

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
NOVEMBER 21, 2023 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>An ordinance approving a Planned Zoning Development titled McGrath2 STR-2 PD-C located at 710 Beechwood Street (Z-9762).</p> <p>Submitted By:</p> <p>Planning & Development Department</p>	<p>√ Ordinance Resolution</p>	<p>Emily Cox Acting City Manager</p>
<p>SYNOPSIS</p>	<p>The applicant is requesting that the 0.17-acre property, located at 710 Beechwood Street, be rezoned from O-3, General Office District, to PCD, Planned Commercial Development, to allow for a Short-Term Rental (STR-2).</p>	
<p>FISCAL IMPACT</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p>	<p>Staff recommends approval of the PCD rezoning request. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent and 2 open positions.</p>	
<p>BACKGROUND</p>	<p>The applicant proposes to rezone 0.17-acre property located at 710 Beechwood Street from O-3, General Office District, to PCD, Planned Commercial Development, to allow for the use of the property as Short-Term Rental with a maximum stay of twenty-nine (29) days. The owner will not reside in the residence. It is an existing six-plex apartment building, and one (1) of the units will be utilized as a Short-Term Rental.</p> <p>The request is in the Heights/Hillcrest Planning District as well as the Hillcrest Overlay District. This site is also in the Hillcrest National Historic District.</p>	

**BACKGROUND
CONTINUED**

The multifamily apartment building has been operating as a Long-Term Rental for five (5) years. The property contains an existing two (2)-story brick apartment building, and there are eight (8) parking spots in the front of the building and an additional five (5) spots in the rear alley between Beechwood Street and Palm Street. The property is primarily surrounded by PCD and residential zoning. The Future Land Use Map shows a large area of Residential High Density (RH) with Commercial (C) being to the south.

On June 20, 2023 the City Board of Directors passed Ordinance No. 22,274, regulating Short-Term Rentals within the City of Little Rock. The new ordinance establishes “development standards” for Short-Term Rentals. If approved, the applicant must comply with the newly established development standards as follows, in addition to all other requirements of the new ordinance.

Development Standards:

1. Hosting of private parties and special events such as weddings, receptions, and other similar gatherings is not allowed in Short-Term Rentals.
2. Tours for a fee are not allowed to anyone other than an Occupant.
3. The Occupancy Fee may include any meal to be served to paying guests; no other meal service is permitted.
4. Allowable signage is that as permitted by the Single-Family Residential Standard.
5. Parking plan must be provided with permit application. Off-Street Standard for STRs shall be provided in accordance with Little Rock Arkansas Code, Chapter 36 36-54 (e) (1). If on-street parking is proposed as an alternative to meet the above requirements, parking must be available for guest use within 330 feet of the STR and parking plan must address neighborhood impact. If the STR is proposed within a Design Overlay District, any alternate parking requirements, as provided in Little Rock, Arkansas Rev. Code, Chapter 36. Zoning, Article V. District Regulations shall be applicable.
6. Applicants shall provide a scaled floor plan that includes all of the rooms available for rent with location of windows, doors, and smoke detectors identified. Smoke detectors (certified) are required in all sleeping areas, in every room in the path of the means of egress from the sleeping area to the exit, and in each story with sleeping unit, including basements.
7. All sleeping areas must have two (2) ways of egress, one of which can be an operable window.

**BACKGROUND
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8. Proof of homeowner's fire, hazard, and liability insurance. Liability coverage shall have limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence.
9. All persons operating a Bed and Breakfast House/Short-Term Rental (Type I & 2) shall meet all applicable requirements of the City of Little Rock's Municipal Code, Chapter 12, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article II. Arkansas Fire Prevention Code. Prior to use as a Bed and Breakfast House/Short-Term Rental (Type 1 & 2), the annual City of Little Rock, Building Code and Fire Marshal inspection fee must be paid and payment of annual Business License received.
10. Smoke alarms shall be installed; all smoke alarms shall meet local and state standards (current Fire Code). Smoke alarms shall be installed in all sleeping areas and every room in the path of the means of egress from the sleeping area to the door leading from the sleeping unit.
11. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed as directed by City Staff if there are fuel-fired appliances in the unit or the unit has an attached garage.
12. Five (5)-pound ABC-type extinguisher shall be mounted where readily accessible.
13. No recreational vehicles, buses, or trailers shall be visible on the street or property in conjunction with the Bed and Breakfast House/Short-term rental use.
14. Principal renter shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
15. Maximum occupancy. Maximum occupancy of any room or structure as a whole shall be determined by the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code.
16. Simultaneous rental to more than one party under separate contracts shall not be allowed.
17. The owner shall not receive any compensation or remuneration to permit occupancy of a Short Term Rental for a period of less than a one (1)-day rental.

The Planning Commission reviewed this request at their September 14, 2023, meeting and there were no objectors present. All owners of property located within 300 feet of the site, as well as all Neighborhood Associations registered within the City of Little Rock, were notified. Please see the attached Planning Commission minutes for Staff's Analysis and the Commission's action.