



**PLANNING ACTION:** PA-T2-2022-00037

**SUBJECT PROPERTY:** 165 Water Street, 160 Helman Street and 95 Van Ness (*corner of Van Ness & Water Streets*)

**APPLICANT/OWNER:** Rogue Planning & Development Services, LLC, *agent for*

**DESCRIPTION:** A request for an eight-lot commercial subdivision to construct a phased mixed-use development for the three properties at 95 Van Ness Street, 165 Water Street and 160 Helman Street. The applicant's Phase I requests Site Design Review approval for five mixed-use buildings consisting of two ground floor commercial spaces with two residential units above in each building, as well as associated surface parking, utility infrastructure and street improvements. The remaining three building sites would be developed in a later phase. The application also includes a request for a Physical & Environmental (P&E) Constraints Review Permit because the proposal includes development on severe constraints lands with slopes greater than 35 percent and on floodplain corridor lands; a request for an Exception to the Development Standards for Hillside Lands; a request for a Tree Removal Permit to remove 20 trees on the three properties and within the adjacent rights-of-way; a request for an Exception to the Site Development and Design Standards to allow 3,087 square feet of plaza space where the standards require 5,624 square feet; and a request for an Exception to Street Standards to allow parking bays with street trees in bump-outs along Van Ness Avenue rather than standard park row planting strips.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DESIGNATION:** Employment; **ZONING:** E-1; **ASSESSOR'S MAP:** 39 1E 04CC; **TAX LOTS #:** 2000, 2100 & 7100

**NOTE:** The Ashland Historic Commission will review this Planning Action at an electronic public hearing on **Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 6:00 PM**. See page 2 of this notice for information about participating in the electronic public hearing.

**NOTE:** The Ashland Tree Commission will review this Planning Action at an electronic public hearing on **Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 6:00 PM**. See page 2 of this notice for information about participating in the electronic public hearing.

**ELECTRONIC ASHLAND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:** **March 8, 2022 at 7:00 PM.**



### **Historic and Tree Commission Meetings**

Notice is hereby given that the **Historic and Tree Commission** will hold an electronic public hearing on the above described planning action on the meeting date and time shown on Page 1. If you would like to watch and listen to the **Historic and Tree Commission** meetings virtually, but not participate in any discussion, you can use the Zoom link posted on the City of Ashland calendar website <https://www.ashland.or.us/calendar.asp>.

**Anyone wishing to submit written comments can do so by sending an e-mail to [PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us) with the subject line “Advisory Commission Hearing Testimony” by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.**

Oral testimony will be taken during the electronic public hearing. If you wish to provide oral testimony during the electronic meeting, send an email to [PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us) by **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022**. In order to provide testimony at the public hearing, please provide the following information: 1) make the subject line of the email “Advisory Commission Testimony Request”, 2) include your name, 3) specify the date and commission meeting you wish to testify at, 4) specify the agenda item you wish to speak to, 5) specify if you will be participating by computer or telephone, and 6) the name you will use if participating by computer or the telephone number you will use if participating by telephone.

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator’s office at 541-488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting. (28 CFR 35.102.-35.104 ADA Title I).

Notice is hereby given that the Ashland Planning Commission will hold an electronic public hearing on the above described planning action on the meeting date and time shown above. You can watch the meeting on local channel 9, on Charter Communications channels 180 & 181, or you can stream the meeting via the internet by going to [rvtv.sou.edu](http://rvtv.sou.edu) and selecting ‘**RVTV Prime.**’

The ordinance criteria applicable to this planning action are attached to this notice. Oregon law states that failure to raise an objection concerning this application, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the decision makers an opportunity to respond to the issue, precludes your right of appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) on that issue. Failure to specify which ordinance criterion the objection is based on also precludes your right of appeal to LUBA on that criterion. Failure of the applicant to raise constitutional or other issues relating to proposed conditions of approval with sufficient specificity to allow this Commission to respond to the issue precludes an action for damages in circuit court.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, application materials are provided online and written comments will be accepted by email. Alternative arrangements for reviewing the application or submitting comments can be made by contacting (541) 488-5305 or [planning@ashland.or.us](mailto:planning@ashland.or.us).

A copy of the application, including all documents, evidence and applicable criteria relied upon by the applicant, and a copy of the staff report will be available on-line at [www.ashland.or.us/PCpackets](http://www.ashland.or.us/PCpackets) seven days prior to the hearing. Copies of application materials will be provided at reasonable cost, if requested. Under extenuating circumstances, application materials may be requested to be reviewed in-person at the Ashland Community Development & Engineering Services Building, 51 Winburn Way, via a pre-arranged appointment by calling (541) 488-5305 or emailing [planning@ashland.or.us](mailto:planning@ashland.or.us).

Anyone wishing to submit comments can do so by sending an e-mail to [PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us) with the subject line “**March 8 PC Hearing Testimony**” by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 7, 2022 Written testimony received by this deadline will be available for Planning Commissioners to review before the hearing and will be included in the meeting minutes.

Oral testimony will be taken during the electronic public hearing. If you wish to provide oral testimony during the electronic meeting, send an email to [PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us](mailto:PC-public-testimony@ashland.or.us) by 10:00 a.m. on March 7, 2022. In order to provide testimony at the public hearing, please provide the following information: 1) make the subject line of the email “**March 8 Speaker Request**”, 2) include your name, 3) the agenda item on which you wish to speak on, 4) specify if you will be participating by computer or telephone, and 5) the name you will use if participating by computer or the telephone number you will use if participating by telephone.

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator’s office at 541-488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting. (28 CFR 35.102.-35.104 ADA Title I).

If you have questions or comments concerning this request, please feel free to contact Derek Severson at 541-522-2040 / [derek.severson@ashland.or.us](mailto:derek.severson@ashland.or.us).

## **SITE DESIGN AND USE STANDARDS**

### **18.5.2.050**

The following criteria shall be used to approve or deny an application:

- A. **Underlying Zone:** The proposal complies with all of the applicable provisions of the underlying zone (part 18.2), including but not limited to: building and yard setbacks, lot area and dimensions, density and floor area, lot coverage, building height, building orientation, architecture, and other applicable standards.
- B. **Overlay Zones:** The proposal complies with applicable overlay zone requirements (part 18.3).
- C. **Site Development and Design Standards:** The proposal complies with the applicable Site Development and Design Standards of part 18.4, except as provided by subsection E, below.
- D. **City Facilities:** The proposal complies with the applicable standards in section 18.4.6 Public Facilities and that adequate capacity of City facilities for water, sewer, electricity, urban storm drainage, paved access to and throughout the property and adequate transportation can and will be provided to the subject property.
- E. **Exception to the Site Development and Design Standards:** The approval authority may approve exceptions to the Site Development and Design Standards of part 18.4 if the circumstances in either subsection 1 or 2, below, are found to exist.
  - 1. There is a demonstrable difficulty meeting the specific requirements of the Site Development and Design Standards due to a unique or unusual aspect of an existing structure or the proposed use of a site; and approval of the exception will not substantially negatively impact adjacent properties; and approval of the exception is consistent with the stated purpose of the Site Development and Design; and the exception requested is the minimum which would alleviate the difficulty.; or
  - 2. There is no demonstrable difficulty in meeting the specific requirements, but granting the exception will result in a design that equally or better achieves the stated purpose of the Site Development and Design Standards.

## **SUBDIVISION CRITERIA**

### **18.5.3.070 Preliminary Subdivision Plat Criteria**

- A. **Approval Criteria.** The approval authority, pursuant to subsection [18.5.3.030.A](#), may approve, approve with conditions or deny a preliminary subdivision plat on findings of compliance with all of the following approval criteria.
  - 1. The subdivision plan conforms to applicable City-adopted neighborhood or district plans, if any, and any previous land use approvals for the subject area.
  - 2. Proposed lots conform to the requirements of the underlying zone, per part [18.2](#), any applicable overlay zone requirements, per part [18.3](#), and any applicable development standards, per part [18.4](#) (e.g., parking and access, tree preservation, solar access and orientation).
  - 3. Access to individual lots necessary to serve the development shall conform to the standards contained in section [18.4.3.080](#) Vehicle Area Design.
  - 4. The proposed streets, utilities, and surface water drainage facilities conform to the standards in chapter [18.4.6](#), and allow for transitions to existing and potential future development on adjacent lands. The preliminary plat shall identify all proposed public improvements and dedications.
  - 5. All proposed private common areas and improvements, if any, are identified on the preliminary plat and maintenance of such areas(e.g., landscaping, tree preservation, common areas, access, parking, etc.) is ensured through appropriate legal instrument (e.g., Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R's).
  - 6. Required State and Federal permits, as applicable, have been obtained or can reasonably be obtained prior to development.
- B. **Conditions of Approval.** The approval authority may attach such conditions as are necessary to carry out provisions of this ordinance, and other applicable ordinances and regulations.

## **EXCEPTION TO STREET STANDARDS**

### **18.4.6.020.B.1**

Exception to the Street Design Standards. The approval authority may approve exceptions to the standards section in 18.4.6.040 Street Design Standards if all of the following circumstances are found to exist.

- a. There is demonstrable difficulty in meeting the specific requirements of this chapter due to a unique or unusual aspect of the site or proposed use of the site.
- b. The exception will result in equal or superior transportation facilities and connectivity considering the following factors where applicable.
  - i. For transit facilities and related improvements, access, wait time, and ride experience.
  - ii. For bicycle facilities, feeling of safety, quality of experience (i.e., comfort level of bicycling along the roadway), and frequency of conflicts with vehicle cross traffic.
  - iii. For pedestrian facilities, feeling of safety, quality of experience (i.e., comfort level of walking along roadway), and ability to safety and efficiency crossing roadway.
- c. The exception is the minimum necessary to alleviate the difficulty.
- d. The exception is consistent with the Purpose and Intent of the Street Standards in subsection 18.4.6.040.A.

## **PHYSICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS**

### 18.3.10.050

An application for a Physical Constraints Review Permit is subject to the Type I procedure in section 18.5.1.050 and shall be approved if the proposal meets all of the following criteria.

- A. Through the application of the development standards of this chapter, the potential impacts to the property and nearby areas have been considered, and adverse impacts have been minimized.
- B. That the applicant has considered the potential hazards that the development may create and implemented measures to mitigate the potential hazards caused by the development.
- C. That the applicant has taken all reasonable steps to reduce the adverse impact on the environment. Irreversible actions shall be considered more seriously than reversible actions. The Staff Advisor or Planning Commission shall consider the existing development of the surrounding area, and the maximum development permitted by this ordinance.

### **EXCEPTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR HILLSIDE LANDS**

#### **18.3.10.090.H**

An exception under this section is not subject to the variance requirements of chapter 18.5.5 Variances. An application for an exception is subject to the Type I procedure in section 18.5.1.050 and may be granted with respect to the development standards for Hillside Lands if the proposal meets all of the following criteria.

1. There is demonstrable difficulty in meeting the specific requirements of this chapter due to a unique or unusual aspect of the site or proposed use of the site.
2. The exception will result in equal or greater protection of the resources protected under this chapter.
3. The exception is the minimum necessary to alleviate the difficulty.
4. The exception is consistent with the stated Purpose and Intent of chapter [18.3.10](#) Physical and Environmental Constraints Overlay chapter and section 18.3.10.090 Development Standards for Hillside Lands.

### **TREE REMOVAL PERMIT (AMC 18.5.7.040.B)**

1. **Hazard Tree.** A Hazard Tree Removal Permit shall be granted if the approval authority finds that the application meets all of the following criteria, or can be made to conform through the imposition of conditions.
  - a. The applicant must demonstrate that the condition or location of the tree presents a clear public safety hazard (i.e., likely to fall and injure persons or property) or a foreseeable danger of property damage to an existing structure or facility, and such hazard or danger cannot reasonably be alleviated by treatment, relocation, or pruning. See definition of hazard tree in part 18.6.
  - b. The City may require the applicant to mitigate for the removal of each hazard tree pursuant to section 18.5.7.050. Such mitigation requirements shall be a condition of approval of the permit.
2. **Tree That is Not a Hazard.** A Tree Removal Permit for a tree that is not a hazard shall be granted if the approval authority finds that the application meets all of the following criteria, or can be made to conform through the imposition of conditions.
  - a. The tree is proposed for removal in order to permit the application to be consistent with other applicable Land Use Ordinance requirements and standards, including but not limited to applicable Site Development and Design Standards in part 18.4 and Physical and Environmental Constraints in part 18.10.
  - b. Removal of the tree will not have a significant negative impact on erosion, soil stability, flow of surface waters, protection of adjacent trees, or existing windbreaks.
  - c. Removal of the tree will not have a significant negative impact on the tree densities, sizes, canopies, and species diversity within 200 feet of the subject property. The City shall grant an exception to this criterion when alternatives to the tree removal have been considered and no reasonable alternative exists to allow the property to be used as permitted in the zone.
  - d. Nothing in this section shall require that the residential density to be reduced below the permitted density allowed by the zone. In making this determination, the City may consider alternative site plans or placement of structures of alternate landscaping designs that would lessen the impact on trees, so long as the alternatives continue to comply with the other provisions of this ordinance.
  - e. The City shall require the applicant to mitigate for the removal of each tree granted approval pursuant to section 18.5.7.050. Such mitigation requirements shall be a condition of approval of the permit.