# **Sumter City Council**

# First Reading / Public Hearing May 15, 2018

# **Planning Commission Staff Report**

# RZ-18-03, 2810-2850 Broad St. (City)

# I. THE REQUEST

**Applicant:** 

James M. Eaves

Status of the Applicant:

**Property Owner** 

Request:

A request to rezone a 9.72 acre tract from Planned Development

(PD-05-02) to General Commercial (GC)

Location:

2810-2850 Broad St.

**Size of Property:** 

9.72 acres

Present Use/Zoning:

Ashley Furniture & Undeveloped / PD-05-02

**Proposed Use of Property:** 

Ashley Furniture & Future Commercial Development

Tax Map Reference:

203-00-04-024

Adjacent Property Land

North - Broad St. & Commercial Development/GC

Use and Zoning:

South - Terry Rd. Residential & Commercial Development/GC &

R-15

East - Bethesda Church of God/GC

West - Undeveloped/GC

#### II. BACKGROUND

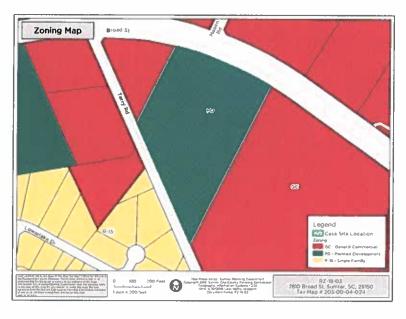
This request is to rezone the 9.72 acre tract of land currently zoned PD-05-02 back to General Commercial (GC). As shown on the graphic to the right, the property is located on the southern side of the intersection of Broad St. and Stamey Livestock Rd.

The applicant is seeking to rezone the property in order to market the undeveloped eastern half of the tract for new commercial development. After



review of the Planned Development Ordinance associated with the property, it was found that PD-05-02 is a single-use planned development that reduced the required number of parking spaces for the furniture store on-site. In 2005, the practice of using the Planned Development District to modify development standards was common practice, however; in March 2010, the South Carolina Supreme Court Ruled that this was an inappropriate use of the PD district based on the South Carolina Planning Act.

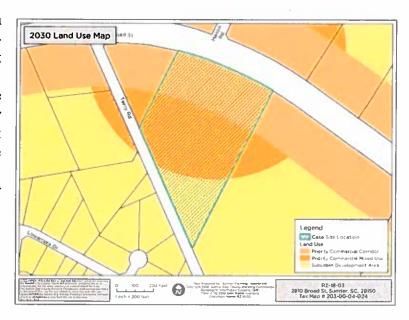
Since the 2010 Supreme Court ruling, as amendments to Planned Developments that are not true mixed-use developments have come forward, Planning Staff has evaluated whether amendments to the PD make sense or whether rezoning to a standard zoning district would appropriate. As shown in the zoning map to the right, the property is located in a commercial corridor where predominant zoning designation is General Commercial (GC). After review of the site. surrounding development, and the intent of PD-05-02, it appears that rezoning the property to General Commercial (GC) is an appropriate course of action.



The purpose of the GC district is to accommodate the broadest possible range of commercial uses, determined principally by market conditions, while protecting the environment from potentially objectionable uses. The property has only one use permitted under the old PD. The applicant is currently marketing the undeveloped portion of the property for future general commercial style development.

#### III. COMPATIBILITY WITH THE 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The property is located in the Suburban Development Priority Commercial Mixed-Use planning area, a priority investment area within the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Areas with this designation are the intended location for high quality commercial and mixed-use development and should be protected from undesirable uses such as industrial, automotive repair, or uses primarily engaged in outdoor storage. These locations encourage both destination retail commercial uses and neighborhood commercial uses appropriate. Design, layout, impact on adjacent properties, landscaping architecture all play a vital role in determining context viability.



The 2030 Plan is supportive of commercial designation in this area based upon the Priority Commercial/Mixed Use Area policies.

#### IV. TRAFFIC REVIEW

The property is located on the south side of the signalized intersection of Mason Road and Broad Street. The primary access drive to the property is at the traffic signal. There is secondary access to the rear of the property from Terry Road. Broad Street (US 378) is a state maintained major arterial road with a 2016 annual average daily trip (AADT) count of 26,800 near the subject property. Mason Road is a state maintained minor arterial road with a 2016 AADT count of 4,800 near the intersection.

It is anticipated that full access to any future development will be from the established site access at the signalized intersection. Future development may trigger the requirement for reconfiguration of the intersection to include dedicated deceleration or turn lanes and/or reconfiguration of the traffic signal or signal timing. The need for a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) and/or signal study for the future development of the property will be reviewed upon the submittal of any future site plan application.

# V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this request. Rezoning to General Commercial (GC) from PD-05-02 returns market viability to the property as a whole while being compatible with the established pattern of development as well as the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

#### VI. DRAFT MOTION

- 1) I move that the Planning Commission approve RZ-18-03, rezoning 9.72 acres from Planned Development (PD-05-02) to General Commercial (GC).
- 2) I move an alternate motion.

# VII. PLANNING COMMISSION – APRIL 25, 2018

The Sumter City-County Planning Department at its meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 recommended approval of this request.

# VII. CITY COUNCIL - MAY 15, 2018 - FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING

