14-876

MANITOWOC To: David Less

City Planner

April 21, 2014

Mayor and Common Council

From:

Manitowoc City Plan Commission

Subject:

PC14-2014/PC3-2014: WLC, LLC and Manitowoc Lake Breeze

Apartments LLC; Proposed Vacation Under Wis. Stat. § 66.1003(2)

and Official Map Amendment Under Wis. Stat. § 62.23(6) at

Johnston Drive, North of E. Charles Lane

Dear Mayor and Common Council:

At the regular April 16, 2014 meeting of the Manitowoc City Plan Commission, the Commission held a public informational hearing regarding a request from SMI. Inc. on behalf of WLC, LLC, as the record owner, and Manitowoc Lake Breeze Apartments LLC, as the contract purchaser of property east of Johnston Drive, west of Zimmer Drive, and to the north of E. Charles Lane. These parties have together submitted requests for: (i) vacating 2 dedicated rights-of-way (R/W) on the east side of Johnston Drive; and (ii) amending the Official Map to remove the areas proposed for vacation, plus a non-dedicated extension of the southermost R/W extending east to future Zimmer Drive. The request to discontinue or vacate the publicly owned R/W's east of Johnston Drive occurs pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.1003(2). The Official Map amendment proceedings occur pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 62.23(6)(c). The areas proposed for vacation and removal from the Official Map are identified on the attached map. The proposed concept development plan for the approximately 25-acres of WLC property is also attached.

The Commission notes that this "petition by abutting owners" procedure under Wis. Stat. § 66.1003(2), is initiated by the filing of a petition signed by 100 per cent of the property owners abutting the area to be vacated, plus the owners of at least one-third of the frontage of the lots and lands abutting on that portion of the remainder of the public way which lies within 2,650 feet of the ends of the portion to be discontinued. The petition that was filed with the City Clerk's office on April 7, 2014 (Granicus Document #14-564) has been reviewed, and is valid and complies with the statue as it was signed by 100% of the owners abutting the areas to be vacated. The R/W's do not exist to the east or west of the areas proposed for vacation.

Continuing, the Commission notes that with this protocol, there is no public hearing required for the proposed vacation. There is, however, a public hearing required for the amendment to the Official Map. The vacation requires publishing a Class 3 notice stating when and where the vacation resolution will be acted upon. Notice of the









Official Map public hearing can be combined with the 2nd and 3rd publications of the Class 3 notice. In this matter, the required Council public hearing regarding the Official Map amendment should be scheduled for June 2nd, preceded by publication of the Class 3 notice to be published pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.1003(8)(b) on May 12th, 19th and 26th. The Official Map amendment requires a Class 2 notice to be published, and will be combined with the notices published on May 19th and 26th. Notice of the hearing is to be served upon the landowners abutting the areas proposed for vacation no later than May 2nd. Final Council action on the vacation and Official Map amendment can occur on or after June 16th.

Regarding the proposed development, the plan details the ultimate development of 188 units of apartments developed in at least 2 phases. Phase I would include the construction of 5 buildings representing 60 units along Johnston Drive. These market rate units would feature a blend of 1 and 2 bedroom units, along with 5, 12-stall garages for each building. Each unit would have a private entry, and the plan currently is for the contract purchaser to construct all 5 buildings at the same time. A new CSM tract of approximately 5-acres (201' x 1088') would be created to house Phase I, and which would be approved and recorded post-transfer of ownership to the contract purchaser, and post vacation of the R/W.

Subsequent phases would involve the construction of the remaining 8-9 buildings, being likely driven by market demand. Beyond Phase I, the development will need to be sensitive to the location of wetlands in the area. A July, 2013 wetland delineation report was completed by NES Ecological Services, a division of Robert E. Lee & Associates, which identified approximately 4.4-acres of wetland on the WLC property, primarily to the south and east of the area where the first 5 buildings would be constructed.

The Commission notes in closing that notices of its April 16th informational hearing were mailed to property owners effected by the proposed vacation and Official Map amendment, and that there was no opposition voiced at this informational hearing. The Commission then unanimously recommended that the Council: (i) approve proceeding with the vacation and Official Map amendment; and (ii) instruct the Clerk to publish the vacation and Official Map public hearing notices, and to publish the required notices with those costs to be charged to the petitioner. In closing, the Commission further unanimously recommended that Council approve the vacation and Official Map amendment upon completion of the required public hearing, and to do so on or after June 16th.

Finally, in terms of the conformance of this development and the proposed vacation and Official Map amendment, the Commission notes that this development area is identified on the City's 20-year land use map (that is part of its 2009 comprehensive plan) as "Planned Neighborhood", which is intended to provide for a variety of housing types and a mix of non-residential uses such as parks, schools, and small scale shopping. As such, the comprehensive plan map in this area is not currently consistent with the

proposed land use, and should be amended to reflect this planned development. The map should be adjusted to show this area as "Multi-Family Residential", which is a better suited land use category in the comprehensive plan for this location, and is more directly aligned with the City's "R-5" and "R-6" zoning districts.

espectfully Submitted,

David Less City Planner

Attachments

Re: Granicus Documents #14-483, #14-484 and #14-564





