

Date: November 17, 2021
To: Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission
From: Amy Brooks, AICP, Executive Director
Subject: 10-A-21-OA

REQUEST

Consideration of amendments to the Knoxville City Code, Appendix B, Article 9 – Uses, to add airport as a special use in the INST (Institutional) Zoning District.

BACKGROUND

[Knoxville Downtown Island Home Airport](#) is one of two public airports operated by the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority. Downtown Island Home Airport is a general aviation facility located less than three miles east of downtown Knoxville and is a base for private and corporate aircraft. The airport was established in 1930, becoming a public aviation facility in 1963.

Airports are permitted only in the I-H (Heavy Industrial) Zoning District. Downtown Island Home Airport is zoned INST. The airport existed legally upon the effective date of the City Code and is allowed to continue to exist, but it is subject to Article 17.1 – Nonconforming Buildings, Structures and Uses of Land. The property’s current status as a legal, nonconforming use requires the Airport Authority to request variances from the Board of Zoning Appeals to alter any existing structures or to add structures. Additionally, although legal, the nonconforming status of airport use in the INST zone does not meet requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA requires that property on which an airport is situated be a permitted use.

ANALYSIS

In the interest of supporting the continued operation and vitality of Downtown Island Home Airport, the airport use could be added as a special use to the INST District. This would enable the existing airport to comply with requirements of the FAA while ensuring any future enhancements to the airport property are compatible with existing development.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of amendments to the Knoxville City Code, Appendix B, Article 9 – Uses, to add airport as a special use in the INST (Institutional) Zoning District and to add Principal Use Standards for Airports.

Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1

Exhibit 2: Proposed amendment to Article 9.3 – Principal Use Standards

Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Agriculture																				P	P			
Airport																			P		S			9.3.?
Alternative Correctional Facility											S													
Amusement Facility—Indoor										P	P	P	P			P								
Amusement Facility—Outdoor											P	P				S								
Animal Care Facility—Large Animal																				P	P			
Animal Care Facility—Small Animal									P	P	P	P	S	S		P				P	P			9.3.A
Animal Breeder																				P				9.3.A
Art Gallery									P	P	P	P	P			P								
Arts and Fitness Studio									P	P	P	P	P	P	S	P	S							

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

[Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1](#)

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Bed and Breakfast	P	P	P	P																P				9.3.B
Body Modification Establishment									S	P	P	P	P			P								
Broadcasting Facility—With Antennae															P		P	P	P		P			
Broadcasting Facility—No Antennae									P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				P			
Campground																				S		P		9.3.C
Car Wash										S	P	P												9.3.D
Cemetery																						P		
Community Center	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P					P			
Conservation Area																				P		P	P	
Crematory										S	S	S												9.3.M
Country Club																						P		

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

[Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1](#)

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Fraternity/Sorority				S	S	S	S														P			
Funeral Home										S	S	S												9.3.M
Garden, Community	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		9.3.N
Garden, Market	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		9.3.N
Garden, Personal	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		9.3.N
Gas Station									S	S	P	P				S	S	P	P					9.3.O
Golf Course/Driving Range											P	P										P		
Government Office/Facility									P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Greenhouse/Nursery—Retail		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P		S						P				
Group Home	P	P	P	P	P	P	P																	
Halfway House						S	S	S		P	P	P	P	S	S	S					P			

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Healthcare Facility												S			S		S				P			
Heavy Retail, Rental, and Service											P	P						P		S				
Heliport															S	S	S	S	S		S			
Homeless Shelter											S	S	S								P			
Hotel										P	P	P	P		P	P	P							
Impound Lot																			P					9.3.P
Independent Living Facility				S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	S										
Industrial—Craft										P	P	P	P			P		P						9.3.Q
Industrial—General																P	P	P	P					
Industrial—Heavy																			P					
Industrial Design									P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P						
Kennel											S	S				S				P				9.3.A

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Live Entertainment—Secondary Use										P	P	P	P			P								
Live Performance Venue										S	P	P	S			P								
Live/Work									P	P			P	P		P								9.3.R
Lodge/Meeting Hall									P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P				9.3.S
Marina										S						S		S				S		9.3.T
Medical/Dental Office/Clinic									S	P	P	P	P	P	P		S							
Micro-Brewery/Distillery/Winery									S	P	P	P	P			P		P						9.3.U
Neighborhood Nonresidential Reuse	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S																9.3.V
Nightclub										S	S	S	S											
Office									P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Parking Lot										S	S	P									P			Art. 11

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

[Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1](#)

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)
Parking Structure										P	P	P	P		P	P	P				P			Art. 11
Personal Service Establishment									P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P						
Place of Worship	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					P	P			
Pre-School/Kindergarten	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P								S		9.3.W
Public Park	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P	
Public Safety Facility	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Public Works Facility											P	P				P		P	P	P				
Reception Facility										P	P	P	P			S				S				9.3.X
Research and Development															P	P	P	P	P					
Residential Care Facility						S	P	P	S	S	S	S	S								P			9.3.Y
Retail Goods Establishment									P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P						

TABLE 9-1: USE MATRIX

Exhibit 1: Proposed amendment to Article 9.2 - Use Matrix Table 9-1

P = Permitted Use S = Special Use T = Temporary Use

PRINCIPAL USE	EN	RN-1	RN-2	RN-3	RN-4	RN-5	RN-6	RN-7	C-N	C-G	C-H	C-R	DK	O	OP	I-MU	I-RD	I-G	I-H	AG	INST	OS	NA	USE STANDARD (Section)	
Vehicle Rental—With Outdoor Storage/Display											P	P													
Vehicle Repair/Service										S	P	P				S								9.3.DD	
Warehouse and Distribution																P	P	P	P						
Waste Transfer Station																			P						
Wholesale Establishment											S					S	P	P	P						
Wind Energy System																	S	S	S	S	S			9.3.EE	
Wireless Telecommunications	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		9.3.FF	

EXHIBIT 2: Proposed amendment to Article 9.3 – Principal Use Standards

Airports

1. All applicable standards of this Code shall apply except for those standards which are found to be in conflict with regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration, or its successor.
2. In the INST District, each airport facility must be used, or intended to be used, for public purposes and under the control of a public agency.

DRAFT