Planning Commission Work Session

January 17, 2023



RZN22-0004 Glade Spring Crossing

Location 1000-block Glade Road

Owner Glade Spring Crossing, LLC

Parcel Size ±45 ac.

Use Agricultural

Zoning RR1

FLU Low density residential



RZN22-0004 Glade Spring Crossing

Key Dates:

- Application submittal 11/30/2022
- Neighborhood Meeting 12/07/2022
- Planning Commission preview at work session 12/20/2022
- Staff Report available 01/13/2023
- Planning Commission work session 01/17/2023
- Planning Commission work session 01/31/2023
- Planning Commission Public Hearing 02/07/2023
- Town Council dates TBA



Glade Spring Crossing 1006 Glade Rd. RZN22-0004



Bus Stops



Subject Area



Parcels









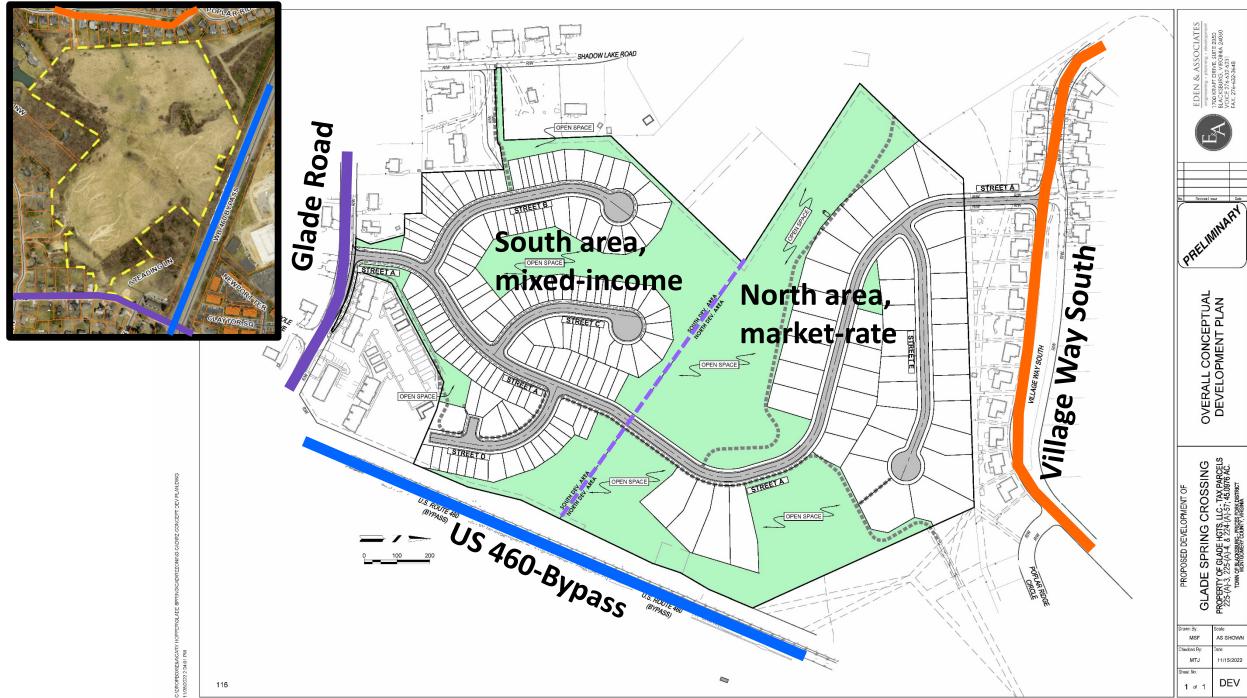
2021 Aerials provided by Pictometry Town of Blacksburg, E&G Dept. 1-4-2023

RZN22-0004 Glade Spring Crossing

Request

- Rezone 44+ acres from RR-1 to PR
- Construct public streets
- Develop single- and attached-family dwellings
 - 176 units (appx. 4 units per acre)
 - Mix of restricted affordable and market-rate housing
- Regional stormwater management
- Major subdivision public hearing to follow if approved





AS SHOWN

11/15/2022 DEV

Criteria for Evaluation

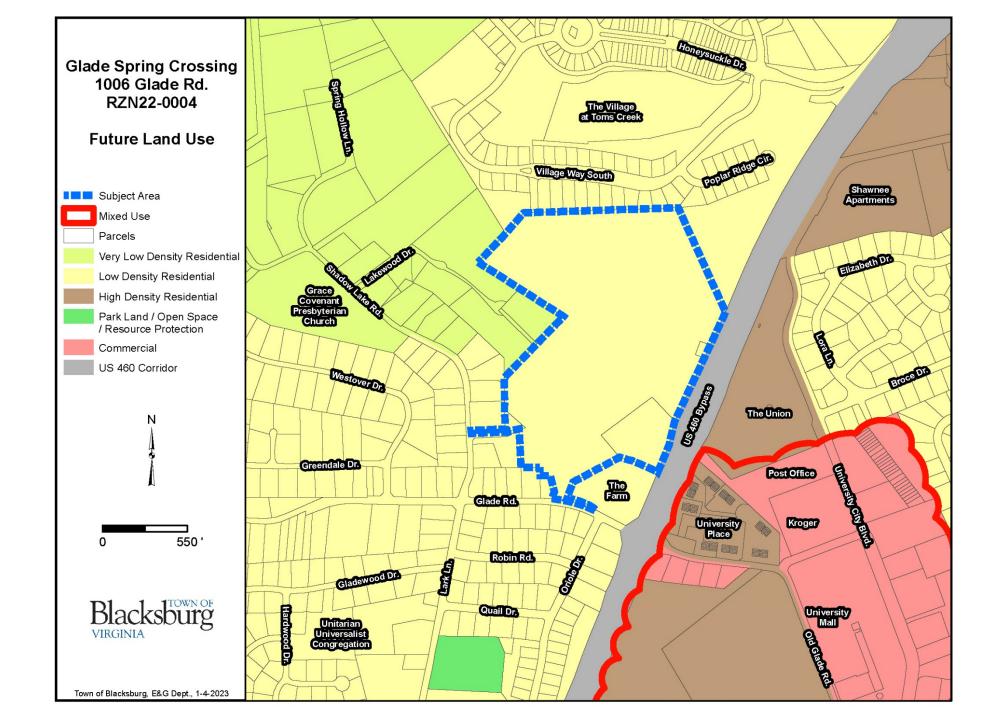
- Section 1151 of the Zoning Ordinance requires the Planning Commission to study all rezoning requests to determine:
- 1. Whether the proposed amendment conforms to the general guidelines and policies contained in the Comprehensive Plan.
- 2. The relationship of the proposed amendment to the purposes of the general planning program of the Town, with appropriate consideration as to whether the change will further the purposes of [the Zoning Ordinance] and the general welfare of the entire community.
- 3. The need and justification for the change.
- 4. When pertaining to a change in the district classification of the property, the effect of the change, if any, on the property, surrounding property, and on public services and facilities. In addition, the Commission shall consider the appropriateness of the property for the proposed change as related to the purposes set forth at the beginning of each district classification.



Comprehensive Plan Maps

- Future Land Use
 - Low density residential
 - Up to and including 4 units per acre
 - Comprehensive Plan map amendment in 2021
 - Very low density residential to low density residential
- Urban development area
 - Not located in UDA
- Neighborhood, Employment & Service Areas
 - Split between Suburban Residential and Rural/Undeveloped





Comprehensive Plan Text

- Housing Goals
 - 2021 Comprehensive Plan update survey identified housing a stop challenge
 - Town currently provides housing to meet low-income needs for households earning 30%-80% AMI
 - Developing methods to serve moderate-income households, meeting 80%-120% AMI
 - Community Land Trust



GSC Affordable Housing

- Applicant proposes 24 affordable units in the South area to become part of Town's Community Land Trust
 - Applicant requesting Town ARPA funding to help with construction of 10 homes for households earning up to 80% AMI
 - Remaining homes:
 - 10 homes for households earning up to 100% AMI
 - 4 homes for households earning up to 120% AMI



GSC Mixed-Income Housing

- Remaining lots (109) in south area proposed by applicant to be smaller market-rate homes more affordable to more households
 - Smaller homes on smaller lots
- North area lots (43) proposed to be marketrate single-family homes similar to neighboring homes at Village at Toms Creek



VA Code §15.2-2232 – 15.2-2224

- Virginia Code requires special review of public infrastructure connections where not specifically shown in the Comprehensive Plan
- Evaluated to determine if the connections are generally in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
- Town's Comprehensive Plan does not specifically identify locations for public stormwater or sanitary facilities
- Town's future arterial and collector road network shows proposed broad-brush locations for arterial and collector roads, but does not show locations for local streets or their connections to existing streets
- Comprehensive Plan policies support and encourage neighborhood interconnections; street grid; encourage the use of existing unbuilt rights-of-way
- Staff has determined that the roadway connections proposed are in keeping with the intent of land use connectivity as described in the Land Use and Transportation chapters of the plan



Zoning Ordinance District Intent

Planned Residential §3110

The purpose of this district is to provide for the development of planned residential communities that incorporate a variety of housing options as well as certain limited commercial and office uses designed to serve the inhabitants of the district. This district is intended to allow greater flexibility than is generally possible under conventional zoning district regulations by encouraging ingenuity, imagination, and high quality design to create a superior living environment for the residents of the planned community. The PR district is particularly appropriate for parcels that contain a number of constraints to conventional development. In addition to an improved quality of design, the PR district creates an opportunity to reflect changes in the technology of land development, provide opportunities for new approaches to home ownership, and provide for an efficient use of land that can result in reduced development costs.



ZONING ORDINANCE

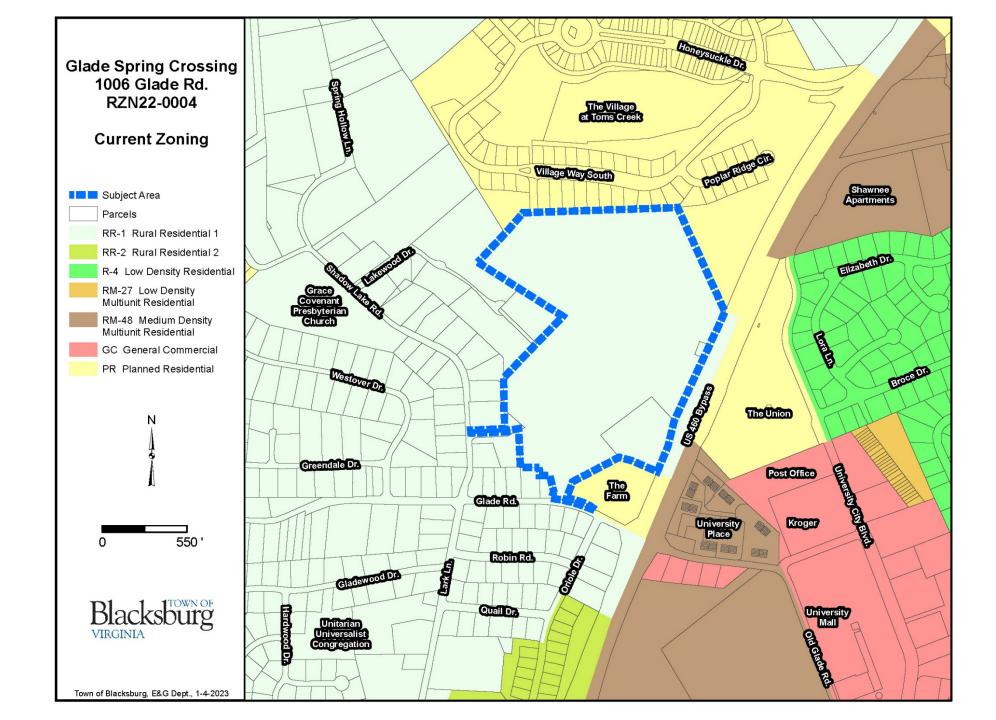
- It is the burden of the applicant to prove that the proposed development meets the intent of the district requested
 - Housing for an underserved population
 - Developments that include substantial sustainable building practices and/or certification(s)
 - Provision of additional bicycle and pedestrian improvements to mitigate impact
 - Restraints of conventional development
- In exchange for flexibility, the application, plan, and proffer are binding



Zoning Ordinance Standards

- District Standards include regulations for the physical development of any use on a parcel
 in a particular zoning district. District standards for planned districts are proposed by the
 applicant, and can be varied or amended through the rezone process.
- Use & Design Standards provide regulations for the physical development of a parcel based on the use, such as residential or commercial, in any zoning district. These standards are highly varied. There may be additional standards for uses based on zoning districts and the intent to mitigate adverse impacts.
- Development Standards provide regulations for certain improvements that may be required, such as parking or landscaping. The Planned Residential District allows some of these standards to be proposed by the applicant such as parking and landscaping or buffering. These standards vary based on both use and district





District Standards

- Applicant proposes standards for site development
 - Overall development
 - Individual lots
- Evaluated for their appropriateness to the proposed development & compatibility with surrounding area



Overall Development Standards

- Density
 - Applicant proposes gross density of 4 units per acre
 - Effective density varies by development area
 - South mixed income area will feel more dense than the surrounding area and the north area of the proposed development



Overall Development Standards

- Perimeter Setbacks
 - PR district states that perimeter setbacks shall be equivalent to neighboring zoning, or as "deemed appropriate during the review and approval of the master plan for the PR district"
- Application does not specifically address perimeter setbacks
- Rear yards of homes comprise the perimeter of the development
 - North area rear yard minimum setback: 20'
 - South area rear yard minimum setback: 10'

Standard	GSC South	GSC North	VTC Overall	RR1	The Farm PR
Perimeter/Rear setbacks	10'	20'	20'	20'	10'



Overall Development Standards

- Open Space
 - PR district and Townhome Use & Design Standards require minimum 20% open space
- Applicant proposes 35% open space
 - Two large blocks and two small blocks
 - Recreation amenities



Individual Lot Standards

- Applicant proposes two sets of standards for development
 - North area: proposed standards intended to achieve similar development pattern to the neighboring homes on Village Way South
 - South area: proposed standards intended to achieve a cluster development pattern for cost-efficiency



Standard	GSC North	GCS South	VTC	VTC Adj.	RR1	RR1 Adj.	The Farm
Minimum lot size	no min	no min	no min	10,000 sf	no min	11,000 sf	3.5 ac total
Average lot size	11,000 sf	3,100 sf	unknown	13,700 sf	n/a	18,600 sf	n/a
Minimum lot frontage	40'	15'	no min	72'	20'	40'	n/a
Minimum setbacks							
front	20'	20'	8'	20'	35'	35'	20'
side	10'	8.5'	0'	5'	10'	10'	10'
corner side	15'	15'	n/a	n/a	20'	20'	n/a
rea	20'	10'	20'	20'	20'	20'	10'
Maximum Lot Coverage							
attached/end	n/a	65%	65%	n/a	no max	no max	n/a
attached/interio	n/a	90%	70%	n/a	no max	no max	n/a
detached	40%	65%	55%	50%	no max	no max	59% overall
Maximum Building Height	42'	42'	no max	unknown	35'	unknown	42'
Maximum FAR							
Lots <9,000 st	0.65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lots 9,000 sf - 13,000 sf	0.55	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lots >13,000 st	0.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
attached/end	n/a	1	0.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
attached/interio	n/a	1.3	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
detached	n/a	1	0.5	0.5	0.3	unknown	
							Blacksb

Individual Lot Standards

Setbacks

- Minimum setbacks South (detached structures and end units for attached dwellings) Front: 20'
 - Side: 8.5'
 - corner side: 15'
 - Rear: 10'

FAR

- Floor to area ratio restricts total building size relative to parcel size
- Combined with other standards, ensures compatible scale of homes on a block with similar lot sizes
- Proposed FAR of 1 for detached units in south area
 - More in keeping with multifamily development pattern



Use & Design Standards

- Govern use and appearance of a development based on the uses and the zoning district
- Standards may be modified through PR public process
- No standards for single-family detached
- Townhome and Two-Family Dwelling standards apply



Floor Plans; Building Articulation

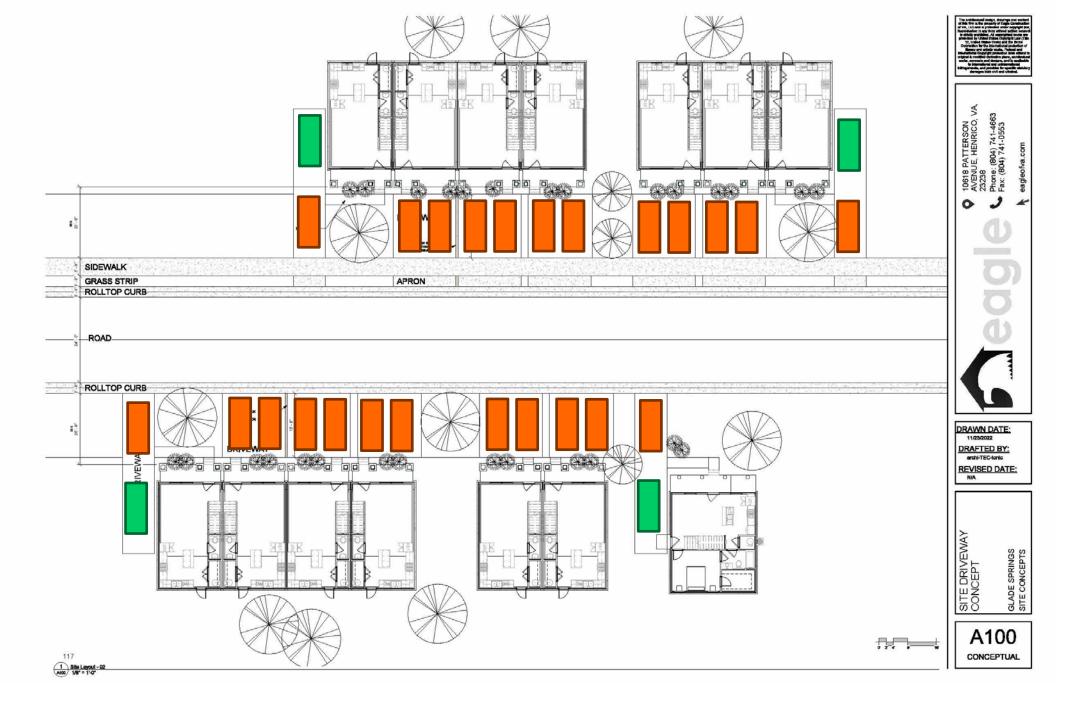
- Townhome Use & Design Standard requires conceptual floor plans to be submitted
- Townhome front façade must vary 3'-8' between units



Parking in front of the building

- Townhomes & Two-family dwellings
 - Parking must be located behind the front building line
- Proposed layout provides parking for most units entirely in front
 - Applicant has not specifically requested an exception to this standard





Development Standards

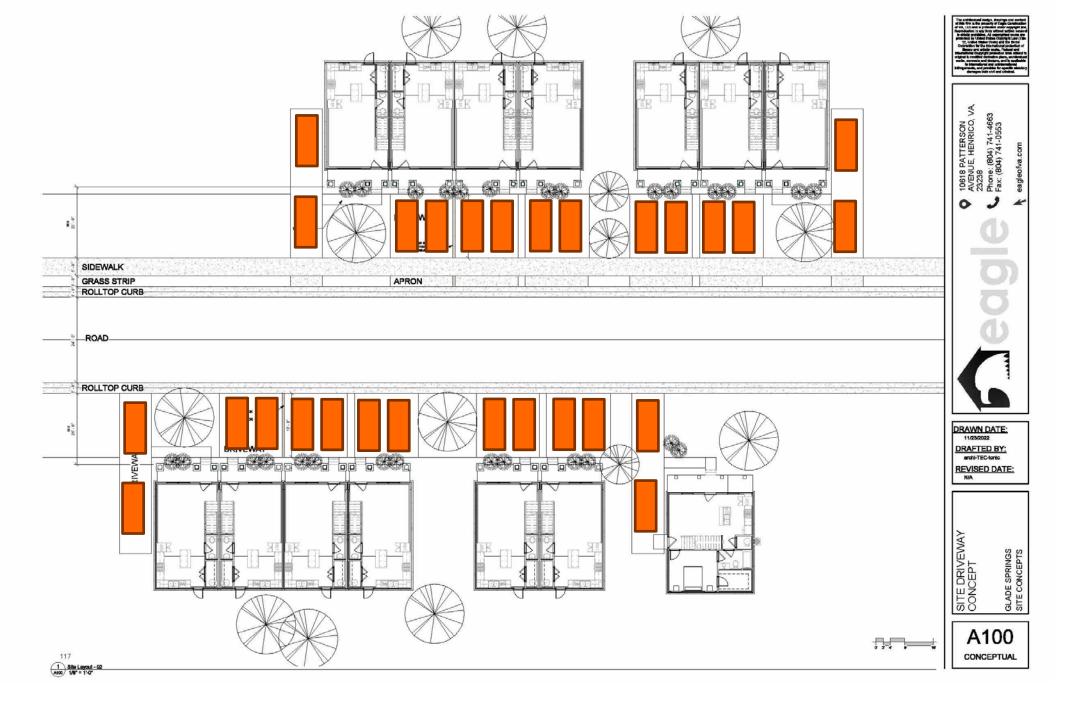
- Development standards apply to PR developments, unless specifically modified in the public hearing process
 - Location of parking spaces & driveways;
 dimensional standards
 - Landscaping including buffer yards, street trees, and overall canopy coverage



Location of Parking, Driveways

- Parking is required to be off-street in a parking lot or driveway
- Single-family detached, and subdivided two-family dwellings may maneuver in or back into the street
- Parking for all other uses must be accessed via driveway that does not require maneuvering or backing in the street
- As proposed, parking for all units requires backing or maneuvering in the street





Location of Parking, Driveways

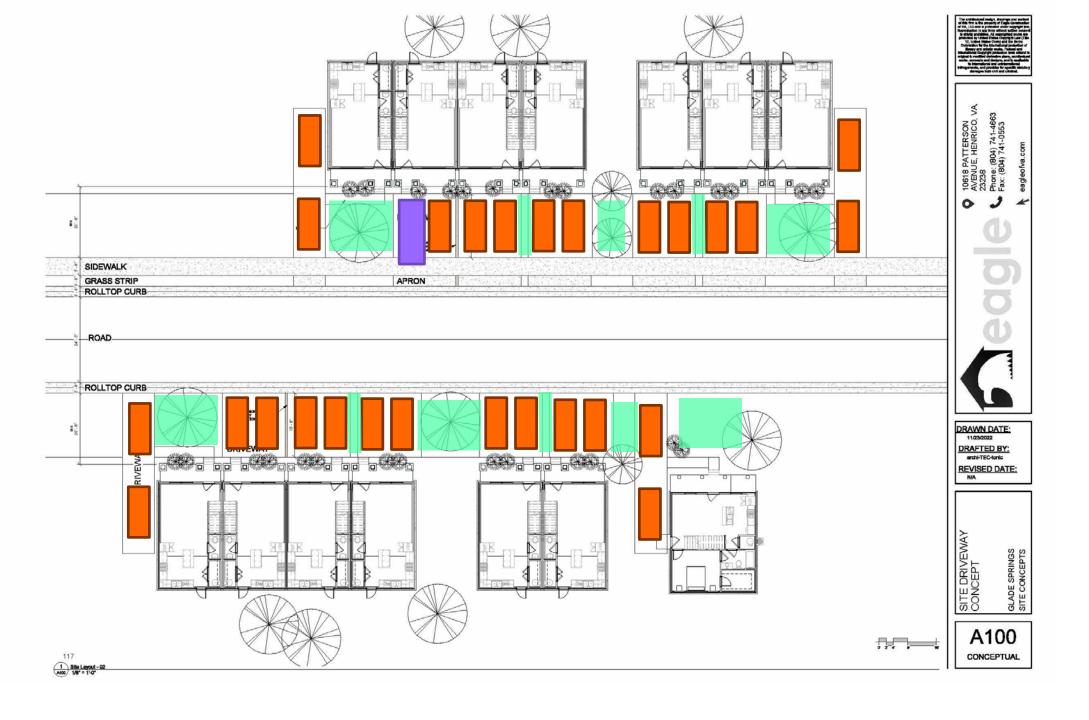
- Driveways required to be 3' from property line unless shared for multiple uses
 - Applicant proposes a standard for 0' driveway setback, even for non-shared driveways
 - Applicant states that minimum lot frontage of 18' provides minimum parking width for 2 cars

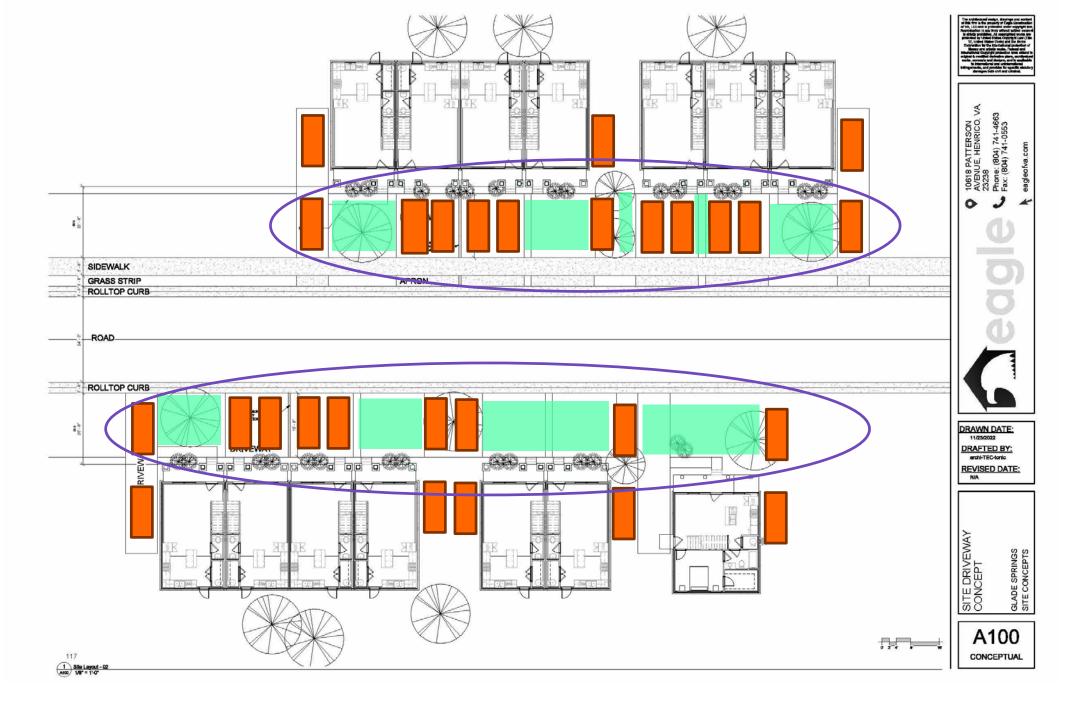


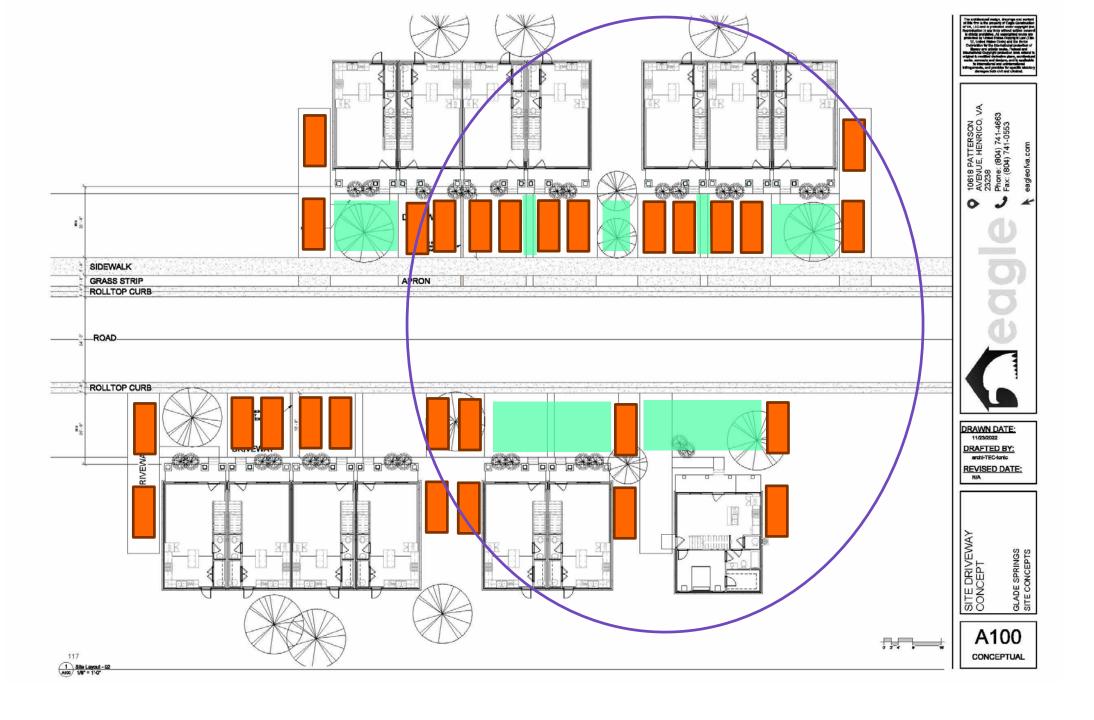
Effect of Standards

- Overall effect of proposed layout and needed modifications to standards produce a streetscape that is more similar in appearance and feel to a multifamily parking lot than a mixed-residential street with individual units.
- Little or no greenspace provided for some interior units in front yard
- Multiple driveway entrances close together may affect safety due to sight distance on horizontal and vertical curves in the street design
- Additional considerations for shallow front yards that vehicles may overhang the public sidewalk if not enough depth for parking is provided









Minimum Parking Required

- 1.1 spaces per bedroom required for townhomes
- Applicant proposes ratio of 2 spaces per unit for all uses
 - Comparable to single-family use types
- On-street parking is supported per VDOT minimum street width standards
 - Limited locations where it would be allowed due to number and location of driveways



Buffer Yards & Screening

- No formal buffer yard requirement in PR
- Applicant should propose a landscape and buffer plan that is appropriate to proposed development and surrounding neighborhood, as well as mitigating any potential impacts
- Review of adequacy of proposed buffer on case-by-case basis with each rezoning application
- Use & Design Standards for townhomes & two-family dwellings both do require buffer yards in some circumstances, but not applicable to PR



Landscaping

- Proposed landscape plan is different than typical previous development requests
- Applicant proposes non-traditional methods of establishing, and maintaining overall canopy coverage over the lifetime of the development to reduce upfront development costs, and ongoing maintenance costs.
- Applicant proposes "managed successional" growth areas over much of the proposed open space
- Additional varying types of landscape areas include open lawns for play and sledding; formal recreation areas with structured play; more traditionally-landscaped areas around the entrance and community gathering spaces; specific landscape management for both the pond embankments and riparian areas



Canopy Coverage

- Each zoning district has an overall canopy coverage requirement for developments
- Traditionally, canopy is achieved and measured by planting trees with a known canopy coverage at maturity
- Over time, trees can be replaced in order to maintain required canopy, if trees are removed
- Applicant proposing a hybrid approach that includes some planting up front, and some "hands-off" management to allow natural successional plants to grow
- Application shows the progression of canopy coverage over time through management from development to maturity at 20 years (p.68)
- Application indicates that the HOA will be required to secure an annual meeting with a credentialed expert to review management plan, address issues, and make recommendations



Canopy Coverage

- Specific methodology has not been proposed or reviewed by staff prior to this point
- No prototype or case study can be pointed to, in Town, to show that this will achieve the overall canopy effect for the development
- Staff has concerns about methodology for ensuring that canopy is on track to meeting required minimums
- Application does say that some plantings will occur up front, but the metrics provided are not the same as how the rest of the development is measured
 - 1 tree per quarter-acre of land proposed
 - Equivalent to approximately 4% canopy coverage



Street Trees

- Applicant proposes standard of 1 tree per every 100' of frontage in the south area, and 1 per every 80' of frontage in north area
- Standard is 1 tree per 30' of frontage
- Applicant should provide justification for modification to standard



- Standards apply unless specifically requested variances
- Several topics discussed that are pertinent to the application



- Access to adjoining property
 - Connection provided to Village Way South
 - No vehicle connections provided to any other property line
- Connect to adjacent streets
 - Connection provided to Village Way South
 - Frontage on Shadowlake Road
 - No vehicle connection proposed



- Access to open space
 - Access is required to private open space by paved path, or gravel
 - Proposed access to open space is grass trails



- Trails required; construction standards
 - Trails provided in development
 - Required to be 10' pavement; with min 4' separation between trail and back of curb or edge of pavement
 - No typical section was provided showing road and trail, so it is unclear what the separation is
 - Application shows that min. proposed separation for sidewalks is 3' (requesting a variance)



Impact on Infrastructure

- Transportation impacts
 - Turn lane warrant
 - Level of service analysis
- Turn lane proposed adjacent to The Farm frontage on Glade Road leading into the development



Impact on Infrastructure

- Sanitary Sewer
 - Pump station proposed
 - Downstream inadequacies with proposed utility design
 - Engineering solutions identified to providing adequate capacity
 - Applicant working with Town to determine best course of action
- Request to remove parcel from Toms Creek Basin
 Unsewered Area



Impact on Infrastructure

- Applicant proposes regional stormwater wet pond to help mitigate existing downstream quality & quantity conditions
- Applicant requesting commitment from the Town to assist in constructing this facility
- Stormwater concept plan approved
 - Applicant has shown that proposed stormwater facilities can meet the Town's regulations
- Additional considerations for Floodplain and flood study



- Request to remove parcel from Toms Creek
 Basin Unsewered area
 - Considerations: Removal of the parcel will allow the property to be developed with conventional gravity sewer, which is more appropriate for the density proposed

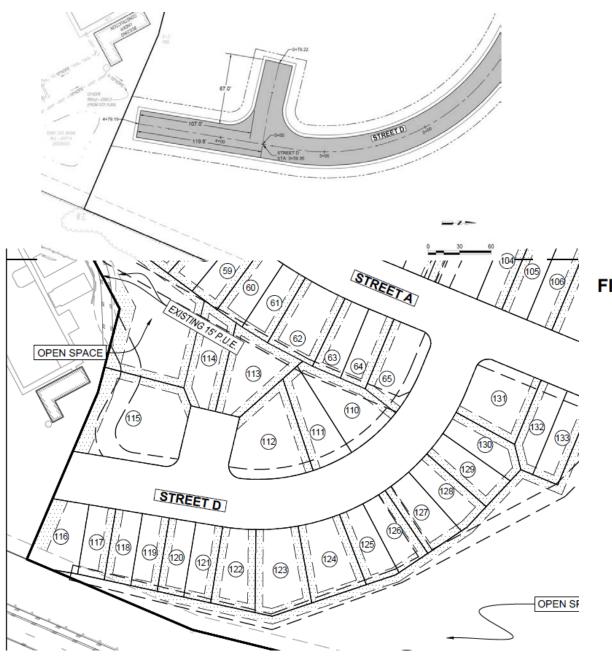


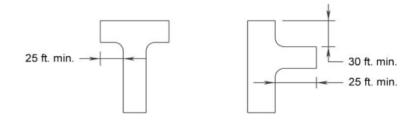
- Request to vary utility separation standards
 - Considerations: Applicant requests 8' (10' required) separation for some utilities due to proposed street and PUE layout
 - Staff does not support a blanket request, but specific locations for a variance may be appropriate when full utility layout is designed with the preliminary plat



- Cul-de-Sac
 - Applicant requests T- or Y-turnaround in lieu of bulb cul-de-sac
 - Proposed turnaround meets minimum VDOT standards for a "branch" type
 - May result in awkward maneuvering for vehicles at the end of the proposed street







T - Type

Branch Type

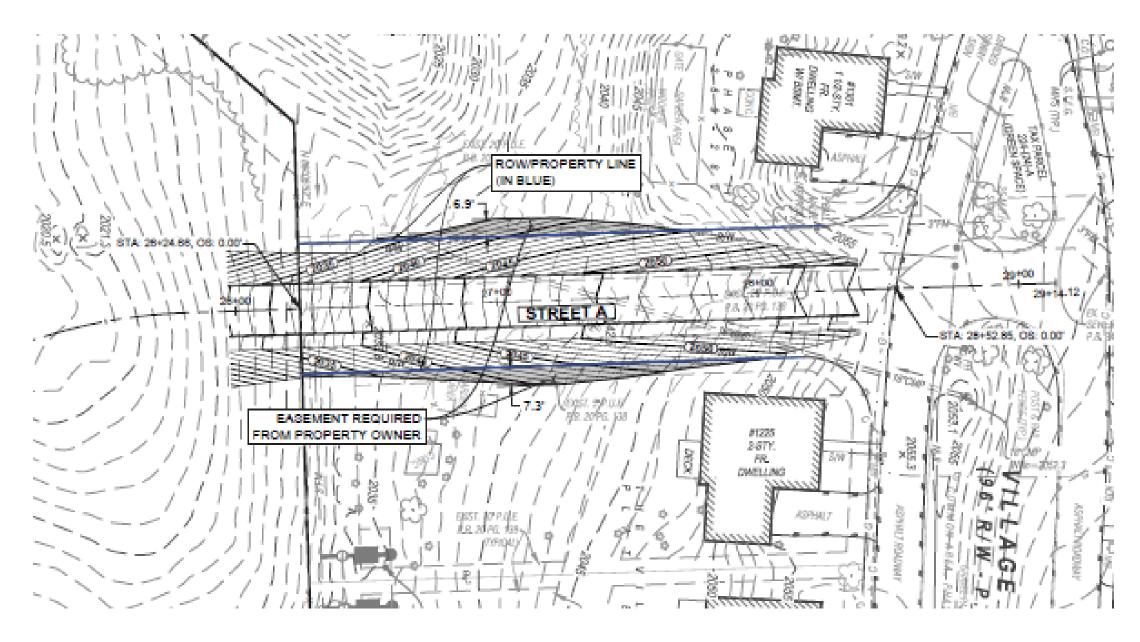
Alternative Turnaround

FIGURE B(1)-12 CULS-DE-SAC AND TURNAROUND DETAILS

VDOT standard

- Street Grades & Landings at Intersections
 - Applicant requests steeper street grade for a portion of Street A approaching the intersection of Village Way South
 - Applicant requests a shorter landing than standard at the intersection due to grading





Options for street grade and landing length; some require grading on adjacent property

- Curb & Gutter
 - Applicant requests roll-top curb in lieu of CG-6 curb & gutter
 - Considerations: additional drainage structures may be required; low-profile cars may bottom-out; entrance design required
 - Applicant requests no curb, to utilize roadside ditch
 - Considerations: may route road drainage between homes if infiltration is not adequately provided at the roadside; driveways require individual culverts not maintained by the Town



- Location of driveways with respect to intersections
 - Applicant requests to reduce minimum separation between driveways and intersections due to small lot frontage
 - Considerations: Driveways close to intersections can create conflicts when drivers on the street do not have adequate stopping time or distance; can create driver confusion for drivers at the intersection and driveways, to safely maneuver when there are multiple cars approaching



- Sidewalks required; minimum separation
 - Applicant requests a variance to eliminate sidewalk for the northern portion of the development
 - Considerations: No sidewalk or trail adjacent to 24 homes;
 only access to open spaces via public streets
 - Applicant requests to reduce minimum separation from sidewalk to curb or pavement to 3' instead of 4'
 - Considerations: Does provide some separation, but should be weighed against provision of greenspace in the fronts of units in the southern area



- Public utility easements
 - Applicant requests to reduce PUE widths from 15' to 7.5' along lot fronts
 - Considerations: Front setback of 20' allows a full 15' PUE; landscaping including trees can be planted in PUEs with coordination with Tow
 - Applicant requests to reduce PUE width from 15' to 7.5' around perimeter, where easements exist on adjacent properties
 - Considerations: Minimum PUE width provides space for access and maintenance of all utilities, including private utilities, and future utilities



SUMMARY

Additional review January 31

