

# **City of Denton**

City Hall 215 E. McKinney Street Denton, Texas www.cityofdenton.com

#### AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Development Services

**DCM:** Cassey Ogden

**DATE:** May 6, 2025

## **SUBJECT**

Hold a public hearing and consider adoption of an Ordinance of the City of Denton, Texas regarding a change in the zoning district and use classification from Overlay Planned Development – Suburban Corridor (PD-SC) District to Public Facilities (PF) District on approximately 3.158 acres of land generally located at the northwest corner of Teasley Lane (F.M. 2181) and Hunter's Creek Road in the City of Denton, Denton County, Texas; adopting an amendment to the City's official zoning map; providing for a penalty in the maximum amount of \$2,000.00 for violations thereof; providing a severability clause and an effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted [4-0] to recommend approval of the request. Motion for approval was made by Commissioner Padron and seconded by Commissioner Riggs. (Z25-0005a, Denton Fire Station 6, Matt Bodine) <u>https://dentontx.new.swagit.com/videos/340904?ts=5536</u>

## BACKGROUND

This is a city-initiated rezoning request to rezone an approximately 3.158-acre lot from Overlay Planned Development – Suburban Corridor (PD-SC) District to Public Facilities (PF) District for the purpose of facilitating the development of a new Denton Fire Station 6. The relocation of Fire Station 6 from its current location at 3232 Teasley Lane (approximately 0.6-mile north of the subject property) to this new proposed location is expected to result in improved response times for the area.

While the PD-SC District does permit Community Service land uses, such as fire stations, to be developed by-right, the Overlay Planned Development includes several development standards which are not conducive to the development of a fire station. Specifically, the PD-SC District requires additional landscaping than what is typically required along Hunter's Creek Road and the abutting single-family residential to the west (see Exhibit 5) per the Denton Development Code (DDC); these additional landscaping requirements are not feasible for a fire station where high visibility must be maintained to ensure the safety of both emergency vehicles entering and exiting the site as well as other vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian users of Hunter's Creek Road. The purpose of the requested PF District is to provide adequate lands for public and quasi-public community uses such as fire stations, and the DDC includes an Alternative Landscape Plan process to allow for flexibility in site design while ensuring projects still meet the intent of the code's standards for buffering, right-of-way screening, and other landscaping. A rezoning of the subject property would align the zoning district with the proposed use and provide needed design flexibility to construct the fire station on this location. In addition, a fire station is needed at this location to reduce response times for current and future growth of the area (see Exhibit 4).

The subject property is currently undeveloped with mature trees scattered throughout the site. The property has street frontage on Hunter's Creek Road, an east-west Collector, to the south and Teasley Lane (F.M. 2181), a six-lane, north-south Primary Arterial, to the east. The surrounding area consists of single-family residential subdivisions to the east, north, and west. Multifamily dwellings exist to the southwest of the

property. The lots to the south of the property are being developed for commercial uses. The adjacent lot on the south side of Hunter's Creek Road was issued a building permit in September 2024 and is under construction.

As part of the 2019 DDC update and citywide rezoning, the subject property was rezoned from Neighborhood Residential Mixed-Use (NRMU) District to Planned Development – Mixed-Use Neighborhood (PD-MN) District. In April 2023, City Council approved a rezoning of the subject property and lots to the south to the current PD-SC District to facilitate commercial development. In December 2023, City Council approved, and the City purchased the subject property for the purpose of constructing a fire station on the subject property.

A full Staff Analysis is provided in Exhibit 2.

## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing for the request at their April 23, 2025 meeting and voted [4-0] to recommend approval of the zoning change. During the public hearing, Commissioners inquired about the requirements for a fire station that conflict with the PD standards, and Staff explained how the PD's landscaping standards conflict with the need to maintain high visibility around the driveways of the fire station. One member of the public spoke in opposition to the request. The individual expressed concerns over the noise and light impacts from fire trucks responding to calls, particularly in the evenings, as well as concern for decreased property values. Chief Hedges of the Fire Department addressed the Commission and explained that at night fire truck operators are given discretion as to when sirens are used and are encouraged to only turn on sirens when necessary. It was also explained that the new location for Fire Station 6 is expected to cut down on area response times to align better with national standards, and that overall number of calls for Fire Station 6 have gone down since the opening of Fire Station 8. Additionally, Commissioners provided insight into the effects fire stations may have on nearby residential real estate, and they commented positively on fire stations near their places of residence.

## **OPTIONS**

- 1. Approval
- 2. Denial
- 3. Postpone Item.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and voted [4-0] to recommend approval of the zoning change.

Staff recommends **approval** of the request as it complies with the criteria in Section 2.4.5.E of the Denton Development Code (DDC) for approval of all applications, and Section 2.7.2.D of the DDC for approval of a zoning change.

| Date              | <u>Council, Board,</u><br><u>Commission</u> | <u>Request</u>   | Action                  |
|-------------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| January 23, 2008  | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission             | Rezone NR-2 to NRMU  | Recommended<br>Approval |
| February 19, 2008 | City Council                                | Rezone NR-2 to NRMU<br>(Ord. No. 2008-045)                                 | Approved                |
| February 5, 2014  | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission             | Add overlay conditions to<br>existing NRMU District<br>(Ord. No. 2014-075) | Recommended<br>Approval |

## PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

| March 4, 2014       | City Council                    | Add overlay conditions to<br>existing NRMU District<br>(Ord. No. 2014-075)                                     | Approved  |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| October 1, 2019     | City Council                    | New Zoning Code and City-<br>wide zoning district<br>transition from NRMU to<br>PD-MN District<br>(DCA18-0009) | Approved  |
| June 9, 2022        | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Preliminary Plat<br>(PP22-0010)  | Approved  |
| February 15, 2023   | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Rezone to PD-SC District<br>(PD22-0010)  | Recommended<br>Denial                                 |
| March 7, 2023       | City Council                    | Rezone to PD-SC District<br>(PD22-0010)  | Continued request<br>to the April 4, 2023<br>meeting  |
| March 15, 2023      | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Rezone to PD-SC District<br>(PD22-0010)  | Request to reconsider approval                        |
| March 29, 2023      | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Rezone to PD-SC District<br>(PD22-0010)  | Continued request<br>to the April 12,<br>2023 meeting |
| April 4, 2023       | City Council                    | Rezone to PD-SC District<br>(PD22-0010)  | Withdrawn   |
| April 12, 2023      | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Rezone to PD-SC Overlay<br>District<br>(PD22-0010)   | Recommended<br>Approval                               |
| April 18, 2023      | City Council                    | Rezone to PD-SC Overlay<br>District<br>(PD22-0010)   | Approved  |
| December 5,<br>2023 | City Council                    | Purchase subject property<br>for the purpose of Fire<br>Station 6.<br>(ID23-2147)                              | Approved  |
| April 23, 2025      | Planning & Zoning<br>Commission | Rezone to PF District.<br>(Z25-0005)   | Recommended<br>Approval                               |

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

26 notices were sent to property owners within 200 feet of the subject property, and 184 postcards were mailed to current residents within 500 feet of the subject property. As of the writing of this report, two written responses have been received in favor of the rezoning, and one written response has been received that expressed concerns but was neutral on the rezoning. No written responses in opposition have been received. Copies of these responses are included in Exhibit 10.

A notice was published on the City's website on April 3, 2025.

A notice was published in the Denton Record Chronicle on April 6, 2025

Three signs were posted on the site on April 11, 2025.

## **DEVELOPER ENGAGEMENT DISCLOSURES**

No developer contact disclosures have been provided to staff from members of this body as of the issuance of this report.

## **EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit 1 Agenda Information Sheet
- Exhibit 2 Staff Analysis
- Exhibit 3 Site Location Map
- Exhibit 4 Project Narrative
- Exhibit 5 PD-SC District Ordinance
- Exhibit 6 Existing Zoning Map
- Exhibit 7 Proposed Zoning Map
- Exhibit 8 Future Land Use Map
- Exhibit 9 Table of Allowed Uses
- Exhibit 10 Notifications and Responses
- Exhibit 11 Presentation
- Exhibit 12 Draft Ordinance

Respectfully submitted: Tina Firgens, AICP Deputy Director of Development Services/Planning Director

Prepared by: Matt Bodine Assistant Planner