## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of March 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Sun Baths (319 N. Main Street) Site Plan for City Council Approval File No. SP15-048

## PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the 319 N. Main Street Site Plan, subject to combining both lots before the issuance of building permits, and subject to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) permit approval for improvements in the N Main Street Right of Way.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the site plan be approved because it would comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations; the development would limit the disturbance of natural features to the minimum necessary to allow a reasonable use of the land; and the development would not cause a public or private nuisance and would not have a detrimental effect on public health, safety or welfare.

## LOCATION

The site is located on the west side of North Main Street, south of Kingsley Street (Central Area). This site is located in the Allen Creek watershed.

## DESCRIPTION OF PETITION

The petitioner seeks to construct a 12,398 square foot two-story community bath house building located in the D2(Downtown Interface) zoning district. The building will contain a mixture of common bath and sauna areas and smaller private bath spaces. There will be a larger 'pool' area that is the "Main Waters" area for bathers to rest and relax in between other bath areas. There will be three private spas that fit 1 to 8 people along with supportive function area such as restrooms, offices, staff break room and storage. The estimated cost of construction is $\$ 3,500,000$.

Pedestrian access to the site from North Main Street will be provided by a sidewalk to the main entry facing North Main, there will be no curb cut to the street. There is also access from a rear alley for employees and deliveries. There is a loading zone designated on the plan directly off the alley. No onsite parking will be provided and none is required because the site is located within the D2 (parking exempt) District. Public bicycle parking is proposed in front of the building adjacent to the sidewalk along North Main, covered parking for bicycles is also provided in the rear adjacent to the loading zone.

The proposed development provides for the required first flush storm water event as the total amount of impervious surface on site is less than 10,000 square feet. The storm system is a vegetated swale located within the front yard and designed for infiltration. The building will also be designed to harvest most of the rain water that falls on the roof for re-use within the building. The
building will be designed so that the all of the energy needs on an annual basis will be supplied by on-site renewable energy. There will be solar panels on the roof designed to provide the building with its yearly energy requirements. The building is being designed to be net zero energy certified and is targeting LEED Platinum certification.

There was one landmark tree located on site. This tree has been already removed and mitigation is not required due to the poor health of the tree. There will be one landmark tree ( 20 inch Sycamore) that will be impacted by construction, but not removed. This tree will be mitigated as required by code and two new Maple trees and 11 multi-stem Serviceberry trees are proposed to be planted on the site.

The petitioner mailed postcards to owners and occupants within 500 feet of the site. At the time this staff report was written, no comments about the project have been received from the public.

COMPARISON CHART

|  | EXISTING | PROPOSED | PERMITTED/REQUIRED |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zoning | D2 (Downtown Interface <br> District) | D2 (Downtown <br> Interface District) | D2 (Downtown Interface <br> District) |
| Gross Lot Area | $4,094 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft} \mathrm{\&} \mathrm{4,094} \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft}$ <br> $(8,188 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft} \mathrm{combined)}$ | $8,188 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft}$ | None |
| Minimum Lot Width | $33 \mathrm{ft} \& 33 \mathrm{ft}$ per lot | 66 ft | None |
| Front | Minimum Usable Floor Area in | NA | $151 \%$ |

* Front Yard Street Building Frontage requirement

SURROUNDING LAND USES AND ZONING

|  | LAND USE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| NORTH | Residential | ZONING |
| EAST | Office | D2 (Downtown Interface District) |
| SOUTH | Office | D2 (Downtown Interface District) |
| WEST | Parking lot | D2 (Downtown Interface District) |

HISTORY
The parcels have historically been used for residential. The houses on the two parcels were deconstructed and removed in 2015.

## PLANNING BACKGROUND

The Master Plan: Land Use Element (MP:LUE) future land use denotes these parcels as Downtown Interface, which is a mixed use zone with less intensity than the Downtown Core. The Plan recommends that special attention is paid to the interface zones between downtown and Central Area residential neighborhoods; and to insure that projects in these areas contribute to downtown liveliness and help buffer established neighborhoods from further erosion. Other urban design goals of the Plan include: relocating parking out of the front open space areas; minimizing off-street parking lots and encouraging design so that the parking lot is not the dominant feature from the road.

The Plan contains specific recommendations for redevelopment of sites in the Central Area. In particular, to ensure that new infill development is consistent with the scale and character of existing neighborhoods.

The proposed development is consistent with objectives of the Master Plan. The scale and massing are consistent with adjacent structures along North Main.

## COMMENTS PENDING, DISMISSED OR UNRESOLVED

Design Review Board - The project was reviewed by the Design Review Board in October 2015. The Board recommended increasing transparency at the entry, incorporating more active and inviting pedestrian spaces along Main Street and modifying deign to decrease massing of northern façade. The petitioner has revised the plan to maximize transparency at the entrance on Main, and integrate additional landscape with rain garden at the front. The architecture has been redesigned to gain a vertical entry element as well as break up the northern façade.

Systems Planning - The proposed sanitary flows are being modeled by the City. Sanitary mitigation calculations for the increase in sanitary sewer flow are currently being reviewed, at this time it appears that a footing drain of one home, or flow equivalent, will need to be removed from
the sanitary sewer system in order to mitigate new flow from this proposed development. This number will be confirmed before proceeding to City Council.

Planning - Planning staff supports the project as proposed. The building is a use not currently provided in the City, increasing the diversity of businesses, and is of a scale that will serve as a good transition from the downtown core. The extensive use of environmental features (solar, rain water re-use) to gain Net Zero impact on the environment is notable and not required according to code. As part of the approval for this proposal, the 2 lots are required to be combined before issuance of permits.

MDOT - An MDOT permit will be required for this project. The applicant is proposing a canopy that extends over the N. Main street ROW. Any permanent building structure (signs, balconies) that hang over into MDOT ROW will need a license agreement with MDOT.

Prepared by Matt Kowalski Reviewed by Ben Carlisle mg/6/11/15

Attachments: Zoning Map
Aerial Map
Site Plan
Landscape Plan
Elevations
c: Owner: Moving on Main, LLC 1108 Mixtwood
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Systems Planning
File Nos. SP15-048





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