



PLZ-20-38

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

City Council Hearing Date: January 19, 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT	City of Greensboro
HEARING TYPE	Original Zoning Request in conjunction with PL(P) 20-24
REQUEST	County CU-HI (Conditional Use – Heavy Industrial) to City HI (Heavy Industrial)
CONDITIONS	N/A
LOCATION	Kiowa Drive Right-of-Way
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). 4 notices were mailed to those property owners in the mailing area.
TRACT SIZE	0.93 acres
TOPOGRAPHY	N/A
VEGETATION	N/A

SITE DATA

Existing Use		Street
	Adjacent Zoning	Adjacent Land Uses
N	County CU-HI (Conditional Use – Heavy Industrial)	Undeveloped Land
E	County CU-HI (Conditional Use – Heavy Industrial)	Undeveloped Land
S	City PUD (Planned Unit Development)	Undeveloped Land

W City CD-HI (Conditional District – Heavy Industrial) Undeveloped Land

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

Existing District Summaries

Zoning District Designation:	Existing County CU-HI	Requested City HI
Max. Density:	N/A	N/A
Typical Uses	Typical uses in the HI zoning district may include large scale manufacturing, distribution, and other industrial uses.	Typical uses in the HI zoning district may include large scale manufacturing, distribution, and other industrial uses.

**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

The subject site is not located within an overlay zoning district.

The subject site is not:

- Located in a City of Greensboro Historic District or Heritage Community
- Designated as a Guilford County Landmark Property
- Recognized as a State of North Carolina Historic Site
- Listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- Located in a National Register Historic District

Environmental/Soils

Water Supply Watershed Site drains to Middle Reedy Fork Creek – Non-Watersupply Watershed

Floodplains < 2000

Streams N/A

Other: If the overall development disturbs >1 acre AND increases the BUA, the site must meet Phase 2 requirements - Water Quality and Water Quantity must be addressed. The new BUA must be treated by a State approved water quality BMP and any existing BUA that would drain to the BMP to the maximum extent practicable.

Utilities (Availability)

Water is available sewer will need to be extended by the developer

Airport Overlay District & Noise Cone

n/a

Landscaping & Tree Conservation Requirements

Landscaping or Tree Conservation requirements are not applicable to public right-of-way.

Transportation

Street Classification: Brown Summit Road – Collector Street.
Chickasha Drive – Local Street.

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

Traffic Counts: Brown Summit Road AADT = 5,000 (NCDOT, 2019).

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: No TIS required per Ordinance.
(TIS)

Street Connectivity: N/A.

Other: N/A.

IMPACT/POLICY ANALYSIS**Land Use Compatibility**

The proposed **City CD-HI (Conditional District – Heavy Industrial)** zoning district would allow land uses that are compatible with the general character of the area.

GSO 2040 Comprehensive Plan Policies

The GSO 2040 Future Land Use Map designates this location as **Residential**. The requested **City CD-HI (Conditional District – Heavy Industrial)** zoning district would allow uses that are generally inconsistent with the **Residential** future land use designation. If this rezoning request is approved, the Future Land Use designation for the subject site is considered to be amended to **Industrial** in order to ensure an appropriate fit between future land use designation and zoning.

The GSO 2040 Future Built Form Map designates the subject site with the **Exurban** place type; upon annexation, the subject site is considered to be re-designated to the **Urban General** place type. The Growth Tiers Map designates the subject site as being within **Growth Tier 3**.

GSO 2040 Written Policies

Filling In Our Framework - How we arrange our land uses for where we live, work, attend school, shop and enjoy our free time can create a more vibrant and livable Greensboro.

Goal A - Greensboro is recognized and admired for its attractive, walkable and compact mixed-use activity centers where people live, work and enjoy life.

Strategy 1 - Encourage higher density, mixed-use, walkable infill development.

Strategy 2 – Ensure mixed use projects both strengthen and add value to the Community.

Creating Great Places - Creating interesting and attractive places and vibrant public spaces in neighborhoods, across Greensboro, in downtown and with our historic resources.

Goal A - Greensboro's citywide network of unique neighborhoods offer residents of all walks of life a variety of quality housing choices.

Strategy 1 - Protect and enhance the unique character of every neighborhood.

Becoming Car Optional - Expand quality transportation options beyond cars and maintain an efficient transportation system that allows people and goods to travel throughout Greensboro.

Goal A - Greensboro has unrivaled pedestrian, biking, transit and road networks that provide safe, comfortable, and convenient transportation options.

Strategy 2 - Encourage new development that is compatible with the intended use of the adjacent roadway.

Prioritizing Sustainability - Greensboro has a strong leadership role in environmental stewardship, social equity, and a resilient economy.

Goal A - Greensboro advances environmental stewardship, taking care of our natural resources and the natural systems that support all living things.

Strategy 1 - Promote resilient, efficient and environmentally beneficial patterns of land use.

Goal B - Greensboro embraces social equity, ensuring all residents benefit from fair and just treatment in the distribution of public services and have a voice in governance.

Strategy 1 – Evaluate impacts to vulnerable populations and communities when reviewing existing and considering new public policies, projects and services.

Strategy 2 – Work to ensure that all Greensboro residents have meaningful opportunities to participate in public decision-making processes.

Strategy 3 – Promote a just, ethical, and respectful community.

Goal C - Greensboro builds economic resilience, expanding the local economy's ability to withstand and adjust to disruptions and changes at the regional, national and global scales.

Strategy 1 - Consider the impact that growth and development patterns and infrastructure investments have on the City's fiscal health.

Strategy 2 – Cultivate a diverse range of industry sectors and scales of operation in the local economy to help minimize the impacts of major fluctuations within any single sector.

Building Community Connections - Greensboro is unique and memorable based on our quality of life, culture, arts and places and the ties that bind us together as a community.

Goal E - Everyone does their part to maintain stable, attractive, and healthy places to live and raise families.

Strategy 1 - Build upon successful community initiatives to improve housing conditions while encouraging community involvement and participation.

Growing Economic Competitiveness - Greensboro will build a prosperous, resilient economy that creates equitable opportunities to succeed.

Goal B – Increase and preserve the inventory of developable sites compatible with corporate and industrial uses.

Strategy 1 – Work with community partners to ensure that the appropriate sites on Greensboro’s periphery are designated as Industrial on the Future Land Use map.

Strategy 2 – Ensure that the appropriate sites in the developed, central areas of Greensboro are designated as Industrial on the Future Land Use Map.

Goal C - Investment in cutting edge communications technology enhances the quality of life for all residents and helps businesses thrive.

Strategy 1 - Encourage fiber-ready infrastructure to reduce the need for costly future upfits, increase property values and promote economic growth.

Goal E – Greensboro promotes homegrown businesses, supports entrepreneurship, cultivates industry leaders, and welcomes major corporations and institutions.

Strategy 1 – Work cooperatively with local and regional economic development and entrepreneurial entities to leverage relationships and maximize impact with our collective resources.

Strategy 2 – Provide entrepreneurs at all stages of the business life cycle with connections to education, financing, and other resources and assets that support their growth.

GSO 2040 Map Policies

Future Land Use Map

Residential: Includes both single-and multi-family residential. Other uses should generally be in the scale of a Neighborhood or a Community Center as described in the Future Built Form Map on page 69, in a form that is appropriate to the character of the area. Many residential areas include commercial corridors, and future development along these corridors should be oriented to the corridor to avoid negative impacts to adjacent residences.

Industrial: includes light and heavy manufacturing, assembly and fabrication, and warehousing, logistics and distribution centers. Greensboro has seen a loss of land suitable for and attractive to industrial development, and it is critical that these areas be protected for larger industrial development opportunities.

Future Built Form Map

Exurban: Includes areas outside of Greensboro city limits, but within Growth Tiers 2 and 3.

These areas are generally undeveloped or are developed in a form that reflects a rural context. When such sites designated as Exurban are annexed into the City of Greensboro, they are considered to be re-designated to one of the other Place Types, as appropriate, to reflect an urban context.

Urban General: should reflect these characteristics:

1. Setbacks, building orientation, building materials, height, and scale of residential buildings are considered within the existing neighborhood context.
2. New housing helps increase the range of choice, supply, and adds additional appropriately-scaled density with: Missing Middle housing; mid-rise multi-family; and high-rise multi-family in Activity Centers and along Mixed-Use Corridors.
3. Transitions between neighborhoods and different land uses provide continuity in scale, density, intensity with adjacent uses.
4. Cut-through traffic is minimized.
5. New freestanding or expanded business areas are created within or adjoining an existing Activity Center or as part of creating a new Activity Center.
6. Exterior building materials are durable, sustainable, and contribute positively to the character of the public realm.
7. The size and impact of surface parking lots is minimized through landscaping, screening, narrow curb-cuts, and use of glare-free, no-spill lighting.
8. New sidewalks contribute to the completion of a sidewalk network.

Growth Tiers Map

Growth Tier 3: This is the area where growth, annexation, and the extension of public facilities is anticipated beyond 12 years, and where premature, fragmented, leapfrog, or inefficient development shall be discouraged by the City and County. Annexations will be discouraged until the full complement of City services can be efficiently provided, which is currently projected beyond the 12-year horizon.

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 and development with owners of surrounding properties.

Staff Annexation Analysis

The subject property is currently in the County. On September 1, 2020 the Zoning Commission assumed responsibility for reviewing annexation petitions and making a recommendation to City Council regarding annexations. Upon submittal of a valid annexation petition Planning staff forwards annexation requests to City services providers. These service providers include Water Resources (water and sewer), Fire Marshal's Office, Police Department, and Solid Waste (trash and recycling services). Each service provider stated that infrastructure is in place to provide City services to this location. The Technical Review Committee also officially recommended approval of this annexation request at its October 27, 2020 meeting. This property is located within the Tier 3 Growth Area (2019+) on the Growth Strategy map in the Comprehensive Plan. Even though the property is located in Grow Tier 3, Fire, Water, Police, and Solid Waste services can currently be provided to this location. This site can be annexed pending approval of the Original Zoning.

Staff Original Zoning Analysis

The subject property contains 0.93 acres and is currently undeveloped. North, east, and south of the request contains undeveloped land, zoned County CU-HI. West of the request contains undeveloped land, zoned City CD-HI. 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. Kiowa Drive is publicly owned property that lies between 4490 Chickasha Drive (subject parcel for case number Z-20-12-003) and 7117 Brown Summit Road which is already in the City limits.

The proposed rezoning request supports both the Comprehensive Plan's Growing Economic Competitiveness goal build a prosperous, resilient economy that creates equitable opportunities to succeed.

The Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Map currently designates this property as Residential. Upon annexation, the Future Land Use designation would be changed to the Industrial designation. The Industrial designation includes light and heavy manufacturing, assembly and fabrication, and warehousing, logistics and distribution centers. Greensboro has seen a loss of land suitable for and attractive to industrial development, and it is critical that these areas be protected for larger industrial development opportunities.

The Comprehensive Plan's Future Built Form Map currently designates this property as Exurban. Upon annexation and original zoning, the Future Built Form designation would be changed to Urban General. Applicable characteristics of the Urban General classification include, but are not limited the following:

1. Setbacks, building orientation, building materials, height, and scale of residential buildings are considered within the existing neighborhood context.
3. Transitions between neighborhoods and different land uses provide continuity in scale, density, intensity with adjacent uses.
4. Cut-through traffic is minimized.

5. New freestanding or expanded business areas are created within or adjoining an existing Activity Center or as part of creating a new Activity Center.
6. Exterior building materials are durable, sustainable, and contribute positively to the character of the public realm.
7. The size and impact of surface parking lots is minimized through landscaping, screening, narrow curb-cuts, and use of glare-free, no-spill lighting.
8. New sidewalks contribute to the completion of a sidewalk network.

The proposed Heavy Industrial district is primarily intended to accommodate a wide range of assembling, fabricating, and manufacturing activities. The proposed original zoning permits uses that are complimentary those permitted on adjacent properties.

This request is consistent with the intent and purpose of the zoning code, the Comprehensive Plan (GSO 2040) and is generally compatible with the existing development and trend in the surrounding area.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends **approval** of the requested **City HI (Heavy Industrial)** zoning districts.