



PL(Z) 23-10
City of Greensboro Planning Department
Zoning Staff Report and Plan Amendment Evaluation

City Council Hearing Date: April 17, 2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT	Bernadine and Michael McPherson
HEARING TYPE	Annexation and Original Zoning Request
REQUEST	County RS-30 (Residential Single-family) to City R-3 (Residential Single-family - 3)
CONDITIONS	N/A
LOCATION	1208 Ranhurst Road
PARCEL ID NUMBER(S)	8805378018
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION	The notification area for this public hearing was 750 feet (Chapter 30-4-1.4 of the Land Development Ordinance requires notification of the owner of that parcel of land and the owners of all parcels of land adjoining and contiguous to that parcel of land as shown on the County tax listing). 50 notices were mailed to those property owners in the mailing area.
TRACT SIZE	0.45 of an acre
TOPOGRAPHY	Slopes toward the back
VEGETATION	Trees and bushes

SITE DATA

Existing Use		Single-family dwelling
	Adjacent Zoning	Adjacent Land Uses
N	County RS-30 (Residential Single-family)	Single-family dwellings and undeveloped land
E	County RS-30 (Residential Single-family) and PI (Public and Institution)	Undeveloped land and single-family dwellings and religious assembly
S	County RS-30 (Residential Single-family)	Single-family dwellings

W County RS-30 (Residential Single-family) Single-family dwellings

Zoning History

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

ZONING DISTRICT STANDARDS

Existing District Summaries

Zoning District	Existing	Requested
Designation:	County RS-30	City R-3
Max. Density:	1.3 dwelling units per acre	3 dwelling units per acre
Typical Uses	Typical uses in the County RS-30 district include single family dwellings with a density of not less than 1.3 unit per acre.	Typical uses in the R-3 district include single family residential of up to 3 dwelling units per acre.

**These regulations may not reflect all requirements for all situations; see the City of Greensboro Land Development Ordinance for all applicable regulations for site requirements for this zoning district.*

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Overlay District Ordinance/Historic Preservation

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

The subject site is not:

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

Environmental/Soils

Water Supply Watershed Site currently drains to South Buffalo Creek, Non-Watersupply Watershed Watershed

Floodplains >2000

Streams N/A

Other: If the site continues to remain single family, then site does not need to address Water Quality or Water Quantity Control. If the site is developed as multi-family or commercial, Water Quantity Control must be addressed to meet current watershed requirements.

Utilities (Availability)

Water and sewer fronts the property on Ranhurst Road. Private developer will need to extend water and sewer to City of Greensboro's Water and Sewer Design Standards.

Airport Overlay District & Noise Cone

n/a

Landscaping & Tree Conservation Requirements

There are no Landscaping or Tree Conservation requirements for single-family residential uses.

Transportation

Street Classification: Frieden Church Road – Collector Street.
Ranhurst Road – Collector Street.

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

Traffic Counts: None available.

Trip Generation: N/A.

Sidewalks: Sidewalks are a requirement of the Development Ordinance and shall be installed per the Streets Design Standards Manual. Sidewalk does not currently exist along the frontage of this property.

Transit in Vicinity: None.

Traffic Impact Study: No TIS required per Ordinance.
(TIS)

Street Connectivity: N/A.

Other: N/A.

IMPACT/POLICY ANALYSIS**Land Use Compatibility**

The proposed **City R-3 (Residential, Single Family – 3 du/ac)** zoning district would allow land uses that are compatible with the general character of the area.

GSO2040 Comprehensive Plan Policies

The GSO 2040 Future Land Use Map designates this location as **Residential**. The requested **City R-3 (Residential, Single Family – 3 du/ac)** zoning district would allow uses that are generally consistent with the **Residential** future land use designation. The **GSO2040** Future Built Form Map designates the subject site as **Exurban**; if this original zoning and annexation request is approved, the subject site is considered to be re-designated to the **Urban General** place type. The Growth Tiers Map designates the subject site as being within **Growth Tier 3**.

GSO2040 Written Policies

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

Goal C – People choose to live in Greensboro because every neighborhood is safe and has convenient access to first-rate schools, services, shopping, parks, and community facilities.

Strategy 1 – Employ a problem prevention model to identify causes and solutions to neighborhood problems.

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

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

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

Strategy 2 – Meet housing needs and desires with a sufficient and diverse supply of housing products, prices and locations.

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

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

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

Goal B - Everyone loves our interconnected green spaces, which provide recreation and transportation opportunities, promote active living, and protect our natural environment.

Strategy 1 - Expand the greenway network to connect all parts of the city as a key element of the transportation system.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Goal D – Our colleges, universities, and Career and Technical Education facilities play a leading role in the cultural, social and economic fabric of the community.

Strategy 1 – Building on existing partnerships between the City, neighborhoods, and colleges and universities, while creating new partnerships, so higher education campuses play an increasingly stronger role in the cultural life of the larger community.

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

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

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

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

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

Goal D – Education and workforce training opportunities empower residents to achieve financial security and career fulfillment and are matched to the needs of employers.

Strategy 1 – Work with our community partners to provide quality learning from early childhood to higher education through local schools and businesses.

Strategy 2 – Work with our partners to provide accessible and affordable career and workforce education.

Goal F – Greensboro attracts and retains a diverse pool of talented individuals, especially young adults, who have a wide variety of skill sets.

Strategy 1 – Market professional development opportunities to young professionals, skilled and unskilled tradespeople, artisans, and craftspeople.

GSO2040 Map Policies

Future Land Use Map

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

Future Built Form Map

Place Types: Areas that have a consistency of character, identity or purpose and that are most often bounded by corridors, natural features, or parks that create transition or separation from other neighborhoods that may not share the same characteristics.

Exurban Includes areas outside of Greensboro city limits, but within Growth Tiers 2 and 3. These areas are generally undeveloped or are developed in a form that reflects a rural context. When such sites designated as Exurban are annexed into the City of Greensboro, they are considered to be re-designated to one of the other Place Types, as appropriate, to reflect an urban context.

Urban General: should reflect these characteristics:

1. Setbacks, building orientation, building materials, height, and scale of residential buildings are considered within the existing neighborhood context.
2. New housing helps increase the range of choice, supply, and adds additional appropriately-scaled density with: Missing Middle housing; mid-rise multi-family; and high-rise multi-family in Activity Centers and along Mixed-Use Corridors.
3. Transitions between neighborhoods and different land uses provide continuity in scale, density, intensity with adjacent uses.
4. Cut-through traffic is minimized.

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

Growth Tiers Map

Growth Tiers: areas outside Greensboro's city limits but inside the area in which the City can legally annex property and extend water and sewer services; this is called the Water Sewer Service Area (WSSA). Three tiers are delineated based on the cost to extend City services to the area, primarily water and sewer, solid waste collection, and Police and Fire protection, as well as long-term maintenance of City facilities. In Growth Tier 1, due to the nearby presence of existing City infrastructure, the City is able to extend services currently, if an annexation is requested; Tiers 2 and 3 will require significant City investment to serve.

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

CONFORMITY WITH OTHER PLANS

City Plans

Sustainability Action Plan

Element 1) Transportation and Land Use:

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

Element 2) Green Jobs and Buildings:

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

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

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

Element 3) Waste Reduction and Recycling:

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

Element 6) Education and Outreach:

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

Other Plans

n/a

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION**Community Outreach**

Applicant is strongly encouraged to discuss this proposed original zoning and development with owners of surrounding properties.

Staff Annexation Analysis

The subject property is currently located in the County. On September 1, 2020 the Planning and Zoning Commission assumed responsibility for reviewing annexation petitions and making a recommendation to City Council regarding annexation requests. Upon submittal of a valid annexation petition, Planning staff forwards annexation requests to City services providers. These service providers include Water Resources (water and sewer), Fire Marshal's Office, Police Department, and Solid Waste (trash and recycling services). Each service provider stated that infrastructure is in place to provide City services to this location. The subject property is located within the Tier 3 Growth Area on the Growth Strategy map in the Comprehensive Plan. It is not typically the City of Greensboro's policy to annex properties within Growth Tier 3 pending approval of the associated original zoning. However in this case staff recommends annexation of this property to address an immediate public health and safety concern for this residence.

Staff Original Zoning Analysis

The subject property is approximately 0.45 of an acre and currently contains a single-family dwelling. North of the request contain undeveloped land and single-family dwellings, zoned County RS-30. East of the request contains undeveloped land, single-family dwellings, and religious assembly, zoned County RS-30 and County PI. South and west of the request contains single-family dwellings, zoned County RS-30.

The proposed original zoning request supports both the Comprehensive Plan's Creating Great Places goal to expand Greensboro's citywide network of unique neighborhoods offering residents of all walks of life a variety of quality housing choices and the Building Community Connections goal to maintain stable, attractive, and healthy places to live and raise families. It also supports the goal with the Prioritizing Sustainability Big Idea to ensure all residents benefit from fair and just treatment in the distribution of public services.

The Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Map designates this property as Residential. The Residential designation includes both single-and multi-family residential uses. Other uses should generally be in the scale of a Neighborhood or a Community Center as described in the Future Built Form Map, in a form that is appropriate to the character of the area. Many residential areas include commercial corridors, and future development along these corridors should be oriented to the corridor to avoid negative impacts to adjacent residences.

The Comprehensive Plan's Future Built Form Map currently designates this property as Exurban; if this original zoning and annexation request is approved, the subject site is considered to be re-designated to the Urban General. Applicable characteristics of the Urban General classification include, but are not limited the following:

- Setbacks, building orientation, building materials, height, and scale of residential buildings are considered within the existing neighborhood context.
- New housing helps increase the range of choice, supply, and adds additional appropriately-scaled density with: Missing Middle housing; mid-rise multi-family; and high-rise multi-family in Activity Centers and along Mixed-Use Corridors.

- Transitions between neighborhoods and different land uses provide continuity in scale, density, intensity with adjacent uses.

The proposed R-3 zoning district is primarily intended to accommodate low-density single-family detached residential development of up to 3 dwelling units per acre. The proposed original zoning request allows uses that are similar to existing uses in the surrounding area.

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

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends **approval** of the requested **City R-3 (Residential Single-family – 3)** zoning districts.