



**KNOXVILLE/KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
USE ON REVIEW REPORT**

▶ **FILE #:** 10-R-06-UR

AGENDA ITEM #: 112

AGENDA DATE: 10/12/2006

▶ **APPLICANT:** **TRANSYSTEMS**

OWNER(S): TRANSYSTEMS

TAX ID NUMBER: 141 74-78

JURISDICTION: County Commission District 5

▶ **LOCATION:** **North side of Palestine Ln., south side of Interstate 40/75**

▶ **APPX. SIZE OF TRACT:** **27.88 acres**

SECTOR PLAN: Southwest County

GROWTH POLICY PLAN: Planned Growth Area

ACCESSIBILITY: Access is via Palestine Ln., a local street with a pavement width that varies from 22' down to 15'. At the proposed entrance to this project, the road has a gravel surface that is only 12' wide.

UTILITIES: Water Source: West Knox Utility District

Sewer Source: West Knox Utility District

▶ **ZONING:** **CA (General Business) & PC (Planned Commercial)**

▶ **EXISTING LAND USE:** **Vacant land**

▶ **PROPOSED USE:** **Distribution center**

HISTORY OF ZONING: The PC (Planned Commercial) zoning was approved by the Knox County Commission with a condition that requires the maintenance of an open space buffer on the adjoining parcel #79

SURROUNDING LAND USE AND ZONING: North: I-40 / I-75 / A agricultural

South: Vacant land / PC commercial

East: Vacant land / PC commercial

West: Truck stop & a residence / PC commercial & A agricultural

NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT: This undeveloped property is part of the area around the Watt Rd. I-40/75 interchange that has been developing with highway oriented commercial uses in the CA, CB and PC zones.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

▶ **APPROVE the request for both phase 1 and 2 of the proposed distribution center at this location as shown on the development plan subject to 11 conditions**

1. Meeting all applicable requirements of the Knox County Health Dept.
2. Widening Palestine Ln. to a minimum width of 22' from the proposed driveway entrance to the project westward to the point where the road is already 22' wide. This road widening is to precede the granting of building permit for the proposed terminal building. All road widening plans must be reviewed and approved by the Knox County Dept. of Engineering and Public Works. All construction work within the existing public right-of-way must be done under the direct supervision of the Knox County Dept. of Engineering and Public Works
3. All retaining walls that will be greater than 4' in height must be designed by a structural engineer

4. Exposed banks being graded to not exceed a two to one slope. All exposed slopes must be landscaped. A landscaping plan for cut slopes must be submitted to MPC staff prior to obtaining a grading permit for this site.
5. Installing all landscaping, as shown on the development plan, within six months of the issuance of occupancy permits for this project, or posting a bond with the Knox county Dept. of Engineering and Public Works to guarantee such installation
6. Certification on the revised development plan by the applicants engineer that there is 300' of sight distance in both directions on Palestine Ln. from the proposed driveway
7. Combining the parcels that make up this site through the appropriate subdivision process
8. Recording the protective covenants as required by Article 5.33.14B of the Knox County Zoning Ordinance
9. All proposed signs meeting the size and location requirements of Article 3.90 of the Knox County Zoning Ordinance
10. All proposed lighting being shielded so as that it is directed down to the ground
11. A revised site plan must be submitted to MPC staff for certification prior to obtaining any grading or building permits

COMMENTS:

The applicant is proposing to construct a distribution center for Southeastern Freight Lines as shown on the development plan. The site is located on Palestine Ln., adjacent to the Interstate, in the southeast quadrant of the I-40/75 Watt Road interchange. Palestine Ln. is a local street with a pavement width that varies from 22' to being a 12' wide gravel road. Because of the truck traffic that is associated with the proposed use, the applicant will be required to widen Palestine Ln. to a minimum width of 22' as part of this project. The widening will have to be completed prior to the issuance of an occupancy permit for the project.

This site was zoned PC in 2001. At that time conditions were placed on this site that required that an open space buffer be maintained between this site and the residential development the south and southeast. This project does not encroach on to the parcel that was designated as the buffer at that time (parcel 79). The boundary of this site will be approximately 475' from the nearest residentially zoned property and well over 700 to the nearest house. Since the residential property is higher in elevation, the staff will require that all lighting associated with this project be directed downward toward the ground. This should lessen the visual impact of this use in the evening hours.

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, SURROUNDING PROPERTIES AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE

1. The proposal will have no impact on schools.
2. With the widening of Palestine Ln., the proposal will have minimal impact on the local streets.
3. Utilities are available to serve the development.

CONFORMITY OF THE PROPOSAL TO CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE KNOX COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE

1. The proposed distribution center is consistent with the general standards for uses permitted on review: The proposed development is consistent with the adopted plans and policies of the General Plan and Sector Plan. The use is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Ordinance. The use is compatible with the character of the area where it is proposed. The use will not significantly injure the value of adjacent property. The use will not draw additional traffic through residential areas.
2. The proposal meets all relevant requirements of the PC (Planned Commercial) zoning district and a use on review.

CONFORMITY OF THE PROPOSAL TO ADOPTED MPC PLANS

1. The Southwest County Sector Plan proposes commercial use and slope protection for this site.
2. The site is located in the Planned Growth Area on the Knoxville-Knox County-Farragut Growth Policy Plan.

MPC's approval or denial of this request is final, unless the action is appealed to the Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals. The date of the Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals hearing will depend on when the appeal application is filed. Appellants have 30 days to appeal an MPC decision in the County.

