

VILLAGE AT LORSON RANCH FILING 1

LETTER OF INTENT
REZONE AND PLAT

June 3, 2024 (REV-1)



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PREPARED BY:

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Acreage: 9.73 Acres

Site Location, Size, Zoning:

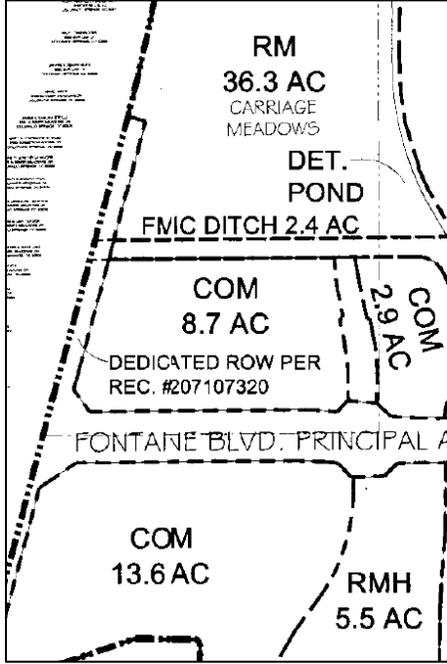
Matrix Design Group, on behalf of Cradlan LLC, is respectfully submitting rezone and plat applications for the proposed Village at Lorson Ranch Filing 1 commercial project. The proposed submittal seeks to rezone 9.73 acres from PUD Commercial to Commercial Service (CS) and replat 6 individual commercial lots. The Lorson Ranch Minor Sketch Plan Amendment, approved on April 21, 2016, depicts COM (Commercial Related Uses). The proposed rezone application submittal proposes Commercial Service (CS) zoning and is in compliance with the approved Sketch Plan. The proposed replat illustrates 6 commercial lots of approximately 1 to 2-acres in size each.

The site is bordered by Fontaine Boulevard to the south; Marksheffel Road to the west; Carriage Meadows Drive to the east; developed Lorson Ranch PUD zoned single-family property to the north (Residential Medium 7-10 DU/ Acre). The parcel that makes up this submittal is vacant with no existing buildings or structures. The site contains no natural drainage ways or significant natural features. The site does contain existing drainage facilities and improvements which shall remain. Village at Lorson Ranch is located within the Widefield Water and Sanitation District's (WWSD) boundaries and will rely upon municipal services for water/ wastewater.

The subject site is within the City of Colorado Springs Annexation Interest Area however, the City has previously expressed no interest in annexation for the Lorson Ranch community.

Request & Justification:

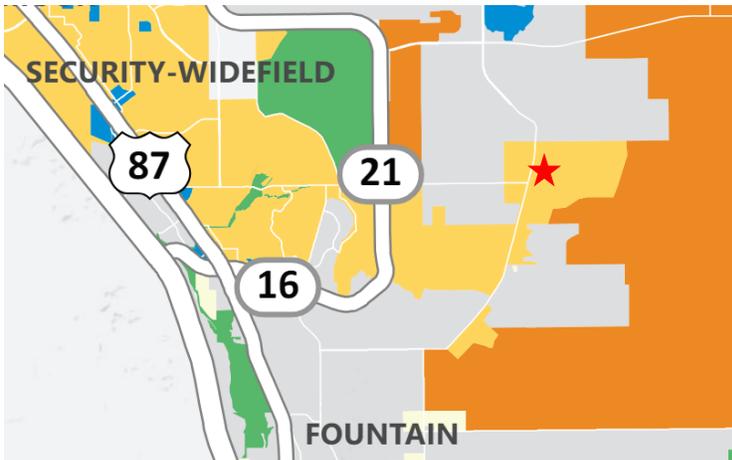
The purpose of this application is to request approval of a Rezone and Replat for a portion of Lorson Ranch located at the northeast corner of Marksheffel Road and Fontaine Boulevard.



The proposed submittal seeks to rezone 9.73 acres from PUD Commercial to a straight Commercial Service (CS) zone district. The straight zone district designation will make future development of the commercial lots simpler as the CS zone district outlines the design standards and guidelines. A proposed replat illustrates 6 commercial lots of approximately 1 to 2-acres in size each. Future plan submittals will determine the final layout and design of the individual commercial parcels. The proposed rezone parcel is currently zoned PUD and is part of the Lorson Ranch Minor Sketch Plan Amendment, approved on April 21, 2016. This Master Plan depicts the parcel as COM (Commercial Related Uses).

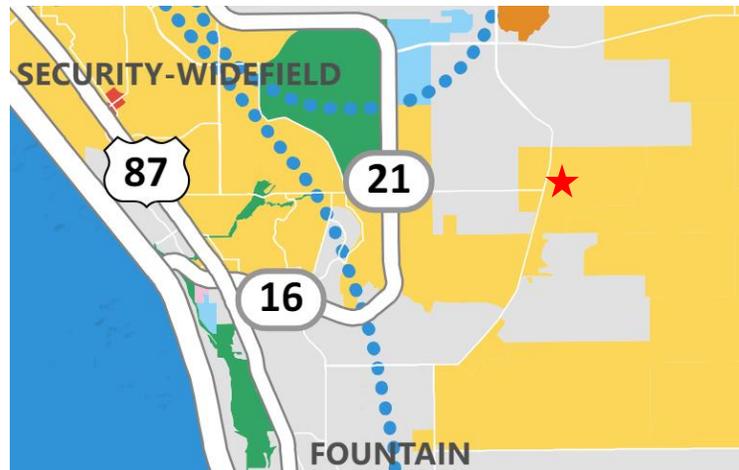
The proposed rezone complies with the intent of PUDSP 162, condition no. 7, and will simplify the process of having numerous submittals, a predefined set of design guidelines and standards, and eliminate

the PUD review criteria with future submittals.



The subject site is within the Area of Change, Minimal Change: Developed. This includes developed areas that are largely built out but may include isolated pockets of vacant or underutilized land. These key sites are likely to see more intense infill development with a mix of uses.

The subject site is within the Placetype of Suburban Residential. The primary land use within Suburban Residential is Single-Family Detached Residential and includes supporting land uses of Single-Family Attached, Multi-Family, Parks/ Open Space, Commercial Retail, Commercial Service, and Institutional.



Commercial Service (CS) Zoning Requirements

The CS zoning district is intended to accommodate retail, wholesale or service commercial uses that serve the general public. Use Types will conform to the Allowed and Special Use requirements of LDC Chapter 5, Table 5-1.

Your El Paso County Master Plan

Baseline Considerations:

1. *Is there a desirability or demand within the community for this use?*
The proposed Village at Lorson Ranch would help to fulfill desirability and demand for additional Commercial Retail and Commercial Services within El Paso County as well as serve the few thousand residential units existing and proposed within the Lorson Ranch development. As illustrated in the recently approved Your El Paso County Master Plan, the place based approach is not focused on the use of a specific parcel, but rather is concerned with the collective mix of uses that establish a place within the El Paso County community. The Commercial component of Lorson Ranch was always planned for and intended to be on the subject parcel per the approved Lorson Ranch Minor Sketch Plan Amendment.
2. *Does the market support the need for the use? Would the use be viable if built right now?*
There is a demand for the proposed Commercial land use to serve the planned +/- 6,500 residential units within Lorson Ranch as well as the growing areas adjacent to the proposed commercial parcels.
3. *Would the use be providing necessary housing or essential goods and/ or services?*
The proposed Village at Lorson Ranch will incorporate commercial retail and commercial services into the community. The proposed site is not located within a "Key Area" but is located within an area of change (Minimal Change: Developed). The site has a place type of Suburban Residential which has a primary land use of Single-Family Residential and supporting land uses of both Commercial Retail and Commercial Services. The proposed rezone supports this place type as well as the existing Lorson Ranch Minor Sketch Plan Amendment. Additionally, the Commercial

land use supports **Goal 1.3** *Encourage a range of development types to support a variety of land uses.*

County Systems Considerations:

1. *Is there existing infrastructure to which the development can connect? If so, what infrastructure exists? If not, are there existing or proposed plans to extend infrastructure to this area?*

The proposed Village at Lorson Ranch will be served by existing infrastructure to include water and wastewater services, electricity, and roadways. These utilities have been planned for long in advance with capacity to serve the commercial development.

2. *Does the development trigger the need for such infrastructure?*

The proposed development does not trigger the need for new infrastructure as previous approvals contemplated the necessary infrastructure improvements. However, the proposed development may require expansion of some existing facilities meeting **Goal LU4**: *Continue to encourage policies that ensure "development pays for itself"*. The extension of existing utilities and facilities into this site will be determined with future, more detailed developments.

3. *Does the proposal trigger the need for pedestrian or multimodal connections and are those connections being provided?*

The proposed Village at Lorson Ranch will require a roadway to be designed and built to provide internal access to the commercial uses. Internal trail and/or sidewalk connections will be provided as necessary to connect to existing pedestrian systems within the development. This supports **Goal TM2** *Promote walkability and bike-ability* by continuing the construction of trail corridors connecting this development with adjacent neighborhoods.

El Paso County Map Amendment (Rezoning) Approval Criteria:

1. *The application is in general conformance with the El Paso County Master Plan including applicable Small Area Plans or there has been a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood since the land was last zoned;*

The application is in conformance with the El Paso County Master Plan as listed above.

2. *The rezoning is in compliance with all applicable statutory provisions, including but not limited to C.R.S. § 30-28-111 § 30-28-113, and § 30-28-116;*

The Lorson Ranch Minor Sketch Plan Amendment, approved on April 21, 2016, depicts COM (Commercial Related Uses). The proposed rezone application submittal proposes Commercial Service (CS) zoning and is in compliance with the approved Sketch Plan and applicable provisions.

3. *The proposed land use or zone district is compatible with the existing and permitted land uses and zone districts in all directions; and*

The proposed submittal seeks to rezone 9.73 acres from PUD Commercial to a straight Commercial Service (CS) zone district. The straight zone district designation will make future development of the commercial lots simpler as the CS zone district outlines the design standards and guidelines. The site has been planned as Commercial on the approved Lorson Ranch Sketch Plans (s) and is compatible with the adjacent land uses and PUD zoning.

4. *The site is suitable for the intended use, including the ability to meet the standards as described in Chapter 5 of the Land Development Code, for the intended zone district.*

The proposed submittal seeks to rezone 9.73 acres from PUD Commercial to a straight Commercial Service (CS) zone district. The straight zone district designation will make future development of the commercial lots simpler as the CS zone district outlines the design standards and guidelines.

El Paso County Replat Approval Criteria:

1. *The replat complies with this Code, and the original conditions of approval associated with the recorded plat;*

The proposed Replat complies with the El Paso County Land Development Code and the original conditions of approval.

2. *No nonconforming lots are created, and in the case of existing nonconforming lots, the nonconformity is not increased;*

The proposed Replat will not create any nonconforming lots.

3. *The replat is in keeping with the purpose and intent of this Code;*

The proposed Replat is in keeping with the El Paso County Land Development Code.

4. *The replat conforms to the required findings for a minor or major subdivision, whichever is applicable;*

The proposed Replat conforms to the required findings of a major subdivision.

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 this Code and the ECM;*

The proposed parcels will gain access from a private internal access drive that runs between Marksheffel Road and Carraige Meadows Parkway. A right-in only is also proposed along Fontaine Boulevard.

6. *The approval will not adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare; and*

The proposed Replat will not adversely affect public health, safety, and welfare. The site has always been master planned as a future Commercial site.

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.*

The Village at Lorson Ranch will be subject to new CC&Rs.

El Paso County Water Master Plan:

Village at Lorson Ranch is located within the Widefield Water and Sanitation District's (WWSD) boundaries and will rely upon municipal services for water supply. These municipal services have been provided in previous Lorson Ranch filing. There are no proposed wells or individual septic systems within Village at Lorson Ranch. A WWSD intent to serve commitment letter is provided with the Water Report.

In addition, Village at Lorson Ranch meets the stated Goals and Policies:

- Goal 1.2 – Integrate water and land use planning
- Goal 4.2 – Support the efficient use of water supplies

through integrated master planning of site planning, landscape and water resource best management practices.

Total Number of Residential Units, Density, and Lot Sizes:

No residential units are proposed.

Total Number of Industrial or Commercial Sites:

The proposed Replat illustrates 6 commercial lots of approximately 1 to 2-acres in size each. Future plan submittals will determine the final layout and design of each commercial parcel. There are no industrial sites being proposed.

Phasing Plan and Schedule of Development:

The project will be constructed in multiple phases; however, at this time exact phasing is unknown. Future plan submittals will further detail the commercial development and proposed phasing.

Areas of Required Landscaping:

The proposed internal landscape design (5%), adjacent residential district buffering, and streetscape planting requirements shall comply with the EPC LDC. The landscape design will be shown in more detail at the time of future plan submittals. There are no landscape waivers being requested at this time and there is no open space requirements as part of commercial development.

Types of Proposed Recreational Facilities:

There are no recreational facilities being proposed with this application for rezone as there are no open space requirements. Potential trail corridors and/or connections within the proposed project limits will be coordinated during the preliminary plan and final plat submittals as part of the detailed layout.

Traffic Engineering:

Vehicular access as illustrated in the Traffic Impact Study is proposed with all roadways to be private. A waiver has been included to permit the private roadway. A main access point is proposed on Carriage Meadows Drive. A right-in only access point is proposed along Fontaine Boulevard. This right-in only access point will require a deviation. A second deviation is required for to permit pedestrian crossings greater than 48 feet. See below for more information. Road impact fees to be calculated at time of building permit as may be required.

School District:

N/A

Proposed Services:

1. Water/ Wastewater: Widefield Water and Sanitation District
2. Gas: Black Hills Energy
3. Electric: Mountain View Electric
4. Fire: Security Fire Protection District
5. School: Widefield District #3
6. Roads: El Paso County Road and Bridge
7. Police Protection: El Paso County Sheriff's Department

Impacts associated with the Rezone Application:___

Floodplain: This site is not located within a designated FEMA floodplain as determined by the flood insurance map, community map number '08041C0976G' effective date December 7, 2018.

Site Geology: A Soils and Geology Study is submitted with this application.

Wetlands: There are no natural drainage areas, drainage ways or water courses found on site, as a result there are not wetlands present. All drainage and erosion criteria will be met following El Paso County Development Standards.

Air Pollution: By adhering to current air quality regulations, any air pollution emanating from the development will be negligible. The site has very little vegetation and contains mostly native turfgrass which may result in higher than normal amounts of dust during windy days. However, the proposed development will provide irrigated turf areas and native seeding to help alleviate the dust issues. Construction practices will adhere to El Paso County health department, as well as state department codes and regulations.

Water Pollution: By adhering to current wastewater and stormwater regulations, any water pollution emanating from the development will be negligible. An erosion and sedimentation plan will be in place prior to construction.

Noise Pollution: Vehicular movement is expected to be the only major source of noise pollution emanating from the site after construction is complete. The proposed development is surrounded by similar land uses and the effects of noise generated from the site will have little or no impact on other surrounding areas.

Visual Assessment: The natural mountain backdrop of the Rampart Range is perhaps the best natural feature of Village at Lorson Ranch with sweeping views in nearly all directions. The scenic view shed is impaired somewhat by intervening development; however, the panoramic views remain quite spectacular.

Vegetation, Wildlife Habitats and Migration Routes:

Proposed landscaping will include low-water use plant material, and where possible, the plant material will be native to the Colorado Springs region.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife note the following as also present in the area.

- Prairie Dog
- Mule and White-Tailed Deer
- Pronghorn Antelope
- Fox species
- Coyote
- Rabbits
- Raptors
- Songbirds
- Numerous Small Mammals

Due to the construction activity and adjoining residential developments, it is not anticipated that the application will have significant impacts on wildlife in the area.

Deviation Requests (see Deviation Request and Decision Forms):

1) ROADWAY ACCESS CRITERIA

Requested Deviation: To permit right-in only access from Fontaine Boulevard into the Village at Lorson Ranch project.

Justification: The deviation will help reduce the amount of commercial traffic on Carriage Meadows Drive. Additionally, the right-in only access point is approximately 440' feet from the intersection of Fontaine Boulevard and Carriage Meadows Drive. All of the turn movements will take place in an existing auxiliary lane where speeds are already reduced and nowhere near the design speeds of Fontaine Boulevard.

2) PEDESTRAIN REFUGE / CROSSWALK LENGTH GREATER THAN 48 FEET

Requested Deviation: 2 of the 4 crossing locations at the intersection of Fontaine Blvd and Carriage Meadows Drive will have a crossing length slightly greater than 48 feet.

Justification: The proposed deviation is requested because of the considerable amount of modification and expansion to accommodate pedestrian refuge pork chop islands at all 4 sides of the intersection. Modification would include relocation of (2) 6'x12' concrete electric vaults, relocate a 25' long Type R inlet, relocate a 5' long Type R inlet and reconstruct a portion of storm sewer, additional pavement/curb/sidewalk reconstruction and expansion, and ROW taking at 3 of the 4 intersection corners. The addition of corner refuge islands will also make the sight of oncoming traffic from the Carriage Meadows intersection approaches more difficult to see than not installing the corner islands.

Waiver Requests (see Waiver Request):

1) PUBLIC ROADS REQUIRED

Requested Deviation: To permit a private road internal to the subject commercial project.

Justification: The proposed roadway will closely follow the minimum requirements of a typical urban local roadway per the ECM. The proposed roadway will have a 50'-56' wide access easement, with two 15-18' lanes of asphalt paved travel (30'-36' total pavement width), type A curb & gutter on each side of the road, and a 5' wide attached walk along the south side of the roadway.