

Historic Old Northeast Forever – June 11 2017

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE -- JUNE 7, 2017 MEETING REPORT

At its June 7, 2017 meeting, the Development Review Commission considered proposed changes to the Land Development Regulations (LDR), IN THE FORM OF Floor Area Ratios for new construction and the proposed townhouse project townhouse at 505 11th Avenue NE. Twenty-two residents attended and expressed their concerns to the DCR about these two items. Many others had sent emails. Quite a fabulous turnout! Thank you!

1. Land Development Regulations – Proposed Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

The DRC voted that the proposed LDR amendments (with a FAR of 0.5 plus enhancement bonuses of to an additional 0.2) were compatible with the City's Comprehensive Plan, but it got an earful from the residents who attended the meeting. Robin Reed asked if this testimony would be forwarded to Council, but did not get a clear answer. We must continue to put pressure on the City Council to listen to our concerns and *reduce* the proposed Floor Area Ratio so that it actually limits the size of new construction so that is more consistent with the character and density of the Historic Old Northeast.

2. 505 11th Avenue NE (Cherry Street) Townhouse Project Proposal

City staff opposed the developer's proposed townhouse project which caused the developer to withdraw to reconsider. We do not have any idea what changes the developer might propose, but we must be vigilant. We will relay more information on this property as we learn it.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 20, 2017

The final decision on the Land Use Regulations to be applied to new construction throughout the City and in the Historic Old Northeast will be made by the City Council at its July 20, 2017 meeting. We need to make our position – the City's proposal for a FAR of 0.5 plus additional bonuses of 0.2 – is far too large because it would do almost nothing to limit the size of new big box houses.

Please plan to attend the meeting and/or send an email opposing the City's proposed Floor Area Ratios. Just copy and paste these email addresses and send your opinion: Mayor@stpete.org, Council@stpete.org, elizabeth.abernethy@stpete.org, pamela.jones@stpete.org

HONNA MEETING – June 19, 2017

“Trouble Fitting In” – Is the new construction in our neighborhoods compatible with what we have come to love and appreciate?

The Neighborhood LDR (Land Development Regulations) Review Committee which has been working with many neighborhoods, and closely following the efforts of Zoning Official, Liz Abernethy, will be presenting the changes that they have been discussing with Ms. Abernethy and in meetings with City Council members. Old NE Architect John Barie, Kenwood President Brenda Gordon, and Joe Reed will be the presenters.

If you have concerns and questions about tear-downs and the size and scale of new construction in the Historic Old Northeast, this is your chance to explore the subject and get some answers. As noted, the City will be presenting its recommendations to Council for a final vote on Thursday, July 20th. These changes will affect the size, scale and design of our new houses in the Old Northeast (and other neighborhoods) for years to come. We encourage you to bring your ideas and questions!

OTHER ITEMS

209 13th Avenue N (NW corner of 2nd Street N)

This property was not on the DCR agenda. We still believe that there is an offer to purchase contingent on subdividing the property and demolishing the existing home. We are currently seeking an update from the listing agent.

145 14th Avenue N (NE Corner of 2nd Street N)

We understand that the listing is still active. We are hoping that a purchaser who will renovate the existing historic home will soon come forward.

Let us know if you have any information about these homes. And, if you learn of any proposed demolition and redevelopment in the Historic Old Northeast, please let us know!

Thank You!!

Thanks for your outpouring of support. Let's keep active by voicing our concerns to the Council and the Mayor. Let's preserve and protect our special neighborhood. **We can make a difference!!**