Minnetonka: 5937 County Road 101

Community Workshop 1
September 5, 2019
Minnetonka City Hall

Small Group Discussion Notes

The following notes were gathered from eight (8) small group discussion tables, and organized into topical themes:

Question 1: What makes this area interesting or unique?

Natural setting

- (3) Wildlife
- Natural barrier
- Natural environment
- Good balance between homes and nature/wildlife
- Scenic
- Animals
- Nature, wildlife
- Beautiful green area wildlife
- Greenery
- Wet
- High water table flooding

Nearby amenities and parks

- Near parks
- Near grocery, good schools, library
- Sidewalks?
- Great location for transportation to work places

Character

- Peaceful
- Family oriented
- Pedestrian friendly
- Relatively quiet
- Lower traffic (except rush hour)
- Old school Tonka vibe not overdeveloped
- Quiet, peaceful, safe we know our neighbors
- Pretty
- Quiet
- It's undeveloped rare in this area
- Pretty place to live

Safety

- (2) Safe
- Low crime

Question 2: What could be accomplished through development that would improve/enhance the area?

Housing

- 1 single family with green space
- Well landscaped, low density housing
- Keep it low density, low-profile will maintain quiet character of neighborhood
- Mixed residential density use
- Affordability across all ages
- Workforce housing
- Provide affordable housing even for middle income people!
- Housing for people who work in the area, seniors who want to stay in the area

Greenspace and parks

- City park kids in our area need a place to play (Covington Park is half mile away!)
- Maintain park
- Dog park/community space

Pedestrian access

- Sidewalks
- Sidewalk so people can walk and be safe
- More street lights as promised when 101 project was done
- Marked crosswalk across CR 101 at Red Cherry/Covington

Address water and flooding issues

Need more drainage

Other

- Cemetery
- City could recoup cost of land purchase and gain property tax income
- No development

Question 3: What concerns for the area do you have as future development occurs?

Traffic, access and noise

- CR 101 turn lane into area not large enough for dense housing
- (2) Traffic
- (2) Noise
- Traffic narrow road
- Noise, traffic, etc.
- Increased traffic and noise
- Parking
- How would new residents access from CR 101 or Covington Terrace?
- Traffic/development has cancelled before due to access onto CR 101

Water issues

- What are you doing with the natural spring in the middle of the property?
- Water/erosion

Safety

- Safety of pedestrians
- Crime

Lack of public transportation

- There is no longer a bus route on CR 101
- No access to public transportation

Impacts to existing residents

- The misinformation, prejudice, and anger of some current neighbors
- Lower property values of current residents
- Owned property/homes builds more community
- "New" would look out of place, not match established character

- Natural springs/water table
- Water/drainage impact to homes
- Covington Terrace floods multiple times a year in this area

Loss of natural setting

- Wildlife
- Loss of trees

Implications for the City

- City investment
- The costs of developing affordable housing – what is the city willing to do to make development of affordable housing possible?

Question 4: Are there specific types of uses that this site could accommodate (e.g. housing, services, retail, or commercial uses, etc.)?

Housing

- Non-rental properties (owner-occupied only)
- Should fit with existing structures no high rise! (low profile)
- Only single family housing
- Low-density/low profile
- Owner-occupied
- Occupant owned homes
- Low-density housing only
- Owner-occupied?
- A few single family, non-rental homes
- Townhomes 3 bedrooms (Millennials)
- 1 level 2 bedroom (Baby boomers)
- Housing

Commercial/retail

- Already meet retails needs
 - Hwy 7 and 101 so close
 - Chanhassen is close
 - Townline and Dell Rd has a small retail center
- We like coffee
- Not appropriate for retail

Design and scale

Designed to fit the neighborhood

Question 5: What additional information would you like to have in order to assess the redevelopment opportunities for 5937 County Road 101?

- To what extent will we be heard as neighbors?
- Restrictions due to spring-water table
- More on zoning (low density vs. high density) what is the process?
- Impact to water drainage in area (homes west of 101 already have many water drainage/erosion issues)
- Traffic impact info/data
- Water table/flooding concerns what are city regulations regarding this?
- There are problems with traffic/access onto CR 101 already heavy during morning and afternoon rush hour and the school buses
- Housing Trust Fund
- What would need to be done on account of the land being wetland?