



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item # 6

TO: Metropolitan Planning Commission

FROM: Mark Donaldson, Executive Director

DATE: May 13, 2010

SUBJECT: 05-A-10-OA
Consideration of proposed amendments to the City of Knoxville Zoning Ordinance at Article V, Section 13 (Temporary Uses) regarding the use of goats on public property for vegetation control.

Request:

At the request of the City of Knoxville public service and law departments, MPC has been asked to consider a proposed amendment to the City of Knoxville Zoning Ordinance at Article V, Section 13 (Temporary Uses) regarding the use of goats as a temporary use on public property for vegetation control, particularly kudzu.

Background:

The use of goats to control kudzu has proven to be effective in other cities and the City of Knoxville Department of Public Service would like to try it in Knoxville. The City seeks to amend the zoning ordinance to permit this activity on public lands.

Analysis:

Allowing this activity as a temporary use, subject to established regulations, and requiring approval of the building official will provide a reasonable regulatory framework for the management of goats on public property and help assure the protection of the public interest and the health, safety and welfare of the people of Knoxville.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend to City Council that Article V, Section 13 (Temporary Uses) be amended as shown in Attachment A to allow the use of goats for vegetation control on public property.

Attachments:

- Attachment A. Proposed amendment to Article V, Section 13 (Temporary Uses)

New Language in **BOLD**

Amended Language in ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~

Article V,
Section 13. TEMPORARY USES

9. ***Use of goats for control of kudzu or other invasive plants.*** In any district, a temporary use permit may be issued for the use of goats for the purpose of controlling kudzu or other invasive plants on any property owned, leased or otherwise controlled by the City of Knoxville, subject to the following requirements:
 - a. The area to be browsed by animals shall be measured, staked, and appropriately fenced.
 - b. The animals shall remain within a secure enclosure at all times. The animals may be moved to a separate holding pen at night, which shall be located the maximum distance practicable from residences.
 - c. The animals shall be used to control kudzu or other invasive plants only and shall be removed when seasonal control has been established.
 - d. Animal droppings shall be removed as needed to prevent accumulation, to avoid health or sanitation problems, or the breeding of flies, and to prevent discharge into the storm water system.
 - e. The use of animals to control kudzu or other invasive plants shall be accomplished in such a way as to not create erosion. Reasonable care must be taken to prevent storm water runoff and water quality problems.
 - f. Once the browsing project is complete, the animals and any temporary fencing must be removed.

910. Additional Temporary Uses