

# PLANNING DIVISION

## **STAFF REPORT**

March 8, 2023

## **Planning and Zoning Board**

CASE No.: **ZON22-00714** 

PROJECT NAME: Evergreen @ Hawes

Owner's Name:	Price Revocable Trust
Applicant's Name:	Sean Lake, Pew and Lake, PLC
Location of Request:	Within the 2200 block of South Hawes Road (east side) and within the 8400 block of East Desert Lane (north side). Located south of Baseline Road on the east side of Hawes Road.
Parcel No(s):	304-03-946 and 304-03-845A
Request:	Rezone from Office Commercial (OC) and Multiple Residence-2 (RM-2) to Multiple Residence-2 with a Planned Area Development overlay (RM-2-PAD) and Site Plan Review. This request will allow for a multiple residence development.
Existing Zoning District:	Office Commercial (OC) and Multiple Residence-2 (RM-2)
Council District:	6
Site Size:	5± acres
Proposed Use(s):	Multiple Residences
Existing Use(s):	Vacant
P&Z Hearing Date(s):	March 8, 2023 / 4:00 p.m.
Staff Planner:	Charlotte Bridges, Planner II
Staff Recommendation:	APPROVAL with conditions

#### HISTORY

On **August 29, 1983**, the City Council approved the annexation of 1,855± acres of land, including the subject site (Ordinance No. 1731).

On **August 15, 1984**, the City Council rezoned 550± acres of recently annexed land, including the subject site, from Maricopa County Rural 43 and Maricopa County Rural 43 Special Use (SU) to Agricultural (AG) and General Multiple Residence-4 (R-4) (equivalent to Multiple Residence-4 [RM-4]) zoning designations (Case No. Z84-095; Ordinance No. 1855).

On **February 20, 2007**, the City Council rezoned of 7± acres of land, including a portion of the subject site, from AG to Restricted Multiple Residence-2 (R-2) (equivalent to Multiple Residence-2 ([RM-2]) and approved a site plan to allow for the development of an assisting living center (Case No. Z07-008; Ordinance No. 4673).

On **May 5, 2008**, the City Council rezoned of 1.5± acres of land, including a portion of the subject site, from AG and RM-2 to Office-Services (O-S) (equivalent to Office Commercial [OC]) and approved a site plan to allow for the development a medical office building (Case No. Z08-019; Ordinance No. 4830).

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### **Background:**

The applicant is requesting to rezone the subject site from Office Commercial (OC) and Multiple Residence-2 (RM-2) to Multiple Residence-2 with Planned Area Development overlay (RM-2-PAD) and approval of a Major Site Plan Modification to allow for a multiple residence development. The subject site is generally located south of Baseline Road on the east side of Hawes Road and wraps around an existing place of worship to the south and west.

The proposed development consists of four single-story, two-bedroom units; six single-story, one-bedroom duplexes; and 21 two-story duplexes containing one-, two- and three-bedroom options for a total of 58 units within 31 buildings. The request for a Planned Area Development (PAD) overlay is to allow modifications to certain development standards set forth in the Mesa Zoning Ordinance (MZO). Per Section 11-22-1 of the MZO, the purpose of a PAD overlay is to allow modifications to certain development standards to promote innovative design and flexibility that creates a high-quality development for the site. The submitted documents show the proposed development will be unique by incorporating private and common open space areas that exceed the City's standard size and plant quantity requirements as well as a variety of community recreation facilities.

## General Plan Character Area Designation and Goals:

The General Plan character area designation on the property is Neighborhood. Per Chapter 7 of the General Plan, the primary focus of the Neighborhood character type is to provide safe places for people to live, where they can feel secure and enjoy their surrounding community. Additionally, these areas will contain a variety of housing types including multiple residences. RM-2 is listed as a primary zoning district within the Neighborhood character area and Multiple Residence is listed as a primary land use.

Per the adopted form and guidelines for the Neighborhood character area, the predominant building height should be one and two stories, with three and four-story buildings located only where higher density is appropriate (on the edges of a neighborhood next to arterial streets). Density is generally between two and 12 dwelling units per acre, with higher concentrations of units at traffic volume locations. The proposed units are one story and two story in height with a net density of 11.9 dwelling units per acre, which is consistent with the maximum density set for the character area.

Per Chapter 4 of the General Plan (page 4-6), a key element for a strong neighborhood is the presence of diversified housing. Diverse neighborhoods can be achieved by encouraging a variety of dwelling types within each area of the community consistent with the character area standards. As discussed above, the proposal is consistent with the goals and standards of the Neighborhood character area and provides a unique design that contributes to the existing mix of multiple residential dwelling units in the area. Overall, the request conforms to the goals of the Mesa 2040 General Plan.

## Zoning District Designations:

The request is to rezone the subject property from OC and RM-2 to RM-2-PAD. Per Section 11-5-1(B) of the MZO, the purpose of the multiple residence zoning district is to provide areas for small-lot single residences, townhouses, cluster housing, and multiple residence housing, with densities of up to 43 units per gross acre. A multiple residence use, which does not exceed a density of 15 dwelling units per acre, is allowed by-right in the RM-2 district, provided the site is developed in accordance with applicable development standards.

## Planned Area Development Overlay:

The subject request includes a Planned Area Development (PAD) Overlay to allow for modifications to certain required development standards of the MZO. Per Section 11-22 of the MZO, the purpose of the overlay is to allow innovative design and flexibility that creates high-quality development for the site. Table 1 below shows the MZO required standards and the applicant's proposed PAD standards.

Development Standard			Staff
	Required RM-2	Proposed RM-2	Recommendation
<u>Minimum Yards</u> –			
MZO Section 11-5-5(A):			
- Interior Side and Rear:			
3 or more units on lot			
- South property line	Two Story = 30-feet	Two Story = 19- feet, 8-inches	As proposed
Yards, Setbacks Adjacent			
to Single Resident			
<u>Districts</u> – MZO Section			
11-5-5(A)(1):	Single Story = 25-	Single Story = 20-	As proposed
- East Property Line	feet	feet	
Required Landscape			
Yards MZO Section 11-33-			
3(B)(1)			
- Non-single Residence			
uses adjacent to Single			
Residence			

#### Table 1: Development Standards

-North property line	25-feet	7-feet (along the access drive and amenity area only)	As proposed
- East property line	25-feet	20-feet	
Required Landscape Yards MZO Section 11-33- 3(B)(2) - Non-single Residence uses adjacent to Non- single Residence - West property line	15-feet	7-feet	As proposed
Minimum Separation Between Buildings on the Same Lot - MZO Section 11-5-5(A) - One-story building	25-feet	2-feet, 4-inches feet (one story)	As proposed
- Two-story building	30-feet	10-feet, 4-inches feet (two story)	
Minimum Separation Between Buildings on Same Lot and Detached Covered Parking Canopies – MZO Section 11-5-5(A):	20 feet	10 feet	As proposed
Additional Standards for <u>Private Open Space –</u> <i>MZO Section 11-5-</i> <i>5(A)(3)e)(i)(1):</i>	Private open space located at the ground level shall have no dimension less than 10-feet	Private open space located at the ground level shall have no dimension less than 8-feet	As proposed
Additional Standards for <u>Private Open Space –</u> <i>MZO Section 11-5-</i> <i>5(A)(3)e)(ii):</i> - Private open space	2-Bedroom = 50-	2-Bedroom = 46-	As proposed

shall be at least 50% covered	square feet	square feet (for Building 2-Unit 2 only)	
<u>Maximum Building</u> <u>Projection into Setbacks</u> – <i>MZO Section 11-5-</i> <i>5(A)(2)(c)</i>	3-feet	4-feet (for Building 1-Unit 1 and Building 2- Unit 2 only)	As proposed
Minimum Sidewalk Width – MZO Section 11-30-8(D)	5-feet	4-feet	As proposed
Foundation Base Width – <i>MZO Section 11-33-5</i> - Exterior walls with a public entrance	15-feet	10-feet	As proposed

## Minimum Building Setbacks:

Per Section 11-5-5(A) of the MZO, the required two-story building setback along the south property line is 30 feet. The applicant is requesting a reduction to 19-feet, eight-inches along the south property line adjacent to an existing place of worship in the RM-2 District.

## Yards, Setbacks Adjacent to Single Resident:

Per Section 11-5-5(A)(1)(a) of the MZO, on a lot located in a RM District adjacent to the RS District, a single-story building on the RM zoned lot shall be set back from the RS District property line at least 25-feet. The applicant is requesting a reduction to 20-feet along the east property line adjacent to the RS-6-PAD District.

## Required Landscape Yards:

Per Section 11-33-3(B)(1) of the MZO, a non-single residence use, 2.5 acres or more, adjacent to a single residence use is required to have a landscape yard area width of 25-feet. The applicant is requesting a reduction to the north landscape yard width (adjacent to RS-6-PAD) along the access drive and the amenity area to a minimum seven-feet. Also, the applicant is requesting a reduction in the landscape yard along the east property line (adjacent to RS-6-PAD) to 20-feet.

In addition, per Section 11-33-3(B)(2) of the MZO, a non-single residence use, adjacent to a non-single residence use, is required to have a landscape yard area width of 15-feet. The applicant is requesting a reduction in the landscape yard width along the west property line, adjacent to RM-2 District and an existing place of worship, to seven-feet.

## Minimum Building Separation Between Buildings on the Same Lot:

Per Section 11-5-5(A) of the MZO, one-story buildings located on the same lot shall maintain a minimum 25-foot separation and a two-story building shall maintain a 30-foot separation. The applicant is requesting a two-feet, four-inch minimum separation for all one-story buildings and a 10-foot, four-inch minimum separation for all two-story buildings, located on the same lot.

## Minimum Building Separation Between Buildings on the Same Lot and Detached Covered Parking Canopies:

Per Section 11-5-5(A) of the MZO, a minimum 20-foot setback shall be maintained between buildings and parking canopies. The applicant is requesting a reduction to a minimum of 10 feet between the buildings and parking canopies.

## Additional Standards for Private Open Space:

Per Section 11-5-5(A)(3)(e)(i)(1) of the MZO, private open space located at the ground level shall have no dimension less than 10-feet. The application is requesting the private open space located at the ground level have minimum dimensions of eight feet.

Also, per Section 11-5-5(A)(3)e)(ii) of the MZO, the required private open space for twobedroom units is 100 square feet, of which 50% is required to be covered and have at least one exterior side that is open and unobstructed between three and eight feet above its floor level. The "building 2-unit 2" floor plan provides 152 square feet of private open space but the application is requesting a reduction in the percentage for covered open space to 46 square feet. The proposed covered private open space is located on the ground floor and is open and unobstructed between three and eight feet above its floor level.

## Maximum Building Projection into Setbacks:

Per Section 11-5-5(A)(2)(c) of the MZO, the maximum allowable building encroachment is three feet for individual building projections such as balconies, covered patios, bay windows, fireplaces, and stairs. The applicant is requesting to increase the maximum allowable building encroachment to four feet to accommodate the covered patios for the "Building 1-Unit 1" and "Building 2-Unit 2" building types.

## Maximum Sidewalk Width:

Per Section 11-30-8(D) of the MZO, pedestrian walkways shall be at least five feet in width. The applicant is requesting a reduction to four feet to maximize space throughout the site.

## Minimum Foundation Base Width:

Per Section 11-33-5of the MZO, the minimum foundation base width along exterior walls with a public entrance is 15 feet. The applicant is requesting to reduce the minimum required foundation base width along exterior walls with a public entrance to 10-feet.

## PAD Justification:

The proposed development conforms to the criteria for a PAD. Per Section 11-22-1 of the MZO, the purpose of a PAD overlay is to allow modifications to certain development standards to promote innovative design and flexibility that creates a high-quality development for the site.

The submitted documents show the proposed development will exceed certain development standards to create a unique project, including:

- A 20-foot-wide landscape yard along the south property line adjacent to the existing place of worship in the RM-2 district, where only 15-foot-wide landscape yard is required. Additional trees are provided in this area, which are not required when a non-single residence use is adjacent to a non-single residence use and the landscape yard is not visible from public parking and drive aisles.
- Providing a building coverage of 23% where, 45% is allowed.
- Providing a lot coverage of 55% where 70% is allowed.
- Providing a density of 11.9 dwelling units per acre, where 15 dwelling units per acrea is allowed.
- Providing over 480 square feet of open space per unit where only 200 square feet of open space per unit is required. In addition, in most cases, the amount of private open space per unit is considerably more than what is required.
- Common open space amenities, such as a pool, playground area, dog park and additional "pocket park" areas.

Overall, the site plan and landscape plan show the proposed development will be unique and incorporates enhanced private and common open space and amenity areas within the development that exceed the City's standard requirements.

#### Site Plan and General Site Development Standards:

Per the submitted site plan, the applicant is proposing four single-story units, six single-story duplexes, and 21 two-story duplexes for a total of 58 units. Unit types include one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom options. Each unit's covered entries and private open space area meet the minimum requirements set forth in the MZO. Primary access to the site is from South Hawes with secondary access from East Desert Lane. Per Section 11-32-3 of the MZO, 122 parking spaces are required for the development, of which 58 spaces must be covered. According to the site plan submitted, 122 parking spaces will be provided, including 58 carport and 16 garage spaces. Overall, the proposed site plan conforms to the review criteria for Site Plan Review outlined in Section 11-69-5 of the MZO.

#### Design Review:

Per Section 11-71-2(A)(2) of the MZO, Design Review is only required for multiple residence projects that exceed the standard density of the RM-2 density range, which is 15 dwelling units per acre. The density for this project is 11.9 dwelling units per acre so Design Review is not required.

#### **Alternative Compliance:**

This project is required to comply with site planning and design standards of Section 11-5-5(B) or the MZO. Per Section 11-5-5(B)(6)(a) of the MZO, a request for alternative compliance may be accepted for any application to which Site Planning and Design Standards apply and written request must be provided in conjunction with the applicable land use application describing how the proposed alternative meets the criteria of Section 11-5-5(B)(6)(b) of the MZO. The proposed elevations do not meet the facade material standards of MZO Section 11-5-5(B)(5)(b), which states buildings must contain at least two (2) kinds of primary exterior

materials distinctively different in texture or masonry pattern, with each of the required materials covering at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the exterior walls of the building. Per the project narrative, the applicant is requesting "alternative compliance" for the following:

- Rear garage elevations, where the wall forms part of the adjacent unit's rear yard enclosure, may have up to 100% stucco.
- Front elevations of Plans 5-5 and 7-7 may have up to 24% brick veneer as a secondary material.
- Side elevations: Plan 1-1 may have up to 15% brick veneer as a secondary material, Plan 5-5 may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material, and Plan 6-6 may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material.
- Leasing office: the right side elevation may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material and the rear elevation may have up to 13% brick veneer as a secondary material.
- Rear elevations: all plans may have up to 100% stucco.

As justification for the request, the applicant indicates the single-family residential design standards allow for 15% (not 25%) of the secondary material, and this project is a hybrid where the City's design standards do not provide for a hybrid single-family development with amenities, efficiencies, and maintenance benefits of professional managed multi-family developments. The applicant goes on to state that the only front elevation deviations are in Plans 5-5 and 7-7 with 24% brick veneer. All the rest of the front elevations exceed the standard at 26-30% brick veneer, which is very high for residences when the windows, patio popouts, and roof types are not counted. The side elevations on all the units range from 15% to 25% brick veneer. The rear elevations do not have a second material because the six-foot wall enclosures around the perimeter of the rear yards visually block the rear elevations from public view. In addition, the rear elevations each contain patio overhangs that normally would not be required but for their orientation. This standard is consistent with single-family housing design to which this project reflects at a smaller scale for each housing plan. The submitted architectural plans provide quality level of design character above the walls, which is part of the justification. Also, there are no large blank walls without architectural features or varied form and roof lines, and the architectural style achieves elegance in design without being overstated or cumbersome, thus meeting the intent of the ordinance. Based on the overall design of the buildings, the proposed alternative building elevations exceed the design objectives as described in the City's General Plan per the requirements of Section 11-5-5(B)(6)(b)(iv) and Planning Staff supports the request for alternative compliance.

Northwest	North	Northeast
(Across South Hawes Road)		
RS-7-PAD	RS-6-PAD	RS-6-PAD
Single Residences	Single Residences	Single Residences
West	Subject Property	East
(Across South Hawes Road)		
RS-7-PAD	OC and RM-2	RS-6-PAD
Single Residences	Vacant	Single Residences

#### Surrounding Zoning Designations and Existing Use Activity:

Southwest	South	Southeast
(Across South Hawes Road)	RM-2, (Across East Desert	(Across East Desert Lane)
RS-7-PAD	Lane) AG	RS-6-PAD
Single Residences	Place of Worship and	Single Residence
	City of Mesa Park	

#### Compatibility with Surrounding Land Uses:

Parcels to the west, across South Hawes Road, north, east and across East Desert Lane to the south are existing single residences zoned either RS-7-PAD or RS-6-PAD. Immediately to the south of the subject site's South Hawes Road frontage is an existing place of worship zoned RM-2. Overall, the requested rezoning and site plan for multiple residence development is compatible with existing development in the surrounding area.

#### **Neighborhood Participation Plan and Public Comments:**

The applicant completed a Citizen Participation Process, which included mailing letters to property owners within 1,000 feet of the site as well as HOAs within ½ mile, and registered neighborhood within one mile of the site. A virtual meeting was held on May 3, 2022. A summary of the neighborhood meeting is included in the Citizen Participation Report. During the meeting, general concerns were raised about safety for children at a nearby bus stop on Deseret Lane and traffic concerns on Deseret Lane. In response, the applicant indicated they would reach-out to the school district to see it is possible to shift the location of the bus pick-up and drop-off point so it is not so near the development's entrance on Desert Lane. Also, the City of Mesa Transportation Department reviewed the proposed development and did not indicate any concerns with the additional traffic this project would generate in the area. As of the writing of this report, staff has not received any comments from surrounding property owners. Staff will provide the Board with any new information during the scheduled Study Session on March 8th.

<u>School Impact Analysis</u>: The Gilbert Public School District reviewed the request for its potential impact on the district and indicated that the existing schools in the area have capacity to serve the anticipated students.

Proposed Development (58 units)	Name of School	Annual Estimated Demand	Adequate Capacity to Serve
Boulder Creek	Elementary	4-9	Yes
Desert Ridge	Middle School	5-7	Yes
Desert Ridge	High School	4-6	Yes

Table 2: School Impact Analysis

#### Staff Recommendation:

Based on the application received and the preceding analysis staff finds that the subject rezone and request for Site Plan Review approval is consistent with the Mesa 2040 General Plan, the purpose for a Planned Area Development overlay outlined in Section 11-22-1 of the MZO, and the review criteria for Site Plan Review outlined in Section 11-69-5 of the MZO. Therefore, Staff recommends approval with the following conditions:

- 1. Compliance with the final site plan, landscape plan, elevations, and construction documents submitted.
- 2. Compliance with site planning and design standards in Section 11-5-5(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, except as modified in a-e below:
  - a. Rear garage elevations, where the wall forms part of the adjacent unit's rear yard enclosure, may have up to 100% stucco.
  - b. Front elevations of Plans 5-5 and 7-7 may have up to 24% brick veneer as a secondary material.
  - c. Side elevations: Plan 1-1 may have up to 15% brick veneer as a secondary material, Plan 5-5 may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material, and Plan 6-6 may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material.
  - d. Leasing office: the right side elevation may have up to 20% brick veneer as a secondary material and the rear elevation may have up to 13% brick veneer as a secondary material.
  - e. Rear elevations: all plans may have up to 100% stucco.
- 3. Prior to issuance of any building permit, the applicant must record a lot combination with Maricopa County to accommodate the proposed development.
- 4. Dedicate the right-of-way and easements required under the Mesa City Code at the time of application for a building permit, at the time of recordation of the subdivision plat, or at the time of the City's request for dedication whichever comes first.
- 5. Compliance with all requirements of Chapter 19 of the Zoning Ordinance including:
  - a. Owner must execute the City's standard Avigation Easement and Release for Mesa Gateway Airport prior to or concurrently with the recordation of a final subdivision map or the issuance of a building permit, whichever occurs first.
  - b. Due to the proximity to Mesa Gateway Airport, any proposed permanent or temporary structure, as required by the FAA, is subject to an FAA filing for review in conformance with CFR Title 14 Part 77 (Form 7460) to determine any effect to navigable airspace and air navigation facilities. A completed form with a response by the FAA must accompany any building permit application for structure(s) on the property.
  - c. Prior to the issuance of any building permit, provide documentation by a registered professional engineer or registered professional architect demonstrating compliance with the noise level reductions required in Section 11-19-5 of the Mesa Zoning Ordinance.
  - d. Provide written notice to future property owners that the project is within four miles of the Mesa Gateway Airport.
  - e. All final subdivision plats or minor land divisions must include a disclosure in accordance with Section 11-19-5(C) of the Zoning Ordinance which must state in part: "This property, due to its proximity to Mesa Gateway Airport, will

experience aircraft overflights, which are expected to generate noise levels that may be of concern to some individuals."

- f. Sales and leasing offices shall provide notice in accordance with Section 11-19-5(C)(2) of the Zoning Ordinance to all prospective buyers and lessees which must state in part: "This property, due to its proximity to Mesa Gateway Airport, will experience aircraft overflights, which are expected to generate noise levels that may be of concern to some individuals."
- 6. Compliance with all City development codes and regulations, except the modifications to the development standards as approved with this PAD and shown in the following table:

#### Table 1: Development Standards

Development Standard	
	Approved
Minimum Yards –	Approved
MZO Section 11-5-5(A):	
- Interior Side and Rear: 3 or more	
units on lot	
- South property line	Two Story = 19-feet, 8-inches
- South property line	1 wo Story - 19-reet, 8-menes
Yards, Setbacks Adjacent to Single	
Resident Districts – MZO Section 11-5-	
5(A)(1):	
- East Property Line	Single Story = 20-feet
Required Landscape Yards MZO	
Section 11-33-3(B)(1)	
<ul> <li>Non-single Residence uses adjacent</li> </ul>	
to Single Residence	
-North property line	7-feet (along the access drive and
	amenity area only)
	_
- East property line	20-feet
Required Landscape Yards MZO	
Section 11-33-3(B)(2)	
- Non-single Residence uses adjacent	
to Non-single Residence	
- West property line	7-feet
Minimum Separation Between	
Buildings on the Same Lot	
- MZO Section 11-5-5(A)	
- One-story building	2-feet, 4-inches feet (one story)

- Two-story building	10-feet, 4-inches feet (two story)
Minimum Separation Between Buildings on Same Lot and Detached Covered Parking Canopies – MZO Section 11-5-5(A):	10 feet
Additional Standards for Private Open <u>Space – MZO Section 11-5-</u> 5(A)(3)e)(i)(1):	Private open space located at the ground level shall have no dimension less than 8-feet
Additional Standards for Private Open <u>Space – MZO Section 11-5-5(A)(3)e)(ii):</u> - Private open space shall be at least 50% covered	2-Bedroom = 46-square feet (for Building 2-Unit 2 only)
<u>Maximum Building Projection into</u> <u>Setbacks</u> – <i>MZO Section 11-5-5(A)(2)(c)</i>	4-feet (for Building 1-Unit 1 and Building 2-Unit 2 only)
Minimum Sidewalk Width – MZO Section 11-30-8(D)	4-feet
<u>Foundation Base Width</u> – <i>MZO Section 11-33-5</i> - Exterior walls with a public entrance	10-feet

## <u>Exhibits:</u>

- Exhibit 1 Staff Report
- Exhibit 2 Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 3 Application Information
  - 3.1 Project Narrative
  - 3.2 Site Plan
  - 3.3 Landscape Plan
  - 3.4 Elevations
  - 3.5 Floor Plans
  - 3.6 Grading and Drainage Report
  - 3.7 Citizen Participation Plan
- Exhibit 4 Citizen Participation Report