



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development

## Planning Division

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June 15, 2021

To: Plan Commission

From: Planning Division Staff

### RE: **Transportation Policy and Planning Board review of the Draft Hanson NDP Amendment**

A proposed amendment to the Hanson Neighborhood Development Plan was introduced at the May 4, 2021 Common Council meeting. The Common Council referred the proposal to the Transportation Policy and Planning Board (TPPB) and Plan Commission (lead) for review. Below are the results of the TPPB's review.

#### **Transportation Policy and Planning Board – May 17, 2021**

The TPPB raised a number of concerns regarding the proposal, including:

- Added density is not appropriate in this location.
- Added density within the DeForest Area School District is not appropriate because existing DeForest schools are too distant.
- It is uncertain whether Metro Transit will be able to serve this area.
- There is a lack of pedestrian and bike access to The American Center.

The Transportation Policy and Planning Board offered the following motion:

*Christopher McCahill moved to not recommend approval the amendment to the Hanson NDP;  
Alder Foster seconded.*

*The motion failed by roll call vote of 1 yes, 5 no.*

*Alder Foster moved to refer item; Margaret Bergamini seconded.*

*The motion passed by roll call vote of 6 yes, 0 no.*

**Staff response:** Staff prepared a memo with information related to the concerns of the TPPB and is linked below:

[Addendum to staff report](#)

**Transportation Policy and Planning Board – June 14, 2021**

Staff provided the TPPB with an overview of the addendum to the staff report memo, which provides information related to the concerns discussed at the May 17 meeting. Members of the TPPB did not feel this amendment was a complete neighborhood and felt that development would create a neighborhood dependent on cars.

The Transportation Policy and Planning Board offered the following motion:

*Alder Foster moved to recommend this item to be placed on file; Margaret Bergamini seconded.  
The motion passed by voice vote/other.*

**Staff response:** *Staff disagrees with the TPPB's recommendation to place this item on file. The proposed amendment is aligned with the Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives as described in the [addendum to the staff memo](#). The areas of proposed higher densities are considered to be served by transit as they are within ¼ mile of bus stops for Metro route 6. The amendment plans for pedestrian and bicycle facilities that would connect to The American Center.*