



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Planning Commission Meeting of September 4, 2019

DATE: August 30, 2019

TO: Nina Nixon-Méndez, Director of Development Services

FROM: Gabriel Hinojosa P.E., Engineer, Development Services
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Callicoatte Estates Unit 5 (Preliminary Plat)

Request for a Plat Waiver of the Sidewalk Construction Requirement
in Section 8.1.4 and 8.2.2 of the Unified Development Code

BACKGROUND:

Applicant requests a waiver of the plat requirement to construct sidewalk in Section 8.1.4.A and 8.2.2.A of the Unified Development Code (UDC).

The subject plat, known as Callicoatte Estates Unit 5 is located east of Callicoatte Road and south of Leopard Street. The owner is proposing to plat (124) lots, approximately 24.62 acres. The land is zoned Single-Family 4.5 (RS-4.5). The purpose of the plat is to develop a residential subdivision.

STAFF ANALYSIS and FINDINGS:

UDC Section 8.1.4 and 8.2.2.A require construction of sidewalks as part of the platting process.

This proposed development is on Callicoatte Road, which is designated as an A-3 Arterial in the City's Urban Transportation Plan (UTP). The street design standards for A-3 Arterials also require sidewalks, per UDC Table 8.2.1.C.

The UDC does state, under Section 8.2.2.B, B.1-B.4., that a waiver *may* be granted, in accordance with the waiver procedure in Section 3.8.3.D., but only if certain conditions exist:

1. Sidewalks shall not be required along each side of a street right-of-way where such street is a permanent dead-end street and where there is pedestrian access from the permanent dead-end street to a paved hike and bike trail. In such instance, a sidewalk only shall be required on one side of the street right-of-way.
2. Sidewalks shall not be required along street rights-of-way where each lot fronting on such street has direct access from the side or rear to a paved hike and bike trail.
3. Sidewalks shall not be required for residential subdivisions in the Farm-Rural and

Residential Estate zoning districts.

4. Sidewalks adjacent to private streets may be allowed to be placed on only one side of the street if the sidewalk width is 6 feet or greater and approved by the Assistant City Manager of Development Services.

None of the enumerated conditions in UDC 8.2.2.B.1-4 for a sidewalk waiver exist on this subject property.

In any event, Section 3.8.3.D of the UDC provides factors to consider plat waivers, and states that the need for the waiver shall be demonstrated to the Planning Commission's satisfaction. The waiver may be approved, approved with conditions, or denied, after consideration of the following factors:

1. The granting of the waiver shall not be detrimental to the public health, safety or general welfare, or be injurious to other property in the area, or to the City in administering this Unified Code;
2. The conditions that create the need for the waiver shall not generally apply to other property in the vicinity;
3. Application of a provision of this Unified Development Code will render subdivision of land unfeasible; or
4. The granting of the waiver would not substantially conflict with the Comprehensive Plan and the purposes of this Unified Development Code.

In support of the waiver request, the following factors exist in the area:

1. Current sidewalk network is 550 feet away.
2. Callicoatte Road is not on the City's ADA Master Plan and MPO Bicycle Mobility Plan.
3. No RTA transit route along Callicoatte Road.
4. No proximate school or public or civic uses along Callicoatte Road.
5. Callicoatte is built to a Rural street cross section.
6. Callicoatte Road is a state roadway maintained by TXDoT and no future improvements planned due to current traffic volumes.

Factors weighing against the waiver and in support of requiring sidewalk:

1. The site is adjacent to an existing residential subdivision to the north that has sidewalks internal to the subdivision.
2. Callicoatte is an A-3 Arterial and the street standards require sidewalk.
3. Properties to the south are currently undeveloped and provide an opportunity for a sidewalk network.
4. The sidewalk construction will support future connectivity to Calallen East Elementary School.
5. Dedication of 25-feet of right-of-way for Callicoatte Road provides sufficient area for sidewalk construction.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends denial of the waiver from the sidewalk construction requirement.

Planning Commission may choose to follow or decline Staff's recommendation, and Planning Commission may approve, approve with conditions, or deny the waiver request.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Final Plat

PowerPoint Presentation-Waiver from Sidewalk Requirement