## - ENDEAVOR

March 29, 2021
Pflugerville Planning Department
Attention: Planning \& Zoning Commission
201-B East Pecan Street
Pflugerville, Texas 78691

## Re: Architectural Waiver Application for Landscaping Variance at Proposed Multifamily Project located at 19365 Wilke Lane.

Dear Planning \& Zoning Commission:
Cerco Development, LLC ("Cerco"), an affiliate of Endeavor Real Estate Group, is under contract to purchase the 18.062-acre site located at 19365 Wilke Lane (the "Property"), which is zoned CL-5 (Urban Center District) and intended for dense urban development. The Property is located one third of a mile from the 1.5 million square foot Stone Hill Town Center retail shopping development. The undeveloped land between the Property and Stone Hill Town Center is slated for dense urban development; several projects are already under review by the City. Cerco has planned a 334-unit multifamily apartment development for the property (the "Project").

Over the past 18 months, Cerco has placed the Property under contract (December 2019), held multiple meetings with City of Pflugerville staff to understand the requirements prescribed by the City of Pflugerville Unified Development Code ("UDC") (Spring 2020), submitted and finalized a Preliminary Plan (December 2020), received an approved Final Plat from Planning \& Zoning Commission (February 2021), commenced finalizing public improvements plans for the Project, and submitted a formal site plan to staff for review (March 2021).

A site plan must include landscape plans that meet the minimum requirements established by the UDC. UDC Subchapter 11 (Landscaping and Screening Standards) contains most of the landscaping requirements to which a project must adhere to including Minimum Required Landscaping Requirements (UDC Section 11.3), Streetscape Yard Standards (UDC Section 11.5), Screening Requirements (UDC Section 11.8), Bufferyard Requirements (UDC Section 11.10), and Tree Preservation and Mitigation Requirements (UDC Section 11.12).

The site plan currently in review meets the aforementioned requirements outlined above with the exception of the minimum landscaping requirements outlined in UDC Section 11.3.

Pursuant to UDC Section 11.3 multifamily developments within CL5-zoned districts shall devote a minimum of $40 \%$ of their site as landscaped area. Within the designated landscaped area, a minimum of one three-inch caliper tree per 300 square feet of landscaped area shall be provided. Due to the requirement to extend Abbeyglen Castle Drive through the center of the Property the developable area of the Project has been reduced to 16.16 acres or 704,035 square feet which results in a required landscape area of 281,614 square feet. Assuming the applicable 1:300 ratio for landscape trees per code, Cerco is required to plant a minimum of 2,816 caliper inches onsite, or a total of 939 three-inch caliper trees. The current code requirements are outlined in Column A of Figure A below for reference.

UDC Section 11.16 allows a project to achieve a $20 \%$ reduction in the required landscaped area as well as a $20 \%$ reduction in the number of trees provided within the landscaped area through an alternative compliance landscape plan. As shown in Column B of Figure A below, taking advantage of both of these reductions would decrease the required landscape tree count to 1,802 caliper inches, or a total of 601 three-inch caliper trees. Despite these reductions - and shown in Column C of Figure A below - Cerco can only accommodate 538 landscape trees onsite totaling 1,354 caliper inches, a variance of $25 \%$ from the code minimum (please reference the enclosed Exhibit A). This variance is more accurately reported as $52 \%$ ( 1,354 inches provided versus 2,816 required) as the landscape area and tree count reductions outlined in UDC Section 11.16 are intended to be last-resort measures to help developments meet minimum code requirements.

Figure A

|  | (A) <br> Full <br> Requirements | (B) <br> Requirements <br> w/ Reductions | (C) <br> Provided / <br> Proposed |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Site Area (SF) | 704,035 | 704,035 | 704,035 |  |  |
| 40\% Landscape Area Ratio (Table 11.3C) | x 40\% | x 40\% | x 40\% |  |  |
| Landscape Area (SF) | 281,614 | 281,614 | 300,737 |  |  |
| 20\% Reduction (Sec. 11.16) |  | $(56,323)$ |  |  |  |
| Final Landscape Area | 281,614 | 225,291 | 300,737 |  |  |
| Trees | 939 | 751 | 538 | (A) - (C) | Code Variance |
| Inches (3' Caliper) | 2,816 | 2,253 | 1,354 | 1,462 | 52\% |
| 20\% Reduction via Fee-In-Lieu (Section 11.16) |  | (451) |  | (B) - (C) | Code Variance |
| Final Inches | 2,816 | 1,802 | 1,354 | 448 | 25\% |

As an additional illustration of the site impacts from UDC Section 11.3, please reference the enclosed Exhibit B. The exhibit revises the current site plan to accommodate an additional 213 trees onsite to meet the landscape tree requirement of 751 trees outlined in Column B of Figure A. Instead of a dense urban development which is envisioned for properties with the CL-5 Urban Center zoning designation, the City of Pflugerville would receive an undersized multifamily development and a dense forest of trees.

The purpose of Subchapter 11 is outlined in Section 11.1, which stipulates that the "requirements for landscaping elements, buffering and screening [are intended to] provide orderly, safe, attractive and healthy development of land within the community."

Notwithstanding the purchase, installation, and near-term tree care costs for 751 trees-certainly upwards of $\$ 1$ million, a cost detrimental to Cerco-the requirements regarding the quantity and proximity of landscape trees (one per 300 square feet), particularly once the canopies have matured, would be unattractive for the community, unsafe for residents and visitors, and extremely unhealthy for the trees given that substantial canopy and root overlap would occur which would stunt tree growth and likely cause numerous tree diseases and fatalities.

UDC Section 2.2.4(G)(1) provides that the "Planning and Zoning Commission shall consider proposed waivers greater than 20\% from the minimum site development standards and requirements within Subchapters 9, 10, 11 within all zoning districts". In accordance with this section, Cerco kindly requests an appearance before the Planning \& Zoning Commission on the scheduled May 3, 2021 hearing date for the consideration of a waiver to UDC Section 11.3 to increase the landscape tree ratio from 1:300 to 1:600 to accommodate the Project.

As shown on the proposed site plan in Exhibit C , should this waiver request be approved Cerco can meet the additional code requirements outlined in UDC Subchapter 11 and would also pay over $\$ 100,000$ into the City of Pflugerville's tree mitigation fund.

## Cerco Development, LLC

Luke Phillippi, Principal

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## ARCHITECTURAL WAIVER



## ARCHITECTURAL WAIVER

Request For: (Check one)
Preliminary Proposal $\qquad$ Final Proposal $\qquad$ Architectural Waiver

Filing Fee: $\$ 250.00$ per waiver
+\$15.00 Technology Fee
$=\$ 265.00$

## Submittal Requirements:

1. Complete Architectural Waiver Application with all required contact information
2. One set of the Site Plan and Building Elevations no larger than $11 \times 17$ (Scaled drawing and include the following):
a. North Arrow
b. Scale
c. Property lines
d. Adjacent streets (names), alleys and sidewalks
e. Existing setbacks and proposed setbacks
f. Public or private easements
g. Location of Floodplain, if necessary
h. Location of existing and proposed structures, additions or other improvements
i. Location of existing and proposed drives and parking
j. Dimensions of existing and proposed improvements
k. Elevation and dimensioned drawings of proposed building, signs, or other improvements
I. Landscape and grading plan
m. Details of doors, windows, light fixtures and other architectural elements.
3. Photographs, graphics, letters, and etc. (If applicable)
4. In a typed letter, please identify any proposed modifications or improvements. If you are requesting a waiver, please describe in detail all efforts made to comply with the architectural requirements of the regulation and proposed changes.


EXHIBIT A (Standard)
1 tree per 300 S.F. required landscape area

| LANDSCAPE CALCULATION CHART - Wilke Lane MF 1 REQUIRED LANDSCAPE AREA (MULTI-FAMILY) ZONE: CL5 |  |  | Reaurired | Provided |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Stie fea | 704,03 sf |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 281, 40 ,49 sf 225,291 sf |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| rees (3" cal min.) $\qquad$ Inches per 300 sf of required landscape are Remaining Inches that don't fit on site |  | $\begin{gathered} 300 \text { sf } \\ \text { anf } \\ 2.253 \\ \hline 10 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { 2.251 in } \\ \substack{755 \\ 445 \\ \text { in in in }} \end{gathered}$ |  |
| 3 Stet |  |  |  |  |
| Total Linear Feet oftreetyard | 2,367 |  |  |  |
| Toial Linear Feeto ofsteelyard with overnead utitites | 01 |  |  |  |
|  | $1 \times$ | 401 | ${ }_{59}$ | ${ }_{59}$ |
| B. Typec crees (when overeaed utities are present) | ${ }_{1 \times}$ | 2014 |  | 0 |
| \% screenno |  |  | Required | Proved |
| c. Scroening of Storm Water deatention |  |  | ves | ves |
| Total Linear Feot fot deention Faciliy | ${ }^{325} 1$ |  |  |  |
| 1 1Tpee Aor B Tree eer 30 fof fidenenion facility | $1 \times$ | ${ }_{30}{ }^{1}$ | 11 | 11 |
|  | 1x | ${ }^{30} 1$ | 11 | 11 |
| 7 buffervaro |  |  | Regured | Provided |
| Total Linear Feot of futiegard | 1,2944 |  |  |  |
|  | 4x | 1001 | 52 | 52 |
| 8 TreE inverstr reaurements |  |  | maximum | Provied |
| A. Total Trees Reauired | ${ }^{80} 3$ tres |  |  | ${ }_{591}$ |
| No more than $50 \%$ of new trees required on site may be Type C Trees | 50\% | ${ }^{803}$ | 401 | 401 |
| 10 miliation |  |  | Reauriod | ovidod |
| A. Total Removed Inches | 273 in |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 458 in | ${ }_{5 \text { 68,700.00 }}^{\text {in }}$ |

This exhibit demonstrates proposing the maximum number of Type C trees wthin the
 programmed, after meeting all other landscape requirements.
This exhibit proposess a $20 \%$ reduction of required landscape area via alternative compliance in
order to reduce the minimum number of tees required. In adadition it proposese a $20 \%$ reduction in minimum trees to be planted on ste, instead beins
paid for with fee in lieu a $\$ 150$ per caliper inch.

Type A trees are proposed as $4^{4}{ }^{4}$ tees, and IType C trees are proposed as $2^{\prime \prime}$ "tees. The minimu
All mitioation inches re to be paid tor with fee in lien ot $\$ 150$ per caliper inch
Based on spacing al proposed trees at mature canopy sizes, meeting the minimum number calieer inhes is not chievable at a $1: 300$ ratio



EXHIBIT B (Standard + )
1 tree per 300 S.F. required landscape area

 of avaliable epen spacace.
This exhibit proposess $20 \%$ reduction of fequired landscape area vic altemative compliance
order to reduce the minimum number of trees required.
In addition, it proposess a $20 \%$ reduction in minimum trees to be planted on site, instead being
paid for with fee in lieu at $\$ 150$ per caliper inch.

Alr

Based on spacing all proposed trees at mature canopys sizes, meeting the minimum number of
caliper inches is only achievabile at a $1: 300$ ratio if of least six (0) of the eleven (11) buildings ale Caliper inches is only achievable at a $1: 300$ ratio if of least six (6) of the eleven (11) bu
removed. By doing this, the overall density of the ste would no onger be achievable.



EXHIBIT C (Proposed)
1 tree per 600 S.F. required landscape area


This exhibit demonstrates prooposing a mix of Type AB trees and Type C trees within the
lanascaped area, after meeing air ofer landscape requiremenis.
TTis exhibit proposess a $20 \%$ reduction of fequired landscape area via altemative compliance
order In addition, it proposes a $20 \%$ reduction in minimum trees to be planted on site, instead being paid for with fee in ileu at $\$ \$ 150$ per caliper inc.
 ,
Al miligation inches are to be paid for with fee in lieu a $\$ 150$ per caliper inch.
While utilizing the above adiustments, meeting all the landscape requirements is achievable at a ::000 taino.


