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Board of County Commissioners  
Holly Williams, District 1  
Carrie Geitner, District 2  
Stan VanderWerf, District 3  
Longinos Gonzalez, Jr., District 4  
Cami Bremer, District 5

## SUMMARY MEMORANDUM

TO: El Paso County Board of County Commissioners  
FROM: Planning & Community Development  
DATE: 9/28/2023  
RE: Powers Centre Filing No. 3A

### Project Description

A request by Oliver Watts Consulting for approval to Vacate and Replat one (1) commercial lot into three (3) commercial lots.

### Notation

Please see the Planning Commission Minutes from September 7, 2023, for a complete discussion of the topic and the project manager's staff report for staff analysis and conditions.

### Planning Commission Recommendation and Vote

Mr. Moraes moved / Ms. Brittain Jack seconded to recommend approval of consent item VR-23-006 for a Vacation and Replat of Powers Centre Filing No. 3A utilizing the resolution attached to the staff report with seven (7) conditions, one (1) notation, and a recommended conditional finding of water sufficiency with regard to quality, quantity, and dependability. The motion was **approved (7-0)**. The item was heard as a consent item at the Planning Commission hearing. There was no public opposition.

### Discussion

Project was passed unanimously without any additional discussion from the board members, staff members, or the public.

### Attachments

1. Planning Commission Minutes from 9/7/2023.
2. Signed Planning Commission Resolution.
3. Planning Commission Staff Report.
4. Draft BOCC Resolution.

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## **EL PASO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **MEETING RESULTS (UNOFFICIAL RESULTS)**

Planning Commission (PC) Meeting  
Thursday, September 7, 2023  
El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department  
2880 International Circle – Second Floor Hearing Room  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

#### **REGULAR HEARING, 9:00 A.M.**

**PC MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING:** SARAH BRITTAIN JACK, JAY CARLSON, BRANDY MERRIAM, ERIC MORAES, BRYCE SCHUETTPELZ, WAYNE SMITH, AND CHRISTOPHER WHITNEY.

**PC MEMBERS VIRTUAL AND VOTING:** NONE.

**PC MEMBERS PRESENT AND NOT VOTING:** JIM BYERS.

**PC MEMBERS ABSENT:** THOMAS BAILEY, BECKY FULLER, JEFFREY MARKEWICH, KARA OFFNER, AND TIM TROWBRIDGE.

**COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:** MEGGAN HERINGTON, JUSTIN KILGORE, JOSHUA PALMER, GILBERT LAFORCE, KYLIE BAGLEY, CARLOS HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ, DANIEL TORRES, ED SCHOENHEIT, ASHLYN MATHY, MIRANDA BENSON, AND LORI SEAGO.

**OTHERS PRESENT AND SPEAKING:** JENN EISENHART, WAYNE ROBINSON, GAIL ROBINSON, PATTY ERNST, MARGARET WEISHUHN, CHRIS JEUB, MATT DUNSTON, BARB KUNKEL, PAM RESNER, HEATHER TIFFANY, MIKE PROVENCAL, ALTON GANSKY, VICKI DAVIS, CORY TOWN, BRYAN CANAAN, JAKE VAN PELT, RIKKI VAN PELT, MELANIE SWEET, JOE BARAN, JANET SCHULTE, AND STEVE CLARK.

#### **1. REPORT ITEMS**

**A. Planning Department.** The next PC Hearing is Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

#### **2. CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE HEARING AGENDA.**

**Ms. Jenn Eisenhart** spoke about her difficult experience with a developer from a past project regarding utility improvements and following the approved design guidelines. She mentioned LDC Chapter 8 requirements. It was asked that she give her contact info to Mr. Kilgore so that he and Ms. Seago can investigate the situation and get back to her.

**3. CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Adoption of Minutes of meeting held August 17, 2023.**

**PC ACTION: THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (7-0).**

**B. VR236**

**MATHY**

**VACATION AND REPLAT  
POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A**

A request by Oliver Watts Consulting for approval to Vacate and Replat one (1) lot into three (3) lots. The 5.55-acre property is zoned CR (Commercial Regional) and is located east and south of the intersection of Powers Boulevard and Palmer Park Boulevard. (Parcel No. 5406304050) (Commissioner District No. 2).

**NO PUBLIC COMMENT OR DISCUSSION.**

**PC ACTION: MORAES MOVED / BRITAIN JACK SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEM NUMBER 3B, FILE NUMBER VR236 FOR A VACATION AND REPLAT, POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH SIX (6) CONDITIONS, ONE (1) NOTATION, AND A RECOMMENDED FINDING OF CONDITIONAL SUFFICIENCY WITH REGARD TO WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY, AND DEPENDABILITY, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (7-0).**

**C. P233**

**MATHY**

**MAP AMENDMENT (REZONE)  
16850 STEPLER ROAD - REZONE**

A request by Charlie Stewart for approval of a Map Amendment (Rezoning) of 36.38 acres from RR-5 (Residential Rural) to RR-2.5 (Residential Rural). The property is located at 16850 Stepler Road, approximately one-half mile from the intersection of Settlers Ranch Road and Stepler Road. (Parcel No. 6100000485) (Commissioner District No. 1).

**PC ACTION: THIS ITEM WAS PULLED TO BE HEARD AS A CALLED-UP CONSENT ITEM BY MR. WHITNEY.**

**D. MS226**

**MATHY**

**MINOR SUBDIVISION  
MCDANIELS ROAD MINOR SUBDIVISION**

A request by Greg Zindorf for approval of a 40-acre Minor Subdivision illustrating four (4) single-family residential lots. The property is zoned RR-5 (Residential Rural) and is located at 22755 McDaniels Road, at the corner of McDaniels Road and Log Road (Parcel No. 3400000295) (Commissioner District No. 4).

**PC ACTION: THIS ITEM WAS PULLED TO BE HEARD AS A CALLED-UP CONSENT ITEM PER PUBLIC REQUEST.**

E. P232

BAGLEY

**MAP AMENDMENT (REZONE)  
2020 N. ELLICOTT - CORDERO FIL. 2 REZONE**

A request by Angel Cordero for approval of a Map Amendment (Rezoning) of 16.59 acres from A-35 (Agricultural) to A-5 (Agricultural). The property is located at 2020 North Ellicott Highway and is 1.5 miles north of the intersection of Ellicott Highway and Highway 24. (Parcel No. 3400000482) (Commissioner District No. 4).

**PC ACTION: BRITAIN JACK MOVED / MERRIAM SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEM NUMBER 3E, FILE NUMBER P232 FOR A MAP AMENDMENT (REZONE), 2020 N. ELLICOTT - CORDERO FIL. 2 REZONE, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH TWO (2) CONDITIONS AND TWO (2) NOTATIONS, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (7-0).**

F. VA232

BAGLEY

**VARIANCE OF USE  
7135 TEMPLETON GAP - LANDSCAPING BUSINESS**

A request by Ben Fisk for approval of a Variance of Use on 5.00 acres to allow a contractors equipment yard in the RR-5 (Residential Rural) zoning district. The property is located at 7135 Templeton Gap Road and is 0.33 miles south of the intersection of East Woodmen Road and Templeton Gap Road. (Parcel No. 5307000005) (Commissioner District No. 2).

**PC ACTION: THIS ITEM WAS PULLED TO BE HEARD AS A CALLED-UP CONSENT ITEM BY MR. CARLSON.**

**4. CALLED-UP CONSENT ITEMS:**

3C. P233

MATHY

**MAP AMENDMENT (REZONE)  
16850 STEPLER ROAD - REZONE**

A request by Charlie Stewart for approval of a Map Amendment (Rezoning) of 36.38 acres from RR-5 (Residential Rural) to RR-2.5 (Residential Rural). The property is located at 16850 Stepler Road, approximately one-half mile from the intersection of Settlers Ranch Road and Stepler Road. (Parcel No. 6100000485) (Commissioner District No. 1).

**STAFF & APPLICANT PRESENTATIONS**

**Mr. Carlson** asked for the definition of Agricultural Stand and asked if produce could be both sold and stored.

**Ms. Mathy** answered that it could be any agricultural structure and doesn't specify the storage. She stated there should be a buffer between the stand and neighbors. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Whitney** asked if the area was surrounded by RR-5.

**Ms. Mathy** answered that it is surrounded by RR-5 and PUD.

**Mr. Whitney** asked how the lots are smaller than 5 acres if the zoning is RR-5.

**Ms. Mathy** answered that they may have been platted that way, which can happen for many reasons.

**Mr. Carlson** asked to be shown which parcels are less than 5 acres.

**Ms. Mathy** pointed several out on the slideshow image. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Whitney** clarified that even though they are only requesting to rezone currently, they could have the ability to subdivide later. Ms. Mathy confirmed. Presentation Continued.

**Mr. Kilgore** answered the earlier question regarding surrounding lot sizes. The adjacent properties are 3.82, 2.5, and 2.5 acres. Presentation Continued.

**Ms. Herington** provided clarification that the surrounding area is not entirely RR-5. She referred to an image in the presentation. The pink represents a PUD of 2.5-acre zoning.

**Mr. Whitney** referred to the staff report's analysis.

**Ms. Mathy** explained that different resources (GIS, Assessor, etc.) were showing different results, but the PUD is accurate.

**Mr. Carlson** asked about the zoning of the lot directly north of the subject property.

**Ms. Merriam** asked for the GIS overlay of the surrounding area.

**Ms. Mathy** showed the GIS of the zoning. The parcel immediately north is PUD.

**Ms. Merriam** asked if livestock is on the properties south and east of the subject property.

**Ms. Mathy** answered that the zoning is RR-5.

**Ms. Herington** added that livestock would be allowed on those properties, but PCD can't answer whether or not they're raising livestock.

**Mr. Whitney** stated he's familiar with the area and there is livestock. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Moraes** pointed out that the rezone map provided by the applicant shows RR-5 as the surrounding zoning.

**Mr. Noah Brehmer**, with Kimley Horn & Assoc., reiterated that there is a disconnect between the Assessor's Office and the current PUD zoning per GIS. The PUD is correct.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS. NO FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

**PC ACTION: BRITAIN JACK MOVED / SMITH SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CALLED-UP ITEM NUMBER 3C, FILE NUMBER P233 FOR A MAP AMENDMENT (REZONE), 16850 STEPLER ROAD -**

**REZONE, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH FIVE (5) CONDITIONS AND TWO (2) NOTATIONS, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (6-1).**

**IN FAVOR:** BRITTAIN JACK, CARLSON, MORAES, SCHUETTPELZ, SMITH, AND WHITNEY.

**IN OPPOSITION:** MERRIAM.

**COMMENTS:** MS. MERRIAM is concerned about losing land in the eastern part of the County. It's part of the culture. MR. SCHUETTPELZ clarified that he felt comfortable recommending approval because the area is truly surrounded by RR-2.5 and PUD of that same size. This is a good transition.

**3D. MS226**

**MATHY**

**MINOR SUBDIVISION  
MCDANIELS ROAD MINOR SUBDIVISION**

A request by Greg Zindorf for approval of a 40-acre Minor Subdivision illustrating four (4) single-family residential lots. The property is zoned RR-5 (Residential Rural) and is located at 22755 McDaniels Road, at the corner of McDaniels Road and Log Road (Parcel No. 3400000295) (Commissioner District No. 4).

**STAFF & APPLICANT PRESENTATIONS**

**Ms. Merriam** asked if each property would need their own well and septic systems. (Carlos confirmed) She then asked if septic systems would affect the floodplain.

**Ms. Seago** explained that the State Engineer's Office issues the well permits and determines location. The County Public Health Department issues septic system permits and determines location.

**Mr. Carlson** asked if driveways could cross the floodplain.

**Mr. Hernandez Martinez** answered that he doesn't think they can. Grading within a floodplain is deferred to the PPRBD Floodplain Administrator and is typically not allowed.

**Ms. Herington** added that the floodplain is in a "no-build" area identified on the plat which would mean that no roads or driveways are allowed within that area.

**Mr. Carlson** clarified then that if homes were built on the south side of the floodplain, they would not be able to access Log Road to the north.

**Mr. Hernandez Martinez** agreed and stated they would need access from McDaniels Road.

**Mr. LaForce** stated he needed to make a correction. He stated "no-build" refers to structures. Roads and/or driveways could be allowed but would need additional permitting from the PPRBD Floodplain Administrator. It's not generally recommended because someone could be stranded in their home if they're not able to cross their driveway during a flood. There is no ECM criterion that says they can't do it.

**Ms. Herington** reiterated that from the Planning perspective, when single-family home site plans are reviewed by PCD, they *are* evaluated with the floodplain and "no-build" designation in mind.

She stated PCD would have a say in the site of the homes and whether they cross the floodplain. It is PCD's intent that the homes should not need to cross the floodplain to access the road.

**Mr. Carlson** stated that he is concerned that someone in the future could propose subdividing the lots further (for example, cutting each lot in half). He asked if the newly created lots could be granted access to any other road besides McDaniels Road to the north.

**Ms. Herington** stated that if someone was proposing a subdivision in the future, they would need to go through this same process and that topic would be explored at that time.

**Mr. Whitney** asked if the property was currently zoned RR-5. (Ms. Mathy confirmed.) He further asked if the area is surrounded by A-35 zoning. (Ms. Mathy confirmed.)

**Mr. Carlson** clarified that the rezoning was already approved.

**Ms. Mathy** confirmed and further stated that the proposed lots exceed the RR-5 5-acre minimum.

**Mr. Carlson** asked what the word "illustrated" means within the context used for this project. Is that implying there would be a later change to the number of lots.

**Ms. Mathy** used the word "shown". She further stated that the 4 lots currently proposed are also what is shown on the applicant's Final Plat. They are each under 10 acres.

**Ms. Herington** mentioned that the lot sizes are under 10 acres each, so they would not easily be able to further subdivide as Mr. Carlson was asking. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Smith** asked how much area is available on which to build a home under the assumption that home sites will be restricted to the north of the floodplain on the western lot.

**Mr. Guman**, with William Guman & Assoc., stated he did not have the exact amount of square footage available, but there should be plenty of space to accommodate a home of a similar size to the existing home on the far eastern lot. There's no way to know where a future owner will propose to build a home, but it cannot be within the floodplain.

**Ms. Herington** asked Ms. Mathy to clarify the next steps in the process before homes are built.

**Ms. Mathy** explained that after this Minor Subdivision, individuals may pull building permits and bring site plans to the PCD admin staff for review. Nothing further is presented to PC/BOCC.

**Mr. Guman** added that the PPRBD Floodplain Administrator will also review the plans. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Byers** asked if the existing driveway will be relocated or if there is a proposed access easement. If the land is subdivided, that driveway would go through a neighboring lot.

**Mr. Guman** stated a new driveway will be built.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mr. Wayne Robinson** stated that McDaniels Road was recently out of service for 3 weeks due to a 16' deep, 28' long washout. He stated that all the water that comes from the north runs through the eastern proposed lots.

**Ms. Gail Robinson** stated that the proposed lots would access McDaniels road along her pasture. She stated that when they purchased their property, it was surrounded by 40-acre lots. She discussed the past zoning changes in the area. There are subdivided parcels but there are also large-acreage parcels. McDaniels Road washed out in June of 2023. She stated that people would need to build driveways on bridges if they put their homes south of the floodplain. She thinks the Master Plan calls for the area to be preserved.

**Mr. Moraes** clarified that the Planning Commission failed to make a motion regarding the McDaniels rezone in November of 2022, resulting in no recommendation being sent to the BOCC.

**Ms. Patty Ernst** stated she raises cattle and horses in the area. She spoke about zoning. There are RR-5 5-acre lots on Hwy 94 in the Mayberry subdivision. She opposed those rezones. When there was flooding on the subject parcel, the flooding also went across Log Road. She disagrees with the size of the parcels due to the floodplain. She discussed the overall acreage being different than the buildable acreage. She doesn't think the land should be subdivided into 4 lots.

## **DISCUSSION**

**Mr. Moraes** asked if there is any type of warning the County issues to a potential buyer that a property contains a floodplain.

**Ms. Seago** answered that it's depicted on the plat which is recorded as public record. A potential property owner doing their due diligence should easily find that information.

**Ms. Brittain Jack** commented that Ms. Robinson has her own 40 acres that she can do with as she wishes. This application is about someone else's private property.

**PC ACTION: BRITTAIN JACK MOVED / SCHUETTPELZ SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CALLED-UP ITEM NUMBER 3D, FILE NUMBER MS226 FOR A MINOR SUBDIVISION, MCDANIELS ROAD MINOR SUBDIVISION, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH TEN (10) CONDITIONS, TWO (2) NOTATIONS, AND A RECOMMENDED FINDING OF SUFFICIENCY WITH REGARD TO WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY, AND DEPENDABILITY, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (6-1).**

**IN FAVOR:** BRITTAIN JACK, CARLSON, MERRIAM, MORAES, SCHUETTPELZ, AND WHITNEY.

**IN OPPOSITION:** SMITH.

**COMMENTS:** Mr. Smith thinks floodplain concerns need to be further investigated. Mr. Whitney commented that zoning concerns are not part of the consideration regarding the subdivision request.



**VARIANCE OF USE  
7135 TEMPLETON GAP - LANDSCAPING BUSINESS**

A request by Ben Fisk for approval of a Variance of Use on 5.00 acres to allow a contractors equipment yard in the RR-5 (Residential Rural) zoning district. The property is located at 7135 Templeton Gap Road and is 0.33 miles south of the intersection of East Woodmen Road and Templeton Gap Road. (Parcel No. 5307000005) (Commissioner District No. 2).

**STAFF & APPLICANT PRESENTATIONS**

**Mr. Carlson** asked about the location of the driveway.

**Mr. Hernandez Martinez** referenced a map in the presentation to show the driveway on Templeton Gap Road. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Carlson** asked about the City zoning on the property to the south.

**Ms. Bagley** stated she would research the City's zoning while the applicant presents. (The applicant addressed the answer during their presentation. The southern area is zoned PUD AO, and the western area is zoned C6.) Presentation continued.

**Mr. Carlson** asked about the current layout of the lot. Does it match the proposed site plan?

**Mr. Fisk**, the applicant, answered that most of the lot matches the site plan and meets all setbacks.

**Mr. Schuettpelz** asked why rezoning was not an option.

**Mr. Fisk** stated City services (e.g., water) are not yet available. As the southern parcel is developed, it may become an option.

**Mr. Schuettpelz** asked how lacking City services prevented rezoning. Can he operate with his well and septic systems?

**Mr. Fisk** mentioned the cost of bringing the water line to his property.

**Mr. Schuettpelz** clarified that he's not talking about annexation, he is asking why rezoning to commercial within the County isn't an option.

**Ms. Bagley** explained that if the applicant wanted to rezone to commercial, he would need to apply for a commercial well. That could also allow for greater commercial development to move into the area near the existing residential. By pursuing a Variance of Use, that surrounding residential area is protected.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS****NO FURTHER DISCUSSION**

**PC ACTION: MERRIAM MOVED / MORAES SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CALLED-UP ITEM NUMBER 3F, FILE NUMBER VA232 FOR A VARIANCE OF USE, 7135 TEMPLETON GAP - LANDSCAPING BUSINESS, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH TWO (2) CONDITIONS AND THREE (3) NOTATIONS, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (7-0).**

## 5. REGULAR ITEMS

### A. MS233

**BAGLEY**

#### **MINOR SUBDIVISION GUNNERS RIDGE**

A request by Drew Makings for approval of a 38.83-acre Minor Subdivision illustrating four (4) single-family residential lots. The property is zoned RR-5 (Residential Rural) and is located at 12172 Goodson Road and is directly northwest of the intersection of Goodson Road and Ayer Road. (Parcel No. 5214000014) (Commissioner District No. 2).

#### **STAFF & APPLICANT PRESENTATIONS**

**Mr. Moraes** asked for clarification regarding the requested waiver from the LDC.

**Ms. Bagley** clarified that the letter of intent indicates no waiver, but the applicant does need to request a waiver. This was caught during the review process. The applicant was not asked to resubmit a new letter of intent. She apologized that the waiver was not part of the PC report packet and ensured the BOCC would be presented with the waiver request. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Moraes** asked if lining the three smaller lots on the eastern side had been considered. Would that have forgone requesting the waiver?

**Mr. Drew Makings**, the applicant, stated that it may have forgone the waiver, but would not have allowed for buildable lots due to the powerline easements along the eastern side of the parcel.

#### **NO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

#### **DISCUSSION**

**Mr. Moraes** asked to review the criteria of approval for a waiver from the LDC (Section 7.3.3). As he looks through the criteria, he isn't sure the request meets criteria number 5.

**Mr. Makings** stated that one of the requirements was to have a shared driveway. If the subdivided lots were moved to the east, it would not be possible to meet that requirement.

**PC ACTION: SCHUETTEL MOVED / SMITH SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF REGULAR ITEM NUMBER 5A, FILE NUMBER MS233 FOR A MINOR SUBDIVISION, GUNNERS RIDGE, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH EIGHT (8) CONDITIONS, TWO (2) NOTATIONS, ONE (1) WAIVER, AND A RECOMMENDED FINDING OF SUFFICIENCY WITH REGARD TO WATER**

**QUALITY, QUANTITY, AND DEPENDABILITY, AND THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (6-1).**

**IN FAVOR:** BRITAIN JACK, CARLSON, MERRIAM, SCHUETTPELZ, SMITH, AND WHITNEY.

**IN OPPOSITION:** MORAES.

**COMMENTS:** Mr. Moraes stated he did not think the criteria of approval for the waiver were met, so he could not vote in favor of the application.

## **5. REGULAR ITEMS**

**B. AL2217**

**HOWSER**

### **SPECIAL USE COLORADO KIDS RANCH PUMPKIN PATCH**

A request by Colorado Pumpkin Patch, LLC for approval of a Special Use on 40.52 acres to allow agritainment activities with additional conditions in the RR-5 (Residential Rural) zoning district. The property is located at 18065 Saddlewood Road. Agritainment is a permitted use by right in the RR-5 zoning district; however, agritainment which does not comply with the provisions of the Land Development Code shall require Special Use approval. (Parcel No. 611600001) (Commissioner District No. 1).

#### **STAFF PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Carlson** asked if the applicant could still operate the pumpkin patch with a 50-car limit if this proposal is not approved.

**Mr. Kilgore** confirmed. They may need to adjust the site plan, but it would remain approved.

**Mr. Carlson** stated the tulip festival was retroactively denied.

**Mr. Kilgore** confirmed and clarified that a future tulip festival could be approved with a 50-car limit. The presentation continued.

**Mr. Carlson** asked if the property had access to Hwy 105.

**Mr. Kilgore** stated it does not. Traffic gains access through the subdivision. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Moraes** asked if access to Hwy 105 would have been allowed if they were proposing a subdivision.

**Mr. Torres** answered that it would not likely meet the requirements of the ECM, but a deviation request would need to be submitted to analyze the specific details. There is a subdivision just north of this location that has temporary access to Hwy 105. That plat identifies that Hwy 105 access shall be closed once access is provided from another road to the northeast.

**Mr. Moraes** stated the western red line on the presentation image looks like it is covering something.

**Mr. Torres** stated it's an existing driveway that does not connect to Hwy 105. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Carlson** clarified during presentation of the conditions/notations that PCD could retract approval of the Special Use if the applicant is found to be in violation.

**Mr. Kilgore** stated that would be at the discretion of the BOCC. PCD could not directly rescind approval, it would need to go through a process.

**Mr. Moraes** asked how long that process takes. Is it a longer timeframe than these events occur?

**Mr. Kilgore** answered that he doesn't have an exact amount of time because it involves the Code Enforcement procedure. Once a complaint is received, the officer goes out to observe, issues a notice of violation, and they give the property owner time to remedy the situation. If it's not resolved, the Executive Director issues a letter, which escalates to the BOCC. It takes time.

**Mr. Moraes** commented that the agritainment events are short-term.

**Mr. Kilgore** agreed and noted the background slides of the presentation did show that multiple Code Enforcement cases were closed because the event had discontinued during that process. Presentation continued.

**Mr. Whitney** clarified that the applicant could host their events with 50 cars today. (Mr. Kilgore confirmed.) Mr. Whitney further clarified that the current request is to host their events with up to 325 cars. (Mr. Kilgore confirmed.) Mr. Whitney asked what effect the 120-day requirements outlined in the proposed conditions of approval would have on hosting this year's pumpkin patch event.

**Mr. Kilgore** answered that his understanding is that the applicant is requesting approval of this proposal prior to hosting this year's pumpkin patch event so they can operate under this Special Use approval of 325 cars and work on the necessary improvements (Site Development Plan and screening improvements) in a tiered system afterwards to get where they need to be for the following season.

**Mr. Whitney** clarified that approval of this proposal with the existing conditions/notations would take effect for the 2024 season. This year's pumpkin patch event would proceed with 325 cars and no improvements. By next year, they will need to meet the outlined conditions.

**Mr. Kilgore** confirmed and made note of condition 4; roadway improvements prior to 9/1/2024.

## **APPLICANT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Moraes** asked how the number of 325 was decided as the maximum number of cars.

**Ms. Ruiz**, with Vertex Consulting, answered that they evaluated the highest number of cars they experienced recently (275) and added a buffer.

**Mr. Carlson** pointed out that it was mentioned several times during the presentation that events are only currently taking place for 6 weeks and 2 weekends during the year. He asked if the applicant could host events at the proposed capacity throughout the entire year if this proposal is approved.

**Ms. Ruiz** stated that could be correct; theoretically, they could be in operation all year.

**Mr. Carlson** asked if there is anything keeping people from parking on the public roads and walking into the event if the event meets the capacity of 325 cars.

**Ms. Ruiz** answered that terms within the LDC for Special Use specify that all parking must be on-site. Off-site parking could result in revocation of the approval.

**Mr. Kilgore** stated that they would expect people to park on-site.

**Mr. Carlson** proposed a scenario where people may be turned away from the parking lot due to the set limit. If that family then parked on the public road and walked into the event, what would happen? That could happen because there's nothing to keep people from parking on the road.

**Mr. Kilgore** stated he would defer to Code Enforcement to answer that question.

**Mr. Moraes** asked if the traffic generation table during the applicant's presentation was using the assumption of 325 vehicles. (Ms. Ruiz confirmed.) He then asked how May 15<sup>th</sup> relates to the annual tulip festival.

**Ms. Ruiz** answered that it may fluctuate depending on when the bloom occurs, but May 15<sup>th</sup> is typically the first weekend of the tulip festival.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS IN SUPPORT**

**Ms. Margaret Weishuhn** is concerned that the cars may be limited to 50. There are workers at every amenity. After employee parking, that wouldn't leave many spaces for visitors. Limiting parking would shut down the pumpkin patch. There are pros and cons to the location but it should be in the country. People know about the pumpkin patch and travel to it every year. The Chapmans run Awana and help neighbors. She stated the pumpkin patch is good for families.

**Mr. Chris Jeub** stated that traffic and congestion were commonly mentioned in the letters of opposition, but he didn't observe any problems on his frequent travels to Denver while taking Hwy 105. He thinks trust should be put in the traffic studies. He mentioned the Master Plan and stated it encourages agricultural business like the pumpkin patch. He stated the sacrifice the Chapmans are presenting to maintain this type of business is encouraging to him. He urged the PC to "make this work" through the bumps in the road and to approve the 325 parking spots for the limited time it would be used to keep the pumpkin patch as part of the County.

**Mr. Matt Dunston** stated the pumpkin patch is a key feature of the area. He stated that parties with musicians at Limbach Park in Monument have more than 50 cars gathered. When thinking of the region, he thinks about Monument Academy, churches, golf courses, and the YMCA. He thinks the pumpkin patch is in the perfect location. He spoke about the background of the property. The pumpkin patch honors agrarian roots. He referenced Ms. Ruiz' comments regarding the BOCC adopting the 50-car limit. He stated the past BOCC acknowledged that some could exceed that 50-car limit when it makes sense and meets the criteria. He stated PC and BOCC typically review land-use items that deviate from what has historically been there, but he thinks this proposal (to allow up to 325 cars) keeps what has historically been there. He added that it may not be for the PC to

discuss, but \$750,000 (the applicant's estimated cost of improvements) is a lot of money. He thinks the County should help with that cost.

**Ms. Barb Kunkel** stated she supports investing in kids, teenagers, and the future. She stated the pumpkin patch is important to the kids in the community. She likes the hands-on learning and environment. She has a tradition that all families from her martial arts school go to the pumpkin patch together. Their group alone would exceed 50 cars. The Chapmans are looking for a solution that sustains the business and the farm with a win-win to the community and their family. The pumpkin patch has become a local tradition for many people of all ages.

**Ms. Pam Resner** is disappointed that a solution was not agreed upon before getting to this point. She works at the pumpkin patch. She mentioned that the Master Plan addresses tourism, which the pumpkin patch increases. People come from surrounding towns and cities. The business trains future workers who then go out in the community and share their experience. Kids learn service and community interaction. She stated it's a healthy, safe place to gather for teens. She stated the Master Plan identifies employment in the area should be promoted. She stated youth programs, schools, and businesses gather at the pumpkin patch to strengthen connections, which promotes the health, safety, and wellness of the community.

**Ms. Heather Tiffany** shared that her daughters both work at the pumpkin patch and love being there. She referenced a moment earlier in public hearing where a woman was opposed to the subdivision of 40 acres near her; Ms. Brittain Jack stated that the owner of the 40 acres can use it how they want. She stated the Chapmans are choosing to use their land in this way and they should be able to use it how they'd like.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION**

**Mr. Mike Provencal** stated that this neighborhood is an equestrian residential neighborhood. He doesn't understand how a business license was issued within a residential neighborhood. He has observed their business growing and a changed limit in their parking. He stated that he sees this as a company wanting to make more money at the neighborhood's expense. He stated that while he was walking his dog on Canterbury Dr last pumpkin patch season, he encountered a friend and her daughter riding horses. The traffic disregarded the speed limit and ignored the pedestrians and horseback riders so that they had to go into the shoulder to avoid being hit. He doesn't think a business like this belongs in their neighborhood.

**Mr. Alton Gansky** stated the Canterbury Dr is a narrow winding road with many hills. There are inadequate shoulders and steep drop-offs. When there is two-way car traffic, it becomes very dangerous for anyone walking dogs or riding horses. He stated there is a need for dust control and mitigation. Dust can linger in the air for up to 10 days. He researched articles on carcinogens caused by traffic. Traffic needs to slow down. He stated there are 4 entrances to the neighborhood that lead to Canterbury Dr which was not meant for heavy two-way traffic. He thinks someone is going to get hurt. Spraying water on the road to mitigate dust is going to cause the wells to run dry. All 4 roads within the subdivision would need to be paved, or the pumpkin patch would need to be given access to Hwy 105. He can't go outside when they are having events.

**Ms. Vicki Davis** stated she no longer feels safe walking down her own street. The children can no longer ride their bikes and neighbors with horses can no longer ride on the roads. She stated the pumpkin patch is an amazing thing, but they're not taking the neighborhood and families into consideration. They have never followed the existing 50-car limit and have not been held accountable. She doesn't believe they will follow a 325-car limit or keep events limited to 6 weeks and 2 weekends as they declare.

**Mr. Cory Town** lives at the intersection of Canterbury and Saddlewood. He supports the activities promoted by the pumpkin patch but he stated that the effect it's having on his property during the events is terrible. He does not oppose the agritainment permit as it exists with a 50-car limit because that is what he believes to be reasonable when they only have access through the residential community. He understood traffic would increase when this began 5 years ago, but the limit has been exceeded many times. He is concerned for the safety of children and people walking or riding horseback in the community. He mentioned the excessive amount of dust caused by traffic on dirt roads that are not meant for the high volume of use. He also mentioned the fire risk; there is only one entrance/exit on a small dirt driveway with no access to Hwy 105. There are no fire hydrants in the Canterbury subdivision. He observed people littering trash, and once saw someone flick a cigarette butt from their car window as he was blocked from exiting his driveway. He stated cars already park along Saddlewood (as was discussed earlier in the hearing). He stated that he has continuously had to pick up trash on his property along Saddlewood.

**Mr. Bryan Canaan** (Gave presentation, slideshow attached.) Topics included argued compatibility with the Master Plan: large-lot residential should preserve the rural aesthetic, businesses should not be located on a rural residential dirt road, and there should be compatibility with the character of the existing developed area. Semi-trucks deliver pumpkins to the property because they're not grown on-site. Topics also included the quantity and scale of commercial-style events (year-round), the high number of people visiting the property, not meeting the State's definition of "agritourism", and attractions not being agricultural in nature as defined by State legislation.

**Mr. Jake Van Pelt** (Gave presentation, photos attached.) Topics included: Traffic putting their kids in danger, the dust causing hazardous breathing conditions, and the events overburdening the community infrastructure and environment.

**Ms. Rikki Van Pelt** (Gave presentation, photos attached.) Topics included how she believes the application does not meet 2 Special Use criteria of approval; number 2, The Special Use will be in harmony with the character of the neighborhood and will generally be compatible with the existing and allowable land uses in the surrounding area; and number 6, The Special Use will not otherwise be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare of the present or future residents of El Paso County. The community is a quiet equestrian neighborhood. The dust caused by the high volume of traffic on the dirt road is affecting her health. Events held on the property have not been following the existing regulations. The scale of traffic is causing unsafe conditions.

**Ms. Melanie Sweet** (Gave presentation, photos attached.) Topics included: The existing roads being used for the high volume of traffic, the safety of pedestrians, and the safety of her family. The traffic and street parking blocked access to her own property. She supports agriculture, but

the reality of what is taking place on the subject property is dangerous. Livestock were once allowed to open graze. The current use is not preserving the land.

**Mr. Joe Baran** stated he was almost hit by cars twice on Canterbury Drive last fall during weekday pumpkin patch events. After that happened, he counted 51 cars traveling south and 29 cars traveling north on Canterbury within 15 minutes. He stated it's unsafe within his neighborhood.

**Ms. Janet Schulte** stated she was disappointed by the applicants' failure to address the safety measures that they will take moving forward. She reiterated that the applicant has not complied with the initial agritainment permit. She doesn't have confidence that the proposed 5-year public improvement mitigation plan will be followed. The traffic issue makes it unsafe for residents. There is no screening proposed along the east side of the property.

**Mr. Steve Clark** (on the phone) mentioned that most letters received in support are not residents that have to live with the excessive traffic in their covenant-controlled subdivision. He stated this type of proposal would not be allowed within other covenant-controlled subdivisions like Broadmoor. He reiterated the discussion regarding unsafe traffic. He stated the proposed fencing for mitigation would destroy the open, rural aesthetic. Without Hwy 105 access, he is opposed to the application.

## **DISCUSSION**

**Mr. Craig Dossey**, with Vertex Consulting, addressed the public comments. He stated that the neighborhood being described as a residential equestrian neighborhood is "categorically wrong" because the LDC does not limit the use to residential or equestrian. He stated it is not a residential equestrian neighborhood. He addressed the agritainment use within the neighborhood and mentioned that the State made sure to define agritainment as a land-use type. He stated the Chapmans are not exceedingly profitable. They cannot control the behavior of traffic, but they are proposing safe improvements. He disagrees with County staff's traffic improvement assessment because he thinks the intersection is already functioning at an acceptable level of service. Dust caused by cars would be addressed when the road improvements are completed, and he stated the dust being caused by the activities is less than it would be if they were farming the land. Addressing the concerns that high levels of traffic for events will be year-round; it could be. He stated that anyone who runs a business and is expected to put in the financial investment that the County is requiring would need to host events year-round to see a return. He stated he's not sure horses should be allowed on the neighborhood roads. They're public-maintained roads. Mr. Chapman tried to get access off Hwy 105 but the County denied the deviation. He disagreed that the Master Plan calls for businesses to gain access off a major roadway because it specifically says, "located on", not "accesses onto". The business is adjacent to Hwy 105. Access points onto arterial roads are limited. He stated agritainment is more in-line with the character of the area than single-family development because agriculture predates residential. Regarding the allegations of disregard for the rules, he stated that Mr. Kilgore's timeline showed a history of compliance and that litigation for non-compliance was never initiated. He stated County staff gave the Chapmans bad information and once Mr. Chapman realized his business needed to grow and that he was not in compliance, he realized he needed to make improvements. He stated that residents set out speed and counting strips and found that speeding was not an issue. Screening was not proposed on the east side of the property because a fence would not block anything due to topography. The homes on the east



side are higher in elevation and it would take a taller structure than a standard fence to be effective, which would increase the cost to Mr. Chapman. He mentioned that the neighbor across the driveway from the Chapmans sent in a letter of support. He then reiterated comments made by those in support of the agritainment use. He stated the modified conditions that they proposed in their presentation make a compromise that the applicant can meet. He stated the Chapmans would never be able to afford the road improvements if they were limited to 50 cars.

**Ms. Merriam** asked if a partnership with law enforcement to address traffic was explored.

**Mr. Dossey** stated Mr. Chapman didn't anticipate his business growing like it did. There's no way to anticipate the number of cars each day. He thinks Mr. Chapman would be open to hiring law enforcement, but that depends on cost.

**Mr. Whitney** asked for Mr. Dossey's rebuttal to the assessment that the events are no longer agricultural in nature, no longer agritainment, but are more of an amusement park.

**Mr. Dossey** answered that he doesn't think there's a great definition of agritainment. He stated that when agritainment was drafted in the LDC, they looked to the State for a definition but that wasn't a lot of help. He stated that not every accessory land-use is going to be captured explicitly in the definitions, but that doesn't mean it's not compatible with the principal use. A pumpkin patch by itself may be boring. Some of the attractions are necessary to maintain the business, however there's a fine line between what is necessary for the business and it turning into something else. That's why the site plan is reviewed.

**Mr. Whitney** stated that was his understanding from the comments of opposition; while it began with the right idea, it has morphed into something different.

**Mr. Dossey** replied that it happens with Variance of Use and Special Use applications; a slide into something different. However, the site plan and the letter of intent are enforceable documents. If it's not within those documents, it's not allowed on the property.

**Mr. Moraes** asked if there's an admission fee for the events on the property.

**Mr. Dossey** verified with the applicant that there is an admission fee.

**Mr. Moraes** then stated that the use seems to be sliding into the "Amusement Center, Outdoor" definition from the LDC. There are several similarities. He thinks there can be a case that it falls under outdoor amusement center when it goes from a fall festival and a tulip festival to year-round events to make money.

**Mr. Dossey** stated that applicants depend on PCD staff to determine what the use is.

**Mr. Moraes** commented that a citizen could go to PCD staff and say it's not agritainment anymore. If PCD staff agrees, it could become a Code Enforcement issue.

**Mr. Smith** asked if the pursuit of access to Hwy 105 had been exhausted. He asked if there was a way to appeal the denial of access.

**Mr. Dossey** answered that when he was the Planning Director in the past, it was his belief that any decision he made should be able to be appealed to the BOCC. He then stated that when they asked if they could appeal the engineering department's denial, they were told no. He stated there is no avenue for them to appeal.

**Ms. Herington** added that the County Engineer is in attendance and can give more information of the reasoning behind the denial for access off Hwy 105. Things have changed since Mr. Dossey was the Director. The County Engineer and Engineering are both now under Public Works.

**Mr. Dossey** stated he wanted to correct Ms. Herington and the County Engineer was in a different department when he was Director and he could not override the County Engineer.

**Mr. Carlson** reminded the audience that the PC decision is a recommendation to the BOCC and not a final decision.

**Mr. Moraes** asked what PCD staff thought of the applicant's proposed conditions of phasing.

**Mr. Carlson** asked if there were now 10 conditions of approval.

**Mr. Kilgore** clarified that the applicant's representation has proposed 10 conditions. PCD staff's 4 recommended conditions are the compromise between the applicant's request and what is required by Code. He stated the application is still going back and forth with review comments and Ms. Ruiz just submitted a revised Letter of Intent (that is before the board). He stated the application has not been addressed to PCD staff's satisfaction.

**Mr. Moraes** noted that the limit of 325 cars is not listed in the 4 conditions on the resolution.

**Mr. Kilgore** stated that could be added. Normally there is a condition of approval that refers to the letter of intent, but that hasn't been finalized at this point.

**Mr. Moraes** agreed that it normally refers to the letter of intent, but the conditions presented refer to the site plan, which he does not see limiting the cars to 325. He referred to the rebuttal comment that the applicant can't control the behavior of the drivers and comparisons to traffic in other areas of Colorado Springs, but a major difference in this area is the lack of sidewalks. Canterbury Dr and Saddlewood Rd are local roads, not arterials or collectors. When he looks at the ECM definition for local roads, it says, "accesses shall not be allowed to compromise the safety, health or welfare of roadway users." The roadway users are vehicles, pedestrians, and, in this area, horseback riders. The applicant spoke on levels of service, which is all about traffic and turning movements, but nothing about safety. The criteria of approval for Special Use talks about hazards. He reiterated that the Special Use request is about increased cars over 50, not agritainment. The applicant's rebuttal was mostly about the agritainment, not the increase in cars. He stated that he reads the criteria of approval by replacing the term "special use" with "more than 50 vehicles". For example, will *more than 50 vehicles* create traffic hazards in the surrounding area? He wonders if the increase in the number of cars can be allowed incrementally. For example, allow up to 100 cars to see how it is going, or the increase in allowed vehicles will only be permitted until a certain date and then will be reevaluated. He suggested increments for if more events are added and the requested 325 cars is no longer 6 weeks of the year but 30 weeks of the year. As it is presented now, it's going from 50 allowed cars to 325 allowed cars on the property, which he thinks is too far regarding safety on a local roadway.

**Mr. Whitney** clarified that Mr. Moraes would read the fourth criteria of approval as, "The allowance of 325 cars will not create unmitigated traffic congestion or traffic hazards in the surrounding area..."

**Mr. Moraes** answered that he would use the phrase, "anything more than 50" because that's what is already allowed.

**Ms. Merriam** asked again if law enforcement should be guiding people during events. Is law enforcement the proper use for public safety?

**Mr. Moraes** responded that the idea is doable but hasn't been part of the plans submitted by the applicant. Providing law enforcement as a mitigating solution has not been included or offered in the application. The concern is not Hwy 105, but after the traffic is in the neighborhood.

**Ms. Merriam** asked if PCD staff considered law enforcement.

**Mr. Kilgore** answered that PCD cannot compel the applicant to hire off-duty law enforcement. He wasn't part of PCD when this project began, but he usually suggests to applicants that it would be in their best interest to involve law enforcement when hosting major events.

**Mr. Carlson** asked Ms. Seago what the PC should consider as the request because he sees different language in paperwork in front of him, including differing conditions and notations.

**Ms. Seago** answered that she understands the focus of the discussion has been a limit of 325 cars, though that is not part of the conditions. PC can add that to the conditions. The PC is considering agritainment under added parameters.

**Mr. Carlson** clarified that the added parameters are the conditions and notations.

**Ms. Seago** confirmed. The conditions and notations are up to the PC.

**Mr. Carlson** sought clarification on what is being requested.

**Ms. Herington** added that it's difficult because there is no approved site development plan. The number 325 came from the traffic study, which triggered the roadway improvements needing to be installed. The County is not recommending a limit of 325 cars, just saying that the number 325 was used in the traffic study to determine roadway improvements. The site development plan will show how many parking spots on-site are being requested, which drives the limit of vehicles. She suggested that if the PC wants to add a condition of approval to include a limit to the number of vehicles, PCD staff would need to have a site plan to look at to determine that possibility.

**Mr. Kilgore** agreed and added that Ms. Seago or the PC can come up with added recommended conditions for the BOCC.

**Mr. Schuettpelz** added that in addition to the potential limit on the number of vehicles, the PC is also considering the conditions regarding the timeline of the required improvements. PCD made recommendations and the applicant has come back with a suggested 5-year span. He compared the situation to when other developers come in with proposals; they're not given negotiated timelines to make improvements.

**Mr. Moraes** stated he didn't think the request was ready for "prime time". He referred to the PCD recommended conditions of approval. The applicant didn't seem to have objections to number 1, but there is no site plan presented. How can they vote on the recommendation if they don't have a site plan in front of them?

**Ms. Herington** answered that a site plan as referenced in condition number 1 is included with the packet and shows the general location of fencing, etc. Condition number 2 specifies that a site *development* plan is required within 120 days. The site development plan gives more specific details.

**Mr. Moraes** understood.

**Mr. Carlson** clarified that if they approve of what they have presented before them, it would be after this year's pumpkin patch before improvements are made.

**Mr. Kilgore** advised that the BOCC will consider this application on 9/14/2023 at 1:30 p.m.

**Mr. Dossey** clarified that the site development plan doesn't get reviewed by the PC or BOCC. The site plan is tied to the Special Use and is reviewed by the BOCC, and the site development plan is reviewed administratively. Regarding the discussion of hiring officers or off-duty law enforcement as traffic mitigation, he stated the County told them it was not a viable option and physical improvements to the roads were still required. He stated they've tried to mitigate the traffic impact but can only work within what the engineers and regulations tell them to do.

**Ms. Brittain Jack** mentioned a previous project that had multiple agencies collaborating.

**Mr. Dossey** mentioned that part of the solution for that project was to lease parking space from another nearby business. He stated that he discussed with the applicant, and Mr. Chapman is agreeable to setting the parking limit at 325 and delineating the spaces so the County can verify.

**Mr. Whitney** stated he would feel better about having a defined number included in the conditions instead of leaving it open to anything over 50 vehicles.

**Mr. Josh Palmer**, the County Engineer, spoke with Ms. Merriam to clarify what she meant when suggesting uniformed traffic control.

**Ms. Merriam** clarified that law enforcement has its own definition of public safety, and since public safety is listed in the LDC criteria, she is unsure if the County has a definition of public safety and if PCD needs to coordinate with law enforcement.

**Mr. Palmer** gave details about the discussion that took place between his department and the applicant. He stated they had discussed the possibility of using a temporary work zone as an alternative to the requirement for turn lanes or other improvements to Hwy 105. When Mr. Dossey mentioned that the idea was shot down, it wasn't done to dissuade uniformed traffic control as a mitigation factor to the neighborhood. They only denied using work zone conditions as an alternative to the requirement to install turn lanes on Hwy 105. His primary concern regarding any improvement in the area is its impact on Hwy 105 because it is an arterial roadway. He listed types of concerns that are evaluated. He mentioned that something not considered

within the discussion on level of service was the traffic already using the two-lane road. He stated there are no turn lanes or shoulders, so as traffic is leaving or turning into the neighborhood, it backs up and causes delays. He explained that depending on how far the back-up goes, it could cause site-distance issues and cause accidents. Part of the discussion with the applicant included work zone conditions (flaggers, traffic control, etc.) but it was not appropriate. He stated that uniformed traffic control may still be an option that could be pursued further, but it's more applicable to the safety concerns (speeding, parking, unsafe driving, etc.).

**Ms. Merriam** asked if Mr. Palmer is indicating there are other options that have not been evaluated.

**Mr. Palmer** stated he does not recall if uniform traffic control was specifically discussed but it could be an option. He does not see it as a viable option to get around the requirement for intersection improvements on Hwy 105. He added that the County is open to additional traffic control measures within the neighborhood (signage, reinforcement, etc.). One of those options could be uniformed traffic control but he's unsure of their availability.

**Ms. Brittain Jack** mentioned another area on Hwy 105 that has no traffic control and asked about its mitigation.

**Ms. Seago** questioned the relevance of the issue.

**Ms. Brittain Jack** clarified that she's asking about access off Hwy 105.

**Mr. Palmer** answered that it would be mitigated by installing turn lanes.

**Ms. Brittain Jack** further clarified that there are other instances along Hwy 105 where access has been granted and she wonders if the rules apply the same to everyone.

**Ms. Seago** responded that because her example involves a school, it was not required to go through the same site development plan process with the County. She added that if they had been required to go through the same process, Ms. Brittain Jack may not be experiencing the traffic situation she described.

**Mr. Palmer** agreed and added there is a project in the works on Hwy 105 to mitigate traffic issues.

**Mr. Carlson** reiterated that the applicant has agreed to an added condition limiting the vehicle count to 325. If applicable, he reminded anyone making a motion to include that detail if they choose.

***(A motion was made with no modification to the County's recommended conditions or notations)***

**Mr. Moraes** agreed that the pumpkin patch is great for the community and the County, but he is considering the application as it has been presented. He believed the incremental conditions suggested by the applicant were reasonable. He would have liked to see an incremental gain in the number of vehicles allowed to see how it works, especially with the history of violations. Though they are discussing the intersections, they are not focusing on the safety within the Canterbury neighborhood. He is not in support of the motion.

**Mr. Whitney** clarified that Ms. Brittain Jack did not include an added condition of approval to limit the number of parked vehicles at 325. (She did not.)

**Mr. Carlson** explained that the way the motion was made, they would be recommending approval of the Special Use to allow more than 50 cars. They would not be recommending a limit on the number of vehicles or anything else.

**PC ACTION: BRITTAIN JACK MOVED / MERRIAM SECONDED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF REGULAR ITEM NUMBER 5B, FILE NUMBER AL2217 FOR SPECIAL USE, COLORADO KIDS RANCH PUMPKIN PATCH, UTILIZING THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO THE STAFF REPORT WITH FOUR (4) CONDITIONS AND THREE (3) NOTATIONS, THAT THIS ITEM BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. THE MOTION FAILED (2-5), RESULTING IN A RECOMMENDATION FOR DENIAL.**

**IN FAVOR:** BRITTAIN JACK AND MERRIAM.

**IN OPPOSITION:** CARLSON, MORAES, SCHUETTELPELZ, SMITH, AND WHITNEY.

**Ms. Merriam** stated she believes that both sides have another way to address the issue but there's an answer in there. She stated that she voted in support of the motion because she thinks there needs to be more options available than were discussed.

**Mr. Schuettpelz** stated that in addition to earlier comments, he disagreed with the timeframe proposed to make the necessary improvements. The applicant stated they wouldn't be able to complete the improvements in the recommended time, but he believes 5 years is too long. He doesn't think the discussion of turning traffic adequately addresses the nature of the problem. Regarding the criteria of approval, he stated the added traffic *does cause* an undue burden.

**Mr. Carlson** agreed that the pumpkin patch is fantastic for the community, but it is causing a negative impact on the neighborhood. He doesn't think the BOCC or State intended that a venue should be routed through a residential neighborhood when they promoted agritainment. Other pumpkin patches that he can think of are more remote and when people are exiting, they have easier access to major roads. He hopes they can find a solution but thinks that directing the proposed number of people through a neighborhood will be tough to get done.

**C. NON-ACTION ITEMS - NONE.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 3:09 P.M.

**Minutes Prepared By:** Miranda Benson

VACATION AND REPLAT (RECOMMEND APPROVAL)

MORAES moved that the following Resolution be adopted:

BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION

OF THE COUNTY OF EL PASO

STATE OF COLORADO

RESOLUTION NO. VR-23-006  
POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A

WHEREAS, Ollie Watts Consulting did file an application with the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department for approval of a vacation and replat to vacate one lot and replat it as three lots within the CR (Commercial Regional) zoning district for property in the unincorporated area of El Paso County as described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by this Commission on September 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, based on the evidence, testimony, exhibits, consideration of the Master Plan for the unincorporated area of the County, presentation and comments of the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department and other County representatives, comments of public officials and agencies, comments from all interested persons, comments by the general public, and comments by the El Paso County Planning Commission Members during the hearing, this Commission finds as follows:

1. The application was properly submitted for consideration by the Planning Commission;
2. Proper posting, publication, and public notice were provided as required by law for the hearing before the Planning Commission;
3. The hearing before the Planning Commission was extensive and complete, that all pertinent facts, matters, and issues were submitted and that all interested persons and the general public were heard at that hearing;
4. All exhibits were received into evidence;
5. The proposed land use does not permit the use of an area containing a commercial mineral deposit in a manner which would interfere with the present or future extraction of such deposit by an extractor;

6. All data, surveys, analyses, studies, plans, and designs as are required by the State of Colorado and El Paso County have been submitted, reviewed, and found to meet all sound planning and engineering requirements of the El Paso County Subdivision Regulations; and
7. For the above-stated and other reasons, the proposed vacation and replat is in the best interest of the health, safety, morals, convenience, order, prosperity, and welfare of the citizens of El Paso County.

WHEREAS, in approving a vacation and replat of a subdivision, the El Paso County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners shall find that the application meets the criteria of approval listed in Land Development Code ("Code") 7.2.3(C)(4) (as amended):

1. The replat complies with the Code, and the original conditions of approval associated with the recorded plat;
2. No nonconforming lots are created, and in the case of existing nonconforming lots, the nonconformity is not increased;
3. The replat is in keeping with the purpose and intent of the Code;
4. The replat conforms to the required findings for a minor or major subdivision, whichever is applicable;
5. Legal and physical access is provided to all parcels by public rights-of-way or recorded easement, acceptable to the County in compliance with the Code and the ECM;
6. The approval will not adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare; and
7. Where the lots or parcels are subject to any CC&Rs or other restrictions, that any potential conflict with the CC&Rs or other restrictions resulting from the replat has been resolved.

WHEREAS, a sufficient water supply has been acquired with a condition in terms of quantity, quality, and dependability for the type of subdivision proposed, as determined in accordance with the standards set forth in the water supply standards [C.R.S. §30-28-133(6)(a)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of the Code.

WHEREAS, the condition of water supply is as follows:

Applicant must obtain final plat approval and provide evidence thereof to the District within 12 months of the District's commitment letter dated February 17, 2023 (approval must be provided by February 17, 2024), to retain the District's water commitment. If Applicant fails to do so, this recommended finding of conditional sufficiency will be deemed moot and no longer valid. Once Applicant provides proof to the District that satisfies the District's condition of final plat approval, this conditional finding of sufficiency will automatically convert to a full sufficiency finding.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the El Paso County Planning Commission recommends that the petition of Ollie Watts Consulting for approval of the Vacation and Replat to allow a vacation of one lot to be replatted as three lots within the CR (Commercial Regional) zoning district be approved by the Board of County Commissioners with the following conditions and notation:

#### CONDITIONS

1. All Deed of Trust holders shall ratify the plat. The applicant shall provide a current title commitment at the time of submittal of the Mylar for recording.
2. Colorado statute requires that at the time of the approval of platting, the subdivider provides the certification of the County Treasurer's Office that all ad valorem taxes applicable to such subdivided land, or years prior to that year in which approval is granted, have been paid. Therefore, this plat is approved by the Board of County Commissioners on the condition that the subdivider or developer must provide to the Planning and Community Development Department, at the time of recording the plat, a certification from the County Treasurer's Office that all prior years' taxes have been paid in full.
3. The subdivider or developer must pay, for each parcel of property, the fee for tax certification in effect at the time of recording the plat.
4. Driveway permits will be required for each access to an El Paso County owned and maintained roadway. Driveway permits are obtained from the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department.
5. The Subdivider(s) agrees on behalf of him/herself and any developer or builder successors and assignees that Subdivider and/or said successors and assigns shall be required to pay traffic impact fees in accordance with the El Paso County Road Impact Fee Program Resolution (Resolution No. 19-471), or any amendments thereto, at or prior to the time of building permit submittals. The fee obligation, if not paid at final plat recording, shall be documented on all sales documents and on plat notes to ensure that a title search would find the fee obligation before sale of the property.
6. Applicant shall comply with all requirements contained in the Water Supply Review and Recommendations, dated June 15, 2023, as provided by the County Attorney's Office.

#### NOTATION

7. Final plats not recorded within 24 months of Board of County Commissioner approval shall be deemed expired unless an extension is approved.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution and the recommendations contained herein be forwarded to the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners for its consideration.

Brittan Jack seconded the adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

The roll having been called, the vote was as follows: (circle one)

Thomas Bailey	aye / no / non-voting / recused / <u>absent</u>
Sarah Brittain Jack	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Jim Byers	aye / no / <u>non-voting</u> / recused / absent
Jay Carlson	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Becky Fuller	aye / no / non-voting / recused / <u>absent</u>
Jeffrey Markewich	aye / no / non-voting / recused / <u>absent</u>
Brandy Merriam	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Eric Moraes	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Kara Offner	aye / no / non-voting / recused / <u>absent</u>
Bryce Schuettpeiz	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Wayne Smith	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent
Tim Trowbridge	aye / no / non-voting / recused / <u>absent</u>
Christopher Whitney	<u>aye</u> / no / non-voting / recused / absent

The Resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 to 0 by the El Paso County Planning Commission, State of Colorado.

DONE THIS 7th day of September 2023 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

EL PASO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION


By:   
~~Thomas Bailey, Chair~~  
Jay Carlson, Vice Chair

EXHIBIT A

LOT 1 POWERS CENTRE FIL NO 3

COMMISSIONERS:  
CAMI BREMER (CHAIR)  
CARRIE GEITNER (VICE-CHAIR)

HOLLY WILLIAMS  
STAN VANDERWERF  
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR.

**PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**TO:** El Paso County Planning Commission  
Thomas Bailey, Chair

**FROM:** Ashlyn Mathy, Planner I  
Carlos Hernandez, Engineer I  
Meggan Herington, AICP, Executive Director

**RE:** Project File Number: VR-23-006  
Project Name: Powers Centre Filing No. 3A  
Parcel Number: 5406304050

<b>OWNER:</b>	<b>REPRESENTATIVE:</b>
Michael J Nisenbaum MJN MGMT INC 24243 Bella Ct Newhall, CA 91321 mike@mjnmgmt.net (661) 312-4820	Oliver Watts Consulting Ollie Watts (olliewatts@aol.com) (719) 593-0173

**Commissioner District: 2**

<b>Planning Commission Hearing Date:</b>	<b>9/7/2023</b>
<b>Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date:</b>	<b>9/28/2023</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A request by Oliver Watts Consulting for approval to Vacate and Replat one (1) commercial lot into three (3) commercial lots. The 5.55-acre property is zoned CR (Commercial Regional) and is within the CAD-O (Commercial Airport Overlay District) is the property is located at the intersection of North Powers Boulevard and Palmer Park Boulevard. The property is improved with three buildings and associated parking. The replat will enable each business owner to own their building and the property on which it is located. No new construction is anticipated at this time.



**A. WAIVERS/DEVIATIONS/AUTHORIZATION**

**Waiver(s)/Deviation(s):** None associated with this project.

**Authorization to Sign:** Final Plat and any other documents necessary to carry out the intent of the Board of County Commissioners.

**B. APPROVAL CRITERIA**

Section 7.2.3.C, Actions Vacating or Altering a Recorded Plat, Replat, of the El Paso County Land Development Code (As Amended) (“Code”) states that a replat, “involves two actions, the vacation of the portion of the subdivision plat where the change is proposed...and approval of a new subdivision plat.” The Code goes on to define a replat as providing a replat of a subdivision or lots in a subdivision, in which the original subdivision is substantially modified, or additional lots are created. In approving a replat, the following findings shall be made:

- The replat complies with the Code, and the original conditions of approval associated with the recorded plat;
- No nonconforming lots are created, and in the case of existing nonconforming lots, the nonconformity is not increased;
- The replat is in keeping with the purpose and intent of the Code;
- The replat conforms to the required findings for a minor or major subdivision, whichever is applicable;
- Legal and physical access is provided to all parcels by public rights-of-way or recorded easement, acceptable to the County in compliance with the Code and the ECM;
- The approval will not adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare; and
- Where the lots or parcels are subject to any CC&Rs or other restrictions, that any potential conflict with the CC&Rs or other restrictions resulting from the replat has been resolved.

**C. LOCATION**

North:	CC (Commercial Community)	Merchandising
South:	CC (Commercial Community)	Warehouse/Storage
East:	I-2 (Limited Industrial)	Vacant/Commercial Lots
West:	CR (Commercial Regional)	Special Purpose

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## D. BACKGROUND

The subject property was originally platted October of 2007, under the name “Powers Centre Filing No. 3”, Plat number 8998. The subject property is surrounded by industrial and commercial zoning and uses. The applicant is requesting the Vacation and Replat to create individual lots for each building, allowing each building owner to then purchase the individual lot on which their business is located.

## E. ANALYSIS

### 1. Land Development Code Compliance

The subject property will meet the zoning requirements for CR and will align with the general character of the zoning district and surrounding area. Additionally, the current store does not intend any new construction. The replat has met all required findings that are necessary for a Vacate and Replat. Each lot owner will adhere to the parking agreement known as “Reciprocal Access/Parking Agreement” which can be found in the covenants that were recorded October 13, 1982, in Book 3621 at Page 592. An amendment was recorded December 3, 1985, in Book 5095 at Page 982.

### 2. Zoning Compliance

The replat will create three lots that conform to the standards of the CR (Commercial Regional) zoning district. The CR (Commercial Regional) zoning district density and dimensional standards are as follows:

- Width (front line setback): none
- Front setback (3,4,11): 50 ft
- Side setback (2,3,4,11): 25 ft
- Rear setback (2,3,4,11): 25 ft
- Maximum Lot Coverage: None
- Maximum Height: 45 ft

*2 The minimum setback is 25 feet from the perimeter boundary of the district, but no minimum setback is required from any internal side or rear lot line within the same district.*

*3 Temporary uses shall be setback at least 25 feet from all property lines and 100 feet from Residential zoning districts.*

*4 Gasoline pumps and canopies shall be setback at least 25 feet from all property lines.  
11 If the building is established as or converted to condominium units in accordance with Chapter 7 of this Code, the building and lot shall meet the minimum lot area*

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*and setbacks, but the individual units are not required to meet the minimum lot area, maximum lot coverage, or setback requirements.*

## **F. MASTER PLAN COMPLIANCE**

### **1. Your El Paso County Master Plan**

#### **a. Placetype Character:** Employment Center

*Employment Centers comprise land for industrial, office, business park, manufacturing, distribution, warehousing, and other similar business uses. The priority function of this placetype is to provide space for large-scale employers to establish and expand in El Paso County. They are typically located on or directly adjacent to Interstate 25 and/or other regional corridors to ensure business and employee access.*

*Proximity to other transportation hubs, such as Meadowlake Airport, and rail lines is also appropriate for an Employment Center. Uses in this placetype often require large swaths of land and opportunity to expand and grow to meet future needs and demands. Transitional uses, buffering, and screening should be used to mitigate any potential negative impacts to nearby residential and rural areas. Some Employment Centers are located in Foreign Trade, Commercial Aeronautical, and Opportunity Zones to help incentivize development.*

#### **Recommended Land Uses:**

##### *Primary*

- *Light Industrial/Business Park*

##### *Supporting*

- *Commercial Retail*
- *Commercial Service*
- *Restaurant*

Please see the map series attachment for a depiction of the placetype character in the area.

#### **Analysis:**

The subject property has a commercial business on it and is taking one lot a creating three so that each business can have their own lot and be responsible for that specific lot. These lots each have a commercial business which is supported by the character and land uses in the Master Plan. This property has a “Short Stop

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Burgers” restaurant at the site, this is a commercial business that serves the community. This is consistent with the supporting uses in the Employment Center placetype character.

**b. Area of Change Designation:** Transition

*Transition areas are fully developed parts of the County that may completely or significantly change in character. In these areas, redevelopment is expected to be intense enough to transition the existing development setting to an entirely new type of development. For example, a failing strip of commercial development could be redeveloped with light industrial or office uses that result in a transition to an employment hub or business park. Another example of such a transition would be if a blighted suburban neighborhood were to experience redevelopment with significant amounts of multifamily housing or commercial development of a larger scale in line with a commercial center.*

Please see the map series attachment for a depiction of the area of change designation in the area.

**Analysis:**

While this project does not propose any new development, it is expected within this area of change. There is potential for growth within this area, due to the vacant lots near the subject area. The surrounding parcels have potential for new development and redevelopment.

**c. Key Area Influences:** Colorado Springs Airport/Peterson Air Force Base

*Colorado Springs Airport is the second largest in the State of Colorado with continually rising passenger totals and activity. Currently, large amounts of land adjacent to the airport are primed for commercial and industrial development, in part due to the establishment of a Commercial Aeronautical Zone (CAZ). The Board of County Commissioners approved the CAZ to attract local businesses and spur development on the available land. The County should continue to prioritize nonresidential growth in this area to help expand the Employment Center in unincorporated El Paso County. Employment Centers not only provide additional job opportunities for County residents but it expands the County’s tax base, providing more opportunities to address other County issues such as upgrades to infrastructure, expansion of services and development of new roadways. Peterson Air Force Base also utilizes the Colorado Springs Airport for military flight operations and hosts various military activities critical to national security. The County should also coordinate future development adjacent*

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*and within the Colorado Springs Airport Accident Potential Zone (APZ) and within the Peterson Air Force Base buffer area with the Airport and the Base to ensure growth does not negatively impact the primary functions of Peterson Air Force Base or the Airport. Coordination with Colorado Springs Airport should also be considered, as necessary.*

Please see the map series attachment for a depiction of the key area designation in the area.

**Analysis:**

The key area supports growth in this area and mentions the growth mainly being for commercial or employment opportunities. This key area offers to prioritize employment opportunities. While this project does not intend for new construction, it does offer employment opportunities and has brought more commercial growth to the area. Approval of this Vacation and Replat would allow the proprietors of these businesses the potential to own the property associated with their business.

**d. Other Implications (Priority Development, Housing, etc.)**

Not applicable.

**2. Water Master Plan Analysis**

The El Paso County Water Master Plan (2018) has three main purposes; better understand present conditions of water supply and demand; identify efficiencies that can be achieved; and encourage best practices for water demand management through the comprehensive planning and development review processes. Relevant policies are as follows:

***Goal 1.1** – Ensure an adequate water supply in terms of quantity, dependability and quality for existing and future development.*

***Policy 2.1.3** – Communicate and gather input on complex, and at times, contentious water and land use considerations.*

***Goal 4.1** – Develop an understanding of the differences in water supply sources, and any water quality issues within the County.*

The Water Master Plan includes demand and supply projections for central water providers in multiple regions throughout the County. The property is located within Planning Region 5 of the Plan, which is an area anticipated to experience growth by

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2040. The following information pertains to water demands and supplies in Region 5 for central water providers:

The Plan identifies the current demand for Region 5 to be 4,396 acre-feet per year (AFY) (Figure 5.1) with a current supply of 4,849 AFY (Figure 5.2). The projected demand in 2040 for Region 5 is at 6,468 AFY (Figure 5.1) with a projected supply of 68,000 AFY (Figure 5.2) in 2040. The projected demand at build-out in 2060 for Region is 5 is at 9,608 AFY (Figure 5.1) with a projected supply of 10,131 AFY (Figure 5.2) in 2060. This means that by 2060 a surplus of 523 AFY is anticipated for Region 5.

### 3. Other Master Plan Elements

The El Paso County Wildlife Habitat Descriptors (1996) identifies the parcel as having a low wildlife impact potential. Colorado Parks and Wildlife have no outstanding comments.

The Master Plan for Mineral Extraction (1996) identifies no significant resources in the area of the subject parcel. A mineral rights certification was prepared by the applicant indicating that, upon researching the records of El Paso County, no severed mineral rights exist.

Please see the Parks Section below for information regarding conformance with The El Paso County Parks Master Plan (2022).

Please see the Transportation Section below for information regarding conformance with the El Paso County 2016 Major Transportation Corridors Plan (MTCP).

## G. PHYSICAL SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1. **Hazards:** No hazards were found to be associated with this project.
2. **Floodplain:** FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps, 08041C0751G and 08041C0752G, indicate that the property is outside of a floodplain. There are no expected impacts from this application to a floodplain.
3. **Drainage and Erosion:** The property is located within the Sand Creek Drainage Basin (FOFO2000) and is currently platted as Lot 1 Powers Centre Filing No. 3. Drainage basin fees are not assessed with this Vacation and Replat request in accordance with El Paso County's ECM Appendix L.3.13a since there is no increase in impervious cover.

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The applicant was not required to submit a drainage report or grading and erosion control plan as there is no proposed land disturbance resulting from the Vacation and Replat to create two new parcels for existing businesses located on the site. The property is comprised of existing pavement, roofs, and structures. Drainage from the site flows south towards Omaha Boulevard. The applicant confirmed in their letter of intent that there are no planned improvements or offsite impacts resulting from the replat.

- 4. Transportation:** The property is an existing shopping center northeast from the intersection of Powers Boulevard and Omaha Boulevard. Powers Boulevard is a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) owned and maintained roadway classified as a Principal Arterial. There is currently no direct access from Powers Boulevard to the property nor is direct access allowed. Omaha Boulevard is an El Paso County owned and maintained collector roadway. The property obtains access through Omaha Boulevard and Palmer Park Road through a shared access easement. Traffic is not expected to increase due to the replat and the applicant has stated in their letter of intent that traffic patterns will not be changing.

The development is subject to the El Paso County Road Impact Fee program (Resolution 19-471), as amended.

## **H. SERVICES**

### **1. Water**

Sufficiency:

Quality: Sufficient

Quantity: Sufficient (Conditional)

Dependability: Sufficient (Conditional)

Attorney's summary: The State Engineer's Office has made a finding of adequacy and has stated water can be provided without causing injury to decreed water rights.

El Paso County Public Health has made a favorable recommendation regarding water quality sufficiency.

The County Attorney's Office has made a recommendation for a finding of conditional sufficiency with regards to water quantity and dependability. The condition is as follows:

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Applicant must obtain final plat approval and provide evidence thereof to the District within 12 months of the District's commitment letter dated February 17, 2023 (approval must be provided by February 17, 2024), to retain the District's water commitment. If Applicant fails to do so, this recommended finding of conditional sufficiency will be deemed moot and no longer valid. Once Applicant provides proof to the District that satisfies the District's condition of final plat approval, this conditional finding of sufficiency will automatically convert to a full sufficiency finding.

**2. Sanitation**

Sanitation is provided by Colorado Springs Utilities.

**3. Emergency Services**

The property is within the Cimarron Hills Fire Protection District.

**4. Utilities**

Colorado Springs Utilities

**5. Metropolitan Districts**

Cherokee Metropolitan District

**6. Parks/Trails**

For this application there are no regional or urban park fees required, as the Board of County Commissioners have elected to not require park fees for commercial applications.

**7. Schools**

Commercial uses do not require a school fee to be paid.

**I. APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS**

See attached resolution.

**J. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS AND NOTATIONS**

Should the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners find that the request meets the criteria for approval outlined in Section 7.2.3.C, Actions Vacating or Altering a Recorded Plat, Replat, of the El Paso County Land Development Code (As Amended), staff recommends the following conditions and notation:



## CONDITIONS

1. All Deed of Trust holders shall ratify the plat. The applicant shall provide a current title commitment at the time of submittal of the Mylar for recording.
2. Colorado statute requires that at the time of the approval of platting, the subdivider provides the certification of the County Treasurer's Office that all ad valorem taxes applicable to such subdivided land, or years prior to that year in which approval is granted, have been paid. Therefore, this plat is approved by the Board of County Commissioners on the condition that the subdivider or developer must provide to the Planning and Community Development Department, at the time of recording the plat, a certification from the County Treasurer's Office that all prior years' taxes have been paid in full.
3. The subdivider or developer must pay, for each parcel of property, the fee for tax certification in effect at the time of recording the plat.
4. Driveway permits will be required for each access to an El Paso County owned and maintained roadway. Driveway permits are obtained from the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department.
5. The Subdivider(s) agrees on behalf of him/herself and any developer or builder successors and assignees that Subdivider and/or said successors and assigns shall be required to pay traffic impact fees in accordance with the El Paso County Road Impact Fee Program Resolution (Resolution No. 19-471), or any amendments thereto, at or prior to the time of building permit submittals. The fee obligation, if not paid at final plat recording, shall be documented on all sales documents and on plat notes to ensure that a title search would find the fee obligation before sale of the property.
6. Applicant shall comply with all requirements contained in the Water Supply Review and Recommendations, dated June 15, 2023, as provided by the County Attorney's Office.

## NOTATION

1. Final plats not recorded within 24 months of Board of County Commissioner approval shall be deemed expired unless an extension is approved.



**K. PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE**

The Planning and Community Development Department notified twenty-three (23) adjoining property owners on August 18, 2023, for the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners meetings. Responses will be provided at the hearing.

**L. ATTACHMENTS**

Map Series

Vicinity Map

Letter of Intent

Plat Drawing

State Engineer's Letter

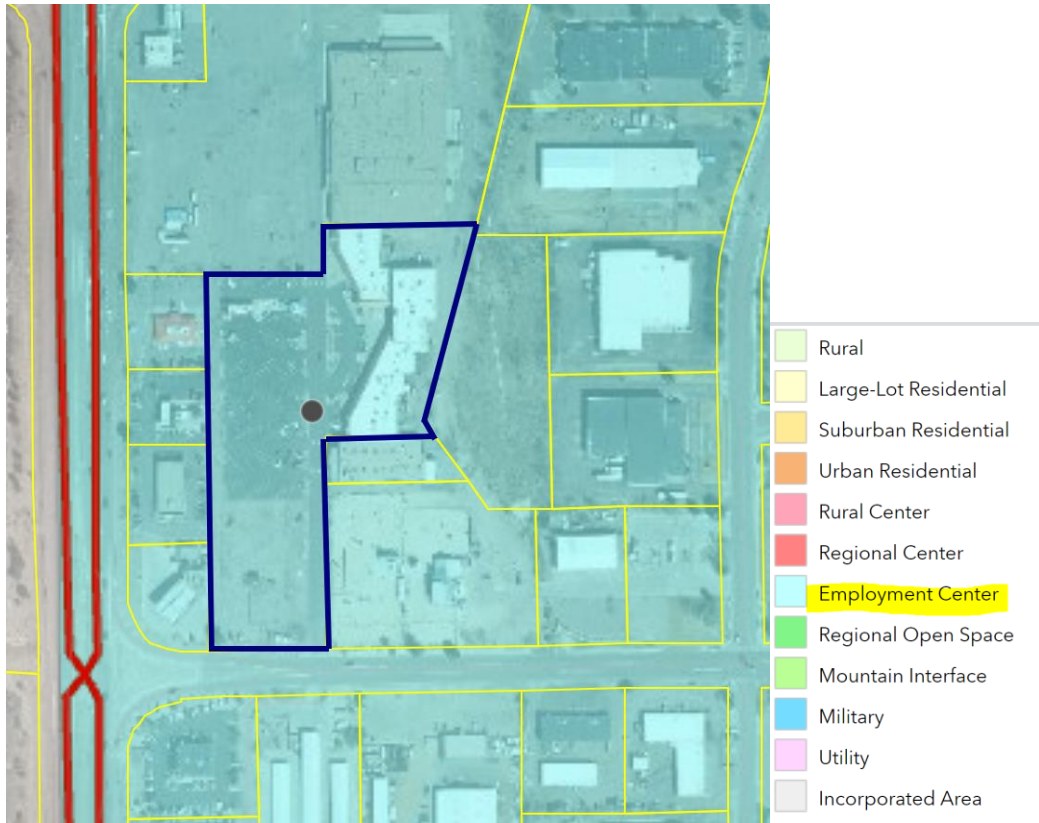
County Attorney's Letter

Draft Resolution

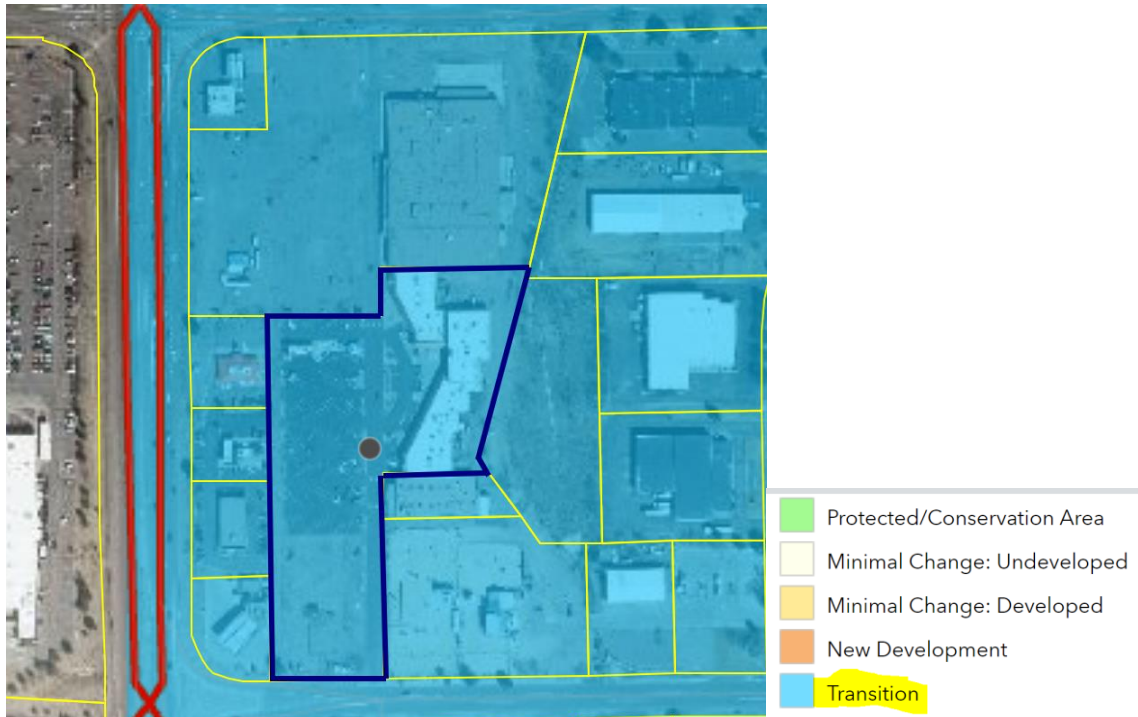


# VR236 Map Exhibit

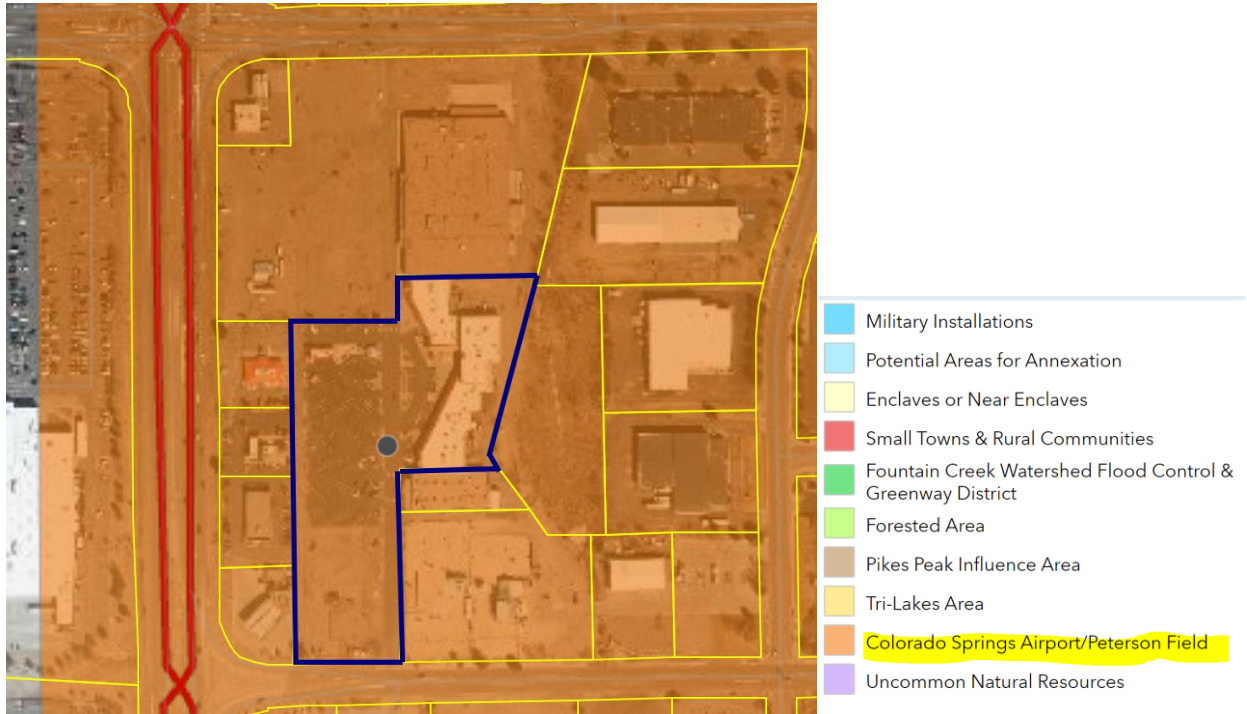
Placetype Map:



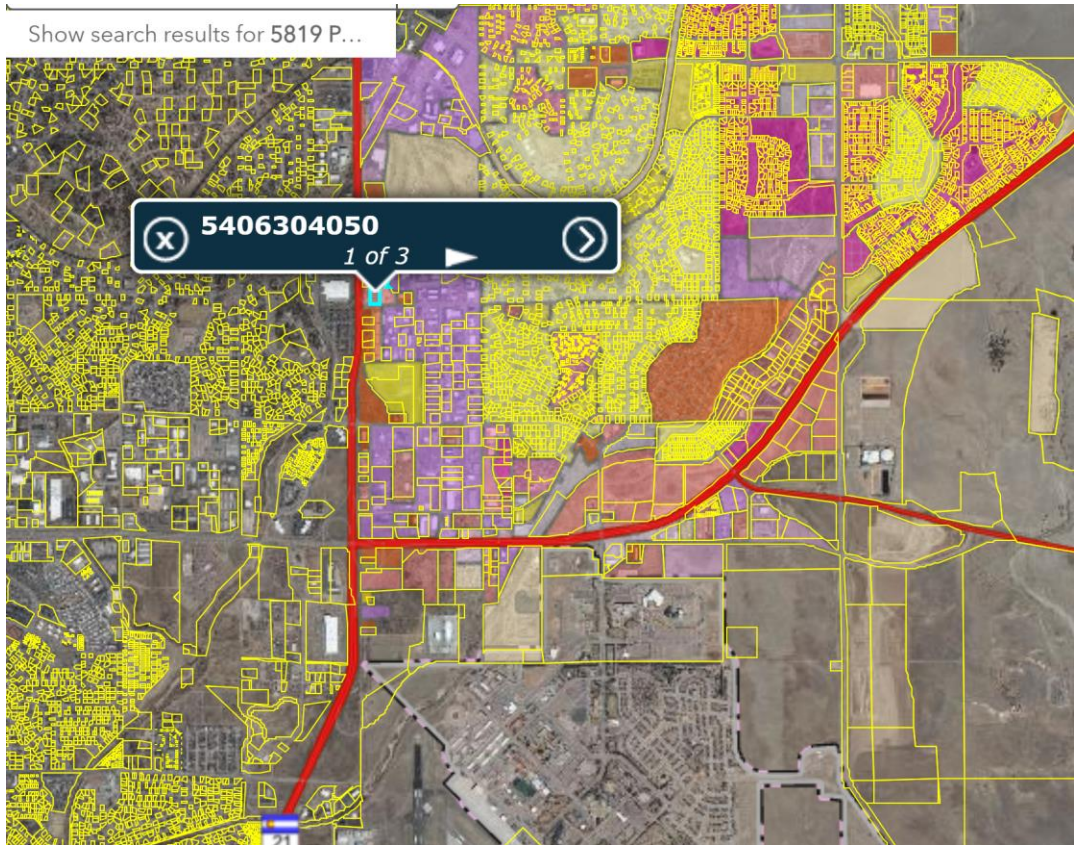
Areas of Change:



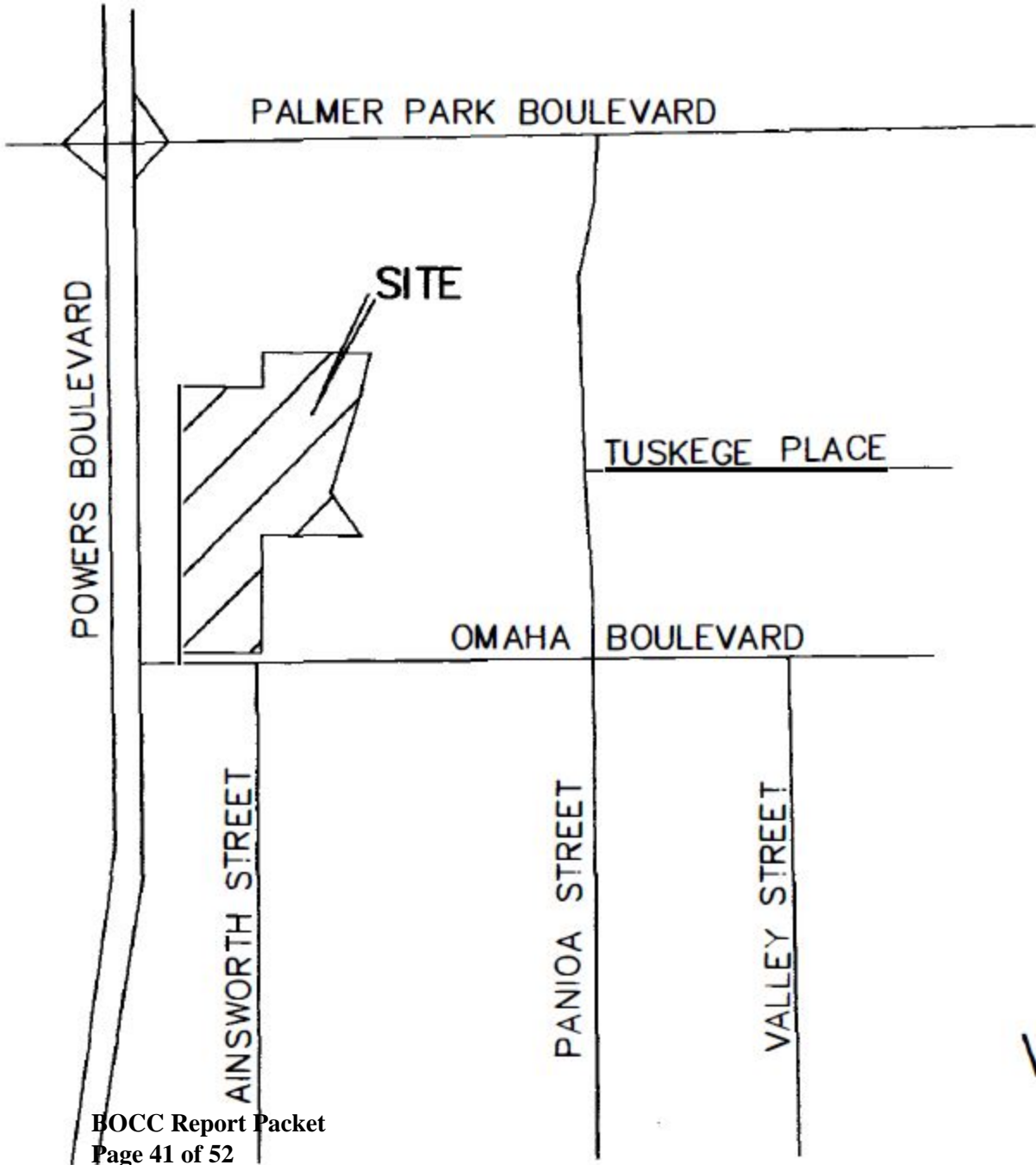
Key Area:



Aerial:







VICINITY MAP  
NO SCALE

**OLIVER E. WATTS PE-LS**  
OLIVER E. WATTS, CONSULTING ENGINEER, INC.  
CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING  
614 ELKTON DRIVE  
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CELL (719) 964-0733  
[olliewatts@aol.com](mailto:olliewatts@aol.com)  
**Celebrating over 43 years in business**

May 15, 2023

El Paso County Development Services  
2880 International Circle  
Suite 110  
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

**SUBJECT:** Powers Centre Filing 3A, a minor Subdivision Plat to Lot 1 Powers Centre Filing No 3, splitting 1 Lot into 3 Lots

Lot 1 Powers Centre Filing No 3 is a commercial shopping center that is located east and south of the intersection of Powers Boulevard and Palmer Park Boulevard.

**Owner information:**

Michael J. Nisenbaum  
5030 Boardwalk Drive, Suite 200  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
(719) 640-7388  
[mike@mjnmgmt.net](mailto:mike@mjnmgmt.net)  
Assessor's Parcel No.: 5406304050  
Existing zone: CR CAD-0

**History:**

This site is a developed section of land located in the eastern portion of unincorporated Colorado Springs. According to the County Master Plan, the site is classified as an Employment Center that falls within the Cimarron Hills "larger urban enclave" area.

There is currently a shopping center on the site with multiple tenets/uses.

The site is surrounded on all sides by other plots of developed land. These sites are used much in the same way as this, as commercial sites.

**Request and Justification:**

Our intent is to subdivide this existing property into 3 commercial use lots. The proposed minor subdivision is compatible with the surrounding properties. The lots will be consistent with the CR CAD-0 zoning with respect to lot layout, land use, lot size, minimum building setbacks, water supply and wastewater disposal.

Water and Sewer:

A sufficient water supply has been acquired in terms of quantity, quality, and dependability for the type of subdivision proposed, as determined in accordance with the standards set forth in the water supply standards [C.R.S. §30-28-133(6)(a)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of this Code. Water and Waste water services are currently provided by Cherokee Water. There will be no change to either. According to the County Master Plan, this site falls within Projected Growth Area Region 5. According to the State Division of Water Resources, this site sits in Water Division 2, Water District 10. Water usage will not exceed Cherokee Water’s statutory allotment. The site is on Central Sewer, provided by Cherokee Metro district. The existing sewage disposal system complies with State and local laws and regulations, [C.R.S. §30-28- 133(6)(b)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of this Code. It is operated under State and County Health Department rules and regulations and in accordance with the Water Decree.

A listing of some of the policies of the Water Master Plan that are supported by the proposed development follow: Policy 4.1.3 – Support enhanced monitoring of sources of surface and tributary groundwater in the County. The existing commercial buildings will utilize Cherokee Water for any waste water treatment.

Electric:

Electric will be provided by the City of Colorado Springs per their commitment letter on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Said letter has been submitted with the subdivision packet.

Gas:

Gas will be provided by the City of Colorado Springs per their commitment letter on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Said letter has been submitted with the subdivision packet.

Traffic Generation:

There will be no new traffic generation as a result of this subdivision. Nothing is changing about the current businesses, no new grading, building or anything else that would increase the traffic generated for the site. The only thing that is changing is the location of the Lot lines. Therefore, a Transportation Impact Study (TIS) is not required for the project. This development is subject to fees established by the El Paso County Road Impact Fee Program per El Paso County Resolution Number 19- 471. Traffic Impact Fees will be paid at time of building permit.

FEMA Floodplain:

Per FEMA Panels 08041CO751G and 08041CO752G, this site is not within the limits of a 100yr floodplain.

Stormwater runoff / drainage

There will be no change in the current runoff patterns caused by this resubdivision and therefore no adjacent properties will be adversely affected by the land action. See the statement below in CH 7.

Request of Subdivision Applicability per LDC Chapters 7&8:

This proposed subdivision will be dividing the current 1 lot into 3 commercial lots compatible with zoning CR CAD-0. Two of the lots will surround existing businesses and the third will consist of the remaining subdivided land.

- CH 7:

- A Preliminary plan is not required as this is a “minor subdivision”.
  - The subdivision is consistent with all design standards and regulations.
  - The new lots are already served by Cherokee water for water and wastewater services. There will be no change to this.
  - There are no geological hazards present on the site or special precautions relevant to the site as it is already developed.
  - There are no drainage improvements required for the lots. Nothing is changing, only new lot lines are being drawn.
  - The site already falls under the jurisdiction of EPSO and is within the Cimarron Hills Fire Protection District.
  - The site complies with methods of fire protection as outlined in Chapter 6. A Letter will be included to show evidence of this.
  - There will be no offsite impacts as a result of this subdivision.
  - There are no required public facility improvements for this subdivision.
- CH 8:
- The land is suitable for development as the entire area is already commercially developed.
  - The land is safe for the intended purposes of commercial development. There are no known major geological hazards that affect this site.
  - There are no slopes over 30% on the proposed lots or any other known extreme geological hazards affecting this site.
  - Regarding roads and access, there are two major thoroughfares running to the north and west of the site. There is existing access from Palmer Park Boulevard to the north and Omaha Boulevard to the south.
  - There are no plans to alter the landscape of the new lots.
  - As far as we are aware, there are no structures or other areas located on the site that would qualify as archeological or historical.
  - As far as we are aware, there are no plans for differing land use on these lots.
  - According to the County Master plan, this site is designated as one of the “most likely” areas for a plane crash, therefore residential development is discouraged. This is not an issue because this site is purely commercial in nature. Development will comply with existing APZ’s.
  - As far as we are aware, there are no endangered species affected by these proposed changes.
  - As stated previously, this site is not within the limits of a 100yr floodplain per FEMA Panels 08041CO751G and 08041CO751G.
  - The current lot does sit near to a major arterial (Powers Boulevard) but nothing is being changed or added to the site aside from new lot lines. Therefore, we do not need to worry about noise mitigation.
  - The current and proposed lots are not situated anywhere near a railroad.
  - This site is not located near enough to any major military outpost or installation and thus does not fall under any constraints detailed in LDC chapter 8.

Constraint’s/Hazards:

As far as we are aware, there are no special features to this site that would result in constraints or hazards preventing development of the proposed new 3 lots.

Proposed Improvements:

The overall goal of this subdivision is to split the existing site into 3 lots. Nothing about the commercial businesses on the lots will be changing aside from a possible change in ownership. Tenants on the existing lot wish to own their respective portion of the lot outright. As far as we are aware, nothing else is changing.

We ask that El Paso County grant the subdivision request to CR CAD-0. This will allow three lots to be made from an existing one so that their tenants may own the land they do business on.

Please contact our office with any questions, thank you

Oliver E. Watts, Consulting Engineer, Inc.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dylan J. Watts, Authorized Representative

# POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A

A VACATION AND REPLAT OF LOT 1, POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3

in the SW 1/4, Section 6, Township 17 South, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.

EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

## Know all men by these presents

That, 5922 Ellenview, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest, and 11317 McCormick Street, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest being the owner of the following described tract of land, to wit:

Lot 1 Powers Centre Filing No 3, County of El Paso, State of Colorado, and containing 5.551 acres.

## Owners Certificate

The undersigned, 5922 Ellenview, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest, and 11317 McCormick Street, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest being all the owners, mortgagees, beneficiaries of deeds of trust and holders of other interests in the land described herein, have laid out, subdivided, and platted said lands into lots, tracts, streets, and easements (use which are applicable) as shown hereon under the name and subdivision of Powers Centre Filing 3A. All public improvements so platted are hereby dedicated to public use and said owner does hereby covenant and agree that the public improvements will be constructed to El Paso County standards and that proper drainage and erosion control for same will be provided at said owner's expense, all to the satisfaction of the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado. Upon acceptance by resolution, all public improvements so dedicated will become matters of maintenance by El Paso County, Colorado. The utility easements shown hereon are hereby dedicated for public utilities and communication systems and other purposes as shown hereon. The entities responsible for providing the services for which the easements are established are hereby granted the perpetual right of ingress and egress from and to adjacent properties for installation, maintenance, and replacement of utility lines and related facilities.

## NOTES:

1. Bearings are based on the record bearing of N00°28'24"E, for the westerly line of Lot 1 monumented in the south by an illegible 2 inch aluminum washer on a PK nail (zap-it) and in the north by a 1 inch illegible aluminum cap on a #5 rebar, as shown on the plat. Said monuments are at ground level

2. Survey monuments found or set are at ground level unless otherwise noted on the plat.

3. Title information was provided by the client as follows:

Title Company: WFG National Title Insurance Company

File Number: 22-447242

Effective date: December 21, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

This survey does not constitute a title search or opinion.

4. Notice, according to Colorado law, you must commence any legal action based upon any defect in the survey within three years after you first discover such defect. In no event may any action based upon any defect in this survey be commenced more than ten years from the date of the certification shown hereon.

5. Units of measurement: US Survey Feet

6. The approval of the replat vacates all prior plats for the area described by this replat.

## 7. Flood plain

According to the current effective Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map, the subject property is located outside the boundary of the 100 Year Floodplain, as identified on FEMA Mapping Panels No. 08041C0751 G, and FEMA Mapping Panels No. 08041C0752 G, both dated December 7, 2018. The site is in Zone X on said panels

8. The following reports have been submitted in association with the Preliminary Plan or Final Plat for this subdivision and are on file at the County Planning and Community Development Department: Water Resources Report; Wastewater Disposal Report; Geology and Soils Report; Fire Protection Report

9. All property owners are responsible for maintaining proper storm water drainage in and through their property. Public drainage easements as specifically noted on the plat shall be maintained by the individual lot owners unless otherwise indicated. Structures, fences, materials or landscaping that could impede the flow of runoff shall not be placed in drainage easements.

## 10. Easements

Unless otherwise indicated, all side, front, and rear lot lines are hereby platted on either side with 5 feet public utility and drainage easement unless otherwise indicated. All exterior subdivision boundaries are hereby platted with a 7 foot public utility and drainage easement. The sole responsibility for maintenance of these easements is hereby vested with the individual property owners.

11. Developer shall comply with federal and state laws, regulations, ordinances, review and permit requirements, and other agency requirements, if any, of applicable agencies including, but not limited to, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Endangered Species Act, particularly as it relates to the listed species (e.g., Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse).

12. The addresses exhibited on this plat are for informational purposes only. They are not the legal description and are subject to change.

13. No driveway shall be established unless an access permit has been granted by El Paso County.

14. Mailboxes shall be installed in accordance with all El Paso County and United States Postal Service regulations.

15. There shall be no direct lot access to Powers Boulevard.

16. The following lots have been found to be impacted by a geologic hazard. Mitigation measures and a map of the hazard area can be found in the report Soils Report for Lot #1, Filing #1, Powers Centre Subdivision by GeoQuest dated April 3, 2019, (see pages 4, 5, 6 for direction if/when attempting any future construction) in file VR236 available at the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department:

- Other Hazard: Poor Soils Quality as it relates to Drainage during construction.

Any future construction or changes to buildings should be accompanied by a site-specific soil and foundation investigation to determine the engineering properties of the soils. A geologic hazard report that includes the identification of any hazards or constraints imposed by geologic conditions should accompany any report submitted in support of new construction.

There is no construction as a result of this minor replat.

17. Basin Transfer/Insufficiency: Water and wastewater services for this subdivision are provided by the Cherokee Metropolitan District (Cherokee) subject to the District's rules, regulations and specifications. The Office of the State Engineer has issued an opinion of water inadequacy based on its analysis and interpretation of a stipulated agreement concerning the availability of certain water rights for use outside of the Upper Black Squirrel Creek Designated Basin, and thus found insufficiency of water resources for this subdivision based on that agreement. This interpretation differs from certain opinions issued by the Office in the past. Based on its own review of the stipulated agreement and its history (and not the amount of water actually available) the Board of County Commissioners in an open and public hearing did not accept the interpretation of the State Engineer's Office. The Board of County Commissioners found that Cherokee has committed to provide water service to the subdivision and asserted that its long term water service capabilities are sufficient. The Board of County Commissioners made this determination in reliance upon the testimony and expertise provided by Cherokee at the public hearing thereon. At the hearing, Cherokee asserted that its plans and continued financial investment in infrastructure are designed to allow Cherokee to continue to provide this subdivision and its existing customers with water and wastewater services for 300 years or more.

18. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHT AND NOISE IMPACT ASSOCIATED WITH AIRPORT: This serves as notice of potential aircraft overflight and noise impacts on this property due to its close proximity to an airport, which is being disclosed to all prospective purchasers considering the use of this property for residential and other purposes. This property is subject to the overflight and associated noise of arriving and departing aircraft during the course of normal airport operations. All property within this subdivision is subject to an Avigation Easement as recorded at Book 2465, Pages 481 and 759 of the records of the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder.

19. All property within this subdivision is subject to a Declaration of Covenants as recorded in instrument recorded October 13, 1982 in Book 3621 at Page 592. Amendment recorded December 3, 1985 in Book 5095 at Page 982 of the records of the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder.

## 20. Reciprocal Access/Parking Agreement

All property within this subdivision is subject to a Reciprocal Access/Parking Agreement as described in the Covenants recorded October 13, 1982 in Book 3621 at Page 592. Amendment recorded December 3, 1985 in Book 5095 at Page 982 of the records of the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder.

21. The Subdivider(s) agree(s) on behalf of himself/herself and any developer or builder successor and assignees that Subdivider and/or said successor and assigns shall be required to pay traffic impact fees in accordance with the El Paso County Road Impact Fee Program Resolution (Resolution No 19-471), or any amendments thereto, at or prior to the time of building permit submittals. The fee obligation, if not paid at final plat recording, shall be documented on all sales documents and on plat notes to ensure that a title search would find the fee obligation before sale of the property.

## 23. Utility Services

Utility Services to the site will be provided by the following:

Electricity - Colorado Springs Utilities

Gas - Colorado Springs Utilities

Water / Wastewater - Cherokee Metropolitan District

5922 Ellenview, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest, and 11317 McCormick Street, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest

By: Michael J. Nisenbaum

Title: Manager/Member

STATE OF COLORADO )

) SS

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

Acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by Michael J. Nisenbaum as owner, Ellenview, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest, and 11317 McCormick Street, LLC, a California limited liability company, as to an undivided 50% interest.

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

Witness my hand and official seal

Notary Public

## Surveyors Certificate

I, Oliver E. Watts, a duly registered Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Colorado, do hereby certify that this plat truly and correctly represents the results of a survey made on 11-18-22, by me or under my direct supervision and that all monuments exist as shown hereon; that mathematical closure errors are less than 1/10,000 ; and that said plat has been prepared in full compliance with all applicable laws of the State of Colorado dealing with monuments, subdivision, or surveying of land and all applicable provisions of the El Paso County Land Development Code.

I attest the above on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_.

Oliver E. Watts, Colorado PE-LS No. 9853 Date

For and On Behalf of: Oliver E. Watts, Consulting Engineer, Inc.

This plat for Powers Centre Filing No 3A was approved for filing by the El Paso County, Colorado Board of County Commissioners on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_, subject to any notes specified hereon and any conditions included in the resolution of approval. The dedications of land to the public easements are accepted, but public improvements thereon will not become the maintenance responsibility of El Paso County until preliminary acceptance of the public improvements in accordance with the requirements of the Land Development Code and Engineering Criteria Manual, and the Subdivision Improvements Agreement.

Chair, Board of County Commissioners Date

This plat for Powers Centre Filing No 3A was approved for filing by the El Paso County, Colorado Planning and Community Development Department Director on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_, subject to any notes or conditions specified hereon.

Planning and Community Development Director Date

Clerk and Recorder

STATE OF COLORADO

COUNTY OF EL PASO

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed in my office on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_, and was

recorded at

Reception Number \_\_\_\_\_ of the records of El Paso County

El Paso County Clerk and Recorder

Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Surcharge: \_\_\_\_\_

School fees: \_\_\_\_\_ Park fees: \_\_\_\_\_

Drainage fees: \_\_\_\_\_ Bridge fees: \_\_\_\_\_

## SUBDIVISION SUMMARY: \_\_

TOTAL LOTS IN SUBDIVISION: 3

TOTAL ACREAGE: 5.551 Acres

Any person who knowingly removes, alters or defaces

any public land survey monument or land boundary

monument or accessory commits a Class Two (2)

misdeemeanor pursuant to C.R.S. § 18-4-508

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF:

OLIVER E. WATTS PE-LS

CONSULTING ENGINEER

614 ELKTON DRIVE

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80907

(719) 593-0173

oliewatts@aol.com

Celebrating over 44 years in business

PCD File No: VR236

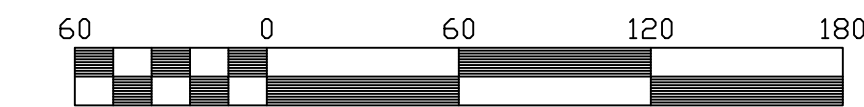
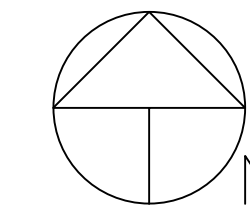
OLIVER E. WATTS CONSULTING ENGINEER COLORADO SPRINGS

7-12-23 PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

3-22-23 DEW 18-5237-07

# POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A

A VACATION AND REPLAT OF LOT 1, POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3  
 in the SW 1/4, Section 6, Township 17 South, Range 65 West, 6th P.M.  
 EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

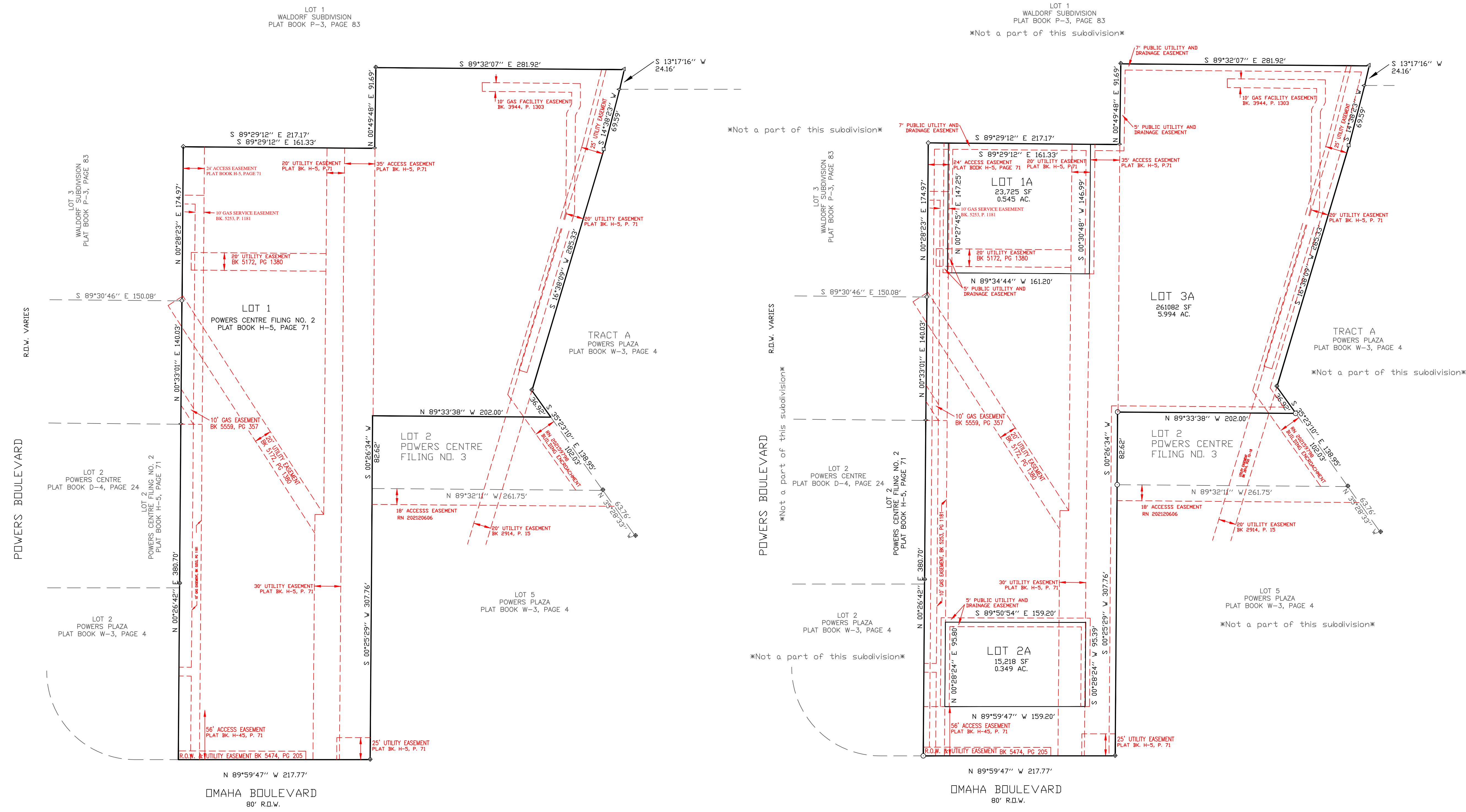
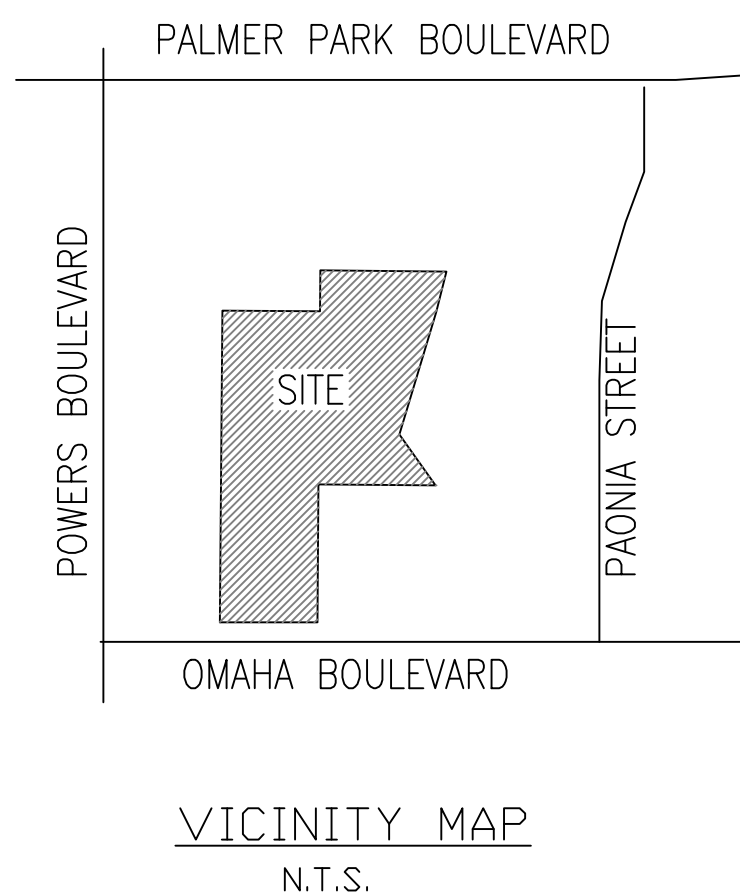


Scale 1" = 60'

### LEGEND:

- SET 2" AL. CAP, #9853 DN #5 REBAR
- FOUND 1" AL. CAP, #10377 DN #5 REBAR
- ◁ FOUND 1-1/4" YELLOW ILLEG CAP DN #5 REBAR
- ◇ FOUND #4 REBAR
- ◆ FOUND 60D NAIL
- ⊕ FOUND ILLEG. ZAPPIT ON CONC. NAIL
- ◇ FOUND 1" ILLEG. AL. CAP ON #5 REBAR

Any person who knowingly removes, alters or defaces any public land survey monument or land boundary monument or accessory commits a Class Two (2) misdemeanor pursuant to C.R.S. § 18-4-508



AS PLATTED

AS REPLATTED

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF:  
 OLIVER E. WATTS PE-LS  
 CONSULTING ENGINEER  
 614 ELKTON DRIVE  
 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80907  
 (719) 593-0173  
 olliewatts@aol.com  
 Celebrating over 44 years in business



April 4, 2023

El Paso County Planning Department  
2880 International Circle  
Colorado Spring, CO 80910

RE: Powers Centre Filing No. 3A  
SW 1/4 of Sec. 6, Twp. 14S, Rng. 65W, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
Water Division 2, Water District 10  
CDWR Assigned Referral No. 30702

To Whom It May Concern:

We have received a referral regarding the above referenced proposal to subdivide an existing 5.551 acre tract of land currently known as Tract 1 of Powers Centre Filing No. 3 into three commercial lots. According to the submittal, the proposed supply of water is to be served by Cherokee Metropolitan District (“Cherokee”). Wastewater will be disposed of in a private wastewater septic system.

### Water Supply Demand

The Water Supply Information Sheet, Form no. GWS-76, provided with the submittal estimates a demand of 4.6 acre-feet per year for all intended uses within the subdivision.

### Source of Water Supply

The source of water for the proposed development will be Cherokee Metropolitan District. The estimated water demand for the proposed subdivision are consistent with the estimated demand for the uses on the property prior to subdivision. A letter of commitment from Cherokee, dated February 17, 2023, was provided with the referral materials indicating that Cherokee confirms its commitment to providing 4.6 acre-feet/year for use on the proposed subdivision.

According to the records of this office, Cherokee has sufficient water resources to supply this development as described above.

### Additional Comments

If a storm water detention structure is constructed as a part of this project, the applicant should be aware that, unless the structure can meet the requirements of a “storm water detention and infiltration facility” as defined in section 37-92-602(8), Colorado Revised Statutes, the structure may be subject to administration by this office. The applicant should review DWR’s *Administrative Statement Regarding the Management of Storm Water Detention Facilities and Post-Wildland Fire Facilities in Colorado*, attached, to ensure that the notification, construction and operation of the proposed structure meets statutory and administrative requirements. The applicant is encouraged to use *Colorado Stormwater*





*Detention and Infiltration Facility Notification Portal*, located at <https://maperture.digitaldataservices.com/gvh/?viewer=cswdif>, to meet the notification requirements.

**State Engineer's Office Opinion**

Pursuant to Section 30-28-136(1)(h)(II) C.R.S., it is the opinion of this office that the proposed water supply can be provided without causing injury to decreed water rights, and the supply is expected to be adequate. Should you or the applicant have questions regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Kate Fuller, P.E.  
Water Resource Engineer

Cc: Rachel Zancanella, Division Engineer  
Jacob Olson, Water Commissioner District 10

County Attorney

**Kenneth R. Hodges, County Attorney**

719-520-6485  
Centennial Hall  
200 S. Cascade, Suite 150  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
www.ElPasoCo.com

**Board of County Commissioners**

Holly Williams, District 1  
Carrie Geitner, District 2  
Stan VanderWerf, District 3  
Longinos Gonzalez, Jr., District 4  
Cami Bremer, District 5

June 15, 2023

VR-23-6 Powers Centre Filing No. 3A  
Vacation and Replat

Reviewed by: Lori L. Seago, Senior Assistant County Attorney  
April Willie, Paralegal

**WATER SUPPLY REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Project Description

1. This is a vacation and replat proposal by Oliver Watts Consulting (“Applicant”) to replat one commercial lot into 3 commercial lots on 5.551 acres. The property is currently zoned CR CAD-O (Commercial Regional - Commercial Aviation District Overlay). This commercial property is already developed with multiple existing uses.

Estimated Water Demand

2. Pursuant to the *Water Supply Information Summary* (“WSIS”), the annual subdivision demand is 4.6 total acre-feet for commercial use. The WSIS does not identify the square footage of the commercial uses upon which this figure is based. Based on this, the Applicant must provide a supply of 1,380 acre-feet of water (4.6 acre-feet/year x 300 years) to meet the County’s 300-year water supply requirement for the subdivision.

Proposed Water Supply

3. The Applicant has provided for the source of water to derive from the Cherokee Metropolitan District (“District” or “Cherokee”). The District currently provides

**ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEYS**

NATHAN J. WHITNEY  
CHRISTOPHER M. STRIDER

STEVEN A. KLAFFKY  
DOREY L. SPOTTS

LORI L. SEAGO

BRYAN E. SCHMID  
STEVEN W. MARTYN

TERRY A. SAMPLE  
MERI GERINGER

central water service to the existing uses on the property. As identified in the *Water Resources Report for Powers Center Filing No. 3A*, dated March 2023 and revised on June 7, 2023, the annual water demand for the development is 4.6 acre-feet per year. Per the *Water Resources Report*, Cherokee’s total available water supply is approximately 4,443.00 acre-feet/year, while its existing water commitments, including this property, total 4,111.7 acre-feet per year.

4. The General Manager of the District provided a letter dated February 7, 2023, committing to continue to provide water service for the commercial lots within the Powers Plaza Filing 3A Subdivision, which is located within the District’s boundaries. The District’s combined commitments for the 3 lots are delineated as follows and are based on average annual water consumption over the last five years:

<b>Address</b>	<b>Commercial Interior Demand (AFY)</b>	<b>Demand (AF/yr)</b>
5849-5857 Palmer Park Blvd	0.16	0.16
5859-5863 Palmer Park Blvd	0.22	0.22
5869 Palmer Park Blvd	0.13	0.13
5871-5883 Palmer Park Blvd	4.12	4.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>

The District notes that these commitments are “hereby made exclusively for this specific development project at this site within the District.” The District’s commitment is only a conditional commitment: “[t]o confirm this commitment you must provide the District with a copy of the final plat approval from El Paso County Development Services within 12 months of the date of this letter. Otherwise, the District may use this allocation for other developments requesting a water commitment.”

State Engineer’s Office Opinion

5. In a letter dated April 4, 2023, the State Engineer reviewed the application to subdivide the 5.551-acre tract into 3 lots. The State Engineer confirmed that the Cherokee Metropolitan District has committed a water supply of 4.6 acre-feet/year, which is the water demand identified in the WSIS. Further, the State Engineer states that “[a]ccording to the records of this office, Cherokee has sufficient water resources to supply the development as described above.” Further, the State Engineer declared that “[p]ursuant to Section 30-28-136(1)(h)(II), C.R.S., it is the opinion of this office that the proposed water supply can be provided without causing injury to decreed water rights, and the supply is expected to be adequate.”

Recommended Findings

6. Quantity and Dependability. Applicant’s water demand for Powers Centre Filing No. 3A is 4.6 acre-feet per year to be supplied by Cherokee Metropolitan District.

**Based on the water demand of 4.6 acre-feet/year for the development and the District's availability of water sources, but given the conditional nature of the District's commitment to serve, the County Attorney's Office recommends a finding of conditional sufficiency as to water quantity and dependability for Powers Centre Filing No 3A.**

7. Quality. Section 8.4.7(B)(10)(g) of the El Paso County Land Development Code allows for a presumption of water quality when water is supplied from an existing Community Water Supply operating in conformance with the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations unless there is evidence to the contrary.

8. Basis: The County Attorney's Office reviewed the following documents in preparing this review: the *Water Supply Information Summary* provided March 20, 2023, the *Water Resources Report* dated March 23, 2023, revised June 7, 2023, the *Cherokee Metropolitan District* letter dated February 17, 2023, and the *State Engineer's Office Opinion* dated April 4, 2023. The recommendations herein are based on the information contained in such documents and on compliance with the requirements set forth below. ***Should the information relied upon be found to be incorrect or should the below requirement not be met, the County Attorney's Office reserves the right to amend or withdraw its recommendations.***

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

A. Applicant and all future owners of lots within this filing shall be advised of and comply with the conditions, rules, regulations, and specifications set by the District.

B. Applicant must obtain final plat approval and provide evidence thereof to the District within 12 months of the District's commitment letter dated February 17, 2023 (approval must be provided by February 17, 2024), to retain the District's water commitment. **If Applicant fails to do so, this recommended finding of conditional sufficiency will be deemed moot and no longer valid. Once Applicant provides proof to the District that satisfies the District's condition of final plat approval, this conditional finding of sufficiency will automatically convert to a full sufficiency finding.**

cc: Ashlyn Mathy, Planner

RESOLUTION NO. 23-

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF EL PASO, STATE OF COLORADO

APPROVAL OF VACATION AND REPLAT  
POWERS CENTRE FILING NO. 3A (VR236)

WHEREAS, Oliver Watts Consulting did file an application with the Planning and Community Development Department of El Paso County for approval of a Vacation and Replat of one (1) lot into three (3) lots for property in the unincorporated area of El Paso County as described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the El Paso County Planning Commission on September 7, 2023, upon which date the Planning Commission did by formal resolution recommend approval of the Vacation and Replat; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners on September 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, based on the evidence, testimony, exhibits, consideration of the Master Plan for the unincorporated area of the County, presentation and comments of the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department and other County representatives, comments of public officials and agencies, comments from all interested persons, comments by the general public, comments by the El Paso County Planning Commission Members, and comments by the Board of County Commissioners during the hearing, this Board finds as follows:

1. The application was properly submitted for consideration by the Planning Commission.
2. Proper posting, publication, and public notice were provided as required by law for the hearings before the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County.
3. The hearings before the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners were extensive and complete, all pertinent facts, matters and issues were submitted and reviewed, and all interested persons were heard at those hearings.
4. All exhibits were received into evidence.
5. That the Vacation and Replat complies with the El Paso County Land Development Code and the original conditions of approval associated with the recorded plat.
6. No nonconforming lots are created, and in the case of existing nonconforming lots, the degree of nonconformity is not increased.

7. That the Vacation and Replat conforms to the required findings for a minor or major subdivision, whichever is applicable.
8. That a sufficient water supply has been acquired in terms of quantity, quality, and dependability for the type of subdivision proposed, as determined in accordance with the standards set forth in the water supply standards [C.R.S. §30-28-133(6)(1)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of the Land Development Code.
9. Where the lots or parcels are subject to any Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) or other restrictions, the Vacation and Replat will not result in a conflict with the CC&Rs or other restrictions unless specifically approved by the Homeowners Association or controlling authority.
10. The Vacation and Replat is in general conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Master Plan.
11. All data, surveys, analyses, studies, plans, and designs as are required by the State of Colorado and El Paso County have been submitted, reviewed, and found to meet all sound planning and engineering requirements of the El Paso County Subdivision Regulations.
12. The proposed Replat of land conforms to the El Paso County Zoning Resolutions.
13. For the above-stated and other reasons, the proposed Vacation and Replat is in the best interest of the health, safety, morals, convenience, order, prosperity, and welfare of the citizens of El Paso County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby approves the petition of Oliver Watts Consulting for approval of a Vacation and Replat of one (1) lot into three (3) lots within the unincorporated area of El Paso County as described in Exhibit A;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following conditions and notation shall be placed upon this approval:

#### CONDITIONS

1. All Deed of Trust holders shall ratify the plat. The applicant shall provide a current title commitment at the time of submittal of the Mylar for recording.
2. Colorado statute requires that at the time of the approval of platting, the subdivider provides the certification of the County Treasurer's Office that all ad valorem taxes applicable to such subdivided land, or years prior to that year in which approval is granted, have been paid. Therefore, this plat is approved by the Board of County

Commissioners on the condition that the subdivider or developer must provide to the Planning and Community Development Department, at the time of recording the plat, a certification from the County Treasurer's Office that all prior years' taxes have been paid in full.

3. The subdivider or developer must pay, for each parcel of property, the fee for tax certification in effect at the time of recording the plat.
4. Driveway permits will be required for each access to an El Paso County owned and maintained roadway. Driveway permits are obtained from the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department.
5. The Subdivider(s) agrees on behalf of him/herself and any developer or builder successors and assignees that Subdivider and/or said successors and assigns shall be required to pay traffic impact fees in accordance with the El Paso County Road Impact Fee Program Resolution (Resolution No. 19-471), or any amendments thereto, at or prior to the time of building permit submittals. The fee obligation, if not paid at final plat recording, shall be documented on all sales documents and on plat notes to ensure that a title search would find the fee obligation before sale of the property.
6. Applicant shall comply with all requirements contained in the Water Supply Review and Recommendations, dated June 15, 2023, as provided by the County Attorney's Office.

NOTATION

1. Final plats not recorded within 24 months of Board of County Commissioner approval shall be deemed expired unless an extension is approved.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the record and recommendations of the El Paso County Planning Commission be adopted.

DONE THIS 28th day of September 2023 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk & Recorder

EXHIBIT A

LOT 1 POWERS CENTRE FIL NO 3