

## Neighborhood Commercial Districts – March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Public Hearing

Written public testimony was extended for an additional week through March 20, 2024.

Details	Comments
0	<a href="https://laceywa.portal.civicclerk.com/event/205/files/agenda/1869">https://laceywa.portal.civicclerk.com/event/205/files/agenda/1869</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tyrell Bradley – @ 33:20                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Matt Farrell – @ 37:00                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Janet O’Halloran – @ 40:18                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Margaret Green – @ 44:31                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Rose Campise – @ 46:08                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. John Green – @ 47:52                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. Allison Cabral – @ 49:43                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Written comments were also submitted</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Wed 3/13/2024 6:00 PM	
Public Testimony	
Full testimony was recorded and can be found through the included link.	
1	<p>As I am reviewing the draft NCZ language, I need clarity on a few points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Since specificity of business type is less detailed, I am curious if a shop selling marijuana or guns would be allowed. I know that both of those are legitimate businesses. I am just curious about the inclusion in a NCZ area.</li> <li>2. Would a business (store, or restaurant) adjacent to a neighborhood be allowed to sell alcohol?</li> <li>3. During one of the conversations (council or planning commission), I heard consideration of proximity to parks or other public institutions. Is that still in play, or is the only distance guideline the "not less than 1.5 linear miles" between gas stations?</li> <li>4. Please clarify if the ARCO station at Marvin and Hawks Prairie is considered in that 1.5 mile calculation. As I review the maps, I can see that it is not one of the 7 undeveloped NCZs, but I don't know if it is an existing NCZ. How is that spot designated? Or would it not matter, because it is simply distance between any gas stations that matter?</li> <li>6. Would a residential use be permitted to house individuals with a treatment/court supervision type need? Is there existing language (perhaps in another code chapter) about proximity to schools, or parks in such matters?</li> <li>7. Chapter 14 is cross-referenced frequently in the Ch 16. draft. Regarding 14.23.050 and --060 language. Yes, both speak to design approval approvals and extensions. What is considered the original design approval date? The date the conceptual design is approved as part of the initial review process? The date each and every time a minor tweak to the</li> </ol>
Janet O’Halloran	
Sun 2/25/2024 5:04 PM	
Email	
Project staff provided responses to submitted questions based on current draft as of date of comment.	

	<p>design specifications are approved (which can take a few months)- effectively restarting an 18 month period?</p> <p>8. Are six-month extensions possibly endless, or one and done?</p> <p>I appreciate your time and look forward to your responses.</p> <p>Warmly, Janet O'Halloran</p>
2	Email attachments included as Appendix B.
Janet O'Halloran	
Thu 3/14/2024 8:46 PM	
Email	
Email attachments included as Appendix B.	
3	<p>Although it would be nice to have quality grocery stores (Whole Foods, Trader Joe's) close by - what you built at the Hogum Bay Center is a bunch of useless junk - not worth the trees they cut down. And a huge semi truck dealer? Seriously? We all needed that eyesore.</p> <p>Marvin Road is a disaster with the semi trucks hogging two lanes around all of the traffic circles. They create traffic jams every day, and accidents. You have to have a better system to handle the trucks. What needs to happen is that the trucks only be allowed on Hogum Bay with a traffic signal by the Mayan restaurant for freeway access. Get those trucks off Marvin.</p> <p>Please fix this mess before you create another.</p> <p>Regards, Charmaine Todd</p>
Charmaine Todd	
Wed 3/6/2024 2:10 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
4	Primary discussion topics revolved around concerns over additional warehousing and or apartment style uses located at the 41 <sup>st</sup> and Marvin Road Neighborhood Commercial District that would further contribute to traffic and congestion issues farther south along Marvin Road.
Kris Hare	
Thu 3/7/2024 1:44 PM	
Voicemail	
Project staff answered questions and encouraged written feedback.	
5	Please see attached comment letters and proposed NC zoning code redlines to add to the public record. I plan to be at the meeting tomorrow night, look forward to seeing you there.
Tyrell Bradley (LDC Corp)	
Tue 3/12/2024 11:31AM	
Email Attachments	

Email attachments included as Appendix A.	Thank you for the opportunity to comment, Tyrell
6	Hello,
Roy Rozgo	
Tue 3/12/2024 2:37 PM	As invited here is my resident feedback on the NCD draft document, I strive to be brief. I live in Jubilee near the Edgewater NCD at 41st and Marvin.
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>Comments specific to the Edgewater NCD site and immediate area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-This site, and right across the street (zoned as a school) are a couple of the last remaining stands of timber on Marvin Road. We call this our 'cathedral of trees', and probably 90% of our neighborhood wants the city to Leave these Stands of Trees as is, as 'most beneficial' to the surrounding neighborhoods, left as is for less light pollution, less noise pollution, less traffic, better drainage. Why are already 'open areas' not prioritized for NCD's first, and long before areas with standing timber?</li> <li>-In addition, Marvin Road to the south of the NCD within a mile has a whole shopping area being built making the Edgewater NCD a bit redundant. (Mod Pizza/Starbucks etc)</li> <li>-The Nisqually tribe has told us that They also will be building (near Cabela's) a large casino/hotel/shopping area in the next three years.</li> <li>-DC bound semi trucks are now taking both lanes of every roundabout they pass thru causing traffic backups Now with the existing infrastructure, and proximity to DC's does not seem to be part of the NCD watchpoints.</li> </ul> <p>We believe that overbuilding in NCD's will result in exactly the opposite of the intended effect of the NCD and will lessen our housing values and provide no real benefit, as everything to purchase there will be by definition more expensive than other local stores. In addition Marvin Road cannot handle this traffic with autos and DC semi trucks!</p> <p>Comments on the 'Draft' changes being published:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) There is no language saying that if the local residents prefer; the NCD will be left UNdeveloped, taking the natural lay of the land as the most beneficial to the Neighborhood. (This is all for the benefit of the local neighborhood right? Therefore that neighborhood should have yea/nay choices over what will be built close to them).</li> <li>2) I thought Lacey was a 'Tree City'. There is no mention of a commercial/natural balance in the draft changes. (i.e. can they just cut down every single tree in a NCD as the default?' This is what seems to be happening in Lacey without a corresponding number of trees being planted).</li> <li>3) The draft changes do not take into account 'traffic burden of the immediate area'. e.g. if the roundabout at 41st and Marvin is choked with cars lined up down Marvin trying to get thru the NCD area because</li> </ol>

	<p>these are all one lane roads, how can that be beneficial? Put in verbiage being sensitive to the surrounding traffic area.</p> <p>4) I am happy to see verbiage regarding 'parking lot lighting', as who wants a 40ft high Xeon light shining thru their bedroom window all night even from 1/4 mile away? (And note, the Parr Whse just built on Marvin has incredibly bright lighting that illuminates some of the adjacent neighborhood. Has someone post-construction inspected that?)</p> <p>5) While the 'idea' of a small local store seems cool, all my neighbors and myself know that all items purchased here will be more expensive than driving to Winco, etc. I personally do not plan on shopping at Any of the NCD's North of the freeway. Would Willamette apartment dwellers or retired Jubilee residents pay higher dollars to buy bread 3 blocks away as opposed to driving to Winco? Doubt it. Perhaps the village should examine and complete all of the 'half empty' strip malls Lacey has before cutting down trees to construct more half-empty sites and calling it an NCD?</p> <p>6) Distribution over the village as to what is built in any NCD: Does the village Really think we need more mini-Marts selling sugar and caffeine drinks, cigarettes, and dirty magazines? How are those items the 'day to day needs of consumers' per the intent of NCD's? Willy Nilly development makes our village look trashy, sprawly, and this is now happening.</p> <p>If you got this far thanks for reading.</p> <p>Some of us want to preserve every remaining tree possible in Lacey. Once an 80 year old tree is cutdown (or 1000 of them), that area is changed forever, and 95% of the time not changed for the better. We love Lacey for it's beautiful trees, parks and being near the Sound....not because more stores are being built everywhere.</p> <p>Please adjust NCD locations to be in open areas where possible, and not cut down timber as a matter of course. Hopefully the Village officially recognizes 'Climate Change' and has it in the long term plan. Recognize that people of All incomes live here, and please do not design the future village as only a haven for lower incomes or transients.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Cindy Tufford</p> <p>Wed 3/13/2024 12:31PM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>Given the immense negative community feedback that was given to the City of Lacey back in 2022 concerning situating a gas station at Willamette Drive &amp; Campus Glen (Meridian Market) immediately across from a children's park and where middle-schoolers walk past this location to get to school, are there any proposed changes in the new Commercial Neighborhood Districts that would prevent such a thing to happen in the future? I have tried to read the proposed changes but I did not see any verbiage that addresses how close a gas station could be located near a park. Please let me know.</p> <p>Cindy Tufford Jubilee</p>

	Lacey, Washington
8	Hi,
Drew Amdahl	I have feedback for the Marvin Road & 41st Ave NE (Edgewater) neighborhood commercial district. I am a resident of NE Lacey in the Jubilee development.
Wed 3/13/2024 6:49 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>There are some good ideas for development in your proposals.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good. I would like to see a grocery store of some form to reduce the need to travel over congested streets to get to the stores south of I5. I understand that private businesses must make the choice to pursue that development as they see financially feasible.</li> <li>2. Good. a restaurant with a breakfast focus i.e. IHOP, would be a nice addition to our area.</li> <li>3. Bad. we absolutely DO NOT NEED any more gas stations in NE Lacey in my opinion. Waste of space.</li> <li>4. Concern. Not having enough parking lot space such that cars park on the street. This creates more congestion and safety hazards from parking cars, etc.</li> </ol> <p>To be honest if i was given the choice i would say NO to even having this aforementioned Edgewater NCD. I would say it is unlikely that anything i would significantly like will happen in this NCD.</p> <p>However it is a sure bet that adding businesses to this Edgewater NCD would create more congestion, which not only steals time from people that are trying to drive somewhere else but also creates safety hazards and increased accidents. The people that would have to drive thru this area are predominantly older and more susceptible to safety hazards and attendant accidents.</p> <p>Traffic Congestion:</p> <p>This is the biggest single local issue that detracts from my quality of life and safety in NE Lacey. There has been a huge increase of truck-related businesses (i.e. warehouses) and attendant trucks and worker traffic. It can be a real challenge to drive Marvin Rd. to the south of I5 to get to the grocery stores during the daylight hours. As i age i am not sure how much longer it will be feasible for me to try and drive Marvin Rd. north of I5.</p> <p>To add to traffic congestion with the Edgewater NCD seems incompatible with the demographics, and the well-being and general desires of NE Lacey residents. There will be other sources of additional traffic congestion which will impact NE Lacey. Of course there are more commercial districts slated to come on line in NE Lacey in the near future. Additionally there is the new high school and other schools which will further increase traffic congestion on Marvin hugely (not sure about the logic or equity of siting a high school in an area which is largely elderly).</p>

	<p>To summarize it seems to me a broader, more thoughtful look must be given to the needs and desires of the residents of NE Lacey. The traffic congestion from this largely unrestrained development of NE Lacey threatens to overwhelm our neighborhoods, and practically speaking keep us captive in our homes, afraid to venture out on the major streets in NE Lacey.</p> <p>Prediction: Given the current and future development planned for NE Lacey we will become another Kent (valley), with gridlock on their streets from early in the morning until fairly late in the evening. Kent is perhaps a good place to have a warehouse, but definitely not a good place to live in my opinion.</p> <p>Best regards,</p>
9	I would like to offer a few additional comments.
Drew Amdahl	
Fri 3/15/2024 1:23 AM	Congestion:
Email	The Nisqually casino, hotel & entertainment complex will bring large amounts of additional traffic into the NE Lacey area.
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>Correction from below, i meant to say there is more commercial development (not districts) slated to come on line in NE Lacey in the near future.</p> <p>Edgewater NCD use: Given that the strip mall on Marvin and Willamette is having a tough time finding commercial tenants, i strongly suspect Edgewater NCD will also have a tough time finding commercial tenants of any sort (obviously less traffic and accessibility than the aforementioned). I strongly suspect this means that Edgewater NCD will simply become more apartments. ugggh, not good. And probably a convenience store (i.e. 7/11) that the nearby high school students would frequent.</p> <p>Mitigation for all the aforementioned increases to traffic, congestion and accidents: Provide a light rail or electric trolley or something similar with a dedicated track. This would allow NE Lacey residents (particularly north of 41st) the opportunity to have a safe, reliable and timely means of traveling to the key Lacey shopping south of I5 (Costco, Walmart, etc.). This should be funded by the entities making lots of money off of NE Lacey's commercial development i.e. the City of Lacey and the Nisqually tribe. Perhaps there is grant money that could help (from the Feds?).</p> <p>Recommendation:</p>

	<p>I think the question of having an Edgewater NCD should be voted on by the residents of NE Lacey. I think there should be some element of a democratic process involved in the NE Lacey development.</p> <p>Best regards,</p>
10	I am writing to provide input on general request as well as the
Brandi Olden	Neighborhood Commercial Districts.
Wed 3/13/2024 7:28 PM	
Email	General Requests:
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>1. Sending out mailers to impacted businesses and residents with 600-1000 ft is not wide enough. Please expand mailers to notify residents, businesses and schools within 2 miles.</p> <p>2. The majority of tech users are accessing their information over their mobile devices. I had a difficult time finding the information on the public meeting for march 13th which specified district locations from my mobile device. The mobile site drove me to the public meeting site and then the 2 page Agenda Overview.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please ask the web developers to make this information more mobile friendly.</li> <li>• Please be more specific in the 2 page Agenda regarding which intersections, neighborhoods will be impacted so the public can more easily discern if the issue is relevant to them or not.</li> </ul> <p>Neighborhood Commercial District Input:</p> <p>1. Some of the proposed districts are within walking distance or even visible from schools and daycares. Please add language stating that businesses who sell 50% or more of their products from alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, vaping are not allowed within 1.5 mile radius of schools and daycares.</p> <p>2. Make the districts easily and safely accessible by bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles. I'd like to request the following additions to the code.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make each street feeding into the commercial districts accessible by designated side walks, designated bike lanes and wide width streets to accommodate larger vehicles most people drive these days such as SUVs and trucks.</li> <li>• Prohibit bulb outs. This is something that sounds good in theory but if the streets width isn't accessible for 2 SUVs to pass each other easily in the middle of the bulbouts when trucks and SUVs are parked on either side of that street then it is not functional, causes distress for local neighbors having to navigate congested streets and causes damage to parked cars. Bulb outs are not actually preventing pedestrians from having to walk farther nor are they any more safe. They look nice but just aren't practical for day to day use unless total street width and side parking widths are greatly extended to a total width of 50 feet and total</li> </ul>

street width between the bulbouts is a minimum of 30 feet to accommodate cars and bicycles.

- Please make lanes 12 feet in width. This will allow the development to be more livable and accessible and accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists more safely. The theory that narrow roads are safer is just that, a theory and has been unfounded when looking at pedestrian and bicyclist safety which is important to be mindful of for the neighborhood commercial district planning.
- Make designated bike lanes on both sides of the roads that feed into new commercial districts mandatory. For example, The Commercial Districts located at College Street SE & 45th Ave SE as well as College Street SE & Mullen Road SE are very close to the Western Chehalis Trail. Including designated bike lanes that are a minimum of 4 ft wide in addition to sidewalks on both sides of the road will allow neighbors and families to patron businesses in these areas safely.
- This may already be in place however I couldn't find it easily. Please ensure sidewalks are ADA accessible in width and include ramps and located on both sides of the streets that feed into the commercial districts.
- Regarding Commercial District on College Street SE & Mullen Road SE (The Farm).
  - o Please include Two-Way Center-left Turn Lane spanning from the intersection going west past Zermatt Lane.
  - o Current street parking available is completely full after 5-6 pm along 37th Avenue SE. Please extend street parking access to both sides of the street and down the length of Herman Rd SE to 1/4 mile past the Western Chehalis Trail towards Wiggins RD SE to accommodate commercial and residential parking needs as well as other patrons of the commercial establishments.

### 3. Residential Parking Input

- Expand minimum parking requirements to 2 per household. People in low income/affordable housing still have an average of 2 vehicles per household. With not enough space, the overflow street parking is impinging on neighbors ability to park and easily access their own homes. It also makes it incredibly difficult to near impossible to have guests over when there is such severe lack of parking.
- Allow parking garages up to 2-3 stories high in order to maximize space and must include elevators. Include code that dictates parking garages be built according to Green Parking Lot requirements such as this Seattle Permit article recommends.
- Expand parking spot widths for residential areas to 10 feet. Current requirements are not wide enough to allow people to get young children from the backseat of their cars or get groceries out of their cars when someone is parked beside them. This is leading to neighbor disputes, car damage and severe lack of access to close parking for people with disabilities, young families and the elderly. With a growing elderly

population and disabled population with Long Covid these spots need to be mandatorily included into city code.

- Include 2-4 designated accessible parking spots near entrances for the elderly, injured, pregnant and families with young children.
- Add mandatory 1/2 guest parking spot per unit. The current level is not nearly enough leading to guests parking in resident spots consistently further increasing neighbor disputes.

#### 4. Commercial Building Input

- Regarding Public Right of Way Frontage, please include code language allowing for frontage to be a tempered glass garage door or sliding glass doors to allow cafes, pubs, restaurants the ability to open onto the sidewalk during summer months as well as be able to stay in business should another pandemic occur.
- Please include code language that automatically grants eat-in restaurants, cafes and pubs the ability to set up outdoor sidewalk seating in the summer months.
- Please include language that allows commercial buildings to have folding security gates. Until more housing, mental health supports become permanently in place, businesses are more likely to invest in commercial property if they have the ability to protect their space. Especially in commercial districts within reasonable distance to established bike trails.
- Please include language mandating that extra sound proofing be installed between walls of different establishments and in the ceiling to promote minimal sound being carried into above residential units.
- Please include Little Free Libraries in each commercial district.
- Please include covered gathering spaces for rent or free public use for local activities including but not limited to HOA board meetings, indoor play spaces for young families, family gatherings and birthday parties, neighborhood book clubs/meet ups and safe teen gathering spaces.

#### 4. Residential Building Input

- Please mandate that sound proofing measures be built between all units including ceilings and floors.
- Please mandate all units have air conditioning and heating
- Please mandate all units have elevator access for greater disability access. Disabled residents should not be forced to the ground floor units as their only option. Additionally, many people who do not qualify for disability are not able to safely carry groceries and kids up 3 flights of stairs.
- Please build dog parks within 1 mile of all commercial districts, even if it takes up space in existing local parks.

Thank you for your time and attention to these requests and comments.

Sincerely,

11	<p>Hello,</p> <p>It's my understanding that the community development parcels must be bars, restaurants, banks, gas stations, or other small buildings. I was informed there is an affordable housing space with commercial units being considered for the 41st and Marvin plat. I am strongly opposed. There are high value homes nearby and you will be devaluing these properties. This should be considered when planning.</p> <p>Please let me know what I can do to stop or change the plans for development. This is horribly wrong for the homeowners nearby.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Carissa Rodriguez	
Wed 3/13/2024 8:32 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
12	<p>I am writing to express my displeasure with the plans to build affordable housing on the 'neighborhood commercial district' site on 41st &amp; Marvin Rd NE. I believe the city of Lacey is severely overestimating the capacity of our local roads to accommodate the influx of high volume housing, as Marvin Rd is a single lane in both directions and already contributes to significant traffic and backups. The idea of affordable housing most certainly does not align with the intent behind a 'neighborhood commercial district'.</p> <p>An affordable housing project on this site accomplishes NONE of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the opportunity for the development of small commercial facilities in residential areas catering to the day-to-day needs of consumers for a limited range of convenience goods and services;</li> <li>• Limit such commercial facilities as to size of site, bulk of structures, and to such locations as to serve a relatively large number of persons in a relatively small geographic area. To that end, pedestrian accessibility shall be a major criterion in the location of neighborhood commercial facilities;</li> <li>• Provide neighborhood commercial zones near residential areas to provide opportunities for neighborhood shopping and services with pedestrian accessibility.</li> </ul> <p>I believe any project on this lot should be reserved for an actual commercial/retail use. Any attempt by the developer to limit the commercial aspect of this project should be discouraged and denied.</p>
Rob Cavaliere	
Wed 3/13/2024 9:57 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
13	<p>Hi, thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments to you and the City Planning Commission. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions. Best to you.</p>
Pat Tennent	
Thu 3/14/2024 9:21 AM	
Email	

Email attachments included as Appendix C.	
14	Dear Ms Dolbee,
Leslie McClure	As a resident of the Jubilee Community, I'm very concerned about the
Thu 3/14/2024 1:36 PM	planned apartment buildings on 41st and Marvin. As a former managing
Email	real estate broker, I know that there have to be five or more units to be
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>considered commercial property and that will bring huge amounts of traffic plus a strain on our water wells.</p> <p>I retired here 5 years ago because of the moniker "Tree City". Even though the warehouses on Marvin Rd. are now almost on top of our water storage and our water is full of bacteria and chlorine, I'm told that at least it's safe to drink. Even though heavy diesel trucks run up and down Marvin, the tree buffer between 41st and Jubilee has kept our air fit to breathe.</p> <p>Now those trees are at risk and the planned construction will heavily impact our water availability in addition to our water and air quality. I'm requesting that a thorough environmental review be conducted and made available to the Jubilee HOA plus the commercial rules regarding tree removal and replacement be provided in a timely and transparent manner.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
15	Greetings,
Anja Borski	I am writing to voice my concern with proposed development at 41st and
Sat 3/16/2024 10:05 AM	Marvin, at the entrance to my neighborhood of Edgewater.
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	<p>My family moved here in October 2022, and chose this location for it's quiet, safety, cleanliness, and preservation of natural space.</p> <p>Since we moved here, there has already been significant commercial development along Marvin toward I-5, which I welcome. But I question the need for additional commercial development as far back as 41st St, especially anything that repeats services already available nearby such as storage, gas stations, restaurant/retail.</p> <p>Another concern is tall apartment buildings that would threaten privacy and increase noise/disturbances to our single family homes immediately adjacent to the proposed location. There are already so many new apartment developments going in along Willamette, increasing our density and traffic without plans to increase our capacity in the area for groceries, childcare, schools, etc.</p> <p>We ask that you carefully consider the impact of proposed development on our residents. I understand that originally (in the 80s/90s) that plot was anticipated to become an elementary school - wouldn't that be wonderful, decreasing district transportation needs (currently zoned to Olympic View across the freeway) and supporting our many families and</p>

	<p>military families that call Edgewater and surrounding neighborhoods home.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
16	<p>&gt; I strongly object to 3-4 story apartments being proposed for this site which butts up to single family homes. Apartments bring in crime and low income transient residents which could detrimentally impact the safety and property values of our already established communities. Also, the noise, road and traffic congestion would be greatly detrimental to this area. I would highly recommend a continuation of single family residential housing, townhomes or condos to maintain our quiet, safe and quaint neighborhood. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
June Nourse	
Sat 3/16/2024 10:16 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
17	<p>I'm writing to express concern with the possible building at the corner of Marvin Road NE and 41st. I am mainly against building apartments at that location. Traffic is a major issue on Marvin Road. I am also concerned about wildlife and taking away even more of their wild space.</p>
Myrna Lance	
Sat 3/16/2024 12:10 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
18	<p>Good afternoon. I am a homeowner in the Edgewater neighborhood. I have been a homeowner in this neighborhood for almost seven years now. I bought a home in this neighborhood because I enjoyed the trees and quiet nature. I understand the City plans to build something on the corner property, which sits right in our neighborhood. The ideas I've heard include an apartment complex, gas station and shops.</p> <p>We already have enough apartment complexes that are being developed further down 41st. As members of the homeowners association, we do not need another complex directly in our neighborhood. We pay good money to maintain our parks and trails, and the expenses continue to rise annually. The residents of a proposed complex will absolutely find a way to use our parks and trails, which will result in additional maintenance, and consequently higher HOA fees. Homeowners do not deserve this impact and lessened quality of life.</p> <p>We already have multiple gas stations along Marvin Road. We don't need another one. This would increase the traffic, and as a green state, installing another gas station along the same road is akin to eating bacon cheeseburgers if you're a vegan. It doesn't make sense.</p>
David R. Larmore	
Sat 3/16/2024 12:50 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	

	<p>We do not need a shopping center in our neighborhood. There are already multiple centers along the roundabouts closer to the diamond intersection.</p> <p>There is also wildlife to consider. If we continue to chop down trees and develop land for commercial purposes, where will the wildlife inhabit?</p> <p>I strongly advise the City to leave our neighborhood alone. We are not due the negative impact of development in our neighborhood.</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Mandy Kitchens</p> <p>Sat 3/16/2024 1:53 PM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>Hi. I have recently been informed about the possibility of the development of a lot adjacent to the Edgewater neighborhood where I own a home. I am very concerned about the possibility of apartments or multi family homes. That would significantly decrease the property value of my home, and the other homes in this neighborhood. Additionally, the residence of adjacent apartment complexes in the future would likely use our parks and trails which we pay to maintain. Honestly, if a multi family complex was approved, I would likely sell my home.</p> <p>Please consider the interest of the people in the Edgewater community. The development of that lot should be restricted to single-family homes that are of similar value as Edgewater homes. Please help us protect the value of our homes so that we aren't forced to sell before values plummet.</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Kimberly Baptiste</p> <p>Sat 3/16/2024 5:46 PM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>To whom this all concerns,</p> <p>My name is Kimberly Baptiste. I live in the Edgewater Neighborhood since 2020. Bought that same home in 2021. My families first home purchase we've ever been blessed to own.</p> <p>We chose this neighborhood for it's close proximity to all of our needs, with a peaceful surrounding of the trees hugging us tight, space for our kids to be with friends but nestled in our neighborhood.</p> <p>My children take advantage of the parks, my family takes advantage of the trails in the neighborhood.</p> <p>We pay to maintain these amenities for OUR neighborhood.</p> <p>Deciding to build more apartment housing and retail shops so close to larger neighborhoods, backing it up to our neighborhood will not only increase traffic, but it will also impact the paid for amenities we have. Apartments or multi family housing WILL not have these amenities offered in their space but with it so close by, they will come into our zones. Our fees will eventually go up to maintain our amenities. Parking may become more of a hazard on the close side streets to this commercial/housing zone.</p> <p>There was a reason people bought homes and property further out than right in town. We purchased for peace, for our space without being</p>

	<p>encroached on by commercial and multi-family housing. I work in this community every day and value my quiet solitude when I turn into my neighborhood.</p> <p>There is better suited property for commercial/mixed use building. Right at the corner of an already existing neighborhood that has gas stations and shopping 3 minutes down the road does not need more gas stations and shopping.</p> <p>We bought out here for a reason.</p> <p>Thanks,</p>
21	<p>Hi,</p> <p>My husband and I watched the Planning Commission meeting on YouTube the other evening. We would like to submit our objection to multi-story apartments for this site. The adjacent and nearby properties are single family, mostly owner occupied homes. The neighborhoods are quiet and shielded from the effect of multi-story, multi-unit structures. Rather than allowing further sprawl, it would be efficient to contain development within a core of densely populated areas and optimize mass transportation and traffic flow as well as develop walkable neighborhoods.</p> <p>We would of course prefer no development, then a pocket park and at most, a single family home development with landscaped and tree buffers.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Michael & Janice Petra	
Sat 3/16/2024 9:39 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
22	<p>I Am a homeowner in the Edgewater community and definitely strongly opposed to the building of the proposed apartments. We pay for our peaceful quiet neighborhood which will be at least frequently interrupted. I vote against it</p>
Vera C. White	
Sat 3/16/2024 10:34 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly	
23	<p>I urge the committee members to do everything they can to maintain the environmental conditions that support quality of life for humans, plants, and animals. More development is not desirable. Making more money, encouraging business, pushing development are all tempting but over-development, a trend I certainly observe on Marvin, threatens basic conditions necessary for a healthy life. Noise pollution and reduction of the important balance of oxygen and carbon dioxide negatively influence physical and emotional health. If you don't care about yourselves or the residents near 41st and Marvin, you might consider your own children and grandchildren as you contemplate the results of denuding the land of trees, increasing noise and congestion, and increasing pollution.</p>
Sherry Walton	
Sun 3/17/2024 8:02 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly	
24	

Sherry Walton	<p>I oppose multi-family development at 41st and Marvin. In fact, I oppose further development In general.</p> <p>I urge the commission committee members to do everything they can to maintain the environmental conditions that support quality of life for humans, plants, and animals. More development is not desirable. Making more money, encouraging business, pushing development are all tempting, but over-development, a trend I certainly observe on Marvin, threatens basic conditions necessary for a healthy life.</p> <p>Noise pollution and reduction of the important balance of oxygen and carbon dioxide negatively affect physical and emotional health. If you don't care about yourselves or the residents near 41st and Marvin, you might consider your own children and grandchildren as you contemplate the results of denuding the land of trees, increasing noise and congestion, and increasing pollution.</p>
Sun 3/17/2024 8:19 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly	
25	<p>This is in regards to corner of Marvin and 41st Street in Lacey.</p> <p>Do we need sprawl to permeate our wild spaces? Are there more valuable assets on a rural corner than just filling the space with the most popular financially lucrative options? When someone looks at this space 50 years from now will we be thinking that we planned well?</p> <p>What about wildlife? It has no place to go. We cannot bring extinct species back. Animals need habitat. Can we let nature exist beside us? Do we have to develop everything right now? Can we live beside nature and enjoy the rural feel of trees, deer, owls and newts? Have we thought about making this corner into a park with walking trails? The more densely populated this area becomes with people, the fewer animals and wildlife spaces we have left. Cars impact the wildlife too. Please reconsider this. Please!</p>
Diane Chamusco	
Sun 3/17/2024 8:27 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly	
26	<p>The Willamette &amp; Marvin round about to the diamond interchange already at times is backed up now. Recently Arrow, Switchback Apts have opened &amp; leased off Marvin. Also have the DOT maintenance facility off 31st &amp; Marvin. There is the Hogum Bay business center &amp; Providence Medical Center, (eventually Casino Resort) Target, Medline, Home depot, Harbor Foods (to name a few warehouses) plus over on Willamette is the Tilden &amp; Karlo Apts yet to be leased plus</p> <p>Supposedly Meridian Market all emptying into Willamette &amp; Marvin roundabout.</p> <p>Roundabouts were created for light to medium traffic NOT heavy traffic.</p> <p>Plus there are housing developments north west of 56th in the county that use Marvin to the diamond interchange.</p> <p>Adding another 4 story building at 41st &amp; Marvin is going to make a traffic grid lock even worse.</p>
Tom & Judy Duboiski	
Sun 3/17/2024 8:58 AM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	

	<p>Please reevaluate/develop the infrastructure before more multiple housing/commercial developments.</p> <p>We live off Marvin &amp; Columbia.</p>
27	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Please reconsider any project that includes building/construction at the NE corner of 41st and Marvin requiring tree removal.</p> <p>When we moved to Jubilee two years ago, we were happy with all of the majestic pine trees in and around Jubilee. In the two years two apartment projects at 31st and Willamette are under construction, removing many trees, At the corner of Marvin and Willamette commercial business's and apartments are to be built.</p> <p>Will Lacy continue to hold the "Tree City USA" award, or will it lose it in the future with all the tree removal due to these building projects that require a tremendous amount of tree removal?</p> <p>Regards,</p>
Keith and Mia Brink	
Sun 3/17/2024 10:05 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
28	<p>Lacey Planning Commission</p> <p>We would like to quote from the work done on the Lacey Comprehensive Plan:</p> <p>“Attention will need to be given when integrating higher density and mixed-use development into existing suburban areas. Input and meaningful public participation will be required to successfully implement infill and redevelopment goals. The intent is to improve opportunities for residents while increasing the quality of life as new development and infill occurs.”( Comp Plan 3-7)</p> <p>In our public comment, we also would like to call attention to how location of a specific Commercial/Residential zone should be taken into account when determining allowed uses and adjusted accordingly. Again, to quote the Comp Plan: “Given that the majority of the existing land use is built out in a suburban form, making a transition to more compact housing forms and mixed-use opportunities will need to be considered where this could effectively occur.” Transitioning from single family usage zones to multi-family and commercial zones must include buffers and multi-use transportation corridors and should also protect residents from unhealthy or unsafe usage.</p> <p>16.36.010 Permitted Uses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground floor residential is not consistent with the stated purpose of the Neighborhood Commercial District which is to bring commercial amenities closer to neighborhoods and reduce vehicular use. This use should be eliminated.</li> </ul>
John & Margaret Green	
Mon 3/18/2024 1:20 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gasoline fueling stations are not compatible within residential use areas and should not be allowed if residential uses are within the zone. If only commercial use is within the site plan, a fueling station must be 1000 feet away from any school (including preschool and day care), playground, park, or place of public assembly. EPA recommends 1000 ft from a school and 300 feet from parks, playgrounds, and places of public assembly. Benzene exposure can occur within 1000 feet and is a known carcinogen. For that reason, we recommend the 1000 foot requirement or prohibition of gasoline fueling stations.</li> </ul> <p>16.36.020 Environmental Performance Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General character – a “defining characteristic includes low traffic generation”. It seems this warrants a specific and measurable standard. Example: low traffic volume could mean 1000 vehicles/day.</li> <li>Operating hours can be altered “by the site plan review committee”. Public comment should be considered before deviating from the standard for the zone prior to accepting any change.</li> </ul> <p>16.36.40 Building Scale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum total building coverage of 50% seems to be a reasonable and desirable goal to maintain the character consistent with surrounding residential neighborhoods. It allows integration of tree canopy, walking trails, landscaping opportunities that incorporate leisure gathering or walkability. Situating much of the green space around perimeters would be a desirable goal (if this aspect can be clearly defined.)</li> <li>90% coverage in impervious surfaces is too much. Our recommendation would be to require parking areas to be of pervious surfaces and specifically if this 90% coverage is to be allowed.</li> </ul> <p>Maximum building height (when shared property line with low-density residential exists) – this is not clearly written, in our opinion. Is the step back of 1.5 for each foot when greater than 35 ft calculated at <math>55 \times 1.5 = 82.5'</math> or <math>55-35</math> thus <math>20 \text{ ft.} \times 1.5 = 30</math> foot set back or something else? We cannot comment on this without clarification. However, we request that the maximum building height for this zoning designation be required to be equivalent to the maximum height of the adjacent zone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setbacks - A 10 or 15 foot buffer is not an adequate set back from single-family residential property. We would recommend that most of the landscaping and tree cover/trails be located in the perimeter of the site to provide a large buffer of green space, which would provide noise and sight abatement.</li> </ul> <p>We consider the Planning Commission an extension of our community and the gate keepers who protect our property values and quality of life. City of Lacey goals such the Tree City USA designation to protect tree canopy should always be considered when crafting zoning regulations. Thank you for considering our comments.</p>
29	ATTN: Lacey City Planning Commission
Allison and Paige Cabral	
Tue 3/19/2024 10:56 AM	

<p>Email</p>	<p>RE: DRAFT NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT POLICY. Chapter 16.36</p>
<p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>As residents of Lacey, we are submitting the following for our additional response to the proposed Neighborhood Commercial District policy presented 3/13/24 for public comment.</p> <p>According to the recent (March 18, 2024) article published by thejoltnews.com, “the Neighborhood Commercial Zoning districts serve a crucial role in providing essential goods and services with communities, aiming to minimize travel distances for residents. Lacey Senior Planner Hans Shepherd said these districts are designed to bridge service gaps left by more generalized commercial areas and promote neighborhood convenience.”</p> <p>A letter from John and Margaret Green has been submitted this week for additional feedback and we support the concerns raised in their letter and would like to provide additional feedback. We live in the Jubilee Community and are familiar with the Marvin Rd and 41st designated Neighborhood Commercial Zone. (Approx. 6 acre parcel)</p> <p>Based on the definition above, we do oppose more affordable housing for the area based on the provision of “goods and services” as it's currently defined. While we understand the city’s priority for affordable housing, more housing in this area does not provide the services needed for the current residents of the area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) There is too much emphasis on housing as a part of this specific zone, as you are talking about 4 stories structures (55 foot height) that are not in line with current height of the housing in the area with ground floor residential components. This only serves new potential residents and does nothing to serve those who already live in the area. More high density housing does not meet the definition of commercial goods and services.</li> <li>2) There are new apartments being constructed along 41st beyond Fire Station 35 and new apartments near the Arco Gas Station at Marvin and Hawkes Prairie Rd.</li> <li>3) What is needed are service oriented businesses, ie. Grocery, personal services, coffee, cafe’s etc. Current developers who spoke at the March 13, 2024 meeting only seem interested in building high-density housing (most profitable) and oppose retail/services as a part of that plan.</li> <li>4) Highly/Critically important is keeping the environment with the forest open space area as a priority and should be required for any development</li> </ol>

	<p>to preserve as many trees as possible in the development plan (ex. Lacey City Hall Landscape). This should include connection/completion to asphalt pathways already in existence along Marvin Road.</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted;</p>
30	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Marci Newkirk, I am a home owner and tax payer at 4632 Skylark St NE Lacey 98516.</p> <p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 41st &amp; Marvin Rd Neighborhood Commercial District for several reasons. While I understand the need for affordable housing in our city, I believe that this project would have a detrimental impact on our community. The increase in population density would put a strain on our already overburdened infrastructure (ask any health care worker), leading to increased traffic congestion,(which some days already my husband has to call out sick from work as he can not even get to the freeway from either Meridian Rd or Marvin Rd as traffic is so bad.) noise pollution, and and a strain on our public services. Additionally the construction of this project would result in significant environmental damage, destruction of natural habits and put wildlife at risk in our area. This type of housing and commercial district being proposed does not fit with the character of our neighborhoods. We moved out to the county to be away from these. This type of development would bring in a large number of low income residents, which could lead to increased crime rates and negative social effects. It will drastically alter the aesthetics of our area. Finally, I am deeply concerned about the impact this development would have on our property values in the surrounding areas. I strongly urge you to reconsider this proposed development. I believe that this project is simply not the right fit for our quiet natural neighborhood areas. Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
Marci Newkirk	
Tue 3/19/2024 3:03 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
31	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>Please see the attached public comment letter from the Board of Directors of Hawks Prairie Community Association as well as an excerpt from the Master Plan CC&amp;R's.</p> <p>Please confirm receipt.</p> <p>Thank you! Best Regards,</p>
Heather Thomas (Board of Directors of Hawks Prairie Community Association)	
Tue 3/19/2024 4:34 PM	
Email	
Email attachments included as Appendix D.	

32	<p>Good evening,</p> <p>To keep this short and simple my concerns are:</p> <p>Loss of privacy to single story detached homes by having multistory apartments with rooftop facilities looking down.</p> <p>The loss of flora (trees, shrubs etc) and the loss of wildlife and their habitat.</p> <p>Increased traffic on roads that barely accommodate present traffic.</p> <p>Strip Mall shops that could possibly encourage undesirable foot traffic and homeless encampments.</p>
Monika Voege	
Tue 3/19/2024 7:06 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
33	<p>Dear Planning Commission Committee ,</p> <p>Last Wednesday March 13, 2024 we attended a public hearing of the City of Lacey Planning Commission concerning the development of the property directly bordering Edgewater Blvd., 41st and Marvin Rd.</p> <p>Our concerns ,</p> <p>The possibility of 3-4 stories high (up to 55'), multi family apartments with rooftop patios and gathering spaces, as well as balconies facing our single family homes, including affordable housing.</p> <p>The possibility of all trees and/or green spaces of this property disappearing and with it wildlife and their habitats.</p> <p>The potential for strip mall like shops we already have at Marvin Road and Hogum Bay roundabout which are not completely filled .</p> <p>The potential for greatly increase on road traffic and noise .</p> <p>The occupants of these apartments will NOT pay into our HOA dues but will most likely use our private Trails, playgrounds and other amenities that we as residents pay to maintain, which could lead to yet another increase of our dues.</p> <p>Other issues to consider are increased noise, garbage, loss of privacy and our currently quiet and safe neighborhood.</p> <p>We moved to Lacey the "CITY OF TREES" and chose this neighborhood on purpose for these reasons .</p>
Tanja Morgan	
Tue 3/19/2024 7:20 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	

	<p>Currently we have the opportunity to voice our concerns but will our WORRIES AND CONCERNS actually be heard .</p> <p>PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE AND ENJOYABLE as we are a part of Lacey the City of TREE'S in this beautiful Puget Sound area.</p> <p>In kind regards, just trying to keep Lacey classy</p>
<p>34</p> <p>Brittany Trujillo</p> <p>Wed 3/20/2024 8:32 AM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>To whom it concerns.</p> <p>I greatly oppose and sincerely hope you reconsider any development on the identified property near the Edgewater development. This side of the freeway has quickly become a nightmare for residents. Marvin road is extremely dangerous for both pedestrians and vehicles. The semi trucks consistently take up multiple lanes and there is already so much traffic. Adding more development to this area will greatly hinder the lives of those who call this area home. There are plenty of other land options on Marvin that have already had the land cleared. If there was an interest for more local shopping options, then an already cleared land closer to the freeway would be a better option. A ton of apartments also recently were built and there hasn't been time to see the impacts of those. Additionally, the existing area is part of an HOA that pays to develop our community parks. If another housing development is built, they wouldn't be part of this HOA and would utilize our community resources.</p> <p>In closing, this is a small single family residential area. It would be detrimental to build anything. The local residents don't want this in their backyard, so please respect that. We all chose to buy homes here because of the trees and the undeveloped land yet that's going to be taken away.</p>
<p>35</p> <p>Matt Farrell (Tilden)</p> <p>Wed 3/20/2024 1:28 PM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Email attachments included as Appendix E.</p>	<p>I hope this email finds you well!</p> <p>As promised, please find attached the written response from Tilden Commercial regarding the proposed code changes to the NCD zoning. This written response builds upon the verbal comments shared in last week's public hearing. We request that they be added to the public record and reviewed by the Planning Commission in next week's review session.</p> <p>Thank you, as always, for your efforts with regard to this critical issue. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Best regards,</p>

36	<p>Hello</p> <p>thank you for the opportunity to share my comments during the public hearing on the 13th.</p> <p>because of the limited time available I wanted to add a few more thoughts/concerns:</p> <p>as I said during the meeting: the risk of changing the environment that we as residents of Edgewater/ Jubilee intentionally choose by adding multifamily rental units up to 4 stories/55' high to a single family max. 2 floor residential area</p> <p>loss of greenspace and wildlife habitats, another reason I choose to live hear</p> <p>significant increase in traffic potentially necessitating an expansion of roadways and additional loss of green areas and wildlife habitats, noise and exhaust pollution</p> <p>increased foot traffic on trail and in parks and playgrounds, which are to be exclusive to the Edgewater and Jubilee Communities, since we are maintaining them with our HOA dues. But since we are not a gated community is impossible to prevent.</p> <p>any kind of store/ gas station/ or other business will increase the risk of all aforementioned issues</p> <p>potential increase in crime</p> <p>Thank you again and have a blessed day</p>
Rose Campise	
Wed 3/20/2024 5:09 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	
37	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Lacey is a beautiful city with impressive planning and development strategies.</p> <p>That said, a key component to making this a desirable community for those to live, requires a balance between development, growth and sustainability of our natural habitats.</p> <p>A major draw of the city of Lacey is it's beautiful greenery, wildlife, and park like settings.</p> <p>The concern of this email is the development and zoning changes to the quadrant located on 41st Ave NE and Marvin Road NE.</p> <p>We would like to limit impact on our natural infrastructure, and the wildlife living in our communities while allowing ability to grow as well as</p>
Aubrey Lohrman	
Wed 3/20/2024 6:42 PM	
Email	
Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.	

	<p>limit increasing traffic towards Tolmie State Park, and the area surrounding the Nisqually wildlife refuge. Removal of trees and habitat for wildlife in this area would impact the area close to our community.</p> <p>I understand growth and infrastructure is an inevitable part of population increase. However it is our job as an educated community to make the best decisions for the future. We have the ability to control what is built in our cities and how it impacts our residents and the nature around us.</p> <p>Any development other than single-family homes on that corner would be a detriment to this community.</p> <p>Please consider this request as a plea to limit commercial growth near the Edgewater and Jubilee housing communities that are associated with the Hawks Prairie community Association .</p> <p>Respectfully,</p>
<p>38</p> <p>Catherine kim</p> <p>Wed 3/20/2024 10:05PM</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Project staff confirmed receipt of comments and routed accordingly.</p>	<p>To Whom This May Concern,</p> <p>This is for the City of Lacey Planning Commission concerning the development of the property directly bordering Edgewater Blvd., 41st and Marvin Rd.</p> <p>I am against new development in this area.</p> <p>I'm very concerned about high rise developments across from our neighborhood. I do not want high rises facing our neighborhood. We do not want these apartment buildings that have no parks, to come to the 3 private parks that we pay for. We don't need extra traffic, people, noise and problems.</p> <p>We do not want commercial properties near us. I dislike how businesses keep popping up adjacent to nice neighborhoods. Keep residential... residential! I still have illusions of the American dream and it doesn't involve me living across from a gas station, a warehouse or an apartment complex with hundreds of people in it.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>

## **Appendix A**

### **Comments submitted by LDC Corp**



March 11, 2024

*Sent via email*

[Hans.shepherd@cityoflacey.org](mailto:Hans.shepherd@cityoflacey.org)

City of Lacey Planning Commission  
c/o Hans Shepherd, Senior Planner  
420 College Street SE  
Lacey, Washington 98503

**RE: Proposed Amendments to Lacey Municipal Code Ch. 16.36 – Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District  
Comment for Planning Commission Public Hearing March 13, 2024**

Dear Commissioners:

This firm represents Resource Management Solutions LLC (“Resource Management”). Resource Management is a real property investment entity whose principals are local businesspeople Ryan Haddock, Tyrell Bradley, and Trevor Colby.

In May 2023, Resource Management purchased an undeveloped 6.4-acre parcel at the corner of 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin Road (the “Property”)<sup>1</sup> which is zoned Neighborhood Commercial (“NC”) and shown below. The Property is located adjacent to the Edgewater neighborhood, has undeveloped school sites to the north and west, and a treed buffer for the warehouse distribution centers to the south. Resource Management purchased the Property with the intent of developing a mixed-use project including approximately 144 multi-family housing units.



<sup>1</sup> The Property is shown as Location “1” on the January 9, 2024 City Council Work Session presentation.

Resource Management has been actively engaged with City staff regarding the proposed NC code amendments and has submitted detailed comments on specific provisions for the Planning Commission's consideration. These comments are intended to supplement Resource Management's specific comments on the draft amendments.

**The Proposed Amendments Should Promote, Not Reduce, Housing Density.** The City's NC zoned properties have not produced the type of local retail opportunities envisioned by the intent statement in LMC 16.36.010(A), namely, to provide "small commercial facilities in residential areas catering to the day to day needs of consumers for a limited range of convenience goods and services." The City's review process has determined that the lack of retail development is due, at least in part, to a lack of housing density needed to drive retail feasibility. Community business feedback received during City review specifically also suggested that NC districts "should allow greater flexibility for housing options to support neighborhood communities and businesses." (Owner & Occupant Survey Results and Summary, at 5). In addition to providing density necessary to support development of community retail and services, allowing appropriately sized multi-family development as part of a mixed-use project within the NC zone promotes pedestrian accessibility, which is also consistent with the intent of the NC District. LMC 16.36.010(B).

The current NC zoning code allows a gross floor area (GFA) of 10,000 SF for a single-use building, 40,000 SF for a combined-use building, and a maximum building coverage of 50 percent. LMC 16.36.050. The draft amendments use a building scale approach with different allowed GFA and building coverages for different types of single- and multi-use buildings. For mixed-use buildings, the amendments would still allow 40,000 SF GFA, but with individual building coverage limited to 10,000 SF. For single-use multi-family buildings, the amendments would allow 25,000 GFA but limit individual building coverage to 8,500 SF.

Resource Management is concerned that the proposed change to individual building coverage limits for multi-family and mixed-use buildings rather than calculating building coverage as a proportion of the total site will result in decreased, rather than increased, housing density in the NC zoning district. This result would be inconsistent with the need for increased density to support retail identified during the City's review of the NC zoning district as well as existing adopted City housing plans and policies, including the 2016 Comprehensive Plan (Housing Element, Goal 1) and the Affordable Housing Strategy (Policy 2 (Create a Variety of Housing Choices) and Policy 4 (Make it Easier to Build All Types of Housing)).

**The Intent of the NC Zoning District Should be Expanded to Include Mixed Use.** The proposed amendments do not modify the intent provisions of Ch. 16.36. Importantly, those intent provisions date back to 1980 – which is not only over 40 years ago, but prior to adoption of the state's Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) and associated mandate to encourage development in urban areas and reduce sprawl. Given the requirements of the GMA, the overwhelming and continued need for housing, and the importance of increased housing density to create the type of retail services envisioned by the NC District, Resource Management recommends expanding the intent provisions to include mixed use. A suggested addition incorporating that concept is reflected in underline below for consideration:

**16.36.010 Intent.**

It is the intent of this chapter to:

- A. Provide the opportunity for the development of small commercial facilities as stand alone uses or as part of a mixed-use development in close proximity to residential areas catering to the day to day needs of consumers for a limited range of convenience goods and services;
- B. Limit such commercial facilities as to size of site, bulk of structures, and to such locations as to serve a relatively large number of persons in a relatively small geographic area. To that end, pedestrian accessibility shall be a major criterion in the location of neighborhood commercial facilities;
- C. Limit such development to areas where local economic demand, local citizen acceptance and appropriate design solutions assure compatibility with the neighborhood. (Ord. 583 §2.22(A), 1980).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

**DICKSON FROHLICH PHILLIPS BURGESS PLLC**



Heather L. Burgess

HLB/dlg  
cc: Client



To Whom It May Concern;

In working with ownership of the property located at the northeast corner of 41st Ave NE and Marvin Road NE, I've had an opportunity to review the retail viability and retail demand study done by Heartland in September of 2021. Since the study was completed, there has been a new 18 acre development closer to the I- 5 interchange that involves a significant retail presence called the Hogum Bay Town Center.

The site in which I am referring to, sits approximately 2 miles north of the I-5 interchange and Hogum Bay Town requires a 50' tree tract area from Marvin Road which will significantly impact the visibility to the project. The access points are all right in/right out on the main arterials, which will turn most retails away from this site.

As one of the more active brokers in the State of Washington for over 30 years, I've had a role in over 600 retail transactions comprising of 4+ million square feet throughout the state of WA. I've represented and consulted with developers, both locally and nationally, to help determine viability, rates, and much more for their property.

That being said, I'm of the opinion that this site may only be able to absorb 5,000-10,000 square feet of commercial retail space. This would even include live work units as an amenity for the tenants located onsite.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Erickson', written in a cursive style.

Steve Erickson  
Partner | Designated Broker  
First Western Properties, Inc.

March 11, 2024

City of Lacey Planning Commission  
c/o Hans Shepherd, Senior Planner  
[hans.shepherd@cityoflacey.org](mailto:hans.shepherd@cityoflacey.org)  
420 College Street SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

**RE: Proposed Amendments to Lacey Municipal Code Ch. 16.36 –  
Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District  
Comment for Planning Commission Public Hearing March 13, 2024**

Dear Commissioners,

Resource Management Solutions, LLC owns the 6.4-acre neighborhood commercial zoned property at the northeast corner of 41<sup>st</sup> Ave NE and Marvin Rd NE. We are requesting revisions to the Chapter 16.36 Draft Neighborhood Commercial District code provided for planning commission approval and public comment. The intent of this letter is to provide a detailed description for each revision being requested.

- 16.36.10 Permitted Uses – Affordable Housing requirement: As it relates to requirements for affordable housing, there are several reasons to consider this as a step backwards for a pro-development municipality. With costs, regulatory hurdles, community opposition, financing challenges, operational costs along with longer development timelines it's easy to see why MOST developers do not pursue anything more than market rate housing. The developers that do pursue affordable housing require significant incentives to push through these hurdles.

The incentives can come in the form of grants, subsidies, tax credits via the multifamily tax exemption program, or other forms of financial assistance from municipalities at the Federal, State, and Local levels. Those incentives significantly reduce the overall cost of development and risk associated with building affordable housing. In addition to costs, developers must navigate a complex web of regulations at all 3 levels. These regulations can add time and cost to the development process, especially considering the increased financing charges of that additional time. With all the additional steps for approvals and potential delays to the construction phase it significantly deters developers from construction projects that include anything with 3<sup>rd</sup> party oversight. Traditional lenders are hesitant to provide loans for such projects due to perceived risks and lower returns. This impacts the long-term financial sustainability of the project, as developers need to ensure that operational costs are covered while maintaining affordability for residents.

Affordable housing units come with restrictions on rent levels or income qualifications for tenants which unfortunately has an immediate perception within the neighborhood that is often negative. These types of developments often face opposition from local communities; NIMBY (Not In My Backyard) sentiments can arise, with residents concerned about the impact of the nearby project on their own property values, neighborhood character, and infrastructure.

Lacey Municipal Code chapter – 3.64 Multifamily Tax Exemption Program – identifies the only district within the city of Lacey that allows multifamily tax exemption (MFTE) is the Woodland District. There are currently no neighborhood commercial zones within this district. In every permanently affordable multifamily project we have participated in, the projects have been within the MFTE zones to help the project become financially viable. Even within these zones, permanently affordable housing projects don't always pencil, but outside of these zones, it's nearly impossible.

Requiring affordable housing without incentives on all three levels of government will deliberately restrict future growth and development within the housing sector which in turn will impact job growth and commercial developments as well. A step in this direction appears to be a contradiction to the City's desire to accommodate the need for additional housing. We request that this code section be eliminated.

- 16.36.10 Permitted Uses – Live/Work allowance: It is requested to increase the total live/work allowance to 7,500 sf. As shown on our initial site plan submitted to the city, our property can facilitate a minimum of 144 multifamily units. We are working on an updated design that will facilitate upwards of 200 plus units. At this size of development, the project can facilitate a much larger portion work/live space to meet the needs of the occupants. In a post COVID-19 world, live/work spaces have a much higher demand within multifamily projects.
- 16.36.40(B): It is requested that clarification be added to ensure the code clearly indicates the square footages listed are for individual buildings and not the cumulative square footages of all buildings constructed within the parcel.

The size of the property we own lends itself to being a prime candidate for free standing multifamily structures. Given this, we would be required to construct the minimum commercial space of 15,000 sf. Commercial spaces are incredibly expensive to construct and can be made more affordable as contiguous space. With the 15,000 sf requirement, development of multiple smaller buildings that are maximum 8,500 sf, will make it more challenging to attract end users. Commercial spaces thrive off co-location with other tenants and creating multiple structures on our site will deter tenants and increase the cost of construction in a market that is already at an all-time high. We request that the 8,500 sf be increased to 15,000 sf. You may also consider adding a code section that maintains 8,500 sf for all NC zoned parcels that are not as good of candidates for free standing multifamily, and increase to 15,000 sf for all parcels larger, e.g. all sites smaller than 2 acres = 8,500 sf and parcels larger than 2 acres = 15,000 sf. This would allow the wide variety in size of NC zoned parcels within the city greater flexibility.

- 16.36.40(C): Same clarification request as 40(B).

The current zoning code allows for 10,000 sf footprint standalone multifamily structures. We request and recommend that this be increased to 12,500 sf footprints, not reduced to 8,500 sf footprints as currently proposed. Here are several reasons why:

- With construction prices increasing and showing no signs of retreating, multifamily housing developers are finding it more difficult to construct several free-standing structures versus larger footprints and fewer structures.

Developers are also finding efficiencies in building layouts to gain substantially more units in smaller footprints. For example, the 5,500 sf footprint Briggs North apartments constructed just before the construction pricing jumps in 2020 are 12-units. The current apartments I'm working on in southern Lacey are 24-unit buildings occupying 9,000 sf footprints and 36-unit buildings occupying 12,500 sf footprints.

- With reducing from 10,000 sf in the current code, to 8,500 sf, this is effectively reducing the viability of providing housing due to needing to construct too many standalone buildings at a premium. The projects won't be able to sustain the increased cost of additional structures.
  - The visual difference of a 10,000 sf building and a 12,500 sf building is minimal, yet the unit count increases per building is substantial.
- 16.36.40(D): Same clarification request as 40(B).

As discussed previously, based on our parcel size, the 15,000 sf commercial space will be required as part of our project. We also will need to construct this as one structure to keep the project viable. Therefore, we request that this section be increased from the proposed 10,000 sf to 15,000 sf. As noted previously, you may also consider adding this as an option for parcels that choose to construct free standing multifamily.

- 16.36.40(E): Our project site is encumbered by a 50-foot tree tract on the western side of the property that hinders site visibility, commercial view corridors, and use of the site. We request this be added as an option to increase building coverage on the portions of the site that are available to build within.
- 16.36.60(B): Request removing this section as this is tied to the affordable housing component in 16.36.10.
- 16.36.60(E): Request adding a clarifier for commercial uses and add additional site plan review committee authority to this section.

One final item to draw your attention to is the attached letter from Steve Erickson, Partner and Broker with First Western Properties, Inc. Mr. Erickson has reviewed the market study our property completed in fall of 2021 and has provided comment on the current viability of the 10-15k commercial space listed in that report. Findings at the time of our study have become even less viable with commercial growth near Interstate 5, we request a second look at the minimum 15,000 sf requirement and consider a reduction to 10,000 sf.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Tyrell Bradley, PE  
Principal Engineer, LDC



Trevor Colby, Owner  
KCI Commercial



Ryan Haddock, Vice President  
Kidder Mathews

## Chapter 16.36 **DRAFT** NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

### 16.36.10 Permitted uses.

- A. The following uses are permitted in the Neighborhood Commercial zone provided the use meets the requirements of this chapter and the design review standards of Chapter [14.23](#) LMC.
- a. Neighborhood commercial zones within the designated McAllister Springs Geologically Sensitive Area shall be limited to those uses the Thurston [County](#) Health Department determines are appropriate to the sensitive area.

Residential Uses above ground floor commercial (consistent with <a href="#">14.23.080</a> )
Ground Floor Multifamily Residential Uses (consistent with <a href="#">14.23.080</a> ) are permitted within Neighborhood Commercial Districts with a minimum of 15,000 square feet of commercial space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>• Ground floor residential units are required to meet affordable housing definitions as identified within <a href="#">RCW 36.70A.030(5)</a></del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>○ Units must be maintained as affordable for at least 50 years and record a covenant or deed restriction that ensures continued affordability.</del></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Residential uses are not exempt from <a href="#">14.23.086</a> when located within Neighborhood Commercial Districts.</li> </ul>
Live/Work, Home Occupations (The “work” component in live/work is limited to those uses permitted within this district). Live/work units may account for up to <del>7,500</del> 5,000 square feet of the commercial minimums necessary for ground floor multifamily residential uses.
Medical and Health Services
Community and Civic Facilities
Commercial Uses, Professional Services, Offices
Brewpub and Public House (consistent with RCW <a href="#">66.24.580</a> )
Drive-through as an accessory use to a Pharmacy, Bakery, Café, or Coffee Shop with indoor seating (not permitted between the street and building, or in locations where vehicles would impede pedestrian access to storefront). These uses are exempt from <a href="#">14.23.082(I)(4)</a> .
Eating and drinking establishment (non-drive-through)
Grocery stores and Supermarkets
Retail (Retail uses are required to primarily conduct in-person, direct customer sales along the designated pedestrian street storefront)
Services (all activities must occur within buildings)
Rooftop Community Solar (as accessory to permitted use)
Gasoline fueling stations as an accessory use to a full-service grocery store or not less than 1.5 linear miles from another station. Stations are limited to a maximum of 4 fueling station pump islands serving no more than 8 vehicles at any one time. Stacking lanes and parking areas will be located to the side or rear of the building.
Gasoline fueling stations existing or vested on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section.

- B. Uses similar to those listed above may be approved by the site plan review committee upon finding the use is consistent with the remaining sections of this chapter and the design standards of [14.23.080](#), [14.23.082](#), [14.23.084](#), and [14.23.086](#).

**16.36.015 Prohibited uses.**

Uses other than those identified or described in LMC [16.36.020](#) are prohibited.

Stacking lanes and truck loading zones adjacent to residential uses
Outdoor storage or repair
Warehousing and ministorage

**16.36.20 Environmental performance standards.**

- A. Compliance. It shall be the responsibility of the operator and/or the proprietor of any permitted use to provide such reasonable evidence and technical data as the [enforcing officer](#) may require to demonstrate that the use or activity is or will be in compliance with the environmental performance standards of Chapter [16.57](#) LMC.
  - a. Failure of the [enforcing officer](#) to require such information shall not be construed as relieving the operator and/or the proprietor from compliance with the environmental performance standards of this title.
- B. General Character. Developments in this district shall be characterized by small [buildings](#) that add [visual interest and human scale](#) through façade articulation, varied building materials, landscaping, covered walkways, art, and decorative elements. Additional defining characteristics include low traffic generation, considerable walk-in trade, moderate lighting, and quiet operations.
  - a. Operating hours for businesses shall be limited to the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. The site plan review committee has the ability to establish an expanded or reduced range of hours of operation for any activity based on potential impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.
- C. Location. Neighborhood commercial districts shall generally not be located within less than a one-half mile radius from commercial districts providing similar services or facilities.

**16.36.30 Site area.**

The size and shape of sites shall be as follows:

- A. Minimum [lot](#) size for the development of a site in this classification shall be ten thousand square feet.
- B. Maximum size for a site containing one or more of the permitted uses shall be ten acres.
- C. The shape of [parcels](#) shall be appropriate to the function of the zone within the surrounding neighborhood.

**16.36.40 Building scale.**

The size of buildings shall be as follows:

- A. Maximum gross floor area of building for single commercial use, six thousand square feet;
  - a. Full-service grocery stores have a maximum building coverage of 30 thousand square feet provided they remain consistent with all other elements of this chapter.
  - b. Preschools have a maximum gross floor area of 10 thousand square feet provided they remain consistent with all other elements of this chapter.
- B. Maximum gross floor area of individual buildings for multi-commercial, ~~seventeen thirty~~ thousand square feet; maximum individual building coverage of ~~8,500~~ 15,000 square feet.
- C. Maximum gross floor area of individual buildings for multifamily uses, ~~twenty thirty-seven thousand~~ five ~~thousand~~ hundred square feet; maximum individual building coverage of ~~8,500~~ 12,500 square feet.
- D. Maximum gross floor area of individual buildings for mixed-uses (commercial and residential), forty-~~five~~ thousand square feet; maximum individual building coverage of ~~40~~ 15,000 square feet.
- E. Maximum total building coverage, fifty percent;
  - a. Fifteen percent bonus. Projects providing a shared pedestrian-oriented plaza of at least one hundred fifty square feet along a pedestrian walkway, at an intersection, corner, bus stop, or other key pedestrian area approved by the site plan review committee. ~~Additionally, sites with dedicated tree tracts more than 1/4 of an acre in size shall also qualify to allow the bonus.~~
    - i. Such areas shall contain seating for at least six people, a trash and recycling receptacle, drinking fountain, bike rack, pedestrian scale lights, pavers or textured walkways, trees, and landscaping.
  - b. Maximum total building coverage may be increased by up to twenty-five percent proportional to the amount of required parking located on-street, within the building, or below grade at a ratio of 2:1 consistent with the following table:

Table 16T-87	
Street/Below Grade Parking as Percentage of Required Parking:	Building Coverage Bonus:
10%	5%
20%	10%
30%	15%
40%	20%
50%	25%

- F. Maximum development coverage: Maximum coverage by impervious surfaces eighty percent, unless increased to a maximum of ninety percent consistent with the elements of 16.36.040(E)

- a. Note: Bonuses are to be added to the base allowable building coverage. The provisions of the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual, landscaping requirements and design review requirements may place further limitations on these allowances reducing the maximum development coverage possible on an individual site.
- G. Maximum [building height](#), three stories up to a maximum of forty feet;
  - a. Heights may be increased to a maximum of 55 feet provided the total number of floors is limited to four stories and the top two floors are reserved for residential uses. Below grade parking facilities are excluded from this calculation.
  - b. Elevations above thirty-five feet will be stepped back at a ratio of 1.5 feet of stepback for every 1 foot of elevation when located along a property line shared with a low-density residential use.
  - c. A fifteen-foot buffer of [Type 1](#) landscaping is required between the building wall and any abutting single-family residential property line and shall include a six-foot sight obscuring wall or fence.
  - d. All rooftop patios and gathering spaces, utility boxes, antennas, and other rooftop fixtures shall be located away from the roofline in a way that reduces their visual impacts on adjacent residential uses.
  - e. Upper-story balconies facing existing single-family residential uses on buildings exceeding thirty-five feet shall be constructed with opaque sides a minimum of forty-two inches high.
- H. Setbacks:
  - a. Front, maximum ten feet;
    - i. Setbacks may be increased to a maximum of 15 feet to accommodate outdoor seating adjacent to eating establishments, pedestrian oriented plaza 16.36.040E(a), or for ground floor residential uses.
  - b. Rear, minimum fifteen feet;
  - c. Side, minimum ten feet.
    - i. Unless located on a corner lot with frontage on both adjoining streets in which case, front yard setbacks and design standards shall apply.

#### **16.36.50 Public right-of-way Frontage**

- A. Relationship to Public Right-of-way. Land classified in this district shall be located on an arterial or collector, preferably on a collector cross street.
- B. [Weather Protection](#): Located along commercial frontage and residential entrances.
  - a. Protected area: 5 feet min. depth dimension.
  - b. Awnings on a given block shall be the same or similar height.
  - c. Canopies, awnings, marquees and [arcades](#) may project into the public right-of-way with approval of the [site plan review committee](#).

- C. Commercial Windows: Transparent ground floor windows must be provided between two feet and seven feet above the sidewalk along a minimum of 60% of the ground floor, total street-facing facade area.
  - a. Required window areas shall allow views between the building and the street.
  - b. Reflective, dark, highly tinted or textured glass (below 70% Visible Light Transmission) is not permitted.
  - c. The site plan review committee has the ability to establish different window coverage requirements for full-service grocery stores.
- D. Primary Commercial Entry Doors: Shall face street. At least one building entrance shall be directly connected to the primary or secondary street with sidewalks and walkways measuring a minimum of 6 feet wide.
- E. Minimize the number of vehicular access points by sharing driveways and linking parking lots between adjacent uses.
- F. Coordinate circulation drives and staging areas to accommodate routes needed by fire, refuse collection, delivery vehicles, moving vans, etc.
- G. Consideration shall be given to load/unload parking zones near the entry of the building. These spaces shall be located in such a manner as to minimize interferences with the entryway.
- H. Ingress and Egress. Access to a site which is a [corner lot](#) shall be limited to one driveway on each of the intersecting streets. Access to a site which is an [interior lot](#) shall be limited to one driveway unless the site plan review committee approves two driveways.

#### 16.36.60 Parking.

- A. The number of [parking spaces](#) required shall be in accordance with Chapter [16.72](#) LMC and Table [16T-13](#) (Neighborhood commercial shopping area).
- ~~B. Parking allocations for affordable residential units shall be consistent with [RCW 36.70A.040](#) — Minimum residential parking requirements.~~
- ~~B.~~ [C.B.](#) On-street parking can be provided to serve customers of commercial uses to help satisfy parking requirements provided street widths provide adequate room pursuant to city standards for on street parking.
  - a. In all instances of on street parking, curb extensions/bulb outs shall be used to improve sightlines and reduce crossing distances for pedestrians.
- ~~D.C.~~ [C.C.](#) [Parking spaces](#) may be used for loading zones in this district, provided loading operations shall not obstruct driveways, sightlines, or direct pedestrian access to storefronts.
- ~~E.D.~~ [C.D.](#) [Off-street parking](#) shall be provided to the rear or side of the [structure](#). No parking [for commercial uses](#) shall be permitted between the [building](#) and the right-of-way. [The site plan review committee has the right to adjust the requirements for multifamily uses.](#)
- ~~F.E.~~ [C.E.](#) All required bicycle parking shall be covered or sited in a way that provides weather protection.

#### **16.36.70 Landscaping.**

- A. Requirements of Chapters [14.32](#) and [16.80](#) LMC shall be satisfied.
- B. Create [common open spaces](#) that are inviting to district patrons, residents, and the neighborhood in which it is located.
- C. A plan of all proposed landscaping shall be submitted along with the site plan for review by the site plan review committee.

#### **16.36.80 Architectural compatibility and site design.**

- A. All requirements of Chapter [14.23](#) LMC for mixed use zones shall be satisfied. Specific attention will be given to how proposed uses align with the design standards of [14.23.080](#), [14.23.082](#), [14.23.084](#), and [14.23.086](#). In the event of a conflict between this chapter and any other provision of any Lacey Municipal Code, the most restrictive section consistent with Section 16.36.020(B) of this chapter shall guide site plan review.
- B. Corner Buildings. Buildings located at street corners are encouraged to utilize prominent building elements to emphasize these highly visible locations. This could include a corner facing building entry, public spaces, changes in building materials, atrium, or special roofline features with approval of the [site plan review committee](#).
- C. Site Continuity. When ground floor residential uses are included within a district, visual and physical continuity will be maintained. Residential and commercial uses will be integrated within a district without hard separations of use, physical barriers, or fencing intended to isolate or segment uses from the rest of the district.
- D. Where applicable, ground floor residential uses will be located away from primary district corners and as a buffer between adjacent residential properties and commercial uses located within the district.
- E. Development proposals contiguous to undeveloped parcels shall show conceptually how the adjacent property may be developed in relationship to the lot or parcel proposed for development. The plan should generally indicate how open space, parking, driveways, walkways, etc., will relate or connect to adjacent parcels.
- F. Light fixtures attached to the exterior of a building shall be architecturally compatible with the style, materials, colors, and details of the building and shall comply with local building codes. The type of light source used on the exterior of buildings, signs, pedestrian walkways, and other areas of a site, shall provide adequate light quality, while minimizing adverse impacts, such as glare and overhead sky glow, on adjacent properties and the public right-of-way. The [site plan review committee](#) may place additional requirements on outdoor lighting consistent with 16.36.020.B(a).
  - a. Light fixtures shall be of a pedestrian scale, provided lights within the interior of a parking lot may be at a greater height for security purposes. Facades shall be lit from the exterior, and, as a general rule, lights should be non-glaring, and concealed through shielding, diffusion, or recessed behind architectural features.

#### **16.36.090 Stormwater runoff.**

[Stormwater management](#) is required and shall comply with the current [City](#) of Lacey Stormwater Design Manual and shall be subject to the [city](#)'s review and approval, and shall, moreover, comply with Chapter [15.22](#) LMC pertaining to community facilities.

DRAFT

## **Appendix B**

### **Comments submitted by Janet O'Halloran**

### **Background**

On [May 3, 2022, in a report from Lacey's Hearing Examiner](#) (HE), a recommendation was issued that the City Council approve a Conditional Use Permit authorizing development of a gas station and convenience store in a Meridian Campus Neighborhood Commercial Zone (NCZ).

**APPROVED**— and that is where many quit reading.

One month later, June 3, the council, who publicly commented on their discomfort with the outcry from the residential community surrounding the project, adopted the HE's recommendation. Council members promised action on reviewing zoning and one stated this quasi-judicial process is "horrible." Within weeks, council members scurried to remove themselves from the quasi-judicial role of decision makers in conditional use land use matters. In fact, even your role as planning commission members was redlined out of the LMC 2.30.190 and 2.30.210 on August 9<sup>th</sup>— even before the council's vote succeeded in excusing themselves from that role.

Why does this matter tonight, you might ask? It is because citizen reliance on the existing zoning language before you, specifically LMC 16.36.010(C) was flawed. Do you understand why?

The Hearing Examiner expressed in footnote 3 on page 21 of his Findings, Conclusion, and Recommendation report that he had the potential to deny the gas station project. However, he wrote how to quantify or evaluate "local citizen acceptance" was best left to elected officials.

**<sup>3</sup> That said, the Hearings Examiner acknowledges that LMC 16.36.010.C is explicit in stating that commercial development in the NC zoning district should be limited to "areas where local economic demand" and "local citizen acceptance" assure "compatibility with the neighborhood." In contrast, LMC 16.34.010.C, the "intent" section related to the Community Commercial zoning district, also references "economic demand" (though does not use "local" as a qualifier) but *does not* reference "citizen acceptance." Accordingly, the City Council may have intended—in adopting LMC 16.36.010—that some indication of "local citizen acceptance" be required when commercial development is proposed or, at the very least, that full-throated public opposition is absent. How to quantify or evaluate "local citizen acceptance," however, is the type of political decision more appropriately addressed by the City Council. Accordingly, while the Hearings Examiner acknowledges the *potential* to deny the present request on these grounds, such a determination is best left to the city's elected representatives.**

*Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendation City of Lacey Hearings Examiner  
Meridian Market and Gas CUP, No. 20*

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I spoke individually and extensively with council members. The Council members did not address how to quantify or evaluate “full-throated” citizen opposition to this CUP. Many wondered if council members read the record in its entirety. Oral and written testimony was an extensive part of the record. It required members to have read all the material and to have working knowledge of the related LMC Titles. The council did not understand the “curing” of exparte communication and the “doctrine of necessity” of the Quasi-judicial process. Instead, the council punted the problem back to the public, you, and code writers.

You are not elected officials. Your role however, is to advise those who are. **It is the sloppy writing of Lacey Municipal Code 16.36.010(C) that addresses local citizen acceptance under intent, but then fails to tie that to substantive conditions or standards governing development.** In fact, this ordinance and language was adopted in 1980. Council members and Planning Department staff should have known this was problematic. As the legislative policy makers and advisory staff, you must sharpen your code-writing skills and immediately correct this problem. The decision has become a spectacle in our community, left a bad-taste in the mouth of hundreds of your constituents, and exposed consequential inadequacies in Lacey’s Municipal Code.

What is in front of you tonight? Draft language of LMC 16.36.010 Neighborhood Commercial Districts. **Do you notice the glaring omission? Missing is the INTENT language from the existing code. Missing is the IMPLEMENTATION language tethering the two.**

#### **16.36.010 Intent.**

It is the intent of this chapter to:

- A. Provide the opportunity for the development of small commercial facilities in residential areas catering to the day to day needs of consumers for a limited range of convenience goods and services;
- B. Limit such commercial facilities as to size of site, bulk of structures, and to such locations as to serve a relatively large number of persons in a relatively small geographic area. To that end, pedestrian accessibility shall be a major criterion in the location of neighborhood commercial facilities;
- C. Limit such development to areas where local economic demand, local citizen acceptance and appropriate design solutions assure compatibility with the neighborhood. (Ord. 583 §2.22(A), 1980).

#### **16.36.020 Permitted uses.**

The draft before you skips directly to Permitted Uses (reabeled as 16.36.010) and eliminates any example which previously considered public acceptance (i.e. gas station or establishments serving alcohol). Look at existing and proposed language side by side. Why?

Near minute 29:25 of [May 19, 2021's Community and Economic Development Webinar](#) about the Meridian Gas Station and Market application, a senior planner highlighted a slide distinguishing the legislative aspect of planning commission work. Emphasis was placed on the "The door is kinda wide open" aspect of the public meetings where "tough, but really good conversations about what we want our community to look like happen. This is where public comment has the most impact."

Some snicker when discussing how quickly outdated permitted uses language can become. I understand how no one can anticipate how our communities will develop in the future. That is precisely why the 16.36.010(C) INTENT language must remain and more importantly must be connected to IMPLEMENTATION language. I am not an attorney. The city is capable of hiring a skilled Land Use Policy Act (LUPA) lawyer to craft the language.

The Hearings Examiner expressly noted that LMC 16.36.010(C) arose in a *policy* provision, and was not in a substantive provision of the Lacey Municipal Code. For that reason, footnote 3 in the decision expressed uncertainty about how the provision should be applied, because no substantive Lacey Municipal Code provision addressed it. He left it to the Lacey City Council to determine how that provision should apply where, in that proposal, over 450 citizens spoke *on the record* to oppose the gas station/mini mart project, when only 12 submitted on-the-record comments that were accepting of the proposal. That 97% opposition ratio that was completely ignored in the decision -making process. It only added insult to injury when the Lacey City Council and its legal counsel completely failed to discuss this issue in its final "review" of the hearings examiner's initial decision.

The good news – if we can call it that – is that this abdication of responsibility can and should be addressed substantively in this LMC revision. Unfortunately, the current proposal removes the local citizen acceptance factor rather than leaning into it. This puzzling policy position would elevate any development proposal over the needs and desires of those living in the neighborhood most directly impacted. We should not codify Lacey's prior mistake by omitting local citizen acceptance from the permitting process.

**Here is my very rough go at it:**

### **16.36.015 Prohibited Uses**

- A. Uses listed below are prohibited, as are other than those identified or described in LMC 16.36.020 ~~are prohibited.~~

Stacking lands and truck loading zones adjacent to residential
Outdoor storage or repair
Warehousing and ministorage

- B. Public comments and a public hearing process will be required for any proposed new use in a Neighborhood Commercial District. If two-thirds or more of the public comments about the proposal oppose it, the proposal will not be allowed.

This change would (a) bring back some semblance of a public process, which has been omitted from the current proposal, and (b) bring a substantive voice to the public process, giving citizens in the affected neighborhood direct agency in the developments that directly impact them.

**VESTING, RESIDENTIAL, RETAIL, and PROXIMITY to Parks.**

When I addressed this planning commission a few weeks ago I asked for clarity in the draft about these areas. Considering the adage, it ain't over 'til it's over, it matters. Particularly with vesting. The [January 9, 2024 City Council Work Session](#) exchange between City Council member Malcolm Green and the City Manager Rick Walk is informative (at minute 1:36:53 – 1:39:36). I think Green was asking about the Meridian Gas Station (vested when application was deemed complete on March 19, 2021), in which case two years is significant per LMC 14.23.050. and .060). Do you know the status of the existing NCZ projects? Why did the proximity to parks language get removed from the draft?

**GAS PUMPS**

A few weeks ago, I heard a Planning Commission member declare that further conversation about the **number of pumping stations** permitted was unnecessary, as the 1.5-mile distance between stations would preclude any others from coming into the existing NCZs. I believe that it naïve and I encourage all of you to have further informed discussion. Exceptions, conditions, and variances happen. Note that it was at the 1-9-24 meeting that apparently the voices of just three council members constituted a “recommendation” about number of gas pumps can be heard (min. 2:26 through 2:29). If it matters, fight for it. Read the developers Market Assessment about why the number is eight. Enlightening.

It has been a long two years. I've learned much about land use and the quasi-judicial process. I respectfully ask that you understand the history of these land use codes. I respectfully request that you prepare for a hearty discussion at your next meeting when draft language gets further scrutiny. I ask that you don't erase public acceptance from code language, nor economic demand, nor design compatibility from the language of 16.36.010. The zoning code is the implementation of the endless plans and visions statements representing the city and its citizens. Look carefully at my draft language.

Your role is important. Your recommendations have long-lasting impact and consequences on the citizens who vote. Let's sincerely shape our community together. Do you have the energy and initiative to make a difference for your neighbors? Thank you for the consideration.

## **Appendix C**

### **Comments submitted by Pat Tennent**

To: Hans Shepherd  
Sr. Planner – City of Lacey  
From: Pat Tennent  
8008 Columbia Way N.E.  
Lacey, WA 98516  
Date: 3/18/2024  
Re: Neighborhood Commercial District

---

Good day Mr. Shepherd. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my comments to the Planning Commission surrounding the NCD discussed at the meeting on March 13, 2024. Please add my comments to your considered review.

By background, I am a 'City Slicker', have lived in metropolitan areas in various states on the East, as well as West Coasts and King County, Pierce County and now Thurston. Lacey is truly the "City of Trees", it's beautiful and fairly well thought out. When we moved here from a metropolitan area, we were looking for the beauty this area offers its residents. Within a year of moving into Jubilee, we saw major warehouses developed within our location, as well as retail commercial (Starbucks, MOD, etc) entities. Trees were taken down exclusively along Marvin w/o benefit of tree buffers, landscaping, trails, etc. We also saw the staggering apartment complex (Tilden) build up along Willamette's neighborhood. Will there be increased public safety development in that area (e.g. law enforcement/fire-rescue/EMS) given the population? Will Tilden be counted upon for their tax revenue (even though they indicated multiple times as to 'tax exemption') to provide those services to the area? Or will there be a future tax expectation for our established neighborhoods? Thurston County has a fire station there that services a large area. My questions are rhetorical, although I suspect have barring.

I have had significant concerns and misgivings that we may have made a mistake moving to Lacey and the Jubilee/Hawks Prairie area, and still do given the NCD discussions on 3/13 at the public hearing.

As Kyrian MacMichael indicated that evening, there is a "call to be stewards of land", "Lacey as a walkable City", "safeguards" for homes in Lacey, owners purchasing homes 'and then renting them out', and 'ensuring public safety on trails'. Great comments and difficult tasks to navigate for you as planners, balancing public, residential, commercial, and public safety resources.

One of the slides indicated developments at Proctor and Point Ruston. I am quite familiar with those areas, as we looked to purchase there. Ruston is nice to visit, however a disaster to live within. Both Ruston and Proctor have compression issues for the residents, visitors, and employees of commercial entities. Ruston is dangerous from a risk management standpoint. Two lanes in/out of the area and high-density commercial/residential living. Traffic and access are challenging given the buildup. Residents who purchased homes there moved out due to noise, foot traffic, security issues, etc. Proctor while a nice neighborhood is overwhelming along the drive to Safeway & Metropolitan market with the commercial and high-rise apartments. The neighborhood is not the same for the single-family homeowners. Having lived and worked in the general area, I can attest to this.

With the potential of multi-family dwellings on 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin, some of my concerns are as Margaret & John Green mentioned – trees, wildlife buffers and setbacks. Allison's comments (didn't catch her last name), surrounding the design and development of City Hall for Lacey are key. What a beautiful location

you have, and we noticed that driving through the community early on. How might that engineering be a standard for commercial as well as neighborhoods to thrive together? It's been refreshing to see deer, coyotes, otters, eagles flying over those trees and other wildlife in our neighborhood. Deer live and walk along the 41<sup>st</sup> Street trail and the little bit of tree buffer along the road. It's quite peaceful with the wildlife and greenery.

What will the impact to the Jubilee & Edgewater communities be given the proposed development of the 41<sup>st</sup> & Marvin parcel by the co-owners? Right now, there are trails, tree buffers backing up the warehouse buildup and other greenspace as stated above.

Height and design engineering/proportion to the neighborhood, should there be multi-family dwellings is paramount to the area, if the City were to determine to move forward.

Thank you for the time you took in reading my comments. Best to you and your team.

## **Appendix D**

**Comments submitted by Board of Directors of Hawks Prairie  
Community Association**

Hawks Prairie Community Association  
C/o Vantage Community Management  
8290 – 28<sup>th</sup> Ct. NE, Ste. C  
Lacey, WA 98516

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We are writing on behalf of the homeowners of the Hawks Prairie Community Association (HPCA), including Jubilee and Edgewater, and we appreciate the opportunity to share our comments and concerns about the draft Neighborhood Commercial District updates. We are primarily concerned about the changes proposed for the area at 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin Rd NE, which is directly adjacent to our community.

We recognize that the City has the authority to make zoning changes and exceptions as needed to support the needs of the community as a whole, but we are adamantly opposed to any proposed rezoning of or exceptions for the area at 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin Rd NE that reduces retail requirements or increases residential density. Marvin Road is already negatively impacted by the increased volume of traffic due to the significant amount of multi-family housing in the Meridian Campus and Hawks Prairie Areas. If additional multi-family housing density is permitted at 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin Rd NE, the increased volume of residences and vehicles would negatively impact the quality of life of the residents of HPCA and their property values.

HPCA supports retention of the current neighborhood commercial designation for the parcel at 41st and Marvin Rd NE that includes retail use. HPCA would welcome a community grocery store such as SPUDS in Tumwater or similar retail businesses. Our area has grown exponentially, and we believe a grocery store would greatly benefit the residents of HPCA and other neighborhoods located north of the freeway. It would improve the walkability of our area, promoting green choices and reducing the environmental impact of carbon emissions. Retail businesses like grocery stores and cafes also support our local economy, encourage community gathering, and provide much needed convenience for our large, aging population.

HPCA would also consider supporting the development of single-family homes in our area. We believe that new single family home construction is a key component to the housing affordability needs in Thurston County. Multifamily 1 and 2 bedroom units do not address the housing demands of families, and especially military families with children and pets.

It is also worth noting that HPCA is a successor in interest to a Declaration of Covenants with Respect to Hawks Prairie that was recorded under Thurston County Auditor number 3488110 and amendments that were subsequently recorded under Thurston County Auditor numbers 377628, 3813911, and 3813912 (the "Covenants"). The Covenants

apply to the parcel located at 41<sup>st</sup> and Marvin Rd NE, which is referred to as the "Retail Center". The Retail Center is restricted to the development of fee-ownership residential units with a density of not greater than 8-10 units per acre (see attached). HPCA has not agreed to amend or waive the enforcement of the Covenants.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Cheri Wilkins, HPCA Board President*

The Hawks Prairie Community Association Board of Directors  
Enc.

RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF  
AND AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO:

Beth A. Clark  
Foster Pepper PLLC  
1111 Third Avenue, Suite 3400  
Seattle, WA 98101

Thurston County Treasurer

Real Estate Excise Tax paid

By Olga Deputy

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL  
DECLARATION OF COVENANTS  
WITH RESPECT TO HAWKS PRAIRIE  
AND  
SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO BEACH ACCESS EASEMENT

Grantors: Hawks Prairie Land Associates, LLC; Hawks Prairie  
North Associates LLC and Hawks Prairie Estate, Inc.

Grantees: Hawks Prairie Estate, Inc., Hawks Prairie North  
Associates LLC and Hawks Prairie Land Associates, LLC

Legal Descriptions: (1) SE SE & G L 5 SEC 23, G L 1 SEC 24 & W NW & NW SW SEC  
25 T19N R1W, WM and  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Official legal descriptions on **Exhibit A and Exhibit B**

Reference Numbers of  
Related Documents: 3488110; 3776628; 3488109; 3776629

Assessor's Tax Block ID#s: 11923410500; 11923410501; 11923440000;  
11925220100

THIS SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF COVENANTS WITH  
RESPECT TO HAWKS PRAIRIE AND SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO BEACH  
ACCESS EASEMENT (hereinafter, "Second Supplemental Declaration") is effective as  
of the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2006, and is made by and between HAWKS  
PRAIRIE LAND ASSOCIATES, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("HPL  
Associates"), HAWKS PRAIRIE NORTH ASSOCIATES, LLC, a Delaware limited  
liability company ("HPN Associates"), and HAWKS PRAIRIE ESTATE, INC., a  
Washington corporation ("HPEI").

*Suppl. Declaration of Covenant*  
50617190.5

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Thurston Co, WA



3813912  
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Thurston Co. WA

RECITALS:

A. HPL Associates and HPEI are parties to that Declaration of Covenants with respect to Hawks Prairie dated as of December 20, 2002 and recorded under Thurston County Auditor's Number 3488110 (the "Initial CC&Rs"), pursuant to which HPL Associates subjected certain real property owned by it (the "HPL Associates Property," as defined in the Initial CC&Rs) to the Initial CC&Rs, and HPEI subjected certain real property then owned by it (the "HPEI Property," as defined in the Initial CC&Rs") to the Initial CC&Rs, as amended by that certain Supplemental Declaration of Covenants with respect to Hawks Prairie dated as of October 17, 2005 and recorded under Thurston County Auditor's Number 3776628 (the "First Supplemental Declaration")(collectively, the "CC&Rs").

B. HPL Associates and HPEI are parties to that Beach Access Easement with respect to Hawks Prairie dated as of December 20, 2002 and recorded under Thurston County Auditor's Number 3488109 (the "Initial Beach Access Easement"), pursuant to which HPEI granted HPL Associates and its successors in interest to the HPL Associates Property an easement across the North End Property (as defined below) for access to the beach, as amended by that Supplement to Beach Access Easement dated as of October 17, 2005 and recorded under Thurston County Auditor's Number 3776629 (collectively, the "Beach Access Easement").

C. HPN Associates has acquired from HPEI that certain real property within the HPEI Property legally described in Exhibit C to the Initial CC&Rs and consisting of the SF1 site, the Conference Center site and the Chong Estate (collectively, the "North End Property", all as defined in the Initial CC&Rs).

D. HPL Associates previously acquired from HPEI that certain parcel of property defined and described in the First Supplemental Declaration as the North School Site.

E. HPEI at present retains ownership of the two parcels within the Hawks Prairie MPC commonly known as the Retail Center and the South School Site (as defined in the Initial CC&Rs)(collectively, "Seller's Remainder Property").

F. The parties wish to enter into this Second Supplemental Declaration to acknowledge the agreements of the parties and amendment of the CC&Rs with respect to their respective properties and to grant access to the beach to the owners of Seller's Remainder Property in the event that such property is approved for residential use as set forth below:



NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. North End Property; Amendment. From and after the date hereof, the parties agree that the North End Property shall be deleted from the definition of the HPEI Property and shall be deemed to be a part of the HPL Associates Property for the purposes of the CC&Rs, and on that basis subject to all provisions thereof. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the total of 1,766 residential units approved by the City of Lacey for the Hawks Prairie MPC may be constructed on the HPL Associates Property (including the North End Property) and such residential units may be distributed among the HPL Associates Property and the North End Property in the discretion of HPL Associates and HPN Associates, subject to any necessary review and approval by the City of Lacey. HPEI hereby acknowledges that none of the 1,766 residential units are approved for or applicable to the Seller's Remainder Property. The parties acknowledge and agree that HPN Associates may request an amendment to the Master Plan (as defined in the Initial CC&Rs) to allow for development of the North End Property as fee-ownership residential units with a density for the SF1 site and the Chong Estate of not greater than 3-6 units per acre and a density for the Conference Center site of not greater than 6-12 units per acre and (if necessary) an increase in the overall limit of 1,766 units under the Master Plan. HPEI agrees on behalf of itself and any successor not to oppose such amendment of the Master Plan.

2. Seller's Remainder Property; Amendment. The parties acknowledge and agree that HPEI may request an amendment to the Master Plan to allow for development of either or both of the South School Site and the Retail Center as fee-ownership residential units with a density of not greater than 8-10 units per acre and (if necessary) an increase in the overall limit of 1,766 units under the Master Plan. HPEI acknowledges that at present none of Seller's Remainder Property is designated for residential development under the Master Plan and it is not entitled to any of the existing 1,766 residential units currently approved under the Master Plan as noted in paragraph 1 above. HPL Associates and HPN Associates agree on behalf of themselves and any successors not to oppose such an amendment by HPEI so long as: (i) the application for such amendment is made after building permits have been issued for all residential lots in non-age restricted portions of the Hawks Prairie MPC or seven (7) years after the recording date of this Second Supplemental Declaration, whichever is sooner; and (ii) any residential lots permitted on the Seller's Remainder Property shall be part of the Hawks Prairie MPC and subject to the same covenants, conditions and restrictions for the Hawks Prairie MPC now or hereafter of record (including the Initial CC&Rs and this Second Supplemental Declaration), but excluding any covenants, conditions or restrictions solely applicable to age-restricted lots.

3. Beach Access Easement. In the event any portion of Seller's Remainder Property is approved for residential development by the City of Lacey, such portion shall thereupon automatically be deemed to be benefited by the beach access



## **Appendix E**

**Comments submitted by Tarragon LLC**



20 March 2024

Jeff Gadman  
Lacey Planning Commission Chair  
420 College St SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Dear Mr. Gadman and Planning Commission Board Members,

I am writing today on behalf of Tilden Commercial L.L.C. (Owner), the owner of two parcels on the corner of Willamette Drive NE and 31st Avenue in Lacey, WA. (Thurston County tax parcel numbers 11801250200 and 11801250300). These parcels total approximately 2 acres and are currently zoned for Neighborhood Commercial District (NCD) development.

The City of Lacey has proposed revisions to the Neighborhood Commercial District zoning code that would have a direct and substantial impact on the development of the Tilden Commercial parcels. Our team has been engaged with Planning staff since early in the code revision process, and we have long supported amending the code to better serve the needs of the City, the neighborhood, and property owners. We have been impressed with the open communication and thoughtful consideration of Planning staff throughout this process.

Our group has over 25 years of experience developing commercial, retail, and multifamily properties in the Puget Sound region, and we have attempted to develop property similar to Tilden Commercial in other jurisdictions. With that said, we would respectfully like to offer our professional opinion on several aspects of the proposed zoning changes. Specifically:

1. **Clarity regarding priority nodes for retail centers.** We noted that the “Intent” section of the NCD code was eliminated from the draft revisions. We strongly recommend that this language be added back, and further developed. This section establishes the purposes of the NCD zone, one of which is to “Limit such development to areas where local economic demand, local citizen acceptance and appropriate design solutions assure compatibility with the neighborhood” (LMC 16.36.010.C). This stated purpose was reiterated by the City Council when they reviewed the proposed code changes on January 9, 2024. Mayor Ryder shared his opinion in this meeting that each “sub-district” should be able to do what is in the best interest of the surrounding community. The Tilden Commercial site has an existing retail center immediately across the street, housing a coffee shop, a daycare, and other retail uses. Additionally, the Hogum Bay Town Center commercial development is located less than 1 mile away, just north of I-5. This retail center is home to multiple restaurants, a Starbucks, and other retail uses. We believe that the economic demand for neighborhood retail is being met in the vicinity of Tilden Commercial. The local adaptability of the NCD zone should take these existing conditions into consideration when determining appropriate uses and requirements for this location.
2. **More residential flexibility.** We would like to request greater flexibility be given to residential uses within the NCD zoning designation. While we understand the desire for walkable neighborhood retail centers, it is our opinion that commercial uses will not work on the Tilden Commercial site anytime in the near future. To begin with, it costs roughly \$600 a square foot to build retail space in today’s market, and the corner coffee shop cannot afford to pay the rent required to justify construction. Additionally, since 2021, we’ve been marketing this site with retail brokers and have received zero interest from commercial tenants. If new ground floor

space is mandated for primarily commercial uses, we believe that the land could remain vacant for a decade or more. We do not believe that is in the best interest of the City or the community. **The Code should allow ground floor market rate residential uses.** As noted above, the Tilden Commercial site is located immediately adjacent to a small retail center, housing a coffee shop, a daycare, and other small retail businesses. Section 16.36.020.C (of the draft code revisions) says that the location of NCDs shall generally not be within a half-mile radius of other commercial districts with similar services. Adding additional community retail into a space where it already exists will likely have a negative impact on the long-established neighborhood commercial uses. However, we believe that bringing **more market-rate** residents and shoppers into the area will **add vibrancy** to the neighborhood and **will allow the already existing community retail to continue to thrive.**

3. **Prioritize viable areas for grocery recruitment.** We have heard from community members desiring a grocery store be located in the NCD zones north of I-5. While we understand this goal, we have worked with grocery tenants in the past, and the **economic reality is that a grocery store will not be viable at the Tilden Commercial corner because of the lack of space for the required parking ratios.** This is true, even for grocery tenants that only require 10,000 - 15,000 square feet. As much as we might encourage foot-traffic for these NCD locations, grocery retailers have their own parking standards that we would not be able to meet in this 2-acre space. **We encourage the new code to prioritize grocery zoning standards for areas of the City that can successfully site a grocery store use.**
4. **Affordable housing.** Our team applauds the City's desire for more affordable housing. This is an issue that impacts all of us, regardless of our level of income. However, the draft code's mandate for only affordable housing on the ground floor is too limiting. For small sites like Tilden Commercial, mandating on-site affordable housing requirements make future projects infeasible. We would encourage the City to provide flexibility for all residential uses on the ground floor and encourage affordable housing through other incentives, such as multifamily property tax exemption (MFTE). We have noted that none of the City's NCD zones are located within the existing MFTE target areas within the City of Lacey. Affordable housing, on any scale, is difficult to achieve without these tax incentives.

To summarize, the Owner of Tilden Commercial supports the overall objective of revising the Neighborhood Commercial District zoning. The extensive community outreach applied to the process has been greatly appreciated. However, when applying the proposed code changes to the specific location of Tilden Commercial, complications arise that will ultimately result in leaving the property undeveloped for an extended period of time. This is not what the City, the community, or the Owner would like to see.

Our team would appreciate the opportunity to meet with members of the Planning Commission and the City Council to discuss development concepts that we believe can be successful at this location, and that would better serve the City of Lacey. We can make ourselves available to meet with you at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

DocuSigned by:  
  
8500FD0D46804FC...

Dennis L. Rattie

President, Tarragon L.L.C.

Authorized Representative of Tilden Commercial L.L.C.