

WORKING SESSION - DECEMBER 11, 1995

The working session of the Ann Arbor City Council was called to order at 6:12 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber by Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT : Councilmembers Tobi Hanna-Davies, Patricia Vereen-Dixon, Jane Lumm, Jean Carlberg, Heidi Cowing Herrell, Patrick A. Putman, Christopher Kolb, Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon, 8.

ABSENT : Councilmembers David Kwan, Stephen C. Hartwell, Elisabeth L. Daley, 3.

WOODCREEK SITE PLAN

City Planner Wendy Rampson presented the Planning Commission's recommendations for traffic circulation options in the Woodcreek area which include City Council's acceptance of the Woodcreek Area Traffic Circulation Study and adoption of the following actions:

Immediate

1. Request petitioner to realign the boulevarded Woodcreek entrance closer to the southwest corner of the property.
2. Pursue a 90-foot right-of-way along the south property line of Woodcreek and the Van Curler property to preserve circulation flexibility.
3. Pursue intersection improvements at Chalmers Drive and Huron River Drive.

Short-Term

4. Pursue development of a northern access road from the Van Curler property to Huron River Drive.

Long-Term

5. Pursue right-of-way along Arborland's western boundary sufficient for two-way traffic.
6. Construct an east/west collector along the southern edge of the Woodcreek property at least as far as the Van Curler property.
7. Pursue right-of-way for an east/west collector between Chalmers Drive and Huron Parkway and extend the east/west collector to Huron Parkway.
8. Construct the two-way access road along Arborland to Washtenaw Avenue.

Steven Fisher, petitioner, presented a revised proposal consistent with the recommendations of the Planning Commission, and requested Council's feedback on the concept before making the formal revisions to the site plan.

Council unanimously agreed that the Woodcreek site plan include the following provisions: 1) Improved access and visibility to the park area for public safety; 2) An entrance (stub road) to the Van Curler property to the east; and 3) Improvements to the boulevard at Chalmers Road. It was further agreed that the City Attorney be requested to determine whether action can be taken on a resolution at the next Council session to support the concept of the redesigned site plan with the above three contingencies, prior to the petitioner making the formal revisions.

With consent of Council, the following neighborhood representatives presented their comments:

Erwin Pollack, 4068 Thornoaks, representing the Thornoaks Homeowners Association, expressed concern with the traffic impact on East Huron River Drive from the new developments. Mr. Pollack stated that Huron River Drive is a narrow road with crumbling shoulders and is not designed for heavy traffic volume.

John Stetz, 3444 E. Huron River Dr., representing the Geddes Farms Community Association, expressed concern with the projected traffic impact on East Huron River Drive, preservation of natural features in the Huron River valley, and preservation of traffic pattern flexibility and options. Mr. Stetz spoke in support of the new plan presented by the petitioner, but stated that a second access will be needed onto East Huron River Drive when the Van Curler property is developed.

Jesse Gordon, 1300 Chalmers Dr., representing the Chalmers Drive

Association, spoke in opposition to the recommendation to improve the East Huron River Drive/Chalmers intersection, which would be costly and unnecessary if another entrance onto East Huron River Drive from the Van Curler property is provided. Mr. Gordon also disagreed with the proposed Clark Road right-of-way which would be unnecessary if northern and southern entrances to the development are pursued.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

W. Northcross
Clerk of the Council

Janet L. Chapin
Recording Secretary