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RICHLAND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION **February 1, 2010**

[Members Present: Heather Cairns, Olin Westbrook, David Tuttle, Pat Palmer, Deas Manning, Elizabeth Mattos-Ward, Stephen Gilchrist; Absent: Kathleen McDaniel]

Called to order: 1:07pm

CHAIRMAN PALMER: We'll call the February meeting of Planning Commission to order. Let me read this into the Record. "In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act a copy of the Agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building." Has everybody had a chance to look at the January Minutes? Any changes, additions, deletions, motions?

MS. CAIRNS: I make a motion to approve the Minutes.

MR. WESTBROOK: I'll second.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Motion and a second. All those in favor of approving the Minutes please signify by raising your hand.

[Approved: Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Road name approvals. Do we have any motions?

MS. CAIRNS: I make a motion that we approve the road names.

MR. TUTTLE: Second.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Have a motion and a second to approve the road names, please signify by raising your hand. Those opposed?

Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; [Approved:

Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any Agenda amendments?

MS. ALMEIDA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is. Under Other Business there should be a item two Rule Changes. And the ordinances, the two ordinances that are in your package have been swapped out with the new ordinances that were just handed out. And those are all the changes.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay. Anything else? Do we have a motion to amend the Agenda as stated?

MR. TUTTLE: I'd like to make a motion, Mr. Chairman, that we amend the Agenda as stated.

MR. GILCHRIST: Second.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Those in favor please signify by raising your hand.

[Approved: Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist;

Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: None opposed. Case No. 10-02 MA.

CASE NO. 10-02 MA:

MS. ALMEIDA: Mr. Chairman, this application – property owner Nathan Branham. Location is on Lorick Road. The acreage of the site is 83.5 acres. The existing zoning is Rural. The proposed zoning request is Residential Single-Family Estate. The current zoning reflects the original zoning from September 7th, 1977 and the parcel contains approximately 572' of frontage along Lorick Road. The 2008 DOT traffic count station is number 415. Lorick Road is classified as a two-lane undivided collector road maintained by DOT. The design capacity, as you can see on page two, is 8,600. The level of service is an A. The Residential Single-Family Estate is designed

for low to medium density rural residential development in those areas that separate more urban communities from rural areas. The subject parcel is roughly 2.3 miles northwest of the Killian Road Priority Investment Area. The Residential Single-Family Estate would allow for a smaller lot size of 20,000 square feet versus the 33,000 square foot minimum of Rural district. East of the site entrance on Lorick Road and contiguous to the parcel is the Church of God Prophecy Church. Within a half mile southeast of the parcel is Heritage Hills which is a rural subdivision. The parcel is located in School District Two. We have contacted the schools. The three schools nearest are Killian Elementary, Longleaf Middle and Ridgeview High. The school district has indicated adequate capacity for the additional students. Lorick Road is within the additional fire hydrant along parcels – a fire hydrant is located south of the parcel so it does have that capacity. Water and sewer is provided by the City of Columbia. We feel the proposed rezoning would not negatively impact public services or traffic. The proposed rezoning request we feel is compatible with the surrounding land uses and Planning Staff recommends approval.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any questions for Staff? We have four individuals signed up to speak. Joseph Younan? Followed by Eddie Stan.

TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH YOUNAN:

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MR. YOUNAN: Good afternoon. Joseph Younan with W.K. Dixon. I'm a civil engineer and a planner. With me are two of the owners. The development Mr. Nathan Branham and his father, Mr. Grady(?) Branham. It's an existing subdivision. I want to emphasize this. We broke ground and had it open for business a little over a year ago. The roads have been cut. Water and sewer have been installed. We had anticipated

115 lots, approximately 115 lots with the Rural type the zoning. And so on average the lot sizes are not, are hardly changing. As you can see, all the roads are in. Phase One takes you approximately 1/3 up into the property from the bottom up, and the subdivision has been sitting idle. Needless to say it's a hardship situation for them. The bank wants them to do something with it and the only way to do that is by yielding a few more lots, not that many, to make it more affordable to the consumer and to move the lots. We have dedicated approximately 30 acres from the previous design to, with emphasis on Rural development with emphasis on green space. None of that will change. The road alignments would not change. The water and sewer would not change. We're trying to get it perhaps around 148, 150 lots rather than the one, I think what we're asking for is 170 lots which is 20,000 square foot per acre but we'll never get there only because we're committed to this alignment. So a few more lots can come a long way and this can move the subdivision forward financially for the homeowners or the property owners as well as the county being able to generate tax money on it. I leave it up to Mr. Branham.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Mr. Branham?

TESTIMONY OF NATHAN BRANHAM:

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MR. BRANHAM: Hi. I appreciate y'all seeing us today. My father and I we both live and work in Richland County and always have. A lot of you I think know us back when we were mechanical contractors for 30 years. We began developing about 10 years ago and when we started this project in '06 the market was for, we were looking at a market of a home around three to three-fifty but unfortunately with the change in the economy and the change in the affordability in housing we just need to drop down to

two to two-fifty. There's a market that the demographics show would work based on local builders as well as the national builders. And in order to add these few lots we could lower our bank, the bank has agreed we could lower the price per lot, still keep our loan in place which is really, if any of you are in the development field, it's really hard to renew your loans now. It's not the same process anymore. So we're trying to do what's best for everyone and it's certainly been tough on us. Our intent was great. We put in a bus circle, we put in walking trails. We did a lot of things to make our community a nice community. So if you would consider this it would really help us and I think it could bring possibly 140 or 50 homeowners to Richland County for paying taxes on the home and the land instead of just the raw land. We have not sold one lot since we opened the subdivision. We've had a lot of interest; everyone loves the area. They love the community, the schools. It's just a price point. That price point is just dead in sales today. If you guys would consider it we really would appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: I have a question for you. Have you already done the stub ups on the first phase?

MR. BRANHAM: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: So then I would imagine those lots wouldn't change then, would they?

MR. BRANHAM: Yes, sir. We would going to add water stub ups in between a few of the lots and sewer stub ups between a few of the lots but the sewer mains would not, the water mains would not change.

MR. YOUNAN: I think we're lacking about 10 to 15 lots out of those lots that need to be added on to it, the water and sewer.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any other questions for the applicant? Thank you.

MR. BRANHAM: Thank y'all.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Mr. Eddie Stan followed by Kenny Roland.

TESTIMONY OF EDDIE STEVENS:

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MR. STEVENS: I'm Eddie Stevens. I live directly across the street. I have a farm right across there, right across from the driveway or this entrance. personally I hate to see additional lots put in there. At this point if you've got 150 lots you'll have 200 cars coming out there in the mornings. This is a secondary road. You can look. The road is real rough. It's not a well-kept road. Again I'm thinking, you know, 200 cars perhaps coming out there each morning right in front of my driveway. What's happening is when we got a property tax issue, it went up and I called and asked why. They said well over on Turkey Farm Road developers went in there and they built \$500,000 houses over there and there may be 50 I'll say but what happened there all of that seems to effect all the property around and our property tax just went up and up, and I'm just concerned that if we go with so many more lots what is going to built across the street from me and each one of you might think well as the developer says it's a nice area and we want to keep it that way and really I'm against, I was against it from the start because we're in a rural area as it says and all the other traffic's just going to cause more headache for everybody and I don't know if the roads can really take it myself unless somebody paves some roads and straighten them up. But then also I guess my biggest complaint is I'm afraid that if the developer, all he - well usually a developer wants to sell. In other words what he's got, he's got a problem so he may not, is he going to require that the houses be 250,000? They dropped 100,000

already. Are they going to drop another hundred and you have 150, you know, \$150,000 homes in there and 200 cars coming out in the morning? That's my biggest concern and I really hate to see that happen. Any questions?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any questions? Thank you. Kenny Roland?

TESTIMONY OF KENNY ROLAND:

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MR. ROLAND: I'm Kenny Roland. I'm the landowner. If you could bring the map back up. I own the 50 acres to the left of the subdivision now and it abuts my property. I've got a fairly long exposure to this development. As I understood it originally it was approved for 80 lots, 82 lots, I think? And now all of a sudden going to 120 to 170 and I heard the word few mentioned? That's a lot. That's a bunch. And as Mr. Stevens said, if you multiply that many lots times two for automobiles. I don't know how many of you guys are familiar with that area. The road in itself is not great but it's not a killer. What's going to happen though is when you get Lorick Road dumping onto 21 and try to turn onto 21 and then Killian which everybody's trying to get to 77 that's going to be a mess. It's starting to get crowded now. It's going to be a wreck soon. I don't wish the Branhams any ill will; business is business. They said they hadn't sold a single lot. There hasn't been a single ad run for these properties. There has not been a for sale sign on this property in a year until the last sign went up to sell the whole subdivision in mass. I've had my own business for 30-something years and you usually don't sell something unless you try real hard. That would be my answer to his initial attempt at building what we – I had no – didn't like it at the time but the 82 lot, 82 lot idea Mr. Branham had a lot of great ideas. He did really good set asides for natural areas. As I understand it since they started the subdivision and now the rules have changed for the

amount of land he has to set aside; am I correct in that? Has the amount of land he has 1 to set aside per buildable acre changed at all? 2 MS. ALMEIDA: No. Not at all. 3 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Once he's approved, he's approved. 4 MS. ALMEIDA: Yeah. 5 MR. ROLAND: Okay. 6 MS. ALMEIDA: But that hasn't changed. 7 MR. ROLAND: Under the original approval for this subdivision there was a 8 9 certain amount of green space. Are they going to be required, he says he's committed but is he required? Are they required to have the same green space? 10 MR. ALMEIDA: Mr. Younan. This was not an open space provision subdivision. 11 It was a straight by right; correct? So there was no open space required because it was 12 by right. 13 CHAIRMAN PALMER: They didn't use any bonuses? 14 MS. ALMEIDA: No. 15 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any open space bonuses? 16 17 MS. ALMEIDA: That's what the engineer's telling me. No. 33,000 square feet. MR. TUTTLE: So Anna just for clarity restated. There is no open space 18 19 requirement under either, either zoning the existing or the proposed? 20 MS. ALMEIDA: If it's RU, correct. MR. TUTTLE: It's a moot point? 21 MS. ALMEIDA: Correct. 22 23 CHAIRMAN PALMER: What he put up was simply voluntary on his part?

MR. ROLAND: Okay. So that could all go away?

MS. CAIRNS: Yeah. But those were, I mean, just so you know, I mean, the land is zoned a certain way and every property owner has A by right right to subdivide it so long as each lot is big enough based on whatever his current zoning is for that. We don't have a requirement for open space in Richland County. If you have land and you can subdivide it into 30 – the way it's zoned right now to 33,000 square foot lots you can do it.

MR. ROLAND: Okay. How many lots ultimately could he divide this into?

MS. ALMEIDA: In Rural, I mean, 110 lots because he's got 83.5 acres at 33,000 square feet, roughly that would be a gross number.

MR. ROLAND: Okay. But he wants to go to 120(?). How many?

MS. ALMEIDA: Right. On a gross number you're looking at 181. The gross number.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: And by that that doesn't take out anything for infrastructure.

MS. ALMEIDA: Correct.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: But the best guess is 127 at the most is the best guess with infrastructure and that kind of stuff.

MS. ALMEIDA: Um-hum (affirmative).

MR. ROLAND: Okay. So he was talking about gross and not net when he mentioned 170?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Right.

MR. ROLAND: My question to, for the Planning Commission is Town and 1 Country dead as a planning tool for this county? 2 CHAIRMAN PALMER: It's still an option on the books. 3 MS. ALMEIDA: Town and Country's [inaudible] in the new plan? 4 MR. GOSLINE: The new comprehensive plan that's been approved it did not 5 include the Town and Country [inaudible]. 6 MS. CAIRNS: But it's got the -7 CHAIRMAN PALMER: It's still a zoning application someone can apply for on 8 9 the books so I guess it still is a possibility. MR. ROLAND: Well the overall planning of the development – the ongoing 10 development of Richland County we're still trying to do the clusters and then do away 11 with some of the [inaudible]. 12 MS. CAIRNS: It's an option that exists for builders. We have the green code 13 right? 14 CHAIRMAN PALMER: We have the green code. Town and Country's just one 15 zoning application that people can apply for if they wish to. However it was not included 16 17 in the 2009 comprehensive plan as a guide which this county wants to go to. MR. ROLAND: Okay. There was, as I understood it a couple years ago that was 18 kind of the direction we wanted to take though; am I right? 19 20 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Back when the previous comprehensive plan was passed what, 10, 12 years ago? 21 MS. ALMEIDA: When the re-write? Yeah. 22 23 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Yeah.

MS. ALMEIDA: Um-hum (affirmative).

MR. ROLAND: I just ask the Commission to, I take it you guys forward your recommendations on to Council. My request is that you would take our feelings into consideration as well as if we could get everybody the voice of the street's going to say no. Everybody that we've talked to up and down that road doesn't want it. We just ask that you all consider and I would ask the Branhams and their developer to please consider us and maybe not go whole hog into this thing. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Thank you. That's all we have signed up to speak.

MS. CAIRNS: I have a question for Staff. In the plans and policies it talks about how this particular parcel is – the comp plan is in a Rural area. However is it immediately adjacent to an area that we've designated as Suburban?

MS. ALMEIDA: You know, the lines are so somewhat vague. They're not parcel based so understand what we're working with. It is practically right there at the Suburban ring, at the Suburban edge.

MS. CAIRNS: I mean, if it was at the suburban edge what would be the -

MS. ALMEIDA: Suburban/Rural line.

MS. CAIRNS: Then what would be the lot size that would be, in the Suburban what's the?

MS. ALMEIDA: Tom? Do you want to [inaudible]?

MR. DELAGE: For the Suburban it would be four and with the Rural [inaudible] recommend generally. Once you get further out into the rural the traditional [inaudible] 33,000 square feet? This area is literally, the floodplain is where the line is for the Rural and Suburban so it's right on the edge of it. We do bring up some talk in the

comprehensive plan about the transition areas and this would definitely be one of them. 1 Oh, by the way, Thomas Delage, sorry. 2 MS. CAIRNS: I'm - one of your comments confused me. I'm sorry. You're 3 saying that the floodplain was where the comp plan changed from recommending Rural 4 to recommending -5 MR. DELAGE: The approximation line is right there. 6 MS. CAIRNS: I mean, it doesn't [inaudible]. 7 MR. TUTTLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion – 8 9 MR. MANNING: I have one question for Mr. Younan. In this reconfiguration basically you're only dealing with lot lines; correct? I mean, are you having to modify 10 your storm drain to accept the high volume of water or is everything the same as it was 11 previously? 12 MR. YOUNAN: All the infrastructure, drainage, sewer and water with the 13 exception of a few cleanouts are in, [inaudible] sewer services and water services. But 14 the main lines are all in. 15 MR. MANNING: And buffers? Are there any buffers? 16 17 MR. YOUNAN: The, all the green space that we've created previously for the 110 lots developments are going to remain. 18 MR. MANNING: We have not been privy to that since that was coming through a 19 20 Rural zoning. We just, went straight to the Development Review Team so I don't know what the layout looked like. But did it have perimeter buffers or just green space in the -21 22 MR. YOUNAN: It had both. It had buffers as well as green space, walking trails.

All of that was submitted and permitted and constructed when we produced the 110 lot

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wouldn't throw that residential into multi-family or high density. It would, the buffer

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would be the same. No buffer would be required. When you're going from RU to RSE 1 there's really – now if you went from an RU to an RS-MD, HD it would require a buffer. 2 MR. TUTTLE: Thank you. 3 MR. MANNING: The depth of that buffer do you know what that was? 4 MR. TUTTLE: I couldn't really tell. 5 MR. MANNING: It was on there somewhere. 6 MR. YOUNAN: It varies depending on where you are around the perimeter of 7 the property. But I could [inaudible] set buffer, I remember that we had a buffer 8 9 between us and south of the property. I remember that and it's showing on that drawing I think. About 20' yeah, easily. 10 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Anna, would this [inaudible] now have to come into 11 compliance with storm water permits? 12 MS. ALMEIDA: When was this approved? 13 MR. YOUNAN: Approved about a year and a half ago. 14 MS. ALMEIDA: It would – 15 MR. YOUNAN: We finished construction about a year ago. 16 17 MS. ALMEIDA: We'd have to look and see but because the infrastructure is in I'm pretty sure it would be, it would not be required to the new storm water regulations. 18 19 MR. YOUNAN: It stabilized - we had a final, not a final inspection but a bonded 20 plat inspection with the county inspectors and all the sediment basis are intact. We sent our contractors there -21 MS. ALMEIDA: It would be entitled. 22

MR. YOUNAN: - repeatedly to check on everything and freshen up the erosion control measures.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Would this then have to go through the subdivision approval process again?

MS. ALMEIDA: Yes, it would.

MR. YOUNAN: For Phase Two, sure.

MS. ALMEIDA: The Development Review Team.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Right.

MR. MANNING: I guess my only concern is that the buffer widths are, in places they're very ample but on that property line that runs down, it's a west boundary, when you change the zoning from Rural to Estate lots setbacks can change. I think that's something you need to address going forward. You could push that house back 30' then you're not totally protected from buffers so those are some things [inaudible].

MR. YOUNAN: I think we have room to beef up the buffer.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any other questions?

MS. CAIRNS: I just got sort of comments to, a little bit to the fellows about the density out there in what feels like a rural area. And just – I sort of mentioned earlier but just to repeat. This is something that our Code allows in terms of building to 33,000 square foot lots in what we deem rural areas of the county. You know, large tract property owners have the right to just go in and subdivide into ¾ acre lots without any kind of approval. And whether that changes the rural character of the rural areas is something to address with the elected officials. That's it.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Thank you, Mr. Younan.

MR. YOUNAN: Thank you.

MR. TUTTLE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to follow Staff's recommendations to move Case 10-02 MA forward to Council for approval.

MR. GILCHRIST: Second, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: We have a motion and a second. Any other discussions? All those in favor of sending this case forward to Council with a recommendation of approval please signify by raising your hand.

[Approved: Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: None opposed. For everyone's information Council's meeting is February 23rd in these same Chambers. We are just a recommending Body to Council. They have final say on any rezoning matters. So I would recommend that everyone who has interest show back up on the 23rd. Thank you. Text amendments.

MS. ALMEIDA: Mr. Chairman, you will find, Planning Commissioners, on page seven, this ordinance, I'm sorry, the ordinance that was handed out, the corrected ordinance. This ordinance had been before you previously. Staff felt that we needed to work on it a little more before it went to Council. We deferred it at Council to clean it up a little more and Ms. Alfreida Tindal and Ms. Brenda Carter are here to answer any questions regarding the addressing and road naming.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: And we don't have anyone signed up to speak. What were the changes that were handed to us recently [inaudible] package?

MS. TINDAL: I'm Alfreida Tindal, Richland County Addressing Coordinator.

What we did, we really got codified more instead of being a manual type documentation

and that's what we made some changes on. We deleted some information that were going to a Richland County road naming and addressing manual. But there really, and the changes we made were basically, see I think you questioned something about the timeframe –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Right.

MS. TINDAL: - for addressing, and we made those changes I think for that nature. Nothing really significant. We just made some changes to codify it more.

MS. ALMEIDA: From what was in your packet before to the one that was handed today it is highlighted in yellow.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Can I make the request of Staff [inaudible] that we reviewed this before? We had, in our work session we talked about this [inaudible]. If we could in future issues because I know me as well as a lot of others up here put a lot of time into that actual document if we could we get a redline copy from that to the new one of what we're working from because if not we've just got to start over and we've got to reevaluate the whole [inaudible].

MR. TUTTLE: I had a question in relation to the definition of a building. I'm not sure where condos would fit in that if you, if I'm interpreting this correctly and we would, each unit in a condominium would be declared a different building.

MS. CAIRNS: It's a [inaudible]. That would yeah.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Yeah I had a question [inaudible].

MR. TUTTLE: Just wasn't sure –

MS. ALMEIDA: Okay.

MR. TUTTLE: - what -

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unit.

MS. ALMEIDA: Mr. Price is here and he can kind of explain that a little better how he would interpret condominium.

MR. TUTTLE: Sorry there, Mr. Price. Come on down.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Yeah. Because I had that question as well because as it applies to the Building Code as well because certain things apply to buildings of certain sizes and if it's a space inside a shopping center is that a different building? What's the purpose of deeming it to be a separate building?

MS. CAIRNS: But remember it's –

MS. ALMEIDA: Condo is [inaudible] ownership really.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Under the definition of building.

MR. PRICE: What's your question?

MR. TUTTLE: Well, as it relates you could build a town home with a firewall between it. It could either be classified as fee simple where each vertical unit owned the dirt under it or you could classify the whole building as a condominium. It seems here though that if you have a building that has a wall that goes from ground up as like a firewall would then you're deeming each individual unit a separate building. I don't know what the ramifications of that are I just, it just struck me as funny because condominiums clearly fit within that definition. So does that mean that if we had 10 unit building that was deemed one building under the condominium rule would now become 10 separate buildings under this definition?

MR. PRICE: I don't have an answer for you [inaudible]

MS. ALMEIDA: Right. Well, they would each have to be addressed, I mean, a

addressed in a particular manner and I just didn't know if this changed things relative to that because you're defining each one as a separate building.

MS. ALMEIDA: I don't believe so and Ms. Tindal usually when we address multi-

MR. TUTTLE: Well clearly, but I think if you dig deeper apartments are

MS. ALMEIDA: I don't believe so and Ms. Tindal usually when we address multifamily it's the building has an address and then each unit has a –

MS. TINDAL: That's correct.

MS. ALMEIDA: - numerical or alphabetical.

MS. TINDAL: It would have a [inaudible]. Like we said before that you have one universal address and then each unit number [inaudible] so they all would have individual addresses.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: My question goes to a different issue from the commercial standpoint that if you have individual bays in a shopping center those bays are also separated by firewalls and some of those firewalls even penetrate the roof deck. So could those then be classified as individual buildings or I don't know up fit purposes, building zones [inaudible]?

MR. PRICE: I think what we're looking – [inaudible] would just be individual suites. If they're considered to be individual units typically there's a property line involved, kind of going back to what [inaudible] talking about for residential. We don't base it on all this between the structures. You know, if there's a property in between [inaudible] I guess then you could get condominium, townhouse type definition.

MR. TUTTLE: This definition would only apply to this ordinance and wouldn't be carried over into any other area?

MS. LINDER: It's in the general definition section so yes that term, that definition would apply to any time the word building is used – that definition would apply throughout.

MR. TUTTLE: Only in relation to this ordinance though?

MS. CAIRNS: No, no. It would be a change of the definition of building.

MR. TUTTLE: Throughout the Building Code as well?

MS. CAIRNS: Throughout Chapter 26.

[Inaudible discussion]

MR. PRICE: What are your concerns with that, Mr. Tuttle?

MR. TUTTLE: Like I stated earlier I'm not sure specifically. I hadn't thought it through to really understand all the ramifications but I just, I worry that if you're changing – well for instance if I'm understanding this correctly then each bay would be a separate building then my 10 unit example would require 10 different permits. I'm just, I don't know all the ramifications. That's what I need some help understanding.

MR. PRICE: I don't, at least from a permitting standpoint, [inaudible] from a building standpoint [inaudible] what their other requirements are [inaudible] during your plan submittal you can come in with [inaudible] building. [Inaudible] because I don't want to speak for [inaudible] because it's residential. Confuse those two.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: I think if we're talking about changing the definition of the word building for our entire Code is pretty significant because there's, you got, you know, if you increase the size of the building by 50% you get, you can do that under a non-conforming and so forth and so on. I mean, people could easily, you know, use that term building very generously.

recommendation [inaudible] building code – with the exception of the building definition 1 may not change. 2 MS. CAIRNS: I want to ask just a couple, I mean, I just had a couple verbiage 3 guestions on some of the other definitions. But I mean, I just think, you know, before we 4 decide whether to send this forward with a recommendation or not the first thing we're 5 going to do is just strike that first section or part of it unless you just want to put it all in 6 one giant motion at end. We can -7 CHAIRMAN PALMER: We can put it all in one giant motion. 8 9 MS. CAIRNS: Okay. I'll pull my motion then. CHAIRMAN PALMER: All right. Any other concerns? 10 MS. CAIRNS: These are really highly technical and I apologize but under the 11 definition address number it says the number assigned to any and then it starts to 12 describe things. Couldn't it just say building since we have a definition of building? 13 MS. ALMEDIA: Which one are you on, please, I'm sorry? 14 MS. CAIRNS: 911 address number definition. [Inaudible] The top one. 15 MS. TINDAL: Okay, what is your question about? 16 17 MS. CAIRNS: It says the number assigned to any house, residence, dwelling, business, warehouse or other structure, why don't we just use the word building which 18 we have defined? 19 20 CHAIRMAN PALMER: What if it's to an individual lot with no structure? MS. CAIRNS: Or property in a sequential manner 21 22 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay.

MS. CAIRNS: But I think the words house, residence, dwelling, business, warehouse, or other structure should be replaced with the word building. We've defined the word building. It just tightens up the Code, that's all.

MS. TINDAL: [Inaudible] there because I guess structure, dwelling, business, warehouse could be a building but a building also be a barn and we don't want that address unless they have services for 911 purposes.

MS. ALMEIDA: Building would be fine.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: So your recommendation is to take out the words house, residence, dwelling, business, warehouse and substitute the word building for that?

MS. CAIRNS: And/or other structures, all of those, all the way until the word or property.

MS. TINDAL: So we're going to take out – it's going to read, the number assigned to any building and/or other structure or property in a sequential number or manner?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: And the word structure comes out, all the way through structure and just have number assigned to any building or property in a sequential manner.

MS. TINDAL: Okay.

MS. CAIRNS: And then it's sort of the same kind of thing in 911 property address is that you say the unique house number. Isn't it that it's the 911 address number because that's the number?

MS. TINDAL: Yes. We probably said unique because it should be [inaudible] delete that and [inaudible].

MS. CAIRNS: Yeah. I mean, if you've defined something use the thing you've defined, don't go back. And then also to effectively locate a building instead of saying primary structure, business, or other dwelling – to effectively locate a building.

MS. TINDAL: All right. Maintain continuity [inaudible]?

MS. CAIRNS: Right. That's all that is.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: What did you want to take out from the beginning of that sentence?

MS. CAIRNS: Where it says unique house? It should E911 address. It should say the E911 address number, roadway name. That's a property address.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay.

MS. CAIRNS: And it's to effectively locate a building for use with the E911.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Anything else?

MS. CAIRNS: I think that was it.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Does anybody else have any concerns with the language? Ms. Cairns, you may be best suited to make the motion if you want to [inaudible].

MS. CAIRNS: I make a motion that we send forward Section 26-183 Road Naming and Addressing with the following, I mean, with it – send it forward with a recommendation of approval with the following amendments. One is that the definition for building is not to be changed from the current definition. Two is that under Section Two E911 Address Number that the words house, residence, dwelling, business, warehouse, or other structure be replaced with the word building. And that under E911 Property Address the words unique house be replaced with E911 address. At the end

of that sentence where it says, primary structure, business or other dwelling those be struck and replaced with the word building.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: We have a motion.

MR. TUTTLE: Second.

CHAIRMAN MANNING: And a second. All those in favor of the motion as stated please signify by raising your hand.

[Approved: Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: None opposed.

MS. TINDAL: Thank you.

MS. ALMEIDA: Mr. Chairman, Council Members, we have before you the cross access easement ordinance. This ordinance was also before you several weeks ago and staff has gone back and reviewed and taken your concerns into consideration and we have made some minor changes and Mr. Price is here to explain and answer any questions regarding them.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Mr. Price.

MR. PRICE: One of the issues that we have as a Staff when we adopted the latest Land Development Code we kind of combined too many issues in this particular case for access residential and commercial we just combined it, [inaudible] have the same requirements. The idea behind this is to separate the requirements for residential and commercial because evidently commercial has different needs and really we should look at it separately than we do residential. So this is our attempt to separate it.

MR. TUTTLE: Yeah. I actually have a question on the explanation. It talks about reducing the right-of-way width but then in Section Two the right-of-way width is a minimum 50' right-of-way. So is it going to be reduced to 30' or is it 50?

to speak on the issue. Any discussion? Any motions?

MR. PRICE: The way that's reading is that when, that the road that you have direct access to must be at least 50' with a 20-foot passable.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay. Any questions for the Staff? No one's signed up

MR. TUTTLE: So the main road 50' right-of-way but I can come in across a parking lot or through some other mechanism?

MR. PRICE: At least 30', yes, sir. And that number came about from a discussion with the fire marshal on adequate fire safety.

MR. TUTTLE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: The change that was given to us had Section Two as being unchanged and the one that we were just given has everything, the access requirements are under Section, it was under Section Three in what was given to us in our packet, now it's under Section Two.

MR. PRICE: You can go with the one that was just given to you. In my feeble attempt to updo this ordinance while Ms. Linder was out, you know.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: You got your law degree while [inaudible]?

MR. PRICE: I don't think you need a law degree to write that but she's a lot better at this than I am. So I made a number of errors that she came back in after chastising me, did the corrections and what you have before you, the second sheet that was given to you, it's the correct version.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay. So what happened to your section, Geo? 1 MS. CAIRNS: It got put back where it belonged. 2 MR. PRICE: My hand was slapped and I was sent back to my room. 3 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any other questions, comments, concerns, motions? 4 MR. TUTTLE: I don't know what to call this. Can you give me a title? I'd like to 5 make a motion to send this to Council. 6 MS. LINDER: It's the cross access easement ordinance. 7 MR. TUTTLE: Okay. I like to make a motion to approve the cross access 8 9 easement ordinance. MR. MANNING: Second. 10 CHAIRMAN PALMER: We have a motion and a second to send forward to 11 Council with a recommendation of approval the cross access easement ordinance. All 12 those in favor please signify by raising your hand. 13 Cairns, Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; 14 [Approved: Absent: McDaniel] 15 CHAIRMAN PALMER: None opposed. Unanimous day. Other Business? 16 MS. ALMEIDA: Mr. Chairman, we have Mr. Carl Gosline who would like to make 17 a brief presentation on Complete Streets programs and goals. 18 CHAIRMAN PALMER: We're ready for your brief presentation, Mr. Gosline. 19 20 MR. PRICE: Brief. MR. GOSLINE: Well, you have the background, all the background material. 21 The issue before you is simply approval or if the goal statements on page 29. The 22 23 committee, you know, came up with these goal statements. You can certainly edit them

or combine them or do whatever you wish. And the program here is I think outlined in the material supplied to you is that we want to come to the Planning Commission and the Council and get approval of whatever goal statements come out and then come back in May or so with objectives or milestones to each one of those goals. And we want to make sure that we're all talking about the policy before we start getting into the regulation. And so what they have come up with is – there is some duplication I guess. I stayed out of it. I'm just the recorder. Whatever you want to do in that regard is up to you and I'll be glad to answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: What does the term Complete Streets mean?

MR. GOSLINE: It's kind of a bad term that somebody developed. Probably some Democrat someplace up in Washington which, but the idea is that roads should, would include not just traffic but sidewalks and bicycles and landscaping and that's how they came up with Complete Streets. It conjures up something else but that's –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: What is this term on goal number nine?

MR. GOSLINE: Excuse me?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Goal number nine. Ensures creation of Complete Streets, Trans-network, recognizing the special needs of seniors, individual disability especially focused on access and safety. I don't –

MR. GOSLINE: Let me just, let me just say that I think there's four or five principles that need to be in here somehow. One is certainly serving disability needs but when you do that and you're putting more emphasis on sidewalks and trails and walkways and that kind of thing that's going to come about. You want to make sure that we include all the various stakeholders, developers, and environmental groups and all

that. And let's see, there's a couple other ones. But as you can see here there are some of these basic ideas that are duplicated. So it's whatever you all want to do in this regard. You can throw them out or – committee put this together so I – but you can certainly if you [inaudible].

MR. MANNING: Would this be compatible with some of the development guidelines that we've just –

MR. GOSLINE: Yes.

MR. MANNING: - been discussing?

MR. GOSLINE: They put in here that it does talk about some of the roundtable principles and we are going to meet with the roundtable of the HBA folks Wednesday afternoon.

MR. MANNING: I think one of the things that were just maybe as a part of the storm water was less pervious surfaces. Less pervious [inaudible]. If you were using sidewalks – somebody came in and had sidewalks on both sides of the street [inaudible] tell them you want just one side of the street?

MR. GOSLINE: Well, that's one way or the other way to look at it of course is maybe we should be looking at pervious material for sidewalks.

MR. MANNING: Right.

MR. GOSLINE: You know, and this is the reason why we don't want to get into all these little tiny issues because you want to determine what the county's policy is then we'll figure out how to do it. And there's volumes of stuff about how to do it.

MR. TUTTLE: More specifically on goal seven, are we really going to have all the effected parties involved in an implementation process? Wouldn't that be a nightmare for Staff?

MR. GOSLINE: You're talking about goal seven? The idea is so to make sure that we have for lack of a better term roundtable two.

MR. TUTTLE: No. I get that. I'm not sure should it include implementation.

MR. GOSLINE: Well, that would be, it certainly – part of the implementation of course is the goals and the objectives. The more, bigger part is the regulations and the budgeting and that kind of stuff.

MR. TUTTLE: Yeah. Maybe I was just misreading. I was worried that that would become a principle as it related to the implementation. You know, once you created the regulations then there might be some tribunal that says, hey the three of us are effected so we need to vote in the process as well whether –

MR. GOSLINE: Well yeah, I mean, the idea of course is to get as many people without having hundreds but representatives to work through that kind of stuff much like the roundtable did but with the Code. The difference between the past roundtable is that was focused on principle which was fine. The way that most everybody who does these programs around, you know, you want to make sure that you get all the interests involved just like you're doing Land Development Code stuff which is basically what we're going to be doing.

MS. ALMEIDA: All the stakeholders.

MR. TUTTLE: I don't disagree with that. I just worry about implementation. I don't want to see the Planning Commission circumvented in implementation or Staff overburdened with –

MR. GOSLINE: Well because all the regulations have to come back through you anyway.

MR. TUTTLE: Well, could potentially. Okay.

MR. GOSLINE: Law requires it.

MR. GOSLINE: What's, well what would you like us to do? Is there any that you want to eliminate or reword or? If your direction is to combine some of them we could do that and send you a copy before it goes to the, it'll have to go to the – well whatever committee is [inaudible] it'll have to go to, through one of the Council committees before they take action anyway so.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Is this, I guess since you guys are putting this forward you guys have read this and this is y'all's recommendation as well, but what I hear you saying is this is just straight out of some consultant or —

MR. GOSLINE: No. These goals are developed by the people on the committee and they're all, you know, people involved with various aspects, disability, health, bicycling, all these kinds. So they all had inputs into the goal statements and we had a lot –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Are you on the committee?

MR. GOSLINE: Excuse me?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Are you on the committee?

MR. GOSLINE: I was Staff liaison.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay. I'm sorry. I didn't see it. So you, would you feel comfortable in saying that you would recommend these –

MR. GOSLINE: I'd say –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: - [inaudible] goals?

MR. GOSLINE: I think we could combine some of them personally. But other than that, yes.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Which ones you think we can combine?

MR. GOSLINE: I was afraid you were going to ask me. If, let me just -

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Would you feel more comfortable bringing it back next month with [inaudible]?

MR. GOSLINE: I would like to get – we really want to get this before the Council this month so if you think that some of these could be combined we can do that and you could, I guess you could take action to send it to the committee subject to combining some of them or something like that. Or just leave them alone and let us work through that with the County Council at their workshop. Whatever you want to do. If you have some specific ideas.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: How would you, how would the Complete Streets program bring you the special needs of seniors?

MR. GOSLINE: Being one I can answer that.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: [Inaudible]

MR. GOSLINE: Well, there's a lot of data that like, that over 40% of the population today doesn't have access to mass transit and won't be driving, and crazy enough women outlive the men in driving age; it doesn't surprise me. There's a whole

bunch of, I can give you reams and reams of statistics but that's the AARP's focus just to ensure that mobility needs, not just roads but sidewalks and trails and stuff like that, are more, get higher priority, funding and stuff like that. So –

MS ALMEIDA: Promoting housing near transit facilities or access to your day-today needs. Some of the concepts are there.

MR. GOSLINE: Yeah, Anna brings up another good point is this Complete Streets thing is not like a separate program or project or anything. It really, the focus is to change processes and procedures by which roads are built to make sure they're inclusive, they include, where feasible, sidewalks and trails and bikeways. It's required by the federal government, it's, and consequently for anything with federal money. It's also, the Highway Commission's taking some action in this regard and they've also allocated certain percentages of the enhancement. But a lot of the things they talked about in the comprehensive plan this idea is woven throughout there. Like higher density neighborhoods and affordable housing and all kinds of – trails, parks.

MS. ALMEIDA: Even if you look today in a lot of the LEED programs if you're going to be LEED certified in residential in order to get certain credits, you know, you need to be near a park facility or employment facility or some activity center and you get points for that. So really there are a lot of groups that are all working towards this goal. So these are just bits and pieces of that same, for lack of a better word, pie, in moving to this concept. As our community ages there are going to be different needs obviously that need to be met. And not only seniors but we have young people who are not able to drive or not at driving age. So it really transcends a lot from seniors to disability, people with disabilities and young people. So trying to get people out of the car,

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walking and meeting the needs of bringing people back into inner cities. I mean, it's that entire concept. This is just one little piece.

MR. GOSLINE: Mr. Chairman, if I – you asked me earlier which ones I would do.

As much as I hate to go against the committee's list, I would eliminate goal five, six, eight, and nine because I think they're duplicated elsewhere. Basic ideas -

CHAIRMAN PALMER: [Inaudible] affordability of housing?

MR. GOSLINE: Excuse me?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: We'll just do for the affordability of housing. This increase, the cost of housing?

MR. GOSLINE: That's a little hard to answer. [Inaudible] you're talking about transit oriented(?) developments which we've talked about off and on; that's higher density development around transit stops which you're going to need to do if you want to have transit. But studies show that it helps the affordability a lot. It reduces tremendously the trips, travel from vehicles.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: So if there was a bus facility that was in a rural area?

MR. GOSLINE: Well, in the first place in order to have transit you've got to have high density and we're talking about 25 to 30 units per acre with, plus commercial within a quarter mile of the station. There's nothing, maybe some place downtown but nothing around here like that now. Maybe Sandhills. So, but that's, we can talk a lot about one of the things that we would like to be able to do is come before the Planning Commission without any, you know, and talk to you in general about neighborhood programs, neighborhood improvement programs, general concepts of the comp plan,

general transportation stuff, stuff that you don't have to make decisions on and help 1 build your understanding of all the interlinkage. 2 3 MR. MANNING: Complete Streets – excuse me – the complete streets program applies to corridors or residential streets or [inaudible]? 4 MR. GOSLINE: Everything. All streets -5 MR. MANNING: All streets. 6 MR. GOSLINE: - except the freeway. You don't want -7 MR. MANNING: And would it, how would it impact our Code right now say in a 8 9 residential subdivision? MR. GOSLINE: Well, Greenhill Parrish Parkway is a pretty good example of one. 10 Most of the streets in Lake Carolina they've got, you know, walking, pedestrian service. 11 One of the big pushes for sidewalks in particular is that when you put in sidewalks 12 people use them and that helps health and we have a huge obesity problem in this state 13 and just getting sidewalks in, getting people the opportunity to walk to the store. 14 CHAIRMAN PALMER: We already require streets and sidewalks in 15 neighborhoods. 16 17 MS. ALMEIDA: Uh-huh (affirmative), correct. CHAIRMAN PALMER: [Inaudible] that we just currently had out off Lorick. 18 MS. ALMEIDA: Um-hum (affirmative). 19 20 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Rezoning this month. Now is there, what I'm hearing with these goals are is that there would need to be – and this maybe in our Code now – 21 this is some of the stuff that I find to be crazy. Outside of that subdivision along Lorick 22 23 Drive is a sidewalk going out like this to some guy's farm.

MR. GOSLINE: Well, let me just – the program is really geared for both county streets and DOT streets. Now there is no cross-section of a complete street. It's very variable and if you go up to Charlotte and drive around they use it all the time. And they'll use one alignment on one side of the road and a slightly different one because it's the land use. The issue of the sidewalks to nowhere we are discussing with DOT. They have, their problem is because the way the Code is we're requiring sidewalks. Well, they need up with lots of pieces which they call sidewalks to nowhere which is true. But in the last five years under our sidewalk program, the site plan reviews and subdivisions generated six and a half miles of sidewalk.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Yeah, but they're all in like 30' sections.

MS. ALMEIDA: Well, I will add that is one principle that the roundtable is gonna bring up and discuss to take a site-by-site view of this requirement and it not just be a generic installed sidewalk. It might be a trail in some instances.

MR. GOSLINE: There's lots of ways; correct. There's lots of ways to look at this but the reality is –

MS. ALMEIDA: That is one of the principles though that we are looking at to review.

MR. MANNING: One of the [inaudible] on a couple sidewalks [inaudible] sidewalks of DOT and I felt like if you maintain the sidewalks up close to the road and [inaudible] and came back and they eliminated them. You know, you walk around the back of the building and come back out. Somebody needs to really strengthen the process with DOT.

MR. GOSLINE: Well, we're working on that and we need to find some compromise with them because they make a decent point from their side of the maintenance. Well, it sounds good when you say it fast but five-year-old sidewalks shouldn't require a whole lot of maintenance.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Well, one of the concerns that I would have is liability. If there's a crack in that sidewalk and somebody trips on it they're going to sue DOT.

MR. GOSLINE: Oh, yeah. That's exactly their issue and rightfully so.

MS. CAIRNS: DOT has always had, I mean, any DOT, all they care about is cars. That's their creed. And what we're saying here is that we are a county, we are people, we are communities, and for that to be good we need roads that are more than just vehicles. And, you know, what impact it has on an individual subdivision is relevant however this is big picture. This is how, you know, and I mean, to me this is some of the stuff about, you know, the sidewalks are nowhere I would come back and say that's a problem with putting suburb in the farm. That's not a problem with the Code in terms of requiring sidewalks. It's a problem with the Code in terms of allowing suburbs out in the farms.

MR. MANNING: But that [inaudible] roads, I mean.

MS. CAIRNS: I know but, I mean, Garners Ferry Road is a massive road with sidewalks that get walked all the time, you know.

MR. MANNING: Well, I'm agreeing with you. I think we need to deal with connectivity [inaudible].

MS. CAIRNS: But that's what this, I mean, you know, Staff has offered that one of, you know, when this goes from this point to implementation is to try to show that

we've got some flexibility to recognize that we've got suburbs and we've got farms and we've got crashes occasionally between those two land uses. But to start accepting and acknowledging that we need to be more than just focused on how do we get cars in and out and going more towards how do we make communities that are going to have sidewalks and, because we have suburbs in our county. You know, we have where people want to live with sidewalks and this and I've got to give credence. Whoever did the Fort Jackson plan not only did they put in sidewalks, they put in tree lines. In my family, in my house that was a little bit of humor the morning that photograph came out. But, I mean, that's what, you know, that's where we are now. We had 40 years of the car driving the suburbs and not having sidewalks and we've got a whole lot of subdivisions and a whole lot of development that are people saying, halt, hang on, I want sidewalks; I want Shandon. I want the new stuff at Fort Jackson. That's what people are going towards, not what's it going to cost on a micro scale. It's what are we going to create on a macro scale for a community; that's what this is all about. And I don't, you know, the recommendation that we strike half the goals I think that's far too aggressive. I think that that would eviscerate what the table did, what the group did. I mean, it does seem that there is a lot of redundancy but if you look at each one of these goals each one of these goals does have something unique that's not found in another. So I would, you know, my recommendation is that we take this forward and when we start getting Code we really dig in that Code and make sure we've got flexibility. Make sure that we're looking at the big pictures. What are we doing with Richland County and where are we taking it? How much are we making this a place worth living?

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MR. GOSLINE: One of the other things is, one of the questions always comes up is the cost and the National Association of Realtors has done several studies which find that particularly in residential areas, sidewalks and trees and stuff are much more marketable and people are looking for. Well, you did it in Greenhill Parrish.

MR. MANNING: I did, and I wish I could get the children to ride on them instead of [inaudible]. Got them on both sides of the road and kids ride their bike [inaudible].

MS. CAIRNS: Are the sidewalks right up on the curb or are they back?

MR. MANNING: [inaudible] back seven and a half, eight feet.

MR. GOSLINE: Mr. Chairman, the issue of sidewalks is a very, as Ms. Cairns said, a very complicated one. We're trying to work something out with DOT it's going to take time. Remember the principle thing with Complete Streets is changing processes and procedure. If you talk with engineers that's difficult to do. [Inaudible] lawyers just but planners of course just engineers.

MS. CAIRNS: And they would move every single tree in the right-of-way. Move everything other than what has to be there because of liability. But if that, if we let the engineers and the Departments of Transportation dictate what roads should be we would not have a place worth living.

MR. GOSLINE: On the other hand if we didn't have engineers planners wouldn't have anything to do.

MS. CAIRNS: Oh, I'm not saying they're without value but they need to be a player not the driver.

MS. ALMEIDA: But they're in the business of moving traffic from point A to point B as quickly as possible.

slow traffic down on a road is to have trees. It's a naturally calming mechanism to slow down, and in narrowing roads and putting in stripes. There's all kinds of passive things that you can do to eliminate speed or, you know, reduce speed and yet the engineers say, get rid of the trees, widen the roads, and then we'll just, but we'll straighten them so their safer, and then people are going to fast that when they do hit something they're dead.

MR. GOSLINE: On the other hand if we got rid of all the trees there wouldn't be any leaves in the gutters that we could burn or bag.

MS. CAIRNS: Not from creating communities. If you create communities that

are [inaudible] and people drive faster. I mean, that's one of the things that's interesting

is that engineers always want to eliminate all the trees. Well, one of the ways you can

MS. CAIRNS: I wouldn't need to bag my leaves?

MR. MANNING: [Inaudible] storm drain ordinance.

MR. GOSLINE: What's your pleasure, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Got any motions from the Commission?

MR. MANNING: Heather made one a minute ago.

MS. CAIRNS: I make a motion that we forward this to County Council with a recommendation of approval for the attached goals of the Complete Streets program.

MR. WESTBROOK: I'll second.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any other discussion? All those in favor of sending the complete street program goals [inaudible] Council with a recommendation of approval please signify by raising your hand. All those opposed?

[Approved: Cairns, Westbrook, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; 1 Opposed: Tuttle; Absent: McDaniel] 2 MR. GOSLINE: Thank you. 3 MR. MANNING: When do you expect some of this to start coming back in where 4 we begin to deal with the actual -5 MS. ALMEIDA: Well, our timeline, if you see on page 27, hopefully will go to 6 County Council in March once directed to. So you might be seeing something some 7 time in May for review. 8 9 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Anna, the rules change? MS. ALMEIDA: Yes. Item two under Other Business. It was asked from Staff 10 that Planning Commission wanted to appoint a Member to attend the zoning public 11 hearing and represent the Planning Commission at each meeting. 12 MR. MANNING: Could you repeat that? 13 MS. ALMEIDA: It was asked to bring before you to change the rules of your 14 Planning Commission to appoint a Member of the Planning Commission to come to the 15 Zoning Public Hearing each month to represent you all in case there were a question 16 from Council. 17 MS. CAIRNS: [Inaudible] that? Recommended that or? 18 19 CHAIRMAN PALMER: I made the change to the ordinance, to our rules, 20 recommendation [inaudible] a couple months ago. MS. CAIRNS: Yeah. I mean, I have some recollection. 21 22 CHAIRMAN PALMER: And I've had some inquiry from Councilmembers as to, 23 time to time that their information that they've gotten doesn't embody really the discussion that they wanted to hear or wanted to understand better how we got to certain decisions that we got to. So my recommendation was that we change our rules to have a Member of the Planning Commission to be available at the Zoning Public Hearing which occurs the fourth Tuesday of every month -

MS. ALMEIDA: Correct.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: - be available to Councilmembers if they had any questions. If they didn't have any questions then there would be nothing offered but to simply be available to answer questions about our meeting.

MR. TUTTLE: Would that be just a I mean, would it have to be the same person or could that rotate -

MS. ALMEIDA: Well, that would be -

MR. TUTTLE: - [inaudible] representative.

MS. ALMEIDA: - up to the pleasure of the Commission.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: What I had offered up since our rules call for the Chairman to represent the Planning Commission at different activities and functions would for that to be the Chairman or from time to time perhaps the Chairman couldn't make it that Chairman would designate someone to be available to answer questions if there were any which I thought would be kind of the cleanest way to do it.

MR. WESTBROOK: I agree with you.

MS. CAIRNS: I disagree with that idea.

MR. TUTTLE: With the whole concept or?

MS. CAIRNS: Yeah. I think it would be very difficult for one person to leave one of these meetings who also had a vote to then offer what the basis was for the vote and

the nature of the discussion. I think that as a single voting member it would be difficult 1 to disengage from that and to offer unbiased representational view of what transpired at 2 the meeting. 3 MR. TUTTLE: Isn't that what the Supreme Court does when they offer an 4 opinion? 5 MS. CAIRNS: If any other Justice wants to offer their opinion differing even if it's 6 [inaudible]. 7 MR. TUTTLE: [Inaudible] 8 MS. CAIRNS: [inaudible] they can offer that as part of the opinion. They're not 9 excluded. 10 MR. TUTTLE: Yeah. I guess the concept is from time to time at Council, the 11 thoughts and the rationale behind a particular vote here doesn't necessarily get relayed 12 in the same manner -13 MS. CAIRNS: Oh, I understand that. 14 MR. TUTTLE: - as here so I guess it's just trying to empower this Committee to 15 have a voice in that forum rather than just being on a piece of paper. 16 17 MS. CAIRNS: I also think that we have some very vigorous disagreements over issues and I don't think that it would be possible for that one person who had clearly -18 well, I mean, if we have disagreements on something and a single person goes up 19 20 obviously they are not on both sides of that disagreement. MR. TUTTLE: No. They're not supposed to be. 21 22 MS. CAIRNS: Right.

MR. TUTTLE: They're supposed to be representative of the vote of the Commission. You wouldn't represent both sides.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: No. Which is what we have -

MR. TUTTLE: I'm sorry, I'm sorry. That wasn't fair. Go ahead.

MS. CAIRNS: But I mean, that is my concern is that person would present, I mean, that person may have been on the non-voting side, on the losing side potentially or on the prevailing side, and I don't think it would be easy for that person, being a voting member, to be able to effectively offer what the other side's rationale was. I think that's a very difficult, it's a very difficult job to stand there and be able to offer an opposing interest's side on an issue fairly. That's just [inaudible].

MR. WESTBROOK: I think the Chairman represents the Commission and if he goes anything contrary to the Minutes then he's made a mistake.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: I would agree, and that's what I said before because you know our rules currently call for the Chairman to represent the Commission at different functions or whenever someone wants a representative of the Planning Commission the Chairman is to represent the Commission doing that. It would be the same thing in front of Council that the Chairman, whoever it would be from year to year, would be available to the Council as a representative of the Planning Commission and if for instance any member of the Planning Commission would read the Minutes and say you clearly misrepresented this that would be an issue.

MR. GILCHRIST: Only, and Mr. Chairman, only if asked by Council.

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CHAIRMAN PALMER: Only if asked by Council and it's not asked your opinion it's asked why did the Commission do something or what was the Commission's thinking on this.

MS. ALMEIDA: I will offer, and I don't know how many of you actually see the Zoning Public Hearing packet, but we, the case is listed, the vote is included, the Minutes are provided to Council. And understand Staff does not want to be put in the position at times of giving an opinion one way or another because of that reasoning.

MR. MANNING: So you can have the Minutes available in a week's time?

MS. ALMEIDA: For Zoning Public Hearing it's more than a week. Council, is it true Council usually has, if they request –

MS. HAYNES: Council gets a Staff Report.

MS. ALMEIDA: And not the Minutes?

MS. HAYNES: As to why it was voted against or why it was voted for.

MS. ALMEIDA: But not the minutes?

MS. HAYNES: No.

MR. MANNING: I think the Minutes ought to be a part of it.

MS. ALMEIDA: Only when asked. But they have the vote.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: And I understand how difficult it is because I just had to go through the process at our church of trying to relay in writing and codify something in writing is much more difficult than [inaudible] understand it in writing is much more difficult if someone has [inaudible]. But that was my thinking. I know that I've been asked by Council several times [inaudible] something. I thought it would be an

additional avenue that we would have as a Planning Commission to make a presence to 1 Council and be able to answer their questions [inaudible]. 2 3 MS. ALMEIDA: And understand not very often does Council request or ask that of Staff so just -4 MS. CAIRNS: But I mean, would this person be required to go to all the Council 5 meetings just in case a question was phrased? 6 MS. ALMEIDA: Apparently so. 7 MS. CAIRNS: And so are you proposing that you as Chair it would be the 8 9 person, the Chairperson who would go? CHAIRMAN PALMER: Or the Chairperson's designee. 10 MR. WESTBROOK: Designee. 11 MS. CAIRNS: And would the Chairperson be able to designee whoever they 12 want without any limitation? 13 MR. WESTBROOK: The designee would certainly have a right to accept or 14 reject. 15 MS. CAIRNS: Well, yeah but – I mean, honestly I think it's legitimate that I have 16 17 some concern on this because certainly there are many issues that we have disagreements with and while the Chairman has been duly elected by the Commission 18 19 to serve as Chairman, his designee, unless it was pre, you know, unless that's also 20 someone elected could always be somebody that would always have one view from a similar mind. That's my concern. 21 MR. TUTTLE: But it could be for instance if there was a business reason that 22 23 came up at the last minute where you couldn't attend, it could be just going through the

phone till he could find somebody who was available. I'm not sure it would necessarily always be -

MS. CAIRNS: That's okay. I mean, I understand.

MS. ALMEIDA: It might be also suggested that if there is an issue that is somewhat controversial between the Commission that two representatives come to the Zoning Public Hearing and are there to voice their opinion instead of just one –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: [Inaudible] voice your opinion if you're [inaudible].

MS. ALMEIDA: Or to explain the tie vote or close vote, yeah.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Well, I think that would be the role of the Chairman to do that and then if it's not said that, you know, if someone calls that into question it's certainly something that we could address. Say, hey look this – they're not - being biased in these issues and you're not supposed to be biased. That's certainly something that [inaudible] the Planning Commission.

MR. MANNING: And I think we as a Body have got to trust, I understand your logic, Heather, and concerns and I respect that; I'm not arguing with you, but I do feel like you know I've got to trust that all of us sitting here would go before that body and explain to them the best way what this Commission did.

MR. WESTBROOK: Can we bring this to a vote and move on?

MS. CAIRNS: I would just like to say one thing. I would like to take out the issue is that it has nothing to do with trust. It has entirely to do with the difficulty that any human has in trying to present an unbiased view that differs from what they personally believe in. That's what the issue is. It has nothing to do with trust and that's where I have problems with this whole concept.

MS. LINDER: Just throwing out some additional thoughts, you could change your rules that the Chairperson would be a non-voting member or you could also appoint a person on the prevailing side of a vote on a controversial issue.

MS. ALMEIDA: There are boards that the Chairman or Chairperson does not vote, it's a non-vote.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: [Inaudible] because then we'd have an even number.

MS. CAIRNS: Right. We'd have to restructure the Board.

MS. ALMEIDA: Um-hum (affirmative).

MS. CAIRNS: But that's, I mean that – I think that's an interesting sort of insight into the whole thing.

MS. ALMEIDA: Adding Board members.

MS. CAIRNS: I mean, I would imagine that if I was the Chairperson you guys might have some concerns with my ability to present some of the reasons why things were presented and it's not bias or a trust thing, it's just a –

CHAIRMAN PALMER: I wouldn't have an issue. I would, if I thought I would have an issue I would show up at some of the meetings and see if what we're doing was biased or not biased or take a look at the Minutes, the Council Minutes and see if what you were doing was biased or not biased.

MS. CAIRNS: But something that would be incredibly difficult.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Staff does it all the time.

MS. CAIRNS: But that's their job. They're not voting members on this Commission. I mean, if I was not a voting member on this Commission and somebody came to me and said, we would like you to be able in the capacity to go present to

Council what happened at the meeting, I would have no problem with that. I would have notes and I would go and I would feel completely comfortable presenting a synopsis of what occurred as a non-voting member. But as a voting member I think it's very difficult.

MR. GILCHRIST: Well, let me ask this question, Mr. Chairman. Can Council request us to come if they feel like they're not really sure about a vote that we've taken? Can not Council ask that there be representation from this Commission at their meetings?

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Well sure, they can and they can ask to [inaudible] our Minutes. I was, I mean, that's certainly something that I would imagine a couple Council members would do if there was nothing done here on this today. I mean –

MR. TUTTLE: You know, just in a different way. I've been to many of the Public Zoning Hearings in the last year and having had been to the Planning Commission meetings and now having served on Planning Commission sometimes the spirit and intent on what we've agreed to doesn't get translated and there are very basic questions that I think Council might want to ask to gain some insight and there's no mechanism for them to be able to do that. Therefore they don't have the insight. Whether it be a close vote or a unanimous vote. Many things, if you notice many of the things that we've voted on unanimously Council has rejected wholeheartedly. And it's certainly their prerogative but maybe if somebody was there to offer insight they might have a different [inaudible].

MS. CAIRNS: But again it's the difficulty of what – the person who goes forward to offer the insight they aren't going to have the Minutes. I'm not sitting here as a

MR. GILCHRIST: Second, Mr. Chairman.

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CHAIRMAN PALMER: We have a motion and a second. All those in favor of a rule change [inaudible] as stated by Mr. Manning please signify by raising your hand.

[Approved: Westbrook, Tuttle, Palmer, Manning, Mattos-Ward, Gilchrist; Opposed: Cairns; Absent: McDaniel]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Do we need to wait for our Minutes to be approved for that to become part of our rules change?

[Inaudible discussion]

CHAIRMAN PALMER: That's not my question. My question is do we need, before that rule change, that change to our rules becomes as part of our rules do we need these Minutes to be approved at our next scheduled Planning Commission?

MS. LINDER: You could certainly appear at the Zoning Public Hearing to be available.

CHAIRMAN PALMER: Okay.

MS. LINDER: Even though these minutes, I mean, you're certainly free to attend and should there be a question I would think that you would have that discretion to come to the podium.

MR. WESTBROOK: The effective day is today whether you have Minutes or not. Why not? We voted today.

MS. ALMEIDA: There might be an opposition.

MS. LINDER: Well, this action would not necessarily effect your proceedings at your next Planning Commission meeting but this is something that would effect somebody coming into the Zoning Public Hearing later this month. And if the Chair

wants to come to the Zoning Public Hearing he could certainly do so as a member of 1 the public and if Council would ask him about the Planning Commission's decision then 2 he would have the opportunity to voice his neutral opinion. 3 MR. WESTBROOK: Close enough. 4 MS. ALMEIDA: But are you requesting that the Chairman have a copy of the 5 Minutes at the Zoning Public Hearing? That is going to be extremely difficult if not 6 impossible. 7 CHAIRMAN PALMER: That's only a week before we get them. We get ours in 8 the package, the Zoning Public Hearing's on the 23rd. We get them as part of our 9 package seven days before our meeting; right? 10 MS. HAYNES: [Inaudible] last week we didn't have them back by the time the 11 package was [inaudible]. 12 CHAIRMAN PALMER: But typically we do. 13 MR. MANNING: We had it two weeks before this meeting. 14 MS. CAIRNS: I mean, that's a large part of my concern is that we're asking one 15 person to go up there and offer from that one person's memory what happened without 16 17 any notes, Minutes, nothing. CHAIRMAN PALMER: I understand all that. I do; I understand that. 18 MS. CAIRNS: I think that's a significant concern which I think has been 19 20 aggressively glossed over. MR. TUTTLE: I'm sorry, can I understand the vote that was just taken and what 21

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was proposed?

MS. ALMEIDA: Six – one to approve for the Chairman and his or her designee 1 to attend the Zoning Public Hearing. 2 MR. TUTTLE: And there was no requirement for Minutes; correct? 3 MS. ALMEIDA: Correct. 4 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Any Other Business? 5 MR. MANNING: Just one quick thing. Next month's meeting I was hoping, 6 Anna, that maybe we could re-visit the definitions, a couple definitions in the storm 7 water. I apologize I didn't get the email. I was out and couldn't respond. And precisely 8 9 the forestry definition and the agricultural land definition. I just kind of wanted to revisit that and if you could bring, you know, some other municipalities or jurisdictions what 10 their definitions might be just to compare. 11 MS. ALMEIDA: Okay. 12 MS. CAIRNS: Does some of that have to do with what the assessor, I mean, do 13 we need to look at tying this in how the assessor classifies? 14 MR. MANNING: That's a good point. Maybe it would be a good idea to have the 15 assessor come speak. 16 17 MS. CAIRNS: Or just what their – I mean. MR. MANNING: Or what their definition is because I'm a little bit concerned. 18 MS. CAIRNS: Procedure? I mean, I think that's maybe an opportunity to tighten 19 20 up this whole phenomenon. MS. ALMEIDA: Okay. 21 CHAIRMAN PALMER: Got a motion to adjourn? 22 23