

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT
Regular Agenda -- Public Hearing Item

PC Staff Report
02/24/2014

ITEM NO. 4 TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; *PARTICIPANT SPORTS & RECREATION, OUTDOOR USES* WITH SUP IN CN2 (SMS)

TA-13-00488: Consider a Text Amendment to the City of Lawrence Land Development Code, Chapter 20, to allow for *Participant Sports & Recreation, Outdoor uses* with a Special Use Permit in the CN2 (Neighborhood Shopping Center) District. Submitted by Paul Werner Architects.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment, TA-13-00488, to add *Participant Sports & Recreation, Outdoor uses* with a Special Use Permit in the CN2 District amending Section 20-403 of the Land Development Code and that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation for approval to the City Commission.

Reason for Request: *Addresses a changing condition in community. CN2 should be able to provide outdoor recreational opportunities on a small scale that is within walking distance of residents living in the area in order to support a healthy and vibrant community. As cities work to promote walkable communities, uses such as outdoor participant sports should be in close proximity to neighborhoods. The Development Code does not currently allow Outdoor Participant Sports in the CN2 zoning district.*

RELEVANT GOLDEN FACTOR:

- Conformance with the comprehensive plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED PRIOR TO PRINTING

- No comments received prior to printing.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A – Existing text of Section 20-403
- Attachment B – Map of existing CN2 District locations

RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT CODE DEFINITIONS

20-1762 SPORTS AND RECREATION, PARTICIPANT

Provision of sports or recreation primarily by and for participants. (Spectators would be incidental and on a nonrecurring basis.) The following are participant sports and recreation use types (for either general or personal use):

(1) Indoor

Those uses conducted within an enclosed Building. Typical uses include bowling alleys, billiard parlors, swimming pools and physical fitness centers.

(2) Outdoor

Those uses conducted in open facilities. Typical uses include driving ranges, miniature golf courses and swimming pools.

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The applicant has submitted the proposed text amendment to add *Participant Sports and Recreation, Outdoor uses* to the CN2 (Neighborhood Commercial District) as a Special Use concurrently with rezoning and Special Use Permit applications for a development proposal at the northeast corner of Inverness Drive and W 24th Place. These outdoor uses are allowed by-right in the CC, CR, CS, IBP & IL Districts and are allowed with an approved SUP in the MU & GPI Districts.

Prior to the adoption of the *Land Development Code* in 2006, all commercial recreational uses, both indoor and outdoor, were identified in Use Group 15 AMUSEMENT, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES. These uses were permitted in the C-2, C-3, C-4 & C-5 Districts with an approved site plan. The pre-2006 Code established access and lighting standards for several of these recreational uses. Properties that previously were zoned C-2 converted to the CN2 District as part of the 2006 code adoption.

With the adoption of the *Land Development Code*, the regulations attempt to differentiate between districts so that the character of different commercial centers can be maintained. Adding uses to a district with a Special Use Permit provides the opportunity to review individual proposals and evaluate the compatibility of a proposed development in a specific location. Review with a Special Use Permit also allows the commission to establish operating conditions that will minimize impacts to nearby property owners.

Section 20-208(a) provides the purpose statement for the CN2 District: *The CN2, Neighborhood Shopping Center District, is primarily intended to implement the Comprehensive Plan's "Neighborhood Commercial Centers" policy of providing for the sale of goods and services at the neighborhood level.* Adding the option to locate outdoor participant sports activities in neighborhood commercial settings creates the opportunity to locate such uses throughout the community and potentially to place them in walkable locations. Approval with a Special Use Permit provides the opportunity to look at specific proposals and evaluate potential impacts so that they can be mitigated. In Staff's opinion, it is reasonable to permit this use as a Special Use in all CN2 Districts.

Proposed Article Changes

Changes to the text are shown below and are noted in **red**. Additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck through~~. The entire Sections 20-403 & 20-509 are provided at the end of this report as Attachment A for reference.

Add Participant Sports and Recreation, Outdoor uses as a type of use permitted with approval of a Special Use Permit in the CN2 District.

Amend Section 20-403:

20-403 NONRESIDENTIAL DISTRICT USE TABLE

Key: A = Accessory P = Permitted S = Special Use * = Standard Applies - = Use not allowed		Base Zoning Districts															Use-Specific Standards (Sec. 20-)
		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
COMMERCIAL USE GROUP																	
Recreational Facilities	Active Recreation	S	P	P	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	-	S	S	A*/S*	A	532
	Entertainment & Spectator Sports, General	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	
	Entertainment & Spectator Sports, Limited	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	S	P	-	
	Participant Sports & Recreation, Indoor	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	P	A	
	Participant Sports & Recreation, Outdoor	-	S	S	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	A*/S*	-	532
	Passive Recreation	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	
	Nature Preserve/ Undeveloped	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	
	Private Recreation	P	P	P	-	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	P	P	A	

CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The characteristics of commercial centers are described in *Horizon 2020*, Chapter 6 – Commercial Land Use. Neighborhood centers may contain a variety of commercial uses, including a grocery store, convenience store, and other similar retail shops and services. The plan states that to insure there are a variety of commercial uses and no one use dominates a center, no one store shall occupy more than 40,000 square feet with the exception of a grocery store. These centers are designed to provide for the sale of goods and services at the neighborhood level. The plan states that Neighborhood Commercial Centers without a grocery store shall contain no more than a total of 100,000 gross square feet of commercial space.

Chapter 6 also discusses recreational uses and provides guidance when located in commercial centers:

Commercial uses that are primarily physical recreation in nature (uses such as go-karts, skating rinks, bowling alleys, basketball arenas, soccer arenas, miniature golf, pitch and putt golf, etc.) may be located in the appropriate Commercial Center classification. High levels of noise and light can be generated by Recreational Uses. Because of this high level of noise and light, Recreational Uses shall be compatible with the surrounding existing or planned uses. Proposals for such uses do not need to meet the size or ratio requirements stated in the respective Commercial Center definitions. Proposals for Recreational Uses shall provide adequate buffering for adjacent non-commercial uses, shall use a minimal number of curb cuts, and provide cross access easements to adjoining properties.

If a Recreational Use is proposed in a Neighborhood or CC200 Center, the amount of commercial gross square footage occupied by the Recreational Use shall be counted toward the maximum amount of commercial gross square footage allowed. A Recreational Use located in a CC200 can occupy up to 50,000 gross square feet. The purpose of regulating the size of Recreational Uses in Neighborhood and CC200 Centers is to preserve and protect the smaller, neighborhood scale associated with these types of Centers.

CRITERIA FOR REVIEW AND DECISION-MAKING

Section 20-1302(f) provides review and decision-making criteria on proposed text amendments. It states that review bodies shall consider at least the following factors:

1) Whether the proposed text amendment corrects an error or inconsistency in the Development Code or meets the challenge of a changing condition; and

As noted above, the applicant has suggested that the proposed amendment does meet the challenge of a changing condition. The community has increased its emphasis and attention on creating a healthy environment for residents. Outdoor participant sports amenities provided within a walkable distance to neighborhoods and schools can enhance the viability of the community.

The zoning diagnostic that was prepared before the *Development Code* was drafted suggested that there were not significant differences in the various commercial districts in the previous code. The proposed use is currently permitted by-right in most of the commercial and two of the industrial zoning districts. It is permitted with a Special Use Permit in the MU and GPI districts. If this use is added as a by-right permitted use, the distinctions between CN2 and other commercial districts become less distinct. Allowing these uses with approval of a Special Use Permit provides the opportunity to evaluate each site and proposal independently and give extra scrutiny to the proposals. The SUP process also provides a mechanism to establish conditions to mitigate potential impacts based upon the surrounding land uses.

Whether the proposed text amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the stated purpose of this Development Code (Sec. 20-104).

Horizon 2020 outlines criteria for the location of neighborhood commercial centers. These nodes should be located on one corner of either an arterial/collector street intersection or an arterial/arterial intersection. The plan also emphasizes the integration of neighborhood centers with the surrounding residential neighborhoods by including pedestrian access and appropriate transitional elements, such as back to back relationships, landscaping and screening.

Most CN2 centers have been oriented to the adjacent streets rather than opening out to the adjacent residential properties. When new outdoor activity areas are proposed, the potential impacts to nearby properties are evaluated and can be addressed at the site plan stage of development.

Permitting the *Participant Sports and Recreation, Outdoor use* in the CN2 District is consistent with the purpose of this neighborhood district to provide a variety of commercial services at the neighborhood level. The *Development Code* provides protections, such as bufferyard requirements between commercial and residential properties, which can mitigate potential impacts to surrounding properties. Requiring approval of a SUP for these uses also provides the opportunity to look at the specific proposal and operations of a proposed use to determine appropriate conditions that will ensure compatibility with nearby properties.

Attachment A - Existing Development Code Text (Section 20-403 in entirety)

20-403 NONRESIDENTIAL DISTRICT USE TABLE

Key: A = Accessory P = Permitted S = Special Use * = Standard Applies - = Use not allowed		Base Zoning Districts															Use-Specific Standards (Sec. 20-)
		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
RESIDENTIAL USE GROUP																	
Household Living	Accessory Dwelling	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	534
	Attached Dwelling	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P*	-	503
	Cluster Dwelling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	702
	Detached Dwelling	P*	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P*	A*	508
	Duplex	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	503
	Manufactured Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	A	
	Manufactured Home, Residential-Design	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	513
	Mobile Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	P	-	P	A	
	Mobile Home Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Multi-Dwelling Structure	-	P*	P*	-	P*/S*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	S	A	517
	Non-Ground Floor Dwelling	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	517/542
	Work/Live Unit	P*	P*	P*	-	P*/S*	P*	-	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	517/541
	Zero Lot Line Dwelling	P*	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	531
	Home Occupation, Type A or B	-	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Group Living	Assisted Living	-	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	
	Congregate Living	-	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	546
	Dormitory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	
	Fraternity or Sorority House	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Group Home, General (11 or more)	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	
	Group Home, Limited (10 or less)	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PUBLIC AND CIVIC USE GROUP																	
Community Facilities	Cemetery	P*	P*	-	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	P*	P*	-	505
	College/University	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	A	
	Cultural Center/ Library	S	P	P	S	P	P	-	-	P	-	-	-	S	P	A	
	Day Care Center	S*	P*	S*	S*	S*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	A*	P*	-	-	-	507
	Day Care Home, Class A	P	P	P*	-	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Day Care Home, Class B	S*/A*	P*	S*	-	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	507

[illegible]

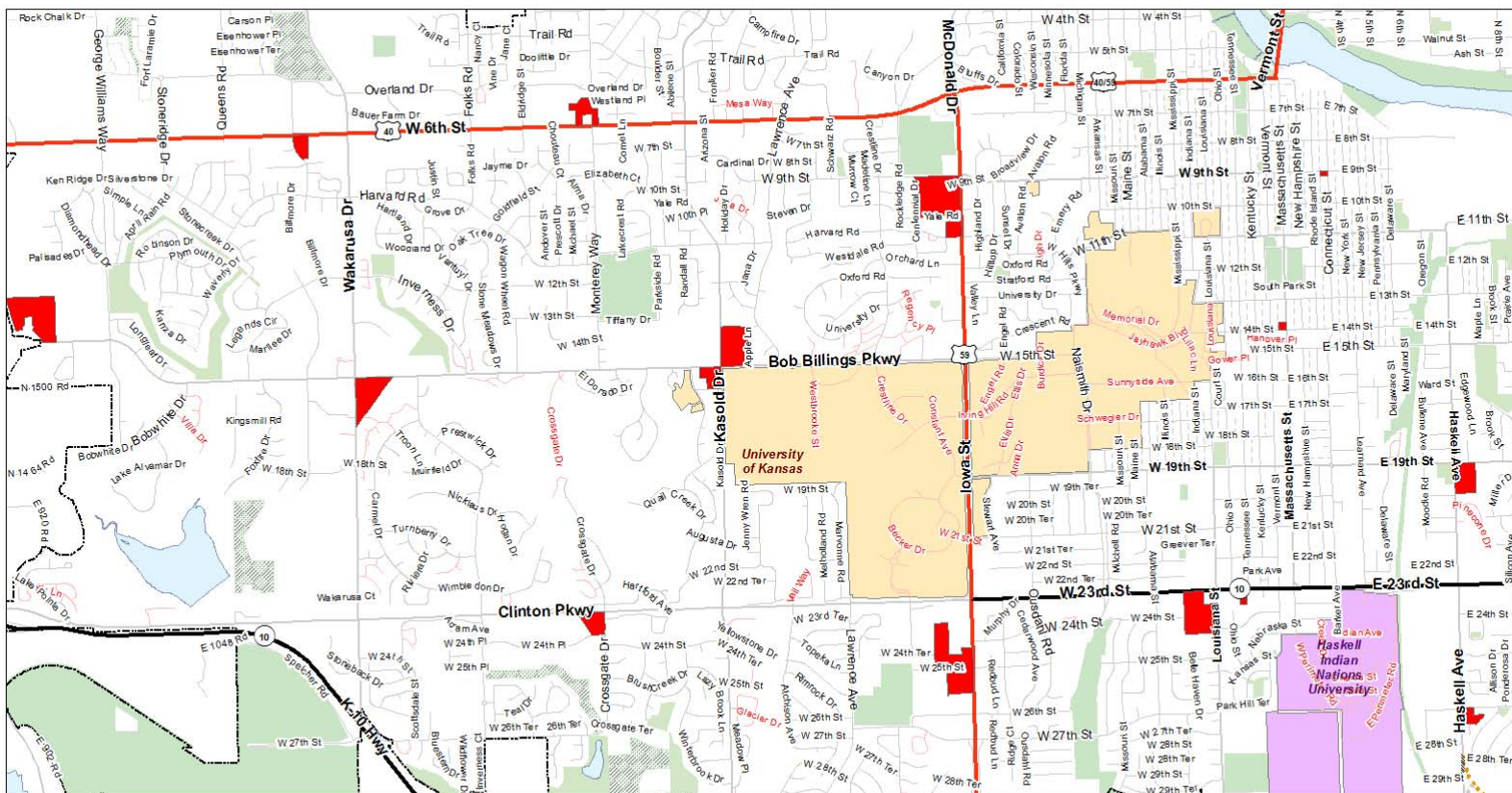
Key: <i>A = Accessory</i> <i>P = Permitted</i> <i>S = Special Use</i> <i>* = Standard Applies</i> <i>- = Use not allowed</i>		<i>Base Zoning Districts</i>															Use-Specific Standards (Sec. 20-)
		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
	Nature Preserve/ Undeveloped	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	
	Private Recreation	P	P	P	-	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	P	P	A	
Religious Assembly	Campus or Community Institution	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	522
	Neighborhood Institution	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	522
COMMERCIAL USE GROUP																	
Animal Services	Kennel	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Livestock Sale	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Sales and Grooming	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Veterinary	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	
Eating & Drinking Establishments	Accessory Bar	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	-	-	-	-	-	509
	Accessory Restaurant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Bar Or Lounge	-	-	S*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	509
	Brewpub	-	P*	S*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	509
	Fast Order Food	P*	P*	P	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	511/509
	Fast Order Food, Drive-In	-	S	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	
	Nightclub	-	-	-	-	P*	-	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	509
	Private Dining Establishments	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	539
	Restaurant, Quality	P*	P*	P	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	524
Office	Administrative and Professional	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	A	P*	-	P*	A*	518
	Financial, Insurance & Real Estate	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	510
	Other	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	A	P*	-	-	-	537
Parking Facilities	Accessory	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	535
	Commercial	-	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	A	

Key: <i>A = Accessory</i> <i>P = Permitted</i> <i>S = Special Use</i> <i>* = Standard Applies</i> <i>- = Use not allowed</i>		<i>Base Zoning Districts</i>															Use-Specific Standards (Sec. 20-)
		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
Retail Sales & Service	Building Maintenance	-	P	S	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	A	A	
	Business Equipment	-	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	
	Business Support	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	A	
	Construction Sales and Service	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	A	
	Food and Beverage	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	511
	Mixed Media Store	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	516/528
	Personal Convenience	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	520
	Personal Improvement	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	A*	A*	521
	Repair Service, Consumer	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	523
	Retail Sales, General	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	A*	525
	Retail Establishment, Large	-	-	-	-	-	P*	P*	S*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	526
	Retail Establishment, Medium	-	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	526
	Retail Establishment, Specialty	-	P*	P*	-	P*	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	526
Sexually Oriented Businesses	Sexually Oriented Media Store	-	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	528
	Physical Sexually Oriented Business	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	528
	Sex Shop	-	-	-	-	-	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	528
	Sexually Oriented Theater	-	-	-	-	-	P*	P*	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	528
Transient Accommodation	Bed and Breakfast	P*	-	P*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	504
	Campground	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	
	Hotel, Motel, Extended Stay	-	-	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	-	A	

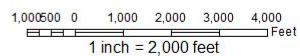
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		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
Vehicle Sales & Service	Cleaning (Car Wash)	-	S	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	A	P	-	-	-	
	Fleet Storage	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	A	
	Gas and Fuel Sales	-	S	S	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Truck Stop	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	
	Heavy Equipment Repair	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Heavy Equipment Sales/Rental	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Inoperable Vehicles Storage	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Light Equipment Repair	-	S	-	-	S	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Light Equipment Sales/Rental	-	P*	-	-	S	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	545
	RV and Boats Storage	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
INDUSTRIAL USE GROUP																	
Industrial Facilities	Explosive Storage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	-	
	Industrial, General	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Industrial, Intensive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	-	
	Laundry Service	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Manufacturing & Production, Ltd.	-	-	P	-	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Manufacturing & Production, Tech.	-	-	-	-	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Research Service	-	-	-	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	
	Scrap and Salvage Operation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S*	-	S*	-	-	-	527
Wholesale, Storage & Distribution	Exterior Storage	-	-	-	-	-	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	-	A*	A*	538
	Heavy	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	S	-	P	-	-	-	
	Light	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	S	-	

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		CN1	CN2	MU	CO	CD	CC	CR	CS	IBP	IL	IM	IG	OS	GPI	H	
	Mini-Warehouse	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
OTHER USES GROUP																	
Adaptive Reuse	Designated Historic Property	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	501
	Greek Housing Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Agriculture	Agricultural Sales	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	-	-	-	
	Agriculture, Animal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Agriculture, Crop	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	
Communications Facilities	Amateur & Receive-Only Antennas	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	536
	Broadcasting Tower	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	A	
	Communications Service Establishment	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	P	A	
	Telecommunications Antenna	A*	A*	A*	A*	S*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	529
	Telecommunications Tower	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	S*	P*	S*	S*	A*	A*	529
	Satellite Dish	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	536
Mining	Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S*	-	-	-	515
Recycling Facilities	Large Collection	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	540
	Small Collection	P	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-	A	A	540
	Processing Center	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	-	-	

Existing CN2 Zoned Areas in the City of Lawrence

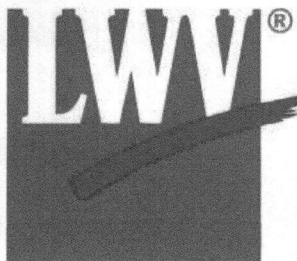


Legend

 CN2 District

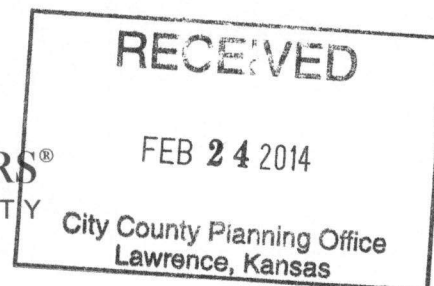
DISCLAIMER NOTICE
The map is provided "as is" without warranty or any representation of accuracy, timeliness or completeness. The burden for determining accuracy, completeness, timeliness, merchantability and fitness for use for any particular purpose is on the user. The City of Lawrence makes no warranties, express or implied, as to the use of the map. There are no implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The user acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the map, including the fact that the map is dynamic and is in a constant state of maintenance, correction and update.

Date: 10/15/2013



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LAWRENCE/DOUGLAS COUNTY

February 23, 2014



To Mr. Bryan Culver, Chairman, and Planning Commissioners
Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission

ITEM NO. 4 TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PARTICIPANT
SPORTS & RECREATION,

OUTDOOR USES WITH SUP IN CN2

ITEM NO. 5B: SPECIAL USE PERMIT; FAMILY FUN CENTER; W. 24TH PLACE AND
INVERNESS DRIVE

ITEM NO. 5C: SPECIAL USE PERMIT; FAST ORDER FOOD WITH DRIVE-THRU; 4300 W 24TH
PLACE

Dear Chairman Culver and Planning Commissioners:

For many reasons, we request that you **not** approve Items No. 4, 5B and 5C.

The CN districts are neighborhood commercial districts and were designed to provide goods and services for the immediate neighborhoods where they are located. The recreational uses that will be permitted, if the **Text Amendment, Item No. 4** is approved, permit the type of commercial outdoor recreational uses that have multiple environmental and planning ramifications. We believe that the likely negative impacts of these proposals have not been adequately reviewed in the Staff Report, and when carefully considered, would lead to the conclusion that because of these possible outcomes, they should not be included as permitted uses in the CN districts, even with a SUP.

1. The applicant has indicated the proposed uses in his report to the Staff. The **noise levels** of the outdoor uses, specifically the batting cages, Go-Karts, and shouting customers, cannot be buffered.

2. The lights will not be able to be properly screened. Although the lights may shine down, the reflections cannot be shielded.

3. The intensity of the traffic can be predicted to be worse at times than would be the case for normal shopping areas.

4. In terms of the planning considerations, the recreational use and the drive-ins **will absorb all of the available commercial space** so that the uses really needed by a neighborhood such as a drug store, grocery store, sit-down restaurant, and the other uses for which the CN2 District was intended, will not be possible. The Comprehensive Plan severely limits the amount of recreational space for the Neighborhood Centers and the CC200 Centers for this reason (please see **Chapter 6**

of Horizon 2020, page 6-12, paragraph 2 under the Section, "Recreational Uses.")

5. The type of outdoor commercial recreation proposed to be permitted here with the SUP we believe belongs in more regionally based commercial districts; that is, the CC4 or CC6 Districts. The more logical location for this type of use would be in the larger shopping center or centers close to the Rock Chalk Park, or for that matter, in the Rock Chalk Park itself.

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For the same reasons, **we ask that you not approve the SUP for Item No. 5B.**

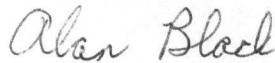
We also ask that you not approve Item No. 5C, the SUP for the Fast Order Food With Drive-Thru use. The Fast Order Food With Drive-Thru use would be much more intense than under normal circumstances because the clientele of the recreation center would add to the customer base. The use, itself, was not anticipated for CN districts under normal circumstances because of the increase in traffic and clutter that it would bring, and the combination of fast food drive-thru plus the outdoor commercial recreation center here could do real damage to the neighborhood.

Again, we appeal to the Planning Commission to deny Items 4, 5B, and 5C.

Sincerely yours,



Cille King, President



Alan Black, Chairman
Land Use Committee

From: Deborah M. Galbraith [<mailto:dgalbraith@waverly-partners.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 9:49 AM

To: 'amalia.graham@gmail.com'; 'montanastan62@gmail.com'; 'jonjosserand@gmail.com'; 'pkelly@usd497.org'; 'bculver@bankingunusual.com'; 'denney1@sunflower.com'; 'squampva@aol.com'; 'clay.britton@yahoo.com'; 'bruce@kansascitysailing.com'; 'eric.c.struckhoff@gmail.com'

Subject: OPPOSITION to Proposed Development for corner of Inverness and Clinton Parkway

Dear Planning Commissioners – This email is to voice my opposition to the proposed Family Fun Center development project at the corner of Inverness and Clinton Parkway in west Lawrence. I am not opposed to such a center as I believe in general it could be a nice leisure alternative, however think that the placement of such a facility within two blocks of four schools is NOT a wise idea. In addition to the proposal that would allow alcohol be served, the increased traffic in the area would be a hazard. Moreover, I have never seen a development such as this placed squarely in the middle of a residential neighborhood.

I am unable to attend the planning meeting tonight due to previous commitment that cannot be changed so thank you for providing a vehicle to voice opposition to the plan.

Debbie Galbraith
4205 Nicklaus Drive

From: Katie Huff [<mailto:kayteekate@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2014 10:58 PM

To: Bryan C. Culver; bruce@kansascitysailing.com; amalia.graham@gmail.com; montanastan62@gmail.com; jonjosserand@gmail.com; pkelly@usd497.org; denny1@sunflower.com; squampva@aol.com; dcbritt@yahoo.com; eric.c.struckhoff@gmail.com

Subject: Planning Commission Meeting

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We are writing you with concern and opposition to several items to be discussed at your meeting on Monday, February 24th. We are **opposed** to Item 4, Item 5A, Item 5B, and Item 5C.

We are a family with three small children, so we are not opposed to a "Family Fun Center"; in fact, we believe Lawrence could use a place like this. But we **strongly disagree** with it being built in the middle of a residential area. We own a house at 4424 Gretchen Ct and enjoy the quiet, family and school focused neighborhood that this area provides. But we believe with the addition of this proposed "Family Fun Center", it would dramatically change our neighborhood. We are opposed to the noise, traffic, alcohol near schools, lights, and late night hours that this place would promote. This is not the right location for this type of facility.

Please understand our concerns.

Thank you.

Dustin & Katie Huff

4424 Gretchen Ct

From: Michele Vignola-Rogers [<mailto:mvr@sunflower.com>]

Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2014 7:28 PM

To: montanastan62@gmail.com; amalia.graham@gmail.com; jonjosserand@gmail.com; pkelly@usd497.org; Bryan C. Culver; denney1@sunflower.com; squampva@aol.com; clay.britton@yahoo.com; bruce@kansascitysailing.com; eric.c.struckhoff@gmail.com

Subject: Family Fun Center

Dear City Planning Commissioners,

This letter is in regards to the Family Fun Center that is being considered for W 24th Place between Crossgate and Inverness Drives. As I was reading through the article regarding this project I was struck by a number of issues. First, why there? We have land further away from all of the apartments, houses and schools in the area to build this. Why create more noise, lights and traffic in an area that is not empty by any means? That area has plenty of housing and people who prefer it the way it is. I agree that we do need a Family Center - there is no question that we are lacking places for pre-teens and teens to go and hang out that is safe and fun, but to crush it into a development of houses and apartments where the average family is going to be subjected to the loud and often obnoxious teenage behavior that comes with a place like this seems counterproductive. Moreover, this is a college town which means this will not cater to just the elementary, middle school and high school kids, but also the college population. This means that although the place may close at ten or midnight - the noise will continue well into the late night/early morning hours especially if alcohol is going to be served.

Second, I do not understand the need for a BAR at a Family Fun Center. If a person cannot have fun with their children without alcohol, then maybe help is necessary, but certainly not a bar. Alcohol and places like this should NOT exist together. We have plenty of bars in this town and no matter what little alcohol is in the beer - it's still beer and people can still get drunk and drive. Of course lighting is a huge issue and I can't imagine how any form of boundary is going to block the lighting of a batting cage area (unless it is indoors). I grew up with batting cages and miniature golf near my house in NJ and I can assure you that the lighting required for the batting cages and miniature golf (if it is an outdoor venue) is incredibly bright (almost like daylight) - imagine that at 10:00 p.m. when you are trying to put a child or yourself to bed. The noise is another factor, the Go-Karts are only a part of it - usually a place like this will have music blaring and people talking over the music and shouting at one another (profanity and all). I recommend that the City Planning Commissioners visit a place like this in a larger city where it is close to housing and see what the effects are. I remember hanging out at our batting cages until midnight or later and the music blaring across the fields while the lights lit up the whole area - you could see the lights from the highway - three miles away. However, we were lucky - our Fun Center was out in the woods nowhere near homes or apartments. This might be something you could consider when picking a spot for this type of venue. If it is there - people will come - and they will drive ten minutes to get there - it is not necessary to put this in the center of family living, you'll decrease the value of homes and most of the apartments will be empty or rent below average because no one will pay to live by a venue such as this. At first it may seem a great idea to live by such a place, but it won't take long before people realize the mistake they've made and move to get away from the traffic, noise and constant activity that lasts into the late hours.

A third concern has to do with security. I remember the old Putt-Putt from 20 years ago and the roller rink (which is now Kohls) and a big problem was security or lack thereof. When you open a place like this in a college town, you MUST have very good security - not rent-a-cops, but security. A security group that can keep people in line and behaving in crowds that can get a bit rowdy especially if alcohol is involved. Underage drinking is a huge problem in Lawrence and this place serving alcohol will not help the issue. But the right security can help. In NJ our places used off duty police officers or trained bouncers - Lawrence is no longer a small town - it is no longer a small community. Guns, knives, and drugs are growing and a place like this can attract that type of element and security is where it stops. So, please if you vote this project in - please take into consideration that a place like this is great when it is open and doing what it is supposed to do, it's no good to anyone if it's shut down due to violence, drugs or gang activity - it just becomes another empty building on another piece of land which this town cannot afford to have.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail and considering the points. I live near this piece of land and I am very opposed to this project being built so close to us and our extended family. We enjoy the quiet.

Sincerely,
Michele Vignola-Rogers

From: Mark Simpson [<mailto:markandrewsimpson@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 8:58 AM

To: Caitlyn Cargill

Subject: Comments regarding 4300 W. 24th Place

Planning Commissioners,

I write you with concerns about agenda items 4, 5A, 5B, and 5C regarding the proposed development at 4300 W. 24th Place. My family and I live at 4305 W. 26th Terrace and my daughter attends preschool at Raintree Montessori at 4601 Clinton Parkway. When she begins kindergarten she will attend Sunflower Elementary School at 2521 Inverness Drive.

My main concern with the proposed development is the increase in traffic on Inverness and surrounding streets. It appears to me that the one lane traffic circle at 24th Place and Inverness is already close to full capacity. My understanding is that the proposed development may include fast food restaurants. When I see the constant flow of traffic into the McDonalds at 6th and Wakarusa it convinces me that multiple fast food restaurants at 4300 W. 24th Place would create traffic gridlock. At peak hours my guess is that the roads and traffic circle could not handle the traffic from the apartments, the schools, and two fast food restaurants.

Also, I do not think that the proposed development is consistent with the surrounding neighborhood. The proposed development seems more appropriate for an area that is not right next to residential areas. I have doubts about how much meaningful noise and light mitigation is possible given the extremely close proximity to residences.

Thank you for taking my concerns into account and for your service on the Planning Commission. I sincerely appreciate the time and effort you put into the consideration of this and other important issues for our community.

Respectfully,

Mark Simpson

From: Luke Sinclair [<mailto:sincluke@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 11:20 AM

To: Bryan C. Culver; bruce@kansascitysailing.com; amalia.graham@gmail.com; montanastan62@gmail.com; jonjosserand@gmail.com; pkelly@usd497.org; denny1@sunflower.com; squampva@aol.com; Clay Britton; eric.c.struckhoff@gmail.com

Cc: Lori Sinclair

Subject: Opposition to Agenda Items 4, 5A, 5B, 5C for 2/24 PC Meeting

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My wife (Lori Sinclair) and I are the own and live at 4400 W. 24th Pl., which is directly across Inverness from the potential family fun center and fast-food drive-thru restaurant development. Items 4, 5A, 5B, and 5C on the Commission's agenda for the February 24th meeting are geared toward enabling this development. We write to oppose it all.

We purchased our home in 2008 because we loved the property and we were attracted to the quiet, appealing nature of the neighborhood, the proximity to neighborhood schools, and the ease of access to outdoor recreation. We take pride in our home and have invested capital to maintain and improve both the inside and outside appearance of our house and property, and we take advantage as much as we can of the benefits of living where we do. We believe the proposed development will interfere with, disrupt, and degrade our quality of life and the value of our property, as well as our neighbors'.

To be clear, we have strong doubts as to the long-term viability of a go-kart, mini-golf entertainment center in Lawrence, but we are not generally opposed to it. But we all have to be smart about it and take into consideration the adjoining properties and owners. We think this proposed development at this particular location is ill-advised for several reasons. First, it will not provide any additional meaningful benefit to our area. This development is being proposed – and the text amendment, rezoning request, and special use permits are being sought – primarily on the basis that the development will provide services to us and our neighbors that are otherwise lacking in our area. This is simply untrue. Our neighborhood enjoys some of the best access in Lawrence to outdoor recreation. Walking trails, bike trails, tennis courts, playgrounds, a running track, soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, batting cages, Clinton Lake, the Pat Dawson Billings Nature Area, the Rotary Arboretum, and more, are all within a short walk/run/bike ride and even shorter drive of our neighborhood. Access to and use of most of these is free. Paid access to go-karts and mini-golf provides absolutely no additional outdoor recreational benefit to us.

Second, the development isn't suited for our quiet, school-centered residential area. We've never seen an outdoor family fun center or fast-food drive-thru restaurants in the middle of a residential area, and there's reason for that. It doesn't make sense. The development will bring increased traffic, in this case potentially by people who have been enjoying 3.2 beers, which we fear will increase the risk to the children that walk and play on our sidewalks and streets. Additionally, the streets can't take additional traffic, especially the roundabout outside our house on Inverness and 24th Place. The development will drastically increase the amount of noise and light pollution, given the nature of the activities and the hours of operation the developer envisions. With groups of people engaging in competitive activities and potentially drinking alcohol, it's reasonable to believe there will be late-night, disruptive rowdiness. Additionally, we don't think it's a good idea to have a bar in such close proximity to four schools and multiple day-cares. Finally, we can't say enough that there is no reason that we or our neighbors should have to breathe the noxious smells that would emanate from a fast-food restaurant and its garbage dumpsters. It's unreasonable to assert that a small land buffer would adequately address any of these issues. We understand that it's easy for the planning staff to assert, without any real analysis or study, that a drive-thru restaurant would not result in "substantial diminution" of our property value, but we'd invite them to tell us if they know of anyone that would be

truthfully interested in buying a house in a residential neighborhood directly across the street from a drive-thru fast food restaurant.

More generally, we have concerns about the long-term viability of the fun center. Can Lawrence truly sustain it? Who is the target group? If it's college kids, they're gone for the summers. Is it school students? Having been students in a metropolitan area with access to mini-golf and go-karts, we can both personally attest to the fact that these activities just don't have permanent appeal. Once or twice is enough. The problem Lori and I have is that if the fun center fails, we would be the ones left with a view from our front porch, living areas, and second-story bedrooms of an abandoned, run-down family fun ghost town.

Finally, without limiting our general opposition to this development and all four agenda items above, we'd like to specifically address the requested text amendment. It's being proposed as one of four steps in the process of putting the family fun center in our neighborhood. A text amendment to the Development Code to generally allow for outdoor recreation through an SUP in all CN2 areas in Lawrence is a drastic step that ought to be weighed against the relative importance or benefits of the fun center and the costs and effects on adjoining landowners. We don't think it does, and it certainly doesn't appear that the text amendment satisfies the factors in Section 20-1302(f).

First, we don't believe the text amendment is consistent with Horizon 2020 and the Development Code, at least with respect to our neighborhood and the other adjoining landowners. The Development Code is intended to implement Horizon 2020 in a way that "protects, enhances and promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Lawrence." As currently drafted the Development Code doesn't allow for outdoor participant recreational use in either RSO or CN2, even with an SUP. It doesn't appear anyone believes this was a mistake, and we ought to assume the Development Code was adopted the way it was for good reason. In our situation it certainly makes sense because, for the reasons laid out above, a commercial fun center does not fit in our residential area. We don't believe changing the rules to allow this particular fun center across the street from our house is in the spirit of protecting, enhancing, or promoting the health, safety, and general welfare of us or our neighbors.

As to the other factor, the text amendment doesn't purport to fix an inconsistency or error in the development code. Rather, it's said to meet the challenge of a changing condition; specifically, an increased emphasis on creating a healthy environment for residents. We question how mini-golf, go-karts, arcade games, and a bar create a healthy environment. However, to the extent they do, the development would be better suited in an area that doesn't already have spectacular pedestrian/bike access to trails, parks, and other outdoor recreation. Perhaps in that case it could be said that a challenge was being met by the text amendment, but that's just not true as it pertains to our area.

Thank you,
Luke and Lori Sinclair
4400 W. 24th Pl.
Lawrence, KS 66047

From: Bob Grabill [<mailto:bgrabill@chiefexec.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 10:19 AM

To: amalia.graham@gmail.com; montanastan62@gmail.com; jonjosserand@gmail.com; pkelly@usd497.org; Bryan C. Culver; denney1@sunflower.com; squampva@aol.com; clay.britton@yahoo.com; bruce@kansascitysailing.com; eric.c.struckhoff@gmail.com

Subject: Proposed development

We understand that there is a proposed development including a go kart track close to our home in Alvamar.

Nothing could drive down home values faster not to mention disrupt sleep of we and our neighbors than this project.

We ask that you please not approve this.

Thank you,
Bob & Jennifer Grabill
2027 Hogan Ct.
(Masters Subdivision)

Bob Grabill | President & CEO 

Chief Executive Network | phone: 785.832.0303 Ext. 102 | bgrabill@chiefexec.com
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