

Neighborhood Overlay District

Background & Description

January 2006

Last year, the City Council discussed the possibility of an ordinance provision for individual neighborhoods to form Neighborhood Overlay Districts (NOD) as a way to address neighborhood identity and character. It was discussed that the ordinance might address the following issues:

1. Possible provision for redefining a particular neighborhood's definition of "family", by reducing the number of unrelated persons allowed to reside in a single family home,
2. Provisions for on-street parking regulations,
3. Provision to modify other neighborhood development standards, such as lot size, contextual building setbacks, architectural controls, preservation of building plots, and percentage of green/open space for defined neighborhood areas, and
4. Possible application process for each overlay district initiated by at least 60 percent of the ballots received in each proposed overlay district.

During a workshop session of Council last June, staff presented to Council the possibility of beginning a public input process regarding neighborhood overlay districts. It was suggested that input be gathered at a time during the normal school year (August through May) when input could be received from those interested or most affected by a neighborhood overlay district concept.

At this time, staff requests Council direction regarding the neighborhood overlay district concept in general, before proceeding ahead with further public input.