



Gaithersburg

A CHARACTER COUNTS!

CITY OF GAITHERSBURG

MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

February 9, 2009

A joint work session of the Mayor and City Council and Planning Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Mayor Katz presiding. Council Members present: Ashman, Drzyzgula, Marraffa, Sesma, and Spiegel. Commissioners present: Bauer, Winborne, Hopkins, Kaufman, and Lanier. Staff present: City Manager Jones, City Attorney Board, Planning & Code Director Ossont, and Planners Eby and Robinson.

I. **TOPIC OF DISCUSSION**

Master Plan Amendment MP-2-08: Municipal Growth Element

Planning and Code Director Ossont began a power point presentation in which he discussed what has occurred since the joint public hearing on MP-2-08 was held on December 1, 2008 including:

- A synopsis of the State and Montgomery County Comments
- Identifying proposed edits to the document

Dir. Ossont then presented the four issues from the joint public hearing to be addressed:

- Growth Areas and the Maximum Expansion Limits (MELs)
- The density multipliers
- The purpose of the Municipal Growth Element
- The process for amending the Municipal Growth Element

Planner Robinson then addressed the four issues individually explaining the changes made to the MEL; the reduction of growth areas to those properties that are either in a Master Plan, identified in the City Strategic Plan, or known to be submitting redevelopment plans; the methodology in developing the density multipliers; the purpose of the Municipal Growth Element versus the purpose of the Land Use Element; and a brief overview of the Master Plan process.

Diane Schwartz Jones, of the Montgomery County Executives Office, then spoke reiterating the County position that the "Life Sciences Center" (LSC) be removed from the proposed MEL. There were no other comments from the audience.

After lengthy discussion, the Mayor and Council provided staff guidance to move forward with the draft document including the revised MEL (incorporating the LSC), the 32 unit and 20 unit density multipliers, and a new preamble section to begin the document defining the purpose and intent.

II. **ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council concluded this worksession at 8:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rob Robinson', written in a cursive style.

(Rob Robinson)
(Planner)