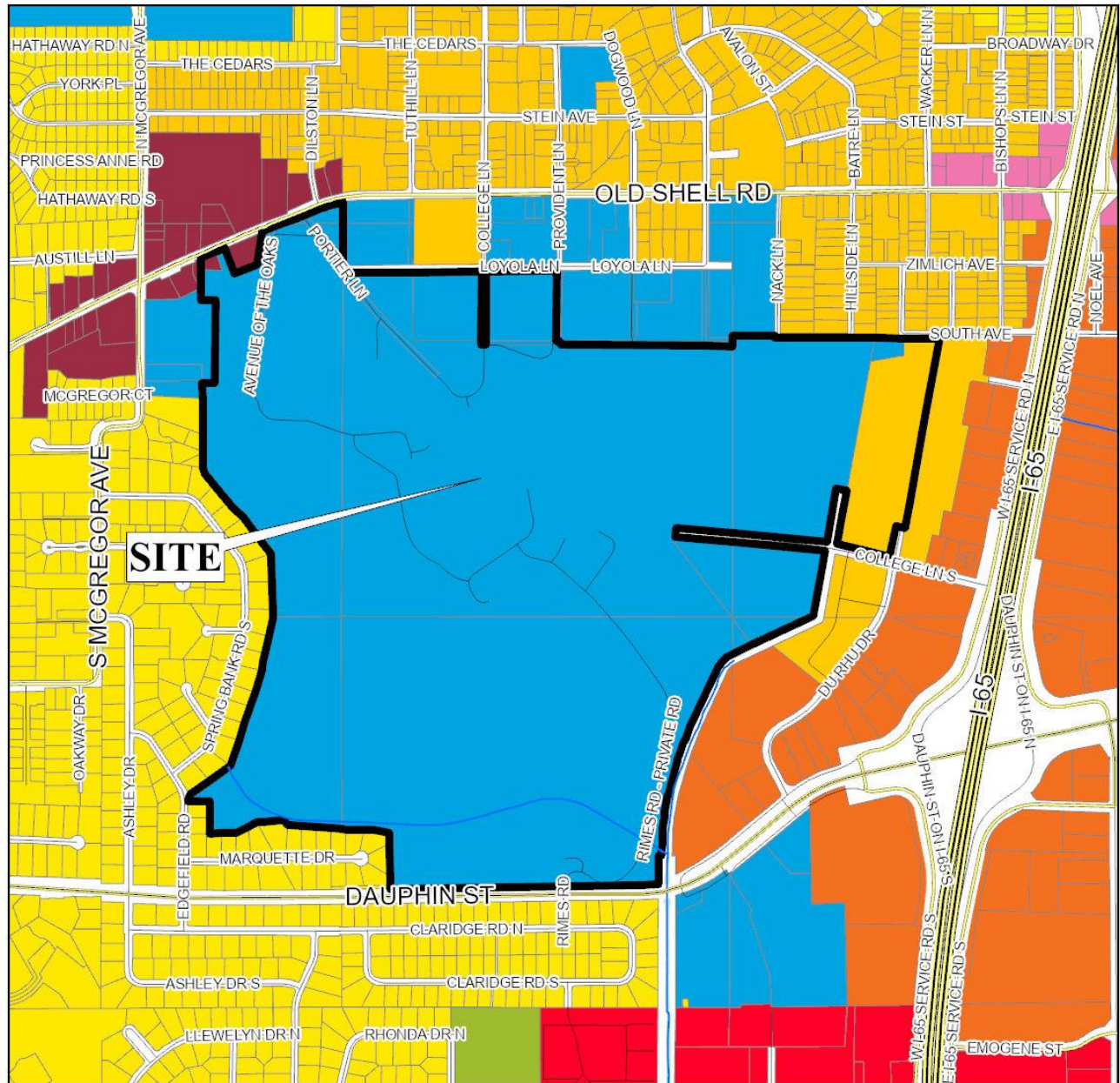
LOCATOR ZONING MAP



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FLUM LOCATOR MAP



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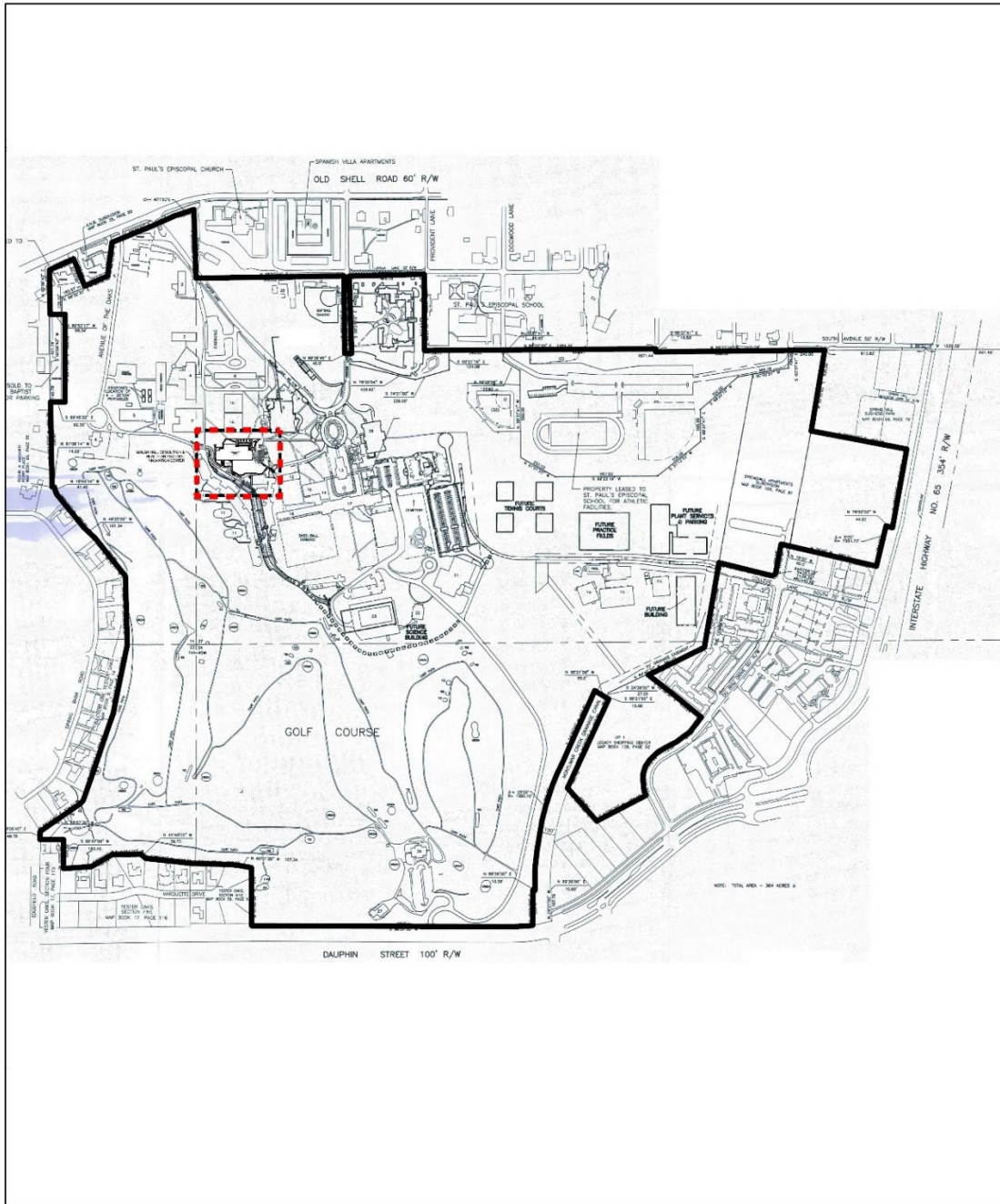
APPLICANT Brian Courtney, Spring Hill College (Evan M. Geerts, P.E., Duplantis Design Group, Agent)

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- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Low Density Residential | Neighborhood Center - Traditional | Downtown Waterfront | Parks & Open Space |
| Mixed Density Residential | Neighborhood Center - Suburban | Light Industry | Water Dependent |
| Downtown | Traditional Corridor | Heavy Industry | |
| District Center | Mixed Commercial Corridor | Institutional | |



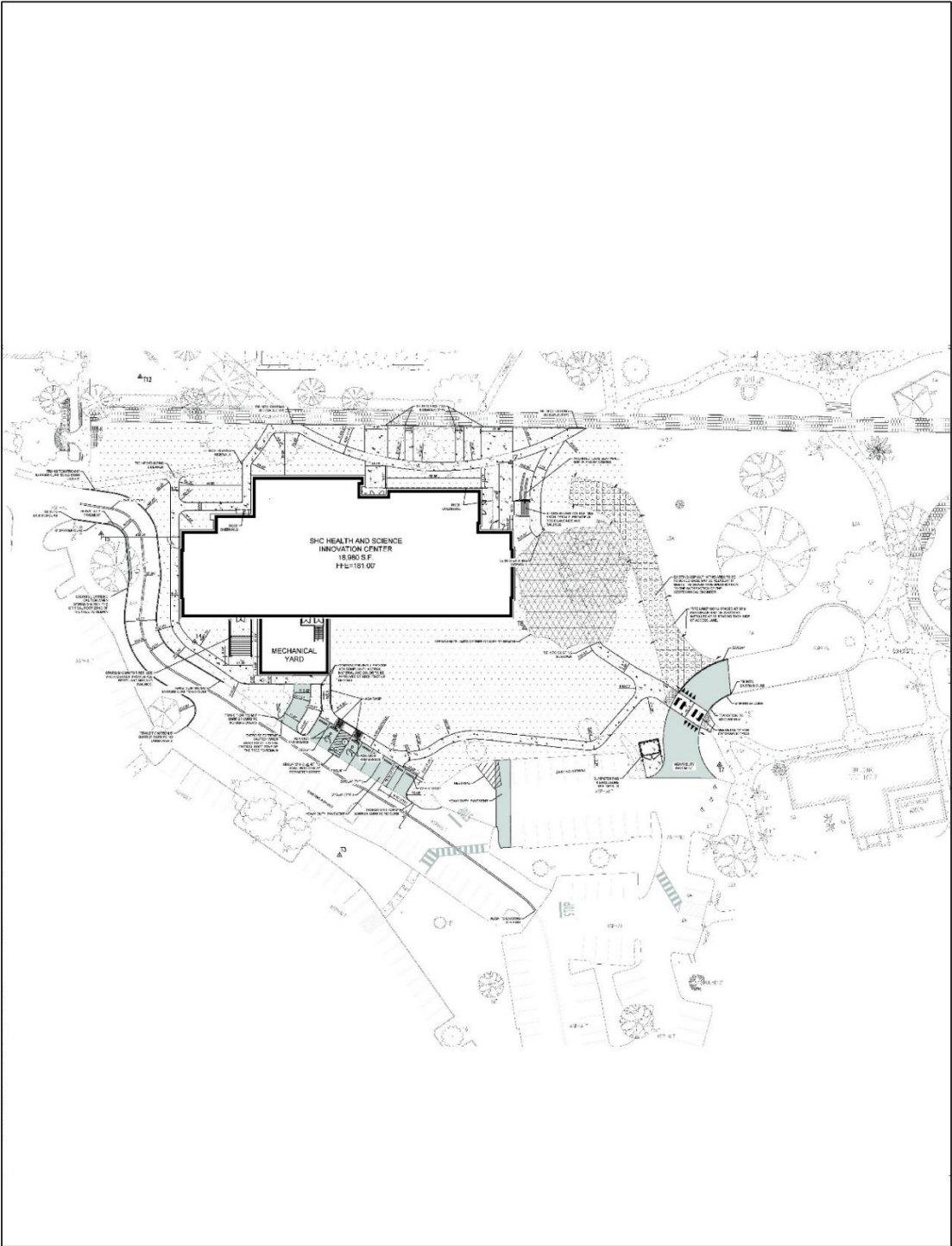
SITE PLAN



The site plan illustrates the existing building, and area for a proposed building.

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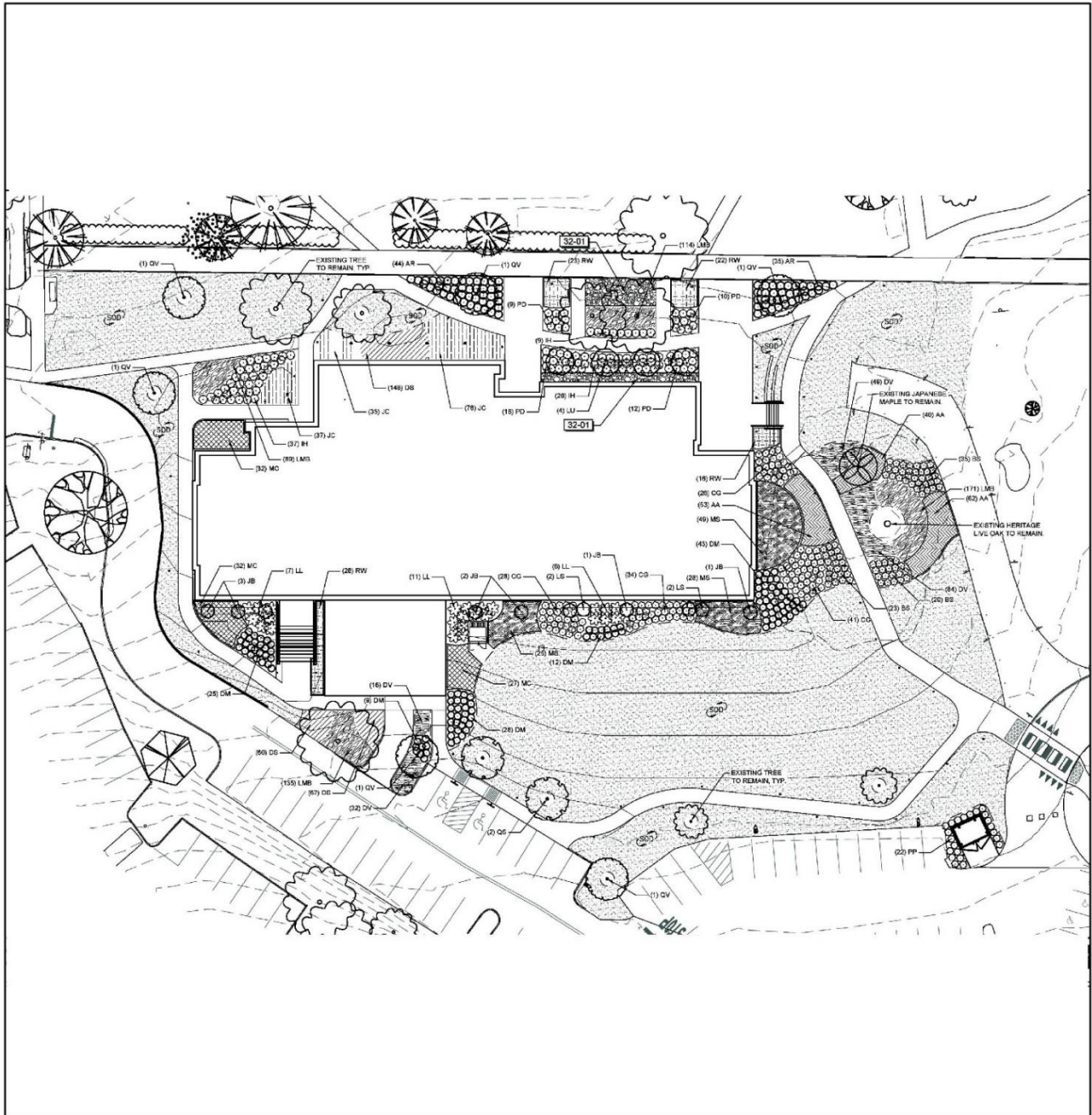
DETAIL SITE PLAN



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ZONING DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE MATRIX		LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LDR)	MIXED DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MXDR)	DOWNTOWN (DT)	DISTRICT CENTER (DC)	NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - TRADITIONAL (NC-T)	NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - SUBURBAN (NC-S)	TRADITIONAL CORRIDOR (TC)	MIXED COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (MCC)	LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI)	HEAVY INDUSTRY (HI)	INSTITUTIONAL LAND USE (INS)	PARKS & OPEN SPACE (POS)	DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT (DW)	WATER DEPENDENT USES (WDWRU)	
RESIDENTIAL - AG	R-A															
ONE-FAMILY RESIDENCE	R-1	■				■		■					□			
TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCE	R-2	■				■		■					□	○		
MULTIPLE-FAMILY	R-3	○	■			■	■						□	○		
RESIDENTIAL-BUSINESS	R-B		○			■		■					□	○		
TRANSITIONAL-BUSINESS	T-B		○		■	■	■	■					□			
HISTORIC BUSINESS	H-B			■		■		■					□			
VILLAGE CENTER	TCD					■	■						□			
NEIGH. CENTER	TCD					■	■						□			
NEIGH. GENERAL	TCD					■							□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	T-6			■									□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	T-5.1			■		■		□					□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	T-5.2			■		■							□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	T-4			■		■		□					□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	T-3			■		■							□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD	SD-WH									○	○		□			
DOWNTOWN DEV. DD	SD	○	○	○	○	○	○	○		○	○		□			
BUFFER BUSINESS	B-1		□			□	■	■	■				□	○		
NEIGH. BUSINESS	B-2		○			□	■	■	■				□	○		
LIMITED BUSINESS	LB-2		○			□	■	■	■				□	○		
COMMUNITY BUSINESS	B-3				■				■			○	□	○		
GEN. BUSINESS	B-4			■					■			○	□	○		
OFFICE-DISTRIBUTION	B-5								■	■			□	□		
LIGHT INDUSTRY	I-1									■			□	□		□
HEAVY INDUSTRY	I-2										■		□			□

Zoning District Correspondence Matrix

- Directly Related
- Elements of the zoning category are related to the future LU category, but with qualifications (such as a development plan with conditions)
- Land use category is appropriate, but the district does not directly implement the category (e.g., open space in an industrial district)

Institutional Land Use (INS)

This designation includes land and buildings occupied by municipal and other governmental agencies for the exercise of their functions, to serve the public or provide a civic use or amenity. These include major libraries, airports, public schools and public safety facilities, but exclude parks and public open space which are identified under a separate land use classification (see below). Semi-public uses such as grammar and high schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, and other major institutions that serve the public and/or operate in a public function are included.

Note: Small-scale properties (less than 2 acres) accommodating subsidiary public and semi-public facilities, such as branch libraries, substations, satellite clinics, etc., may not be specifically called out in the FLUM under this land use designation, but may instead be considered part of the array of integrated complementary uses typically found in a residential neighborhood or a mixed-use center or corridor. The specific location and design of these complementary uses is subject to zoning.



MIXED DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MxDR)

This designation applies mostly to residential areas located between Downtown and the Beltline, where the predominant character is that of a traditional neighborhood laid out on an urban street grid.

These residential areas should offer a mix of single family homes, townhouses, 2- to 4- residential unit buildings, accessory dwellings, and low- and mid-rise multifamily apartment buildings. The density varies between 6 and 10 du/ac, depending on the mix, types, and locations of the housing as specified by zoning.

Like LDR areas, MxDR areas may incorporate compatibly scaled and sited complementary uses such as neighborhood retail and office uses, schools, playgrounds and parks, and churches and other amenities that create a complete neighborhood fabric and provide safe and convenient access to daily necessities.

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER (NC)

This land use designation applies to smaller hubs of mixed commercial, community, and recreational activity that cater to adjacent residential areas. Many of these centers exist today in some form. Therefore, the following common principles apply not just to the future development of new centers, but also to the redevelopment (wholesale or incremental) of existing centers.

General Principles for Neighborhood Centers:

- › NC should support a limited amount of commercial employment
- › NC should incorporate some residential use, which may vary in type from detached single family, townhouse, accessory and live-work units in mixed use and low-rise multifamily structures.
- › The residential density in NC designations –ranging from 4 to 10 du/ac— must be compatible in character with that of surrounding residential development, providing appropriate transitions in height, massing and other buffering from one land use district to the next.
- › The retail and housing uses should merge around vibrant, compact, accessible nodes, located at key neighborhood intersections or along short road segments.

- › The NC nodes should be connected to the surrounding neighborhood and nearby public uses (e.g., schools, parks, etc.) via well-designed sidewalks and complete streets.

While the above-listed principles are common to all NC districts, the design attributes of neighborhood centers generally vary depending on whether a center is in a more “traditional” or more “suburban” context.

Additional Attributes of Neighborhood Centers:

- › **NC in traditional contexts:** These tend to be in those areas east of the Beltline and correspond to MxDR neighborhoods. In these NCs, buildings should orient to the street, with on-site parking typically pushed to the back of the site. The design qualities of the public realm are emphasized, including the provision of continuous sidewalks, tree canopy, pedestrian amenities, on-street parking and bicycle facilities where appropriate.
- › **NC in suburban contexts:** These generally are located among the LDR land use designations in the areas west of the Beltline. Where they exist, these centers currently have a more pronounced vehicular orientation. Therefore, the emphasis is on retrofitting to improve internal walkability (e.g., through the addition of sidewalks, tree canopy, protection from the elements) and external connectivity to the surrounding areas (via sidewalks, paths and trails, street crossings, transit stops, etc.) and to increase the mix and density of uses (e.g., infill of outparcels, addition of housing, etc.).