

Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at 7:01p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

Councilmembers present: Councilman John Paulson, Councilman Ken Dishman, Councilman Graham McDonald, Councilman Gabriel Sterling, Councilman Tibby DeJulio, and Councilman Andy Bauman.

STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

Community Development

1. 15-093 Update on Sustainable Growth Planning Efforts

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert gave a PowerPoint presentation on Sustainable Growth Planning Efforts.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated this is a great first step in what Council requested from staff. There are three areas that anticipate significant development and redevelopment over the next fifteen years; the Roswell Road corridor, the Perimeter CID, and the Powers Ferry Landing area. The City is in a bad situation policy wise from managing land use by zoning case. That is not a way to plan a City's growth. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is an enormous tool to be used with the zoning process that will evolve over the next fifteen years. The City should look at what density the City can hold, the current infrastructure and what it can be, and the resources for infrastructure. The City does not want to sacrifice mobility, quality of life, or any of those things that make the City of Sandy Springs a great community. The City has challenges to balance these. The City should grow in a sustainable way that enhances quality of life and gets the City the amenities and a retail district to be proud of. This will give the development community more certainty on what the City is willing to accept. Currently, the City is in a situation where it says no to a lot of applications. Some may be shocked at the number of apartment complex plans that do not move forward to Council. Instead of the City saying no, the City should be able to say no, but. If the City knows where it wants to go, it is more likely to get to get what is wanted at the end of the process compared to today.

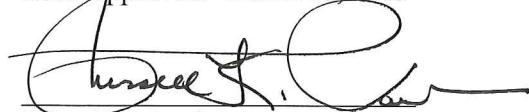
Councilman Gabriel Sterling stated on page 7 of the interim guidelines it discusses mix of retail and residential. By definition a mixed use is residential plus something else. We often overlook the office component, especially along Roswell Road. He wants to make sure that is included in mind's eye for the long term. The City always mentions live/work/play. There is a lot of play, but there is not much work along those sections.

Councilman Andy Bauman stated the public input component is very important to this project. He prefers this item be before Council again in April, but for sure sometime before the Memorial Day weekend.

There was a consensus of Council to move this item forward to a future City Council meeting.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Date Approved: March 17, 2015


Russell K. Paul, Mayor


Michael D. Casey, City Clerk