



PLZ-19-32

City of Greensboro Planning Department Zoning Staff Report and Plan Amendment Evaluation

City Council Hearing Date: October 15, 2019

GENERAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT	City of Greensboro
HEARING TYPE	Original Zoning Request
REQUEST	Original zoning from County AG (Agricultural) to City RM-18 (Residential Multi-family - 18).
CONDITIONS	N/A
LOCATION	McConnell Road west of Clapp Farm Road (generally described as McConnell Road from the western right-of-way line of Clapp Farm Road extending westward approximately 800 feet)
PARCEL ID NUMBER(S)	N/A
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION	The notification area for this public hearing was 600 feet (Chapter 30-4-1.4 of the Land Development Ordinance requires notification of the owner of that parcel of land and the owners of all parcels of land adjoining and contiguous to that parcel of land as shown on the County tax listing). 7 notices were mailed to those property owners in the mailing area.
TRACT SIZE	1.1 Acres
TOPOGRAPHY	Flat (Road)
VEGETATION	None (Road)

SITE DATA

Existing Use		Road Right of Way
	Adjacent Zoning	Adjacent Land Uses
N	County AG (Agricultural)	Agricultural
E	County AG (Agricultural) and County AG-SP (Agricultural - Special Permit)	McConnell Road Right of Way

W	County AG (Agricultural)	McConnell Road Right of Way
S	City CD-RM-18 (Conditional District – Residential Multi-family - 18)	Multi-family Dwellings

Zoning History

Case #	Date	Request Summary
N/A	N/A	The subject property is not currently located in the City's jurisdiction.

ZONING DISTRICT STANDARDS**District Summary ***

Zoning District Designation:	Existing (County AG)	Requested (City RM-12)
Max. Density:	N/A	N/A

Typical Uses	Primarily intended to accommodate agricultural uses	Primarily intended to accommodate moderate to higher intensity residential development.
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**These regulations may not reflect all requirements for all situations; see the City of Greensboro Land Development Ordinance for all applicable regulations for site requirements for this zoning district.*

SPECIAL INFORMATION**Overlay District Ordinance/Historic Preservation**

n/a

Environmental/Soils

Water Supply Watershed Site drains to Lake MacIntosh WS-IV, Little Alamance Creek sub-basin

Floodplains N/A

Streams N/A

Other: Max. BUA for High Density development with sewer is 70%. If site is developed as a Low Density Development 24% or less, a scoresheet must be completed for 120 points. Site must meet watershed requirements – water quality and water quantity control must be addressed. All new R/W BUA must be treated by a State approved water quality BMP/SCM to the maximum extent practicable and any existing BUA that would drain to the device must be treated to the maximum extent practicable.

Utilities**Water and sewer are available**

Request a water/sewer feasibility from Kenney Treadway (336-373-2897).

Airport Overlay District & Noise Cone

N/A

Landscaping & Tree Conservation Requirements

There are no Landscaping or Tree Conservation requirements for road right-of-way.

Transportation

Street Classification: McConnell Road – Major Thoroughfare.
Clapp Farm Road – Major Thoroughfare.
I-40 – Freeway.

Site Access: All access(s) must be designed and constructed to the City of Greensboro standards.

Traffic Counts: McConnell Road AADT = 4,200 vpd (NCDOT, 2018).

Trip Generation: N/A.

Sidewalks: Sidewalks are a requirement of the Development Ordinance. 5' sidewalk with a 5' grass strip is required along both sides of thoroughfares. 5' sidewalk with a 3' grass strip is required along one side (at a minimum, collectors may require sidewalk on both sides) of all other street types. Sidewalk does not exist along the frontage of this property.

Transit in Vicinity: No.

Traffic Impact Study:
(TIS) N/A.

Street Connectivity: N/A.

Other: N/A.

IMPACT/POLICY ANALYSIS**Land Use Compatibility**

The proposed **City RM-18 (Conditional District – Residential, Multi-Family – 19 du/ac)** zoning is strictly for road right of way and matches adjacent RM-18 zoned property.

Connections 2025 Comprehensive Plan Policies

The Generalized Future Land Use Map designates this location as **Mixed Use Corporate Park**. The requested **City RM-18 (Conditional District – Residential, Multi-Family – 19 du/ac)** zoning district is strictly for road right of way. The Growth Strategy Map designates the subject site as being within **Growth Tier 1, Current Growth Area (2013 – 2019)**.

Connections 2025 Written Policies

Land Use Goal 4.3 – Growth at the Fringe: Provide a development framework for the fringe that guides sound, sustainable patterns of land use, limits sprawl, protects rural character, evidences sound stewardship of the environment, and provides for efficient provision of public services and facilities as the City expands. Development will increase density and mix land uses at a pedestrian scale with sidewalks, bikeways, and where possible, public transit.

Policy 4F: Initiate a fringe area growth management framework comprising the following elements:

- Create a Fringe Area Land Use Plan;
- Establish a “tiered” approach that designates growth areas for staged development, annexation, and extension of public facilities within the water and sewer service boundary;
- Define specific criteria for water and sewer extensions and annexations;
- Initiate designation of the fringe as Greensboro's extraterritorial jurisdiction; and
- Establish a proactive plan to provide infrastructure in advance of development, consistent with the growth “tiers” and Fringe Area Land Use Concept Plan.

Policy 4G: Improve the quality and patterns of development through incentives and regulatory guidelines.

Community Character, Goal 5.2 – Man-Made Environment: Preserve and enhance the character and visual quality of Greensboro's built environment, including historic resources, private developments, and public landscapes.

Policy 5E: Improve the aesthetic quality of publicly owned and maintained landscapes.

Policy 5F: Implement and improve design standards governing the appearance of development from public roadways.

Economic Development, Goal 7: Promote a healthy, diversified economy with a strong tax base and opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship and for-profit and non-profit economic development for all segments of the community, including under-served areas such as East Greensboro.

Policy 7A: Target city investment and regulatory policies for economic development.

Policy 7C: Ensure that city land use policies and regulations allow for an adequate supply of land to accommodate economic development.

Transportation, Goal 8: Develop and maintain a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation system that provides convenient choices for accessing destinations throughout Greensboro and the Triad, including a range of well-integrated transit, pedestrian, and bicycle linkages.

Policy 8A: Maintain a roadway network that safely and efficiently accommodates vehicular traffic while supporting other community objectives defined in the Comprehensive Plan.

Connections 2025 Map Policies

Mixed Use Corporate Park: This designation is intended for large tracts of undeveloped land near the City's fringe that are appropriate for well planned, larger scale business/employment parks with supporting uses such as retail, hotels, and residential. Primary uses such as office, flex office, technology research and development, light manufacturing, distribution, and assembly should be placed in a campus-like or "corporate park" setting with generous, linked open space to maximize value and to promote visual quality and compatibility with the surrounding area. Pedestrian-friendly features such as buildings placed near the street, sidewalks, and trails leading to nearby uses such as retail and housing should be encouraged.

Growth Tier 1, Current Growth Area (2013 – 2019): Where infrastructure systems are in place, can be economically provided and/or will be proactively extended and where continued annexation and consolidation of the City's development pattern shall be encouraged over the next six years.

CONFORMITY WITH OTHER PLANS**City Plans*****Sustainability Action Plan*****Element 1) Transportation and Land Use:**

Policy 1) Encourage increased density, a mix of land uses and more integrated links between transportation and land use through changes to Greensboro's Comprehensive Plan, Development Ordinance and other related plans.

Element 2) Green Jobs and Buildings:

Policy 3) Develop a coordinated City program to provide technical support, energy audits and education and outreach to increase energy efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential buildings.

Policy 4) Use a combination of code changes, incentives, partnerships and education to promote green building in Greensboro.

Policy 6) Promote more efficient use of water through education, partnerships and pilot projects.

Element 3) Waste Reduction and Recycling:

Policy 7) Employ a combination of expanded recycling infrastructure, regulations and incentives to increase Greensboro's solid waste diversion and recycling rates.

Element 6) Education and Outreach:

Policy 11) Provide technical support, awards and recognition to individuals and organizations furthering Greensboro's energy and sustainability efforts.

Other Plans

n/a

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION**Community Outreach**

Applicant is strongly encouraged to discuss this proposed original zoning for road right of way with owners of surrounding properties.

Staff Analysis

The 1.1 acre subject site is the portion of McConnell Road located directly between the properties at 3617 and 3635 McConnell Road petitioning for annexation into the City (Z-19-09-003) and the primary City limits. Per N.C.G.S 160A-31(F), property that is owned by a public entity such as the State of North Carolina may be annexed if said property connects other property petitioning for annexation to the City's primary corporate limits.

Uses to the north include agricultural uses. East and west of the request are other portions of McConnell Road, zoned County AG and county AG-SP. Uses to the south are multi-family dwellings, zoned City CD-RM-18.

The Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Map currently designates this site as Mixed Use Corporate Park. The Mixed Use Corporate Park designation is intended for large tracts of undeveloped land near the City's fringe that are appropriate for well planned, larger scale business/employment parks with supporting uses such as retail, hotels, and residential.

The proposed City RM-18 zoning district is primarily intended to accommodate multi-family and similar residential uses at a density of 18.0 units per acre or less, but in this case the zoning is strictly for this portion of the McConnell Road right of way. This property can only be zoned if the adjacent property to the north that is also requesting annexation and original zoning is approved. Staff is recommending denial of the associated original zoning request to the north (Z-19-09-003) in part because the proposed uses for that request are not the best use of previous City investments in public infrastructure in this area. This means this request is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan's Growth at the Fringe goal to provide a development framework for the fringe that guides sound, sustainable patterns of land use and the Community Facilities goal to provide community facilities, services, and infrastructure in a cost-effective manner to meet citizens' needs, contribute to quality of life, and support desired land use patterns.

This request is inconsistent with the intent and purpose of the zoning code, the Comprehensive Plan (Connections 2025) and is generally not compatible with the existing development and trend in the surrounding area.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends **denial** of the requested **City RM-18** (Residential Multi-family - 18) zoning district.