



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
July 7, 2009**

E-2, E-3 & E-4

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinances on First Reading. Consideration of Application No. 02-07-456-P, consisting of the following three (3) items:

1. **Change of Land Use.** An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving a change of land use from "Residential Use (Single Family) Low Density" to "Religious/Institutional Use" for a 1.0 acre parcel proposed for use as an athletic field for the St. Thomas Church/School, located on portions of Lot 2, Avocado Land Company's Subdivision (5450 North Kendall Drive), Coral Gables, Florida (legal description on file); providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date (see Exhibit A).
2. **Change of Zoning.** An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables approving a change of zoning from Single Family Residential (SFR) to Special Use District (S) for a 1.0 acre parcel proposed for use as an athletic field for the St. Thomas Church/School, located on portions of Lot 2, Avocado Land Company's Subdivision (5450 North Kendall Drive), Coral Gables, Florida (legal description on file); providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date (see Exhibit B).
3. **Site Plan Review.** An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables granting site plan approval for the new St. Thomas Church/School athletic field and modifications to the existing parking lots, located on portions of Lot 2, Avocado Land Company's Subdivision (5450, 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive), Coral Gables, Florida (legal description on file); providing for a repealer provision, a savings clause, and a severability clause, and providing for an effective date (see Exhibit C).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Approval.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

Recommends approval with conditions of the three (3) requests referenced above, to allow the proposed athletic field for St. Thomas Church/School. The recommendation for approval is based on the findings of fact provided in Staff's 06.03.09 report and associated supporting documents. Staff's recommended conditions of approval are provided in this memorandum, and are also contained in the draft ordinance for site plan review (see Exhibit C).

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

The Local Planning Agency (LPA)/Planning and Zoning Board at their 06.03.09 meeting unanimously recommended approval of the proposed change of land use, rezoning and site plan (vote: 5-0) subject to Staff's recommended conditions of approval, with modifications identified in ~~strike-thru~~/underline format. The draft ordinance attached as Exhibit C is a clean version of the conditions.



1. Application/supporting documentation. Construction of the project shall be in conformance with the following as amended pursuant to changes noted herein:
 - a. Site plan prepared by Witkin Hults Design Group, dated 03.03.08.
 - b. Landscape plan prepared by Witkins Hults Design Group, dated 03.19.08.
 - c. Traffic circulation study prepared by David Plummer & Associates, dated 01.25.07.
 - d. Improvements and/or conditions contained herein, unless otherwise specified herein, shall be completed prior to receipt of final Certificate of Occupancy (CO).
 - e. All representations and exhibits as prepared and provided to the Planning Department as a part of the application submittal package dated 06.03.09.
 - f. All representations proffered by the applicant's representatives provided during public hearing review.
 - g. Changes to the plans required by the City Commission as part of the review of this application at public hearings.
2. General.
 - a. Restrictive covenant. Within 30 days of City Commission approval, the property owner, its successors or assigns shall submit to the City Attorney for review and approval a Restrictive Covenant outlining all conditions of approval required by the City Commission. Failure to submit the draft Restrictive Covenant within the specified time frame shall render all approvals void.
 - b. Unity of title. If not already completed, the property owner shall apply for a Unity of Title tying all parcels (5450, 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive) together within 90 days of approval.
 - c. Maximum school capacity. Maximum student capacity shall remain 425 students (pre-kindergarten through fifth grade).

- d. New construction. Any construction of new buildings, additions to existing buildings or changes to the approved landscape and site plans unless specified and referenced herein shall require Planning and Zoning Board and City Commission review and approval.
3. Prior to the issuance of a certificate of completion or the use of any portion of 5450 North Kendall Drive, all of the following conditions shall be adhered to and/or implemented:
- a. Use and operation restrictions.
1. Athletic field - 5450 North Kendall Drive.
- a. Users of athletic field. The athletic field shall only be used by students, and faculty, church patrons, and support staff of the facility (including opposing teams, squads, players, etc). The use of the field by any outside groups or organizations not associated with the facility is prohibited.
- b. Play equipment. Permanent soccer nets or other permanent field apparatus related to the use of the field shall be permitted. Portable/temporary equipment associated with open field recreation shall be permitted. Bleachers or other elevated seating shall be prohibited on athletic field.
- c. Hours of use. There shall be no activities, events or any other use of the athletic field between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.
- d. Vehicle access. Vehicular curb cuts, access or other means of vehicular access from North Kendall Drive and Banyan Drive shall be prohibited.
- e. Vehicle parking. Temporary and/or permanent parking shall not be permitted at any time on any portion of this property.
- f. Lighting. Lighting, lighting fixtures/standards or light poles, etc. shall be prohibited on this property. Required low level safety and/or emergency lighting shall be exempt from these provisions.
- g. Landscape easement. A perpetual ten (10) foot wide landscape easement shall be provided on the entire eastern length of the property from North Kendal Drive to Banyan Drive for the purpose of installing the wall and landscaping identified herein. No physical improvements other than the wall and landscaping shall be permitted with this easement. The expressed purpose of the easement is to provide a buffer.
- h. Prohibition of future buildings/structures. As proffered by the applicant, future buildings, structures or other similar structures shall be prohibited on the subject property. This prohibition shall be included within the Restrictive Covenant referenced herein.
2. Athletic field - 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive.
- a. Users of athletic field. The athletic field shall only be used by students, and faculty, church patrons, and support staff of the facility (including opposing teams, squads, players, etc). The use of the field by any outside groups or organizations not associated with the facility is prohibited.
- b. Play equipment. Permanent soccer nets or other permanent field apparatus related to the use of the field shall be permitted. Portable/temporary equipment associated with open field recreation shall be permitted. Bleachers or other elevated seating shall be prohibited on athletic field.
- c. Hours of use. There shall be no activities, events or any other use of the athletic field between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.
- d. Vehicle access. Vehicular curb cuts, access or other means of vehicular access from Banyan Drive shall be prohibited
- e. Vehicle parking. Temporary and permanent parking shall be permitted on this property.
- f. Lighting. Lighting, lighting fixtures/standards or light poles, etc. shall be prohibited. Required low level safety and/or emergency lighting shall be exempt from these

provisions.

3. Facility (school and church) operations – 5450, 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive.

a. On and off-site Parking/Traffic Management Plan. Within 180 days of City Commission approval, the applicant shall prepare a parking/traffic management plan when 123 or more vehicles are anticipated on the entire site. This plan shall include provisions as applicable to provide and insure all parking is maintained on site and provide for traffic management which may include any of the following management techniques: valet parking, on and off site traffic management, on-site drop off, etc. The plan shall initially be submitted to the City for review and approval by the Departments of Public Works, Police, Building and Zoning and Planning. The City upon initial approval may request an update to the Plan at anytime in the future as determined. Updates shall only require City Administration review and approval.

a.b. Special events permits. All facility (church and school) special events where 123 or more vehicles are anticipated shall secure a special events permit from the City's Special Events Committee. A tentative schedule of facility events shall be submitted to the City a minimum of one month prior to each school year to determine which events are necessary to submit future applications to the Special Events Committee for review and approval. Those events requiring Committee review must be forwarded a minimum of 48 hours in advance of the event.

b.c. On-street parking. No vehicle parking, storage or standing (temporary or permanent) shall be permitted along any portion of North Kendall Drive or Banyan Drive rights-of-way. Where not currently posted, the appropriate City signage shall be installed as required and determined by the Public Works and Parking Director. The applicant shall be responsible for all costs associated with the installation of the signage.

e.d. Traffic circulation improvements for school operations. As proffered by the applicant, within 180 days of City Commission approval, the below listed eleven (11) recommendations for improving the pick-up/drop-off operations for the school as concluded and listed in the "St. Thomas Episcopal Parish School Pick-up/Drop-off Evaluation", prepared by David Plummer & Associates, dated 01.25.07 shall be implemented:

- Do not allow off-campus parking/walking, especially on the swale area of North Kendall Drive.
- Require all pick-up/drop-off to occur on the passenger side only.
- Do not allow parents to leave their vehicles unattended while in the pick-up/drop-off area. Parents who need to go on campus must park at designated areas.
- Allow only loading/unloading by "platoons" of vehicles in a single lane. Prohibit individual vehicles from exiting until the entire platoon is ready to exit. Control at the entry and exit points of the single lane loading areas is required.
- Do not allow children to exit or enter their vehicle from queue area.
- If a student (or all students for multi-student vehicles) are not present for loading when the student's vehicle reaches the loading point, the vehicle is required to exit the loading zone and rejoin the queue.
- Supervisors assisting with pick-up/drop-off operations should wear a safety vest.
- Parents should be encouraged to use the drop-off area in the mornings.
- Consideration shall be given to modifying pick-up times to separate vehicle arrivals.
- If dismissal times are altered, color coded student identification cards shall be required.
- Any new pick-up/drop-off plan shall be implemented at the start of the new school year on the first day of school. A meeting with the parents at the end of the school year, prior to the implementing a new pick-up/drop-off plan is required.

- d.e. Traffic management for school operations. An off-duty police officer shall be provided during peak morning and afternoon periods to direct traffic on and off of campus, subject to review and approval by Chief of Police or designated representative.
- e.f. Existing old rectory/caretakers residence. The existing old rectory/caretakers driveway which is presently gated shall remain gated and closed ~~locked~~ at all times. The driveway, including the portion of driveway between Banyan Drive and gate shall not be used at any time for vehicle parking or storage. Student drop off, deliveries of any other similar functions shall be prohibited from accessing or utilizing this driveway.
- f.g. Lighting. Off site lighting saturation and/or dispersion shall be prohibited from any portion of the facility property onto neighboring properties. Required low level safety and/or emergency lighting shall be exempt from these provisions.

- 4. Landscape and right-of-way improvement plans. Prior to the issuance of a building permit for any improvements identified herein, the applicant, its successor or assigns shall submit the following:
 - a. Landscape buffer plan for the ten (10) foot easement on the entire eastern property line of the athletic field from North Kendall Drive to Banyan Drive to include as a minimum the following improvements:
 - 1. Continuous six (6) foot high masonry wall on the property line; and,
 - 2. Continuous three (3) foot hedge/understory plant materials in front of the wall facing the athletic field; and,
 - 3. Continuous row of twelve (12) to fourteen (14) foot Green Buttonwood overstory shade trees at an average of fifteen (15) feet on center facing the athletic field; and;
 - 4. Irrigation.
 - b. Landscape plan for front property line of 5450 North Kendall Drive to include as a minimum the following improvements:
 - 1. Continuous three (3) foot hedge/understory plant materials the entire length of the front property line; and,
 - 2. Continuous row of twelve (12) to fourteen (14) foot Green Buttonwood overstory shade trees at an average of fifteen (15) feet on center; and;
 - 3. Irrigation.
 - c. Landscape plan for entire rear property line (Banyan Drive property line) of the facility 5450, 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive to include as a minimum the following:
 - 1. Location of existing under and overstory vegetation.
 - 2. Supplemental understory (i.e. Shrubs, hedges, etc) and overstory shade trees whereas 100% opacity is achieved pursuant to acceptable nursery/landscape standards for opacity.All of the above referenced landscape plans are subject to review and final approval by the Public Service Director and Planning Director.
- 5. Facility (church and school) public information liaison/point of contact. A specific point of contact person of the facility shall be selected to serve as the single point of contact for the neighborhood, surrounding properties and public inquiries. The purpose of the contact is provide a vehicle for exchange of information between all parties. The point of contact persons names, email, mailing address and phone, and hours of availability shall be provided to all property owners and neighborhood associations point of contacts within 1,000 feet of the facility. This notice shall be provided prior to the date the City issues the final certificate of completion for the improvements provided for herein and thereafter on an annual basis prior to the start of each school year. Verification of the notification shall be provided to the Planning Department within the time frame required herein and on an annual basis.

6. Onsite drainage – 5450, 5690 and 5692 North Kendall Drive. Prior to the issuance of a certificate for completion of any improvements to any portion of the property, the applicant shall prepare and implement improvements pursuant to a stormwater management/drainage plan for the entire property. The plan shall be subject to Public Works Department review and final approval subject to all applicable city, local, state, etc. requirements.

BRIEF HISTORY:

St. Thomas Church and School proposes to construct a student athletic field on the single-family residentially zoned property of approximately 1.0 acre in size immediately to the east of the school campus (5450 North Kendall Drive). No new buildings or building renovations are proposed with this application. The property did contain a single-family residence, however the residence has since been demolished and the property is currently vacant. The single-family residential parcel has single-family residential land use and zoning designations, which do not allow for the proposed use as an athletic field. A change of land use and zoning is required to allow this proposal to proceed forward. Site plan review is also necessary for the entire campus as modifications to the existing parking lot are also proposed.

Staff's report and background information is provided as Exhibit D. The Planning and Zoning Board's 06.03.09 meeting minutes are provided as Exhibit E. A summary of public comments submitted to the City is provided with Exhibit F.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Date:	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments

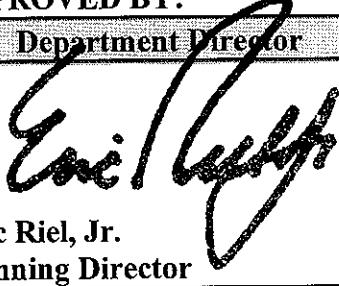
OTHER ADVISORY BOARD/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S):

Date	Board/Committee	Comments (if any)
06.03.09	Planning and Zoning Board	Recommended approval of all three (3) items, with Staff's recommended conditions of approval with modifications (vote: 5-0).

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION(S):

Date	Form of Notification
05.21.09	Published Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Agenda in newspaper.
07.03.09	Posted City Commission memo and all attachments on City web page.
06.23.09	Memo to City Clerk requesting advertisement of Ordinance headings with map on First Reading.
06.26.09	Published ordinance title and separate map advertisements (2 advertisements).

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney (If Applicable)	City Manager
 Eric Riel, Jr. Planning Director		

EXHIBIT(S):

- A. Ordinance – Change of land use.
- B. Ordinance – Change of zoning.
- C. Ordinance – Site plan review.
- D. 06.03.09 Staff report and attachments.
- E. 06.03.09 Planning and Zoning Board meeting minutes and attachments
- F. Updated summary of submitted public comments.
- G. Staff's 07.07.09 City Commission PowerPoint Presentation.

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