PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of June 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Speedway Site Plan for City Council Approval (1300 North Maple Road) File No. SP11-037

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Speedway Site Plan, subject to approval of the plan by the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner.

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Speedway (1300 North Maple Road) Rezoning from PL (Public Land District) to C3 (Fringe Commercial District).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that this petition be **postponed** to allow the petitioner to address landscape and traffic engineer review comments.

LOCATION

The site is located on the northeast corner of Miller and Maple Roads (West Area, Allens Creek Watershed).

DESCRIPTION OF PETITION

The petitioner seeks to demolish the existing 1,500 square foot vacant service station building and construct a new 3,968 square foot, single-story gas station and convenience store with five gasoline dispensing pumps capable of servicing 10 cars. The gasoline pumps will be covered by a 28 foot by 121 foot building canopy. There will be 14 vehicle parking spaces provided adjacent to the convenience store. A total of 12 Class C bicycle spaces (6 bicycle hoops) will be located along the south side of the building and adjacent to the sidewalk leading to Miller. There are currently 4 curb cuts leading to the site, two curb cuts will be removed as a result of this project.

Based on the total of impervious surface on the site, the petitioner is required to provide first flush, bankfull and 100 year storm detention capacity. The storm water treatment system will be located under the parking lot along the Maple Road frontage, in between the gas pumps and the front property line. There currently is no storm water management system for the site.

The underground storage tanks were removed and a detailed environmental analysis of the site is currently underway. The petitioner will be required to remediate any environmental contamination consistent with the standards of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

There are five landmark trees located on the site; all will be preserved. The petitioner is required to bring the site up to current landscaping standards. This will result in right-of-way buffer vegetation and additional landscape islands and landscaping, including 12 new trees and numerous shrubs being added to the site.

There is an existing five-foot wide pedestrian path that runs along the eastern and northern sides of the site. The path is located within a 30 foot wide dedicated public easement, which is zoned PL (Public Land). The remainder of the site is zoned C3 (Fringe Commercial). The site was included in the Garden Homes Urban Renewal District plan in the 1971. Consistent with that plan and as a concession to the neighbors in the adjacent Garden Homes neighborhood, the easement was dedicated as 'greenway' path for public use. This dedication was a condition of a previous site plan proposal for a gas station on this site in 1972. That site plan was approved, the path was installed and the easement area was rezoned to PL at that time, but remained as part of the privately owned Speedway parcel. The 1972 site plan was never constructed; however the easement and zoning remain in place.

In order to maintain consistent zoning and 'clean up' the map, staff will initiate a rezoning of this easement area from PL to C3, which is consistent with the remainder of the site. The easement for public access will remain. Speedway will re-surface the path and clear dead or dying vegetation. There is a dense vegetated buffer along the eastern property boundary which will remain, although it does contain mostly invasive vegetation such as Common Buckthorn.

| | LAND USE | ZONING | |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| NORTH | Commercial | C3 (Fringe Commercial District) | |
| EAST | Preschool | R1C (Single-Family District) | |
| SOUTH | Office | O (Office District) | |
| WEST | Vacant O (Office District) | | |

SURROUNDING LAND USES AND ZONING

| | | EXISTING | PROPOSED | REQUIRED |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Zoning | | C3 (Fringe Commercial District) and PL (Public Land) | C3 | C3 |
| Gross Lot Area | | 56,536 sq ft | 56,536 sq ft | 6,000 sq ft MIN |
| Floor Area in % of Lot Area | | 3% (1,500 sf) | 7% (3,968 sf) | 200% MAX |
| | Front (Miller) | 35.6 ft | 25 ft | 10 ft MIN 25ft MAX |
| Setbacks | Front (Maple) | 46.3 ft | 145 ft | 10 ft MIN 25ft MAX |
| | Side(s) | 111.4 ft | 141 ft | 0 ft MIN |
| | Rear | 149.9 ft | 40 ft | 30 ft MIN (adjacent to res.) |
| Height | | 14 ft/1 story | 18 ft/1 story | 55 ft/4 stories MAX |
| Parking - Automobiles | | No defined spaces | 14 spaces | 14 spaces MIN |
| Pa | arking – Bicycles | None | 12 spaces – Class C | 6 spaces MIN total - Class C |

COMPARISON CHART

HISTORY

The existing building was constructed in the mid-1950's and no site plan exists on file. In 1971, the site was included in the Garden Homes Urban Renewal District and study. In 1972, Marathon Oil submitted a proposal for a new 1,800 square foot gas and service station on the subject parcel. As part of that proposal and after working with the Garden Homes District neighborhood, the petitioner agreed to dedicate a 30 foot easement for a public pathway and vegetated buffer. Although the land was not intended to be owned by the City of Ann Arbor, the PL zoning was consistent with the established practices at the time.

PLANNING BACKGROUND

The <u>City of Ann Arbor Master Plan: Land Use Element</u> identifies this parcel as part of the West Area and recommends continued commercial uses. The plan contains design recommendations for commercial development, including the use of masonry, extensive landscaping, reduced setbacks along the street and public access linkage.

The Non-motorized Transportation Plan recommends eliminating unnecessary curb cuts and ensuring adequate non-motorized access to the site including maintaining the public path through the site. Miller Road is planned for re-construction summer of 2013, bicycle lanes will be installed at that time and the crosswalk will be upgraded.

STAFF COMMENTS

Systems Planning (Engineering) - One footing drain disconnection or equivalent will be required.

<u>Systems Planning (Landscaping)</u> - The proposed plan does not meet the standards for interior parking or conflicting landuse buffer requirements. The petitioner would like to use much of the existing vegetation along the eastern boundary, but this request does require a Landscape modification to be approved by Planning Commission. The petitioner and staff will continue to work together to make revisions to the plan and the petitioner will submit the application for a Landscape modification if plan revisions still require modification approval.

<u>Systems Planning (Soil Erosion and Stormwater)</u> – The subject site is under the jurisdiction of the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner (WCWRC). Preliminary approval of the storm water system is needed before City Council approval of the plan.

Systems Planning (Traffic) – Traffic impact statement needs revisions

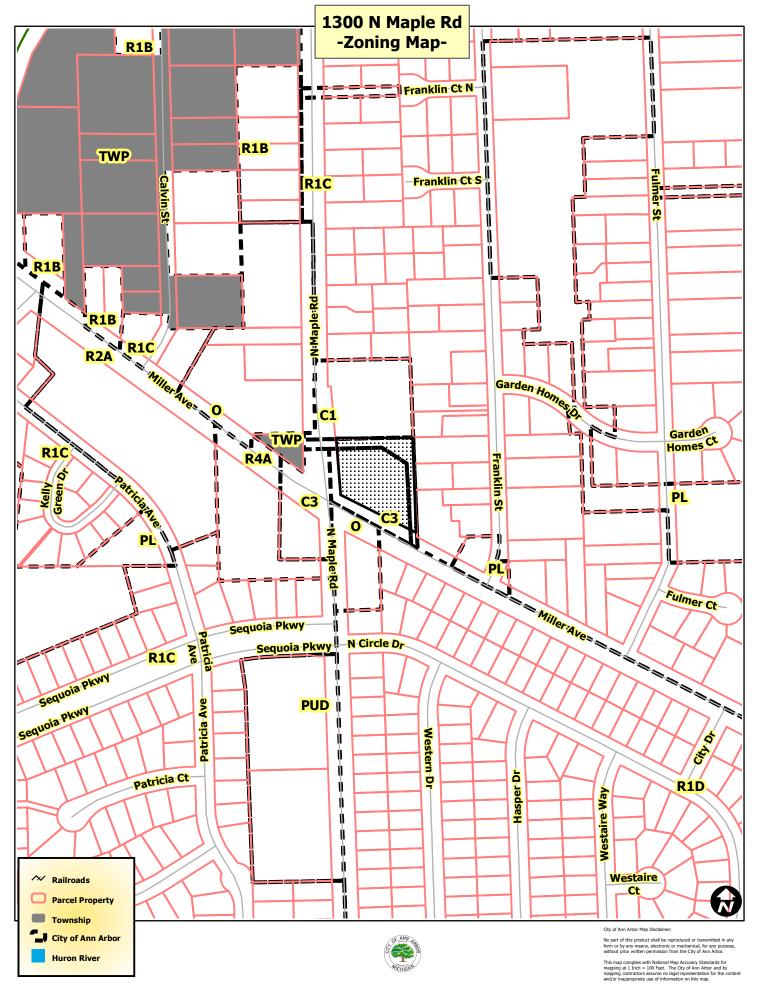
<u>Planning</u> – Staff will prepare a rezoning request (from PL to C3) to be forwarded with the associated site plan to City Council for approval. The proposal will recommend rezoning the land to C3 (from PL) in order to be consistent with land ownership by a private entity and not the public. Staff has discussed the proposal with Parks and there is no interest from the City in acquiring the site for a public park. After rezoning, the access easement will remain in place and there will be continue to be public access to the path.

The proposed site design and redevelopment is consistent with the <u>Master Plan: Land Use</u> <u>Element</u> retail design recommendations, including the use of masonry, pedestrian access, extensive landscaping, and reduced setbacks along the street. The site provides public access linkages from the public sidewalks to the proposed building as well as the adjacent commercial development to the north.

Prepared by Matt Kowalski Reviewed by Wendy Rampson mg/

- Attachments: Parcel/Zoning Map Aerial Photo Site Plan Landscape Plan Elevations
- c: Petitioner: Kevin Foley Speedway LLC 2305 East Paris Avenue, Suite 102 Grand Rapids, MI 49546
 - Owner: Speedway LLC 500 Speedway Drive Enon, OH 45323

City Attorney Systems Planning File No. SP11-037



Map Created: 2/22/2012



🚧 Railroads

Parcel Property



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