# **ZONING REPORT**

**Case No.**: 0312-02 **HTE No.** 12-10000011

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Planning Commission Hearing Date: March 28, 2012							
Applicant & Legal Description	Applicant/Owner: Convent Academy of the Incarnate Word Representative: Peggy L. Sumner Legal Description/Location: Being 41.32 acres out of Lots 5, 6 and 7, Section 6, Flour Bluff and Encinal Farm and Garden Tracts, located approximately 200 feet to the west of S. Staples St. and along the south side of Lipes Blvd.						
Zoning Request	From: "RS-4.5" Single-Family 4.5 District, "RS-6" Single-Family 6 District and "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District  To: "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District  Area: 41.32 acres  Purpose of Request: To allow the property owner to construct a 40-resident convent and associated accessory uses, such as administrative offices and a chapel.						
Existing Zoning and Land Uses			ting Zoning District	Existing Land U	Jse	Future L	and Use
	Site	"RS	4.5" Single-Family 4.5, 6-6" Single-Family 6, "RM-1" Multifamily 1	, Vacant		Low Density Residential	
	North		S-6" Single-Family 6 RS-TF" Two-Family District	Park; Low & Med Density Residen		Park; Low & Medium Density Residential	
	South	"RS	S-6" Single-Family 6	Vacant & Low Der Residential	nsity	Low D Resid	•
	East	"R	RM-1" Multifamily 1	Medium Density Residential & Public Semi-Public		Medium Density Residential	
	West	"RS	S-6" Single-Family 6	Low Density Residential		Low D Resid	ensity ential
ADP, Map & Violations	Area Development Plan: The subject property is located in the Southside Area Development Plan (ADP) and is planned for low density residential uses. Although the proposed change in zoning to the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District is not consistent with the adopted Future Land Use Plan, a modification to the plan with a medium density residential district such as an "RM-1" District could be acceptable.  Map No.: 045032 Zoning Violations: None						
Transportation	<b>Transportation and Circulation</b> : The subject property has approximately 1,900 feet of frontage along Lipes Blvd., a "C1" Residential Collector street. The nearest intersection is S. Staples St., which is an "A3" Primary Arterial Divided street. The subject property has limited access to Henderson St., which is a local residential street currently connecting to Staples St. and which will also connect to Graford Place, another local residential street, when the developer immediately to the south of the subject property constructs the extension of Graford Place to Henderson St. as part of a single-family residential development.						
Street R.O.W.	Stre	et	Urban Transportation Plan	Proposed Section		xisting Section	2011 Volume
	Lipes E	Blvd.	C1 Minor Residential Collector	60' ROW, 40' paved		O' ROW, O' paved	N/A
	S. Stapl	es St.	A3 Primary Arterial Divided	130' ROW, 79' paved		0' ROW, 5' paved	17,220 ADT

# Staff's Summary:

**Requested Zoning**: The applicant is requesting a change of zoning from the "RS-4.5" and "RS-6" Single-Family districts to the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District to allow for the development of a 40-resident convent and associated accessory uses, such as administrative offices and a chapel. The subject property is located approximately 200 feet to the west of Staples St. and has approximately 1,900 feet of frontage along the south side of Lipes Blvd.

**Existing Zoning:** The subject property is currently zoned with single-family districts ("RS-4.5" and "RS-6"), which does not allow for "group living" uses. A convent is classified as a "group living" use, which requires a minimum of the "RM-1" District. The "RM-1" District supports a maximum density of 22 dwelling units per acre compared to the "RS-6" District supporting 7.26 dwelling units per acre.

## **Applicant's Development Plan:**

- The applicant owns the entire 41.32-acre tract of land, but only needs fifteen (15) acres for the construction of the convent facility. There are no development plans for the remaining 26.32 acres at this time. The convent, offices and chapel will all be located in the same building, which would vary from one to two stories high and have a floor area of approximately 60,000 square feet.
- Because of the nature of the convent, the applicant prefers to be located near lower intensity land uses, such as single-family residential, rather than commercial uses or high-density apartments. As such, the applicant prefers to construct the convent on the portion of the lot farthest away from S. Staples St. The convent is expected to employee eight to ten individuals. Construction is expected to be complete by mid-2013.

**Existing Land Uses**: Located to the north of the subject property are a public park, single-family houses, and a retirement community. Located to the east is a church and apartment complex. Located to the south is a vacant tract of land slated for single-family subdivision. Located to the west are single-family houses.

**Buffer Yard**: The development would be required to provide a physical buffer between the "RM-1" District and the "RS-6" District located on the south and west sides of the subject property. The potential relocation of the 50-foot-wide private drainage ditch to the south and west sides of the property would also provide a physical buffer from the low density residential uses.

**Relationship to Smart Growth**: The proposed change of zoning will allow for infill development on a large tract of vacant land that is hemmed in by existing single-family and multifamily residential and commercial developments. Existing public infrastructure is available to the subject property.

#### Comprehensive Plan & Area Development Plan (ADP) Consistency:

The Comprehensive Plan and the Southside Area Development Plan (ADP) slate the subject property for low density residential uses. The proposed change of zoning of the 41.32-acre tract of land to the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District is not consistent with the adopted Future Land Use Map, but meets other criteria of the Comprehensive Plan and ADP, such as:

• Encouraging infill development on vacant tracts within developed areas (*Comprehensive Plan, Residential Policy Statement F*),

- Locating medium-density residential development along a collector street with convenient access to an arterial street (Comprehensive Plan, Residential Policy Statement H),
- Providing for a compatible configuration of activities with emphasis on accommodation of existing zoning patterns and the protection of low-density residential activities from incompatible activities (Southside ADP Policy Statement B.1),
- Buffering high-intensity commercial areas from low-density residential areas through the
  existence of roads, public/institutional buildings, open space, scale of designs, and
  transitional land uses (Southside ADP Policy Statement B.6), and
- Discouraging new high-intensity commercial developments from locating directly adjacent to low-intensity residential areas without an adequate transition or buffer (Southside ADP Policy Statement B.7).

<u>Plat Status</u>: Subject property is not platted.

# **Department Comments**:

- A modified request to fifteen (15) acres of the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District to allow for a convent is a supportable zoning change.
- Rezoning the remaining 26.32 acres to the "RS-6" Single-Family 6 District would be consistent with the Area Development Plan and would provide for one zoning district on the remaining acreage.
- The 40-unit convent facility would have lower densities and traffic generation than the standard single-family subdivision built on 15 acres.
- The applicant is in agreement with the modified request described above.
- The modified request would be more consistent with the Area Development Plan.

# Planning Commission & Staff Recommendation (March 28, 2012):

Denial of the change of zoning to the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District on the entire 41.32-acre tract and, in lieu thereof, approval of the "RM-1" Multifamily 1 District on the western fifteen (15) acres and "RS-6" Single-Family 6 District on the remaining eastern 26.32 acres.

**Comments**Received

Number of Notices Mailed – 64 within 200' notification area; 3 outside notification area As of May 18, 2012:

In Favor — 2 (inside notification area); 0 (outside notification area) In Opposition — 7 (inside notification area); 0 (outside notification area)

For 3.23% in opposition.

Attachments: 1. Site Map – Existing Zoning, Notice Area, & Ownership Map

2. Conceptual Development Plan



