



CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

November 25, 2014

SUBJECT: Hold Public Hearing for Specific Use Permit Case No. 14-16-SUP and Consider First and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 2049

SUBMITTED BY: Mike Collins, Director of Planning and Economic Development

REFERENCE NO: 14-16-SUP

ACTION REQUESTED:

Receive public input regarding the request for a Specific Use Permit on Cresthaven Addition, Block 1, Lot 19, 1000 Cresthaven Drive for a Place of Worship and Pastoral Residence Use in the Community Business District (C-2) and approve Ordinance No. 2049.

ALTERNATIVES:

- Approve the request with modifications
- Table the request
- Deny the request

SUMMARY OF SUBJECT:

Applicant: Rev. Salesi Fono, representing Church of Tonga.

Location/Zoning: 1000 Cresthaven Drive. The property is zoned Community Business District (C-2).

Rev. Fono has made an application on behalf of the Church of Tonga to renew the Specific Use Permit approved by the City Council on October 22, 2013. The Specific Use Permit was issued for a place of worship located at 1000 Cresthaven Drive. There were several conditions placed as part of the SUP in order for the church to be issued a Certificate of Occupancy for the site. The property consists of a wood frame structure that is used as a pastoral residence and a 2,100 square stucco clad structure that has been converted from a (former) commercial warehouse into a worship center and sanctuary. The conditions of the SUP established a maximum occupancy of fifty-two (52) people for the worship center.

There is a cultural uniqueness associated with the Church of Tonga, with visits from the church hierarchy that travel from outside of the Fort Worth area, that creates opportunities for specific events to be held at the church that will exceed the typical occupancy of fifty – two (52). To accommodate these special occasions, the SUP contains a provision that

would enable the City Manager to consider providing approval for up to six (6) special events in a twelve (12) month period of time. Favorable consideration of these requests would be based on the ability of the neighborhood to accommodate the on-street parking that would allow normal street operations that provides clear passage of emergency vehicles and enables private property owner's use of their own property without being blocked by the on-street parking.

A condition that the SUP be renewed for six (6) months is suggested for the purpose of being able to monitor the church operating under these unique conditions and determine if any issues need to be addressed or mitigated. The approval of this SUP would only provide entitlement to the property to be used as a place of worship and pastoral residence.

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on November 18, 2014. There were several surrounding property owners which spoke in support of the church. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval by a vote of 6-0-0 of the Specific Use Permit with the following conditions:

- a. The Specific Use Permit is tied to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Ofeina Lolohea and to the Rev. Salesi Fono; and,
- b. The Specific Use Permit is tied to the Church Name: Church of Tonga; and,
- c. The parking of the site will show that the property will accommodate six (6) parking spaces.
- d. A cooperative parking agreement between the Church of Tonga and the property owner of 1002 Cresthaven be signed and recorded with Tarrant County allowing for member of the Church of Tonga to legally park at 1002 Cresthaven, in at least four (4) parking spaces during times of worship or other church functions.
- e. The maximum occupancy of the sanctuary would be capped at fifty-two (52) persons.
- f. The Church of Tonga will be permitted to make application to the City Manager for up to six (6) Special Events per twelve (12) month period of time. During these Special Events it is acknowledged by the City that the six (6) permanent parking spaces will not be adequate to accommodate parking demand. In these Special Event instances, managed on-street parking may be permitted as long as the on-street parking does not interfere with normal street operation;
- g. The residential structure will only be used for housing of the Church pastor or caretaker or to be used for immediate pastoral care and not to be used as a rental residence or used for overnight group housing;
- h. The term of this Specific Use Permit shall be granted for a period of six (6) months in order to gauge the further appropriateness of the use at the specific location; and,
- i. The Specific Use Permit may be revoked if one or more of the conditions imposed by this permit has not been met or has been violated.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- Ordinance No. 2049
- Application
- Draft Minutes – P & Z
- Comment Letter(s)
- Map 1, Map 2, and Map 3

APPROVED BY:

_____ GM

City Manager's Office

_____ KS

City Secretary's Office