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From: Michael Almon [<mailto:paradigm@ixks.com>]

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:33 AM

To: Mary Miller

Cc: Comstock, Craig ; Mitchell, Julie

Subject: BCNA position on TA-04-02-08

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thanks for sending us your draft of changes to the use groups in the GPI District proposed text amendment, TA-04-02-08. Having received this draft on Thursday, 8 May, and having met with you on Friday, 9 May, Brook Creek Neighborhood Association is encouraged that the text amendment may adequately address our neighborhoods needs.

In our meeting on the 9th of May, I was glad to see you were restricting some uses with a "Special Use Permit", other uses with the "Accessory Only" designation, and other uses with "some standards apply" designation. The discussion you and I had led to consideration of these and even more restrictions.

However, I was under the impression on 9 May that you were to send me the final draft of the use groups on Tuesday, 13 May, in time for our Neighborhood meeting that evening. Not having received that in time, our Neighborhood Association has not had the opportunity to review all the changes. We discussed the item at our meeting, and support it only in theory at this time.

The position of the Brook Creek Neighborhood Association on TA-04-02-08 is that we would like to see the final draft before supporting it, so we are requesting that the Planning Commission take no action on Monday, 21 May 2008, but rather continue the hearing until the June meeting. As you know, how each of the specific uses may be restricted or not has many subtle, yet far reaching, implications which need thorough examination and discussion. BCNA wants the opportunity for such examination at our June neighborhood meeting before this text amendment is acted upon by the Planning Commission.

thank you,

Michael Almon
Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Land Use Chair

To: Mary Miller, Scott McCullough – City of Lawrence
From: Tom Bracciano – Lawrence Public Schools
Re: Proposed text amendment to GPI district
Date: 5/16/08

Thank you for the opportunity to be involved in the discussions regarding the proposed amendment to the GPI district text.

As we discussed, Lawrence Public Schools (LPS) and the City of Lawrence Parks and Recreation (LPR) have numerous joint use agreements with regards to both indoor and outdoor facilities. These shared uses are beneficial to both parties as well as to the community as a whole. Not having to build separate facilities for both entities allows LPS and LPR to maximize taxpayer dollars while still providing recreational facilities and spaces for the community as a whole.

Because of the successes of previous joint recreation ventures, LPS and LPR continue to explore several possible joint use outdoor facilities for the near future. The Lawrence Tennis Center relocation is an example of such an effort. This facility would be used by groups other than the LPS, such as LPR and other community groups. If LPR and/or other groups were to use this facility, the proposed code would appear to require LPS to apply for a special use permit to allow this to happen.

I understand the need for specific zoning requirements and understand the concerns of staff and the public. In this instance however, I believe that the proposed amendment to the GPI district uses will have negative consequences for the cooperative relationship that LPS and LPR have had over the years. In addition, it could very well stifle any future LPS-LPR cooperative ventures that benefit the taxpayer and the community as a whole.

Thank you once again for allowing input into this process. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Thomas D. Bracciano
Division Director Operations and Facility Planning
Lawrence Public Schools
(785)330-1664 tbraccio@usd497.org

c: R. Weseman
M. Rodriguez
K. Johnson
E. Shaw
M. Hecker
C. Mauer