Supplemental Staff Report
(to be read with the original Staff report)

Agent: Self
Applicant: Land Development 8 LLC (Joshua Skarsgard)
Request: Zone Map Amendment (zone change)
Legal Description: Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision
Location: On Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE)
Size: Approximately 0.85 acre
Existing Zoning: MX-T
Proposed Zoning: MX-L

Summary of Analysis
The request is for a zone change for an approximately 0.85 acre site on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE, was deferred for 60 days at the June 13, 2019 hearing.

A former bank building exists on the subject site. The applicant wants to develop the site with a drive-thru use, which is not allowed in the MX-T zone. The subject site was zoned MX-T upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) and is in an Area of Change.

The applicant has not adequately justified the zone map amendment pursuant to the IDO zone change criteria in 6-7-(f)(3). The responses to Criteria A, C, D, G and H are insufficient. The burden is on the applicant to provide a sound justification that meets all the criteria.

The affected neighborhood organizations, the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4, District 7, and District 8 Coalitions, and property owners with 100 feet of the subject site were notified as required. The Loma del Rey NA sent a letter of support for a restaurant. A homeowner expressed concern about the range of uses allowed in MX-L.
Staff recommends denial.

Staff Recommendation

Staff Planner
Catalina Lehner, AICP-Senior Planner
I. OVERVIEW

Deferrals

This request was deferred for 60 days at the June 13, 2019 Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) hearing. The applicant’s requested a deferral in order to have more time to strengthen the zone change justification letter. Staff had provided two guidance memos dated May 13, 2019 and May 24, 2019 (see attachments in original Staff report).

Request

The request is for a zone map amendment (zone change) for an approximately 0.85-acre site located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE). A vacant building, which was a small bank, exists on the subject site. The subject site is zoned MX-T, which it received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) as a conversion from the former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office.

The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru restaurant. Though a restaurant could develop by obtaining a conditional use (no zone change needed), the applicant specifically wants the drive-through facility use, which is first allowed in MX-L.

Drive-through facilities are not allowed in the MX-T zone, but are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. If the requested zone change is approved, the applicant would still need to get a conditional use approval from the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE) to allow the drive-through facility.

For EPC Role, Context, History, Transportation System, Comprehensive Plan Corridor Designation, Transit, and Public Facilities/ Community Services:

» Please refer to p. 3-5 of the original Staff report (see attachment).

II. ANALYSIS of APPLICABLE ORDINANCES, PLANS, AND POLICIES

For analysis of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO), including Definitions, Zoning, Comparison of the MX-T and MX-L zones, and Use-Specific Standards:

» Please refer to p. 5-6 of the Original Staff Report (see attachment).

Albuquerque / Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan

The subject site is located in an area that the 2017 Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan has designated an Area of Change. The Goals and policies listed below are cited by the applicant in the zone change justification letter dated July 11, 2019 (see attachment). Staff does not provide analysis or additional citations other than what the applicant provided because, pursuant to the IDO Subsection 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification for the request, based on substantial evidence.

Chapter 4: Community Identity
Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design
Chapter 5: Land Use
Policy 5.2.1-Mix of Land Uses
Sub-Policy 5.2.1(h)- Infill Development/complementary uses
Goal 5.3-Efficient Development Patterns
Policy 5.3.1- Infill Development
Policy 5.3.7- Locally Unwanted Land Uses (LULUs)
Policy 5.6.2- Areas of Change and Action b

Chapter 6- Transportation
Policy 6.1.3 –Auto Demand

Economic Development
Goal 8.1-Placemaking

Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) 6-7(F)(3)-Review and Decision Criteria for Zone Map Amendments

Requirements
The review and decision criteria outline policies and requirements for deciding zone change applications. The applicant must provide sound justification for the proposed change and demonstrate that several tests have been met. The burden is on the applicant to show why a change should be made pursuant to Subsection 6-4(F)(2).

The applicant must demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because of one of three findings: 1) there was an error when the existing zone district was applied to the property; or 2) there has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site; or 3) a different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the Comprehensive Plan.

Justification & Analysis
The subject site is currently zoned MX-T (Mixed-Use Transition Zone). The proposed zoning is MX-L (Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone). The reason for the request is to allow a drive-through on the subject site. A drive-through or drive-up facility is a conditional, accessory use in the MX-L zone. A conditional use would be required in addition to the zone change.

The applicant’s letter, analyzed here, was received on July 15, 2019. Staff had provided two memos, dated May 13 and May 24, 2019, to the applicant to provide guidance for strengthening the zone change justification (see attachments to the original Staff report).

Section III of the revised justification letter contains the applicant’s responses to the IDO criteria 6-7(F)(3). Section I of the letter contains history information, which was mostly provided in the June 13, 2019 original Staff report.

The applicant believes that the proposed zone map amendment (zone change) meets the zone change decision criteria [14-16-6-7(F)(3)] as elaborated in the justification letter. The applicant’s primary argument is that the former use on the subject site, a bank with a drive-through, existed
for over 40 years. Staff points out that the zone change criteria do not include historical arguments; they focus on the current request.

The first citation is from the IDO. The applicant’s arguments are in *italics*. Staff analysis follows with the heading “Staff”.

A. A proposed zone change must be found to be consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and other applicable plans adopted by the City.

*Applicant:* The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comprehensive Plan as shown below. As demonstrated in our policy analysis below, the proposed zone change to MX-L would clearly facilitate the desired “Goals and Policies” of the Comp Plan which provides a framework to guide private development land use decisions, and decision-makers as they contemplate new plans affecting the whole community. Also, the IDO design requirements will help ensure that this rehabilitated bank site will be consistent with the health and welfare of the Abq residents.

Specifically, our Application shows that the following Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan demonstrate that the proposed zone map amendment to MX-L is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City:

*Staff:* Criterion A is an important component of a zone change justification, though all criteria are required to be fulfilled adequately. Consistency with the City’s health, safety, morals, and general welfare is shown by demonstrating that a request furthers applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies (and other plans if applicable) and does not conflict with them.

The applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request would be consistent with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare by not fully analyzing and showing conformance with applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies (see Section C, below), and by relying on primary arguments that are not included in the zone change criteria.

*Applicable citations:* Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design; Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses and Sub-Policy h; Goal 5.3-Efficient Development Patterns; Policy 5.3.1- Infill Development; Policy 5.6.2- Areas of Change.

*Non-applicable citations:* Policy 5.3.7- Locally Unwanted Land Uses; Policy 6.1.3-Auto Demand; Goal 8.1-Placemaking.

The applicant does not adequately demonstrate that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies. Additional Goals and policies could be included. Regarding the Goals and policies cited, the applicant fails to develop sufficient connections between them and the request to demonstrate that the Goals and policies are furthered.
Instead, the applicant focuses on the subject site’s context and history, rather than on developing linkages between the cited Goals and policies and the request. Neither context nor history is included in the IDO’s zone change criteria in 6-7(F)(3). Overall, the applicant has not shown that the request would further applicable Goals and policies because an adequate connection between the request and applicable Goals and policies has not been demonstrated.

For instance, in the response to Policy 5.2.1 regarding creating healthy, sustainable, distinct communities with a mix of uses, the applicant states that the request would help provide a mix of uses, but then lists a variety of chain restaurants and businesses with drive-thru windows. The applicant’s justification does not further the intent of Policy 5.2.1 because it would not promote a mix of uses. Furthermore, introducing another auto-oriented use along a designated Multi-Modal Corridor intended to promote multiple modes of transportation would not contribute to a mix of travel modes that help community health and sustainability.

The applicant relies on history and contextual arguments that are not included in the zone change criteria of 6-7(F)(3), and weaves them through the zone change justification in various places. For example, in the discussion of Policy 4.1.2, the applicant states that the subject property was a bank with a drive-through use for 44 years, but does not explain what this has to do with the policy and therefore fails to create a connection between the two. In the discussion of Policy 5.6.2, the applicant states that the subject site is surrounded on all sites by commercial uses. Not only is this inaccurate (there are office and residential uses in the area), there is no demonstrated connection between this idea and the policy cited. The response to Criterion A is insufficient.

B. If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Consistency (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the new zone would clearly reinforce or strengthen the established character of the surrounding Area of Consistency and would not permit development that is significantly different from that character. The applicant must also demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets any of the following criteria:

- There was typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
- There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site.
- A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Com Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

**Applicant: The subject site is not located in an Area of Consistency.**

**Staff:** The subject site is located wholly in an Area of Change, so this criterion does not apply. The response to Criterion B is sufficient.
C. If the proposed amendment is located wholly in an Area of Change (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended) and the applicant has demonstrated that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. There was typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site that justifies this request.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

Applicant: A different zone district is more advantageous to the community based on the goals and policies of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan. The request would be more advantageous to the community because it would direct re-development in this “Area of Change” where the property has experienced retail banking with a drive thru service window for over 40 years. The development density requested (MX-L) would be consistent with what the community has experienced on this site for decades (retail with drive thru window services).

The request (zone change to MX-L) would facilitate “regional growth” and the creation of jobs. Both the market forces and the surrounding neighbors are in agreement. The analysis of the Policies and Goals below are further contained in Section A (above).

Staff: The subject site is located in an Area of Change. The applicant chooses #3, that a different zone district is more advantageous to the community, as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan, than the current zoning. However, the applicant has not adequately demonstrated, through the required policy analysis in the response to Criterion A, that the request would be more advantageous to the community as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan.

The burden is on the applicant to identify applicable Goals and policies, provide a pertinent analysis of how the request furthers each cited Goal and policy while addressing any conflicts, and creating meaningful connections between the citations and the request rather than relying on arguments that are outside the scope of the criteria in 6-7(F)(3). Neither the historic argument nor the contextual argument responds to the IDO’s zone change criteria.

The applicant does not explain how the 0.85 acre subject site would facilitate regional growth; the scale and scope of uses in the MX-L zone are too small, especially given the fact that the applicant has stated that the subject site is planned for re-development as a drive-through restaurant. The response to criterion C is insufficient.

D. The zone change does not include permissive uses that would be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, unless the Use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3
associated with that use will adequately mitigate those harmful impacts.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (d) because the subject site is currently zoned MX-T [IDO 14-16-2- 4], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are described in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130*.

The request proposes to change the subject site’s zoning to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone District, IDO 14-16-2- 4(B)], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO*.

Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130. Having said that, the Primary land uses are non-destination retail and commercial uses, townhouses, low-density multi-family residential dwellings, and civic and institutional uses to serve the surrounding area*.

A couple of key differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones are contained in the following list:

1. General retail and drive thru windows are “conditional uses” in the MX-L zone.
2. In the MX-L zone, only General Retail, Small is allowed.
3. In the MX-T zone, General Retail, Small and General Retail, Medium are allowed permissively.
4. A bar, light vehicle fueling station, and light vehicle sales and rental, mortuary, pawn shop, and transit facility are conditional uses in the MX-L zone (and require a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE)).
5. Hospital, catering service, and nightclub are not allowed in MX-L.
6. The following are uses that are permissive in the MX-L zone are not permissive uses in the MX-T Zone: Restaurant, tap room, other indoor entertainment, club or event facility, artisan manufacturing, car wash, light vehicle fueling and repair.
7. The following are uses that are conditional uses in the MX-L zone but are not conditional uses in the MX-T Zone: Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, and kennel.
8. The following are uses that are “accessory use” in the MX-L zone but are not “accessory use” in the MX-T Zone: Liquor retail.
9. The following are uses that “conditional accessory” in the MX-L zone but are not “conditional accessory” in the MX-T Zone: Outdoor storage.
10. The requested MX-L zone does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.

APPLICANT RESPONSE: The Applicant believes that the request does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, because any added uses from the change from MX-T to MX-L can be mitigated by the use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3 associated with that use.
Specifically, the Applicant believes that the new uses available to the site: taproom, club, and liquor retail (as an accessory use) could be harmful to the neighbors but their impact would be buffered by the fact that they had to comply with the use specific standards in Section 16-16-4-3 and that specific use would be buffered from the residential neighbors by the small offices to the west of the site, and the Sylvan Learning Center (commercial building) to the south. Additionally the alcohol related uses are regulated and must comply with all state laws.

The zone change would be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the north of the Subject Site (Bank of America), and allow a slightly broader variety of community services to be developed than the existing zoning allows, adding to the healthy mix of uses already present.

It is important to remember that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property.

Future development on the subject site under the MX-L zone (if approved by the EPC) would be subject to IDO requirements including Neighborhood Edges (14-16-S-9) buffer landscaping (14-16-5-6(E)), and building design standards (14-16-4-11) to help buffer any damage to local residents (if any). City ordinances (Noise Ordinance, etc.) would also apply to future uses and serve to mitigate the potentially harmful impacts.

It is very important to note that there are no residentially zoned properties adjacent to this Subject Property (see below). The permissive uses between the MX-L zoning designation and the MX-T zoning designation are very similar.

The Change in Permissive Uses Will Not be Harmful: Based on the above analysis, diagrams and zoning map attached above, the Applicant believes that the change in permissive uses (coupled with the Use Standards in the IDO) along with State, County and City ordinances.... will give confidence to the neighbors and the EPC that the expanded permissive uses will not be harmful to the neighborhood.

Staff: Overall, the applicant’s justification does not provide a focused and convincing discussion that the proposed zone change would not be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, and did not sufficiently discuss the differences between the existing MX-T zoning and the proposed MX-L zoning. A zone change includes all of the uses in the requested zone, and not just the use envisioned at the moment. The list of differences between the MX-L and MX-T zones contains some factual inaccuracies, for example: the uses listed in #6 are conditional in MX-T and car wash and light vehicle fueling and repair are not allowed.

Car wash, light vehicle repair, commercial services, and grocery store would become permissive uses. Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, and pawn shop would become conditional uses in the MX-L zone. Restaurant, other indoor entertainment, and artisan manufacturing would go from conditional to permissive uses. Tap room and bar would remain conditional uses (see Table 4-2-1, p. 131 of the IDO). A drive through facility is not allowed in MX-T, but would become a conditional accessory use in MX-L.
The applicant did not adequately address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. In the second part of the response, the applicant focuses on land uses to the north and states that the proposed zone change would be consistent with the existing shopping center, which is across the street (La Mirada Place) from the subject site. However, there are other uses in the area such as small-scale office uses to the south and west, an R-1C subdivision to the south, and a church/school to the east.

The subject site is not a part of the La Mirada shopping center, which was formerly zoned C-2 (SC) and fronts Montgomery Blvd. That area was purposefully zoned as a large-scale shopping center where commercial uses are intended to concentrate. The block south of La Mirada Place was zoned O-1; the O-1 zone was commonly used as a transition between R-1 (the subdivision to the south) and C-2 uses. The proposed zone change would claim part of that buffer and reduce its size.

Though the subject site was formerly zoned SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office, it was clearly part of a block of office uses and functioned as an office. Therefore, the IDO conversion was to the MX-T zone along with the rest of the block. (Note that the drive-thru use ceased operation in approximately 2011 and did not exist at the time of IDO adoption, so non-conformance is not an issue). The MX-T zoned area, originally created as a block of O-1 zoning to buffer the neighborhood from the shopping center’s more intense commercial uses, could begin to erode if the request is approved. The response to Criterion D is insufficient.

E. The City's existing infrastructure and public improvements, including but not limited to its street, trail, and sidewalk systems meet 1 of the following requirements:

1. Have adequate capacity to serve the development made possible by the change of zone.
2. Will have adequate capacity based on improvements for which the City has already approved and budgeted capital funds during the next calendar year.
3. Will have adequate capacity when the applicant fulfills its obligations under the IDO, the DPM, and/or an Infrastructure Improvements Agreement.
4. Will have adequate capacity when the City and the applicant have fulfilled their respective obligations under a City-approved Development Agreement between the City and the applicant.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e) because the existing infrastructure and public improvements currently have adequate capacity to serve the proposed development. The Subject Site includes an existing building that was formerly a Bank of Albuquerque branch. The proposed development will not create the need for any additional infrastructure or public improvements.

Staff: Requirement 1 applies. The applicant states that existing infrastructure and public improvements would have adequate capacity to serve development made possible by the proposed zone change. This is likely since the subject site has already been developed. However, if the use change would cause the need for infrastructure improvements, the applicant would be responsible for providing them. The response to Criterion E is sufficient.
F. The applicant's justification for the requested zone change is not completely based on the property's location on a major street.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (f) because the rationale and justification for the zone change is not based on the property's location on Wyoming Blvd. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the analysis of the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan.

The IDO policies and goals strongly encourage infill development in locations (similar to the Subject Property) and the Applicant believes that this zone map amendment will create jobs and needed services to this community (which is currently vacant).

Staff: The subject site is located on Wyoming Blvd. NE, a Principal Arterial and multi-modal corridor. The applicant’s response to Criterion F is sufficient because the applicant believes that the request is justified pursuant to the Goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. However, Staff points out that the applicant’s responses to Criteria A, C, and D (which are about Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies) do not demonstrate that a preponderance of applicable Goals and policies are furthered.

G. The applicant's justification is not based completely or predominantly on the cost of land or economic considerations.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (g) because the cost of the land or economic considerations is not the basis for the Applicant’s justification. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the analysis of the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan contained in this Justification Letter (above) and through a careful examination of the requires of 14-16-6-7 (F) and is not a result of economic considerations as the predominant reason for the application.

Staff: Economic considerations are a factor. Since the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan policies (Criteria A, C, and D), it has not been shown that the justification is not completely or predominantly based on the cost of land or economic considerations.

The applicant is the property owner and could pursue a conditional use for a restaurant if desired, with no zone change needed. However, the applicant wants to add the drive-through use, which is a predominantly economic consideration. The response to Criterion G is insufficient.

H. The zone change does not apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area or one premises (i.e. create a "spot zone") or to a strip of land along a street (i.e. create a "strip zone") unless the change will clearly facilitate implementation of the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and at least one of the following applies:

1. The area of the zone change is different from surrounding land because it can function as a transition between adjacent zone districts.
2. The site is not suitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district due to topography, traffic, or special adverse land uses nearby.

3. The nature of structures already on the premises makes it unsuitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria because the properties just north of the Subject Site are zoned MX-L, the proposed zone change to MX-L will be congruent to existing zoning in the direct vicinity to the north. The proposed development will also be complementary with the surrounding uses because the “small offices” to the west of the Subject Property buffer it from the houses to the west.

During the IDO conversion the Applicant believes that a Drive Thru Bank (or Savings and Loan) is much more applicable to a C-1 zone, then an O-1 Zone and should have received the MX-L zoning identical to its neighboring bank (Bank of America).

The MX-T zoning is aimed largely after the O-1 zoning and is attempting to provide a buffer to the residents west of the small offices. It is important to note that there is no need to buffer the MX-L uses from the nearby small offices to the west. The buffering is supposed to take place between commercial and residential properties. That is a huge factor in analyzing this request and helps justify why MX-L is the more appropriate land use than MX-T (and the zone change is also supported by over 10 Comp Plan Goals and Policies – see Section C above).

Staff: It appears that the applicant believes that the request would not result in a spot zone. This should be expressly stated and all zoning around the subject site should be taken into consideration, but the arguments are only partially developed. The applicant does not adequately explain how the area of the zone change is different from surrounding land, and how it can function as a transition, presuming that reason 1 is chosen.

The IDO conversion of the subject site was to the MX-T zone, based on the subject site’s former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office, and potentially because the subject site is a part of a block of O-1 (now MX-T) zoning that buffered the single-family homes directly to the south. Therefore, the response to Criterion H is insufficient.

III. AGENCY & NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

For comments from Reviewing Agencies, please refer to p. 15 of the original Staff report (see attachment).

Neighborhood/Public

» Please refer to p. 15 of the Original Staff Report (see attachment).

Updated Neighborhood Information

Staff received a letter of concern from a homeowner in the Loma del Rey neighborhood dated June 13, 2019 (see attachment). She expressed concern that the yellow sign was not posted for the time required, and noted that she saw it on June 10, 2019 and it was supposed to have been posted
IV. CONCLUSION

The request is for a zone change for an approximately 0.85 acre site located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE) (the “subject site”). A building, a former bank, exists on the subject site.

The subject site is zoned MX-T, received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO), and is part of a buffer of MX-T zoned properties that separate the shopping center to the north from the established neighborhood to the south. The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru use, most likely a restaurant as stated in the applicant’s letter. Drive-throughs are an accessory use not allowed in the MX-T zone, but are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. A conditional use would still be needed if the zone change request is approved.

However, the zone map amendment has not been adequately justified pursuant to the IDO Review and Decision criteria for zone changes 6-7(F)(3). The responses to Sections A, C, D, G and H are insufficient. Pursuant to IDO Section 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification.

The affected neighborhood organizations are the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4 Coalition of NAs, the District 6 Coalition of NAs, and the District 8 Coalition of NAs, which was notified as required. Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified as required. The Loma del Rey NA submitted a letter stating that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant. A neighbor submitted a letter of concern, stating that she’s concerned about the additional uses that the proposed zone change would allow.

Staff recommends denial of the zone change request.
FINDINGS - RZ-2019-00021, August 08, 2019 - Zone Map Amendment (Zone Change)

1. The request is for a zone map amendment (zone change) for an approximately 0.85 acre site known as Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision (the “subject site”). The subject site is located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE). A building, which was a bank, exists on the subject site.

2. The subject site is zoned MX-T, which it received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) as a conversion from the former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office. The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru use, most likely a restaurant as indicated in the applicant’s letter.

3. A restaurant use could develop on the subject site without a zone change. However, the MX-T zone does not allow drive-throughs, which are an accessory use. Drive-throughs are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. Even if this zone change were approved, the applicant would still need to obtain a conditional use for the drive-through.

4. The subject site is in an area that the Comprehensive Plan has designated an Area of Change. Wyoming Blvd. NE is designated as a Multi-Modal Corridor.

5. The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan and the City of Albuquerque Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) are incorporated herein by reference and made part of the record for all purposes.

6. The following are notable differences between the MX-T and the MX-L zones. Most are in the Motor Vehicle Related and the Food, Beverage, and other Indoor Entertainment categories.
   - Restaurant, tap room, other indoor entertainment, club or event facility, artesian manufacturing, car wash, light vehicle fueling and repair become permissive uses in MX-L.
   - Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, pawn shop, and kennel become conditional uses in MX-L.
   - Liquor retail becomes an accessory use in MX-L.
   - Outdoor storage becomes a conditional accessory use in MX-L.

7. The applicant has not adequately justified the request pursuant to the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) Section 6-7(F)(3)-Review and Decision Criteria for Zone Map Amendments, as follows:
   A. **Criterion A:** Consistency with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare is shown by demonstrating that a request furthers a preponderance of applicable
Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies and does not conflict with them. The applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request would be consistent with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare by not fully analyzing and showing conformance with applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies.

The applicant fails to develop sufficient connections between cited Goals and policies and the request to demonstrate that they are furthered. Instead, the applicant focuses on the subject site’s context and history, rather than on developing linkages between the cited Goals and policies and the request. Neither context nor history is included in the IDO’s zone change criteria in 6-7(F)(3). Overall, the applicant has not shown that the request would further applicable Goals and policies because an adequate connection between the request and applicable Goals and policies has not been demonstrated. The response to Criterion A is insufficient.

B. Criterion B: This criterion does not apply because the subject site is not located in an Area of Consistency, either wholly or in part.

C. Criterion C: The applicant believes that a different zone district is more advantageous to the community, as articulated by the Comprehensive Plan, than the current zoning. However, the applicant has not adequately demonstrated, through the required policy analysis in the response to Criterion A, that the request would be more advantageous to the community as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan. The burden is on the applicant to identify applicable Goals and policies, provide a pertinent analysis of how the request furthers each cited Goal and policy while addressing any conflicts, and create meaningful connections between the citations and the request to show that the Goals and policies are furthered.

D. Criterion D: The applicant did not sufficiently address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community because a focused and accurate discussion of the differences between the existing MX-T zoning and the proposed MX-L zoning was not provided.

Car wash, light vehicle repair, commercial services, and grocery store would become permissive uses in the MX-L zone. Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, and pawn shop would become conditional uses. Restaurant, other indoor entertainment, and artisan manufacturing would go from conditional to permissive uses. Tap room and bar would remain conditional uses (see Table 4-2-1, p. 131 of the IDO). A drive through facility is not allowed in MX-T, but would become a conditional accessory use in MX-L.

The MX-T zoned block on the southern side of La Mirada Drive was originally zoned O-1 and was created to buffer the neighborhood (zoned R-1) from the more intense commercial uses in the shopping center, zoned MX-M (formerly C-2 SC). The proposed zone change would remove a portion of that buffer and therefore would be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.
E. **Criterion E:** Requirement 1 applies. The applicant states that existing infrastructure and public improvements would have adequate capacity to serve development made possible by the proposed zone change.

F. **Criterion F:** The subject site is located on Wyoming Blvd. NE, a Principal Arterial and multi-modal corridor. The applicant’s response to Criterion F is sufficient because the applicant believes that the request is justified pursuant to the Goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. However, Staff points out that the applicant’s responses to Criteria A, C, and D (which are about Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies) do not demonstrate that a preponderance of applicable Goals and policies are furthered.

G. **Criterion G:** Economic considerations are a factor. Since the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan policies (Criteria A, C, and D), it has not been shown that the justification is not completely or predominantly based on the cost of land or economic considerations.

The applicant is the property owner and could pursue a conditional use for a restaurant if desired, with no zone change needed. However, the applicant wants to add the drive-through use, which is a predominant economic consideration.

H. **Criterion H:** Though not expressly stated, it appears that the applicant believes that the request would not result in a spot zone. The applicant does not adequately explain how the area of the zone change is different from surrounding land and how it can function as a transition.

The IDO conversion of the subject site was to the MX-T zone, based on the subject site’s former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office, and potentially because the subject site is a part of a block of O-1 (now MX-T) zoning that buffered the single-family homes directly to the south.

8. The zone map amendment is not adequately justified pursuant to the IDO Review and Decision criteria for zone changes 6-7(F)(3). The responses to Sections A, C, D, F, G and H are insufficient. The policy analysis does not sufficiently demonstrate that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Goals and policies and does not conflict with them (Sections A and C). The applicant did not adequately address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community (Section D). The responses to Sections F, G, and H do not demonstrate that the applicant has fulfilled the requirements.

9. Pursuant to IDO Section 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification for the requested decision, based on substantial evidence. The applicant has not done this.

10. The affected neighborhood organizations are the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4 Coalition of NAs, the District 6 Coalition of NAs, and the District 8
Coalition of NAs, which was notified as required. Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified as required.

11. As of this writing, Staff has received a letter of support from the Loma del Rey NA. The letter states that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant on the subject site. A neighbor provided a letter of concern. She is concerned about additional uses that the zone change would allow: car wash, fueling station, car repair, vehicle sales and rental, commercial services, self-storage, pawn shop, outdoor storage, or a drive through.

RECOMMENDATION - RZ-2019-00021, August 08, 2019

DENIAL of Project #: 2019-002353, Case #: 2019-00021, a zone change from MX-T to MX-L, for Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision, an approximately 0.85 acre site located on Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE), based on the preceding Findings.

Catalina Lehner, AICP
Senior Planner

Notice of Decision cc list:

Land Development 8, LLC, Joshua Skarsgard, 8220 San Pedro NE, #500, ABQ, NM 87113
Jessica Armijo, Loma Del Rey NA, 3701 Erbke St., NE, ABQ, NM 87111
Brian Eagan, Loma Del Rey NA, 8416 Hilton Av., NE #48, ABQ, NM 87111
Donald Couchman, Dist. 8 Coalition of NAs, 6441 Concordia Rd NE, ABQ, NM 87111
Mary Kurkjian, Dist. 8 Coalition of NAs, 13709 Canada del Oso Pl., NE, ABQ, NM 87111
Daniel Regan, Dist. 4 Coalition of NAs, 4109 Chama St. NE, ABQ, NM 87109
Michael Pridham, Dist. 4 Coalition of NAs, 6413 Northland Av., NE, ABQ, NM 87109
Lynne Martin, Dist. 7 Coalition of NAs, 1531 Espejo NE, ABQ, NM 87112
David Haughawout, Dist. 7 Coalition of NAs, 2824 Chama St. NE, ABQ, NM 87110
Carolyn Baker-Nair, cnair@gmx.com
Alan Varela, avarela@cabq.gov
HISTORY
OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

June 13, 2019

Land Development 8, LLC
Josh Skarsgard
8220 San Pedro NE #500
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Project #2019-002353
RZ-2019-00021 – Zone Map Amendment
(Zone Change)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
The above action for Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision, zoned MX-T, to MX-L, located at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE, containing approximately 0.85 acre.
(G-19)
Staff Planner: Catalina Lehner

PO Box 1293
Albuquerque
NM 87103

www.cabq.gov

Sincerely,

David S. Campbell
Planning Director

cc: Land Development 8, LLC, Joshua Skarsgard, 8220 San Pedro NE, #500, ABQ, NM 87113
   Jesica Armijo, Loma Del Rey NA, 3701 Erbbe St., NE, ABQ, NM 87111
   Brian Eagan, Loma Del Rey NA, 8416 Hilton Av., NE #48, ABQ, NM 87111
   Donald Couchman, Dist. 8 Coalition of NAs, 6441 Concorcia Rd NE, ABQ, NM 87111
   Mary Kurkjian, Dist. 8 Coalition of NAs, 13709 Canada del Oso Pl., NE, ABQ, NM 87111
   Daniel Regan, Dist. 4 Coalition of NAs, 4109 Chama St. NE, ABQ, NM 87109
   Michael Pridham, Dist. 4 Coalition of NAs, 6413 Northland Av., NE, ABQ, NM 87109
   Lynne Martin, Dist. 7 Coalition of NAs, 1531 Espejo NE, ABQ, NM 87112
   David Haughawout, Dist. 7 Coalition of NAs, 2824 Chama St. NE, ABQ, NM 87110
   Alan Varela, avarela@cabq.gov
APPLICANT INFORMATION
July 29, 2019

Environmental Planning Commission
City of Albuquerque
600 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque NM, 87102

Re: Agency Authorization for ANGELA WILLIAMSON to act as agent on behalf of Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC – Zone Map Amendment - EPC

Dear Environmental Planning Commission:

Please be advised that Ms. Angela Willimason ("Agent") has been granted the express authority to represent Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC (jointly "Applicant") in regards to a Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L ("Application") upon the real property located at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111 ("Subject Property"). All questions and communication should be directed to the following:

ANGELA M. WILLIAMSON
100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 305
Albuquerque, NM 87109
Mobile + Text 505.999.8016

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Land Development 8, LLC
a New Mexico limited liability company

By: Joshua Skåsgard, Managing Member

Red Shamrock 2, LLC
a New Mexico limited liability company

By: Joshua Skåsgard, Managing Member
July 11, 2019

City of Albuquerque  
Care of: Chairman of the EPC  
Environmental Planning Commission  
600 2nd Street, NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: EPC submittal for Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L – 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Dear Environmental Planning Commission:

Please be advised that Josh Skarsgard, as Agent, represents the landowner, Land Development  
8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC (jointly “Applicant”) regarding this application for a Zone Map  
Amendment from MX-T to MX-L (“Application”) on the real property located at 4201 Wyoming  
Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87111, further described as:

Lot numbered Three (3) of La Mirada Subdivision, as the same is shown and designated  
the plat entitled “Amended Summary Plat: Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14 and a Part of Lot  
7, La Mirada Subdivision, Albuquerque, New Mexico,” filed in the office of the County  
Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico, on March 20, 1981, in Plat Book C18, Page 32.  
Said parcel lying situate within Section 6, Township 10 North, Range 4 East of the New  
Mexico Principal Meridian, City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico (“Subject  
Site”).

Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision. (“Legal  
Description”)

I. History of the Subject Site and Location of the Subject Site.

The Subject Site is 0.8070 acres with a +/-2,424 square foot building (formerly a Bank of  
Albuquerque branch with a drive thru teller)

The site was annexed in 1940’s and originally had O-1 office zoning.

In August 1973, the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) heard a request for a zone  
change from O-1 and P to SU-1 for a Savings and Loan (Z-73-127, see attachments). The  
EPC voted to approve the request and the subject site was zoned SU-1 for a Savings and  
Loan Office.

The Subject Property was owned and operated by either “Albuquerque Federal Savings or Loan  
Association” or its successor, “Albuquerque Federal Savings Bank” from 1973 to the  
early 1990’s when the property was sold to Bank of Albuquerque. Bank of Albuquerque was  
acquired as a business by Bank of Oklahoma (BOKF), but the property remained a bank with  
a drive thru teller service.
In sum, the property has been used as a **bank with a drive thru window from 1973 until 2017** when the property was closed by Bank of Albuquerque and sold to the Applicant. The property has been vacant since late 2017.

This building is located a few blocks south of the Montgomery Blvd. and Wyoming Blvd. intersection at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE. Specifically, the following are the uses that surround the Subject Property (see map below).

The subject site is **not** located in a designated Activity Center. Wyoming Blvd is designated as a multi-modal corridor.

**Neighbor to the West:** La Mirada Shopping Center and Offices (MX-T Offices and MX-M Shopping Center)

**Neighbor to the North:** Bank of America (Zoned MX-L)

**Neighbor to the East:** Church and Chiropractor (Zoned R-ML)

**Neighbor to the West:** Offices (Zoned MX-T).

**NOTE:** The Subject Property is **NOT contiguous to any residential zoned properties.**

The future proposed use on the Subject Site is either: (1) retail commercial building; and/or (2) a restaurant with drive thru window.

The current IDO MX-T zoning adopted by the City of Albuquerque does not allow a drive thru
window (even though the vacant bank building on the property contains a drive thru window).

This application for a zone map amendment is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a possible drive-thru restaurant. Though a restaurant could develop by obtaining a conditional use in the current MX-L zoning (no zone change needed). However, drive-thru land uses are currently not allowed in the MX-T zone but are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone (the desired zone change land use designation). If the requested zone change is approved, then the next application necessary would be to apply for a conditional use from the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE), which, if approved would allow a drive thru window for a restaurant on the Subject Property.

In short, the property has been used as a bank with drive thru since 1973 (and closed in 2017). The Applicant desires an opportunity to re-establish drive thru window as a possible land use available in the zoning district.

II. Summary of the Zone Map Amendment Request

Current Zoning: The subject site is currently zoned MX-T. It was previously zoned SU-1 for Savings and Loan prior to the adoption of Albuquerque’s Integrated Development Ordinance (“IDO”).

Proposed Zoning: The application for zone map amendment is from the existing MX-T to MX-L.

III. Compliance with IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3)

IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3) “Review and Decision Criteria” requires that an Applicant of a zone map amendment offer sufficient justification for the Application by providing a detailed response to all of the policies contained within that section. In compliance, Joshua Skarsgard, as Agent on behalf of the Applicant, provides the following responses to IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3):

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(a):
*The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and other applicable plans adopted by the City.*

Applicant Response: The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comprehensive Plan as shown below. As demonstrated in our policy analysis below, the proposed zone change to MX-L would clearly facilitate the desired “Goals and Policies” of the Comp Plan which provides a framework to guide private development land use decisions, and decision-makers as they contemplate new plans affecting the whole community. Also, the IDO design requirements will help ensure that this rehabilitated bank site will be consistent with the health and welfare of the Abq residents.

Specifically, our Application shows that the following Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan demonstrate that the proposed zone map amendment to MX-L is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City:
**Policy 5.2.1** “Create healthy, sustainable, and distinct communities with a mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods.”

The request (if approved) would facilitate redevelopment of the vacant bank branch into a possible mix of uses that would support this as a distinct community for meeting your shopping, retail and dining needs (as the site is sounded by over 30 retail/restaurant businesses). Policy 5.2.1 wants applicants to prove that this zone change would help provide a mix of uses and are conveniently accessible from the surrounding neighborhoods. The existence of many drive thru windows from neighboring restaurant and retail uses proves that this zone map amendment application would be consistent with the existing mix of uses on Wyoming Blvd. and Montgomery Blvd (see the partial list below):

- Taco Cabana (with drive thru window)
- McDonald’s (with drive thru window)
- Wells Fargo (with drive thru window)
- Starbucks (with drive thru window)
- Bank of America (with drive thru window)
- Walgreens (with drive thru Pharmacy window).

Future uses on the Subject Property would generally help contribute to a healthy, sustainable, and distinct community because they would bring additional opportunities for neighbors to have access to services, food and coffee, etc. Additionally, the redevelopment of the Bank would bring needed jobs to the area and help contribute to its distinct character as a shopping destination for nearby residents.

The subject site’s location along a Multi Modal Corridor (Wyoming Blvd) would help transit users reach the Subject Property via bus, car, bicycle or walking.

For the above reason, the request furthers Policy 5.2.1.

**Policy 5.2.1 (h) Encourage infill development that adds complementary uses and is compatible in form and scale to the immediately surrounding development**

The Subject Property is in an “Area of Change” and **Policy 5.2.1** and its Subsection (h) both encourage a “mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods” and “encourage infill development that… is compatible in form and scale to the immediately surrounding environment”.

The Subject Property has been a bank or credit union with a drive thru for over 44 years (before going “dark” in 2017) that is compatible and identical to the neighboring Bank of America drive thru site located immediately north of the Subject Property. These two properties have been compatible in form and scale for over 40 years, and the IDO removed the ability of the landowner to maintain this similar form and scale, when they applied the MX-T zone to the Subject Property, and then applied the MX-L zone to the Bank of America property. It was the City of Albuquerque IDO that adopted zoning regulations to make these two properties incompatible (e.g. a motorist can utilize the drive thru window at Bank of America, but would not be allowed to enjoy a drive thru window upon the Subject Property). This zone change application seeks to implement the compatibility with the property to the north (Bank of America).
This zone change will also “encourage infill development” by allowing the property owner to rehabilitate the existing building as opposed to demolishing the existing building and drive thru window (and drive thru canopy) because the drive thru use was removed by the City of Albuquerque as part of their adoption of the IDO and the current zoning MX-T (which is similar to the O-1 zone in the prior zoning code).

For the above reason, the request furthers Policy 5.2.1 (h)

**Goal 5.3** Promote development patterns that maximize the utility of existing infrastructure and public facilities and the efficient use of land to support the public good.

**Policy 5.3.1** Infill Development: Support additional growth in areas with existing infrastructure and public facilities.

The zone change (if approved by the EPC) would promote development patterns that maximize the existing infrastructure and public facilities by allowing the Applicant to remodel the *existing building* and utilize the *existing drive thru window*, which would be a very efficient use of the land (because it would avoid the demolition of the drive thru window and the drive thru canopy that overhangs the drive thru window).

The Subject Property has utilized the existing infrastructure (e.g. local bus routes for employees traveling to the bank branch for work; and tying into the existing utility infrastructure for sewer, water, etc.) for over 40 years, as well.

The community has grown accustomed to this location (and the neighboring Bank of America) for drive thru services for banking or other commercial retail shopping needs. The current zoning MX-T forbids drive thru window services and would not take advantage of the existing infrastructure (e.g. curb cuts off of Wyoming Blvd. that provides vehicular access and circulation around the Subject Property’s drive thru window, etc.).

The IDO explicitly laid out **Goal 5.3** and **Policy 5.3.1** which provide EPC commissioners with a rationale for supporting zone changes that look to “maximize the utility of existing infrastructure... and efficient use of land” which are both met by allowing this Applicant to simply redevelop the existing building as opposed to demolishing a building that has served this community as a drive thru amenity for over 40 years.

The application furthers Goal 5.3 and Policy 5.3.1.

**Policy 5.3.7** Locally Unwanted Land Uses: Ensure that land uses that are objectionable to immediate neighbors but may be useful to society are located carefully and equitably to ensure that social assets are distributed evenly and social responsibilities are borne fairly across the Albuquerque area.

The zone change application further Policy 5.3.7 because the zone map amendment application is supported by the adjacent Loma Del Rey Neighborhood Association. The neighbors state the following on May 2nd: “This is a letter of support for the proposed application for changing zoning for the land at 4201 Wyoming Boulevard Northeast, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The board of directors for Loma Del Rey neighborhood association voted 7-0 in the favor of the proposal. We wish you success at the environmental Planning Commission.”
We believe that the zone change is located “carefully and equitably” so as to meet the needs and desires of the nearby residents, and therefore furthers Policy 5.3.7

Policy 5.6.2 - Areas of Change: Direct growth and more intense development to Centers, Corridors, industrial and business parks, and Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas where change is encouraged.

b) Encourage development that expands employment opportunities

“The intent is to make Areas of Change the focus of new urban-scale development that benefit job creation and expanded housing options. By focusing growth in Areas of Change, additional residents, services, and jobs can be accommodated in locations ready for new development.” See Page 5-23 of the IDO

The Subject Property (Former Bank of Albuquerque with a drive thru window) is designated as an Area of Change along a Multi Modal Transit Corridor (Wyoming Blvd. in front of the subject site). The Subject Site is surrounded on ALL SIDES by commercial uses.

The zone change will not have negative impacts on surrounding residential areas with respect to noise, stormwater runoff, contaminants, lighting, air quality, or traffic because they are not located near the Subject Site to be impacted by the redevelopment and operation retail space or a restaurant.

Retail and/or restaurant use would be a great addition to the neighborhood and be a nice benefit by rehabilitating an aging building with a fresh, visually appealing look. The Applicant believes that this location for retail/restaurant respects the neighborhood values.

The request would encourage and direct growth to an Area of Change, as desired by the Comprehensive Plan Policy 5.6.2. and this area Montgomery and Wyoming is home to a large array of retail and shopping and dining uses (Target, Walgreens, Bank of America, McDonald’s, etc.)

The application, if approved would provide the Applicant the opportunity to redevelop the bank branch which would further Subsection (b) of Policy 5.6.2 by the encouraging job creation in the following manner:

1. Hiring of general contractor to remodel the Subject Property
2. Hiring of subcontractors for construction needs (drywall, paint, etc.)
3. Hiring of surveyors, engineers, architects, and other support services.
4. Hiring of employees and managers to run the restaurant or retail business on the Subject Property.

Focusing growth (via redevelopment of the closed Bank branch) in this location would also help direct pressure for development away from the surrounding Loma Del Rey neighborhood (Area of Consistency) and into the shopping center area that has historically provided those services to the residents.

The request generally furthers Goal 5.6 and Policy 5.6.2 (including subsection b)
Policy 6.1.3- Auto Demand: Reduce the need for automobile travel by increasing mixed-use development, infill development within Centers...

The request could partially further Policy 6.1.3 by reducing the need for automobile travel by “increasing infill development within Centers”.

The Subject Property is likely to not be redeveloped based upon the land use restrictions of the current zoning MX-T. If the zone map amendment is approved the subject property could be a ripe location for infill development rehabilitation project that would reduce the vehicular travel for nearby residents by providing another retail or dining choice to local residents (and therefore avoiding certain trips in the car to seek out other dining or retail options outside of the Montgomery and Wyoming Blvd. shopping area).

Though the re-development (rehabilitation of the Bank) would not be in a designated Activity Center as intended, the subject site is located along a Multi Modal Transit Corridor (Wyoming Blvd) and could reduce vehicular demands upon the neighbors through an approved zone change application.

The request partially furthers Policy 6.1.3.

Goal 8.1 - Placemaking: Create places where business and talent will stay and thrive.

The request could partially further Goal 8.1 because the application, if approved, would facilitate the re-development and rehabilitation of the vacant bank branch on the Subject Property that could be turned into a business that could attract talent. Why would a zone change help further this goal? Because the MX-L zone allows for a greater variety of business, commercial, and restaurant uses then the MX-T zone which would be attractive to tenants seeking a variety of retail or restaurant needs (including the possibility of a drive thru window – if approved by the ZHE as part of a subsequent conditional use application).

The application for a zone change, if approved, could partially further Goal 8.1 by joining in the re-development taking place behind the subject site with the closed HASTINGS and large boxes that will be rehabilitated. A wider variety of uses (bank, retail, dining with drive thru window, etc.) could develop under the MX-L zone, and therefore could encourage economic development opportunities with a larger variety of permissive uses available in the zoning category.

The request partially furthers Goal 8.1 Placemaking.

Policy 4.1.2 - Identity and Design: Protect the identity and cohesiveness of neighborhoods by ensuring the appropriate scale and location of development, mix of uses, and character of building design.

The zone change request would facilitate re-development of the closed bank under the MX-L zone in an Area of Change and along Wyoming Blvd (which is considered a “multi modal transit center”).

We believe that the City of Albuquerque adopting the IDP and a new zoning designation (MX-T) that does not allow a drive thru window was the act that did not protect the identity and cohesiveness of the Subject Property, because the subject property was a bank with a drive thru use from 1973 until 2017 (44 years). Accordingly, the way for the EPC to
remedy this removal of a land use (drive thru window) from the Subject Property is to approve the zone map amendment to MX-L which provides the Applicant with a chance to apply for a conditional use to the ZHE (and prove that a drive thru window is not injurious to the surrounding community).

Additionally, all future site plans for the Subject Property would be subject to IDO requirements established specifically to protect the identity and cohesiveness of the Wyoming Blvd and Montgomery Blvd. neighborhoods (E.G. Loma Del Rey Neighborhood for residential, and the Montgomery Crossing for commercial / shopping center neighborhoods). Specifically, the design standards located in the IDO will provide assurances that the nearby neighborhood will experience the appropriate scale and building design:

- Buffer landscaping (14-16-5-6-(E)),
- Building design standards (14-16-4-11).

As a result of the analysis provided above, the zone change request furthers Policy 4.1.4-Identity and Design.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(b): If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Consistency (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the new zone would clearly reinforce or strengthen the established character or the surrounding Area of Consistency and would not permit development that is significantly different from that character. The applicant must also demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets any of the following criteria:

1. There was a typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

Applicant Response: The Subject Site is not located in an Area of Consistency.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(c): If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Change (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. There was a typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site that justifies this request.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

Applicant Response: A different zone district is more advantageous to the community based on the goals and policies of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan (see below for the list of policies and goals and their analysis is contained in Section a. above).
The request would be more advantageous to the community (as articulated in the Comp Plan Policies below) because it would direct re-development in this “Area of Change” where the property has experienced retail banking with a drive thru service window for over 40 years.

Specifically, the development density requested in the zone change application (MX-L) would be consistent with what the community has experienced on this site for decades (retail with drive thru window services). The density of the request would NOT exceed the prior land use on the site, and the request received a unanimous approval from the Loma Del Rey Neighborhood Association which tells the Applicant and the EPC commissioners that the development density, and development intensity of the MX-L zone is more advantageous to the community.

The request (zone change to MX-L) would facilitate “regional growth” and the creation of jobs by providing a list of permissive uses that are responsive to the needs of restaurants and retail companies looking to grow into this Wyoming Blvd. corridor. The current zoning of MX-T is similar to the O-1 zoning of the prior Zoning Code and it is not generating any market interest for office uses (or any use that is permissive in the MX-T zone).

Both the market forces, and the surrounding neighbors are in agreement… this Subject Property needs MX-L zoning designation to give it a chance to redevelop and create jobs at a density that the community is used to seeing at the Subject Property.

The analysis of the Policies and Goals below are further contained in Section A. of this Justification Letter (above).

| **Policy 4.1.2 - Identity and Design:** Protect the identity and cohesiveness of neighborhoods by ensuring the appropriate scale and location of development, mix of uses, and character of building design. |
| **Goal 8.1 - Placemaking:** Create places where business and talent will stay and thrive. |
| **Policy 6.1.3 - Auto Demand:** Reduce the need for automobile travel by increasing mixed-use development, infill development within Centers… |
| **Policy 5.6.2 - Areas of Change:** Direct growth and more intense development to Centers, Corridors, industrial and business parks, and Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas where change is encouraged. |
| **b) Encourage development that expands employment opportunities** |
| **Policy 5.3.7 Locally Unwanted Land Uses:** Ensure that land uses that are objectionable to immediate neighbors but may be useful to society are located carefully and equitably to ensure that social assets are distributed evenly and social responsibilities are borne fairly across the Albuquerque area. |
| **Goal 5.3 Promote development patterns that maximize the utility of existing infrastructure and public facilities and the efficient use of land to support the public good.** |
| **Policy 5.3.1 Infill Development:** Support additional growth in areas with existing infrastructure and public facilities. |
**Policy 5.2.1 (h) Encourage infill development that adds complementary uses and is compatible in form and scale to the immediately surrounding development**

**Policy 5.2.1 “Create healthy, sustainable, and distinct communities with a mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods.”**

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(d): The zone change does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, unless the Use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3 associated with that use will adequately mitigate those harmful impacts.

**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (d) because the subject site is currently zoned MX-T [IDO 14-16-2- 4], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are described in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130.

The request proposes to change the subject site’s zoning to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone District, IDO 14-16-2- 4(B)], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO.

Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130. Having said that, the Primary land uses are non-destination retail and commercial uses, townhouses, low-density multi-family residential dwellings, and civic and institutional uses to serve the surrounding area.

A couple of key differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones are contained in the following list:

1. General retail and drive thru windows are “conditional uses” in the MX-L zone.
2. In the MX-L zone, only General Retail, Small is allowed.
3. In the MX-T zone, General Retail, Small and General Retail, Medium are allowed permissively.
4. A bar, light vehicle fueling station, and light vehicle sales and rental, mortuary, pawn shop, and transit facility are conditional uses in the MX-L zone (and require a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE).)
5. Hospital, catering service, and nightclub are not allowed in MX-L.
6. The following are uses that are permissive in the MX-L zone but are not conditional uses in the MX-T Zone: Restaurant, tap room, other indoor entertainment, club or event facility, artesian manufacturing, car wash, light vehicle fueling and repair.
7. The following are uses that are conditional uses in the MX-L zone but are not conditional uses in the MX-T Zone: Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, and kennel.
8. The following are uses that are “accessory use” in the MX-L zone but are not “accessory use” in the MX-T Zone: Liquor retail.
9. The following are uses that are “conditional accessory” in the MX-L zone but are not “conditional accessory” in the MX-T Zone: Outdoor storage
10. The requested MX-L zone does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.

**APPLICANT RESPONSE:** The Applicant believes that the request does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, because any added uses from the change from MX-T to MX-L can be mitigated by the use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3 associated with that use.
Specifically, the Applicant believes that the new uses available to the site: taproom, club, and liquor retail (as an accessory use) could be harmful to the neighbors but their impact would be buffered by the fact that they had to comply with the use specific standards in Section 16-16-4-3 and that specific use would be buffered from the residential neighbors by the small offices to the west of the site, and the Sylvan Learning Center (commercial building) to the south. Additionally the alcohol related uses (if utilized on the site) are regulated by local, state and federal requirements and must comply with all New Mexico state laws, including but not limited to any required spacing from other uses or facilities.

The zone change would be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the north of the Subject Site (Bank of America), and allow a slightly broader variety of community services to be developed on the Subject Site than the existing zoning allows, adding to the healthy mix of uses already present in the neighborhood. It is important to remember that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property.

Future development on the subject site under the MX-L zone (if approved by the EPC) would be subject to IDO requirements including Neighborhood Edges (14-16- S-9) buffer landscaping (14-16-5- 6-E), and building design standards (14-16-4-11) to help buffer any damage to local residents (if any).

It is important to note that other City ordinances (Noise Ordinance, etc.) would also apply to future uses and serve to mitigate the potentially harmful impacts of such uses on the subject site.

It is very important to note that there are no residentially zoned properties adjacent to this Subject Property (see below).

SEE THE BUFFER OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY PROVIDED BY THE SMALL OFFICES TO THE WEST AND THE MX-M TO THE WEST and STREETS TO THE NORTH AND EAST.
The permissive uses between the MX-L zoning designation and the MX-T zoning designation are very similar. I have outlined the permissive uses in MXM in the following list (adjacent to one another in the 4-2-1 table below):

![Excerpt from Table 4-2-1: Allowable Uses](image)

**The Change in Permissive Uses Will Not be Harmful:**

Based on the above analysis, diagrams and zoning map attached above, the Applicant believes that the change in permissive uses (coupled with the Use Standards in the IDO) along with State, County and City ordinances…. will give confidence to the neighbors and the EPC that the expanded permissive uses will not be harmful to the neighborhood.

We also remind the EPC commissioners the Loma Del Rey NA unanimously (7-0) approved the zone map amendment request and that gives us confident they will not be harmed by the expanded uses in the MX-L zone (request).

**14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e):** The City’s existing infrastructure and public improvements, including but not limited to its street, trail, and sidewalk systems meet one of the following requirements:
1. Have adequate capacity to serve the development made possible by the change of zone.
2. Will have adequate capacity based on improvements for which the City has already approved and budgeted capital funds during the next calendar year.
3. Will have adequate capacity when the applicant fulfills its obligation under the IDO, the DPM, and/or an Infrastructure Improvements Agreement.
4. Will have adequate capacity when the City and the applicant have fulfilled their respective obligations under a City-approved Development Agreement between the City and the applicant.

**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e) because the existing infrastructure and public improvements currently have adequate capacity to serve the proposed development. The Subject Site includes an existing building that was formerly a Bank of Albuquerque branch. The proposed development will not create the need for any additional infrastructure or public improvements.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(f): The applicant’s justification for the requested zone change is not completely based on the property’s location on a major street.

**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (f) because the rationale and justification for the zone change is not based on the property’s location on Wyoming Blvd. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the analysis of the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan contained in this Justification Letter (above) and through a careful examination of the requires of 14-16-6-7 (F).

The IDO policies and goals strongly encourage infill development in locations (similar to the Subject Property) and the Applicant believes that this zone map amendment will create jobs and needed services to this community (which is currently vacant).

The Loma Del Rey NA agrees with the Applicant that this zone change is justified on the merits. This zone change is not justified because of the location of the major street (Wyoming Blvd).

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(g): The applicant’s justification is not based completely or predominately on the cost of land or economic considerations.

**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (g) because the cost of the land or economic considerations is not the basis for the Applicant’s justification. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the analysis of the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan contained in this Justification Letter (above) and through a careful examination of the requires of 14-16-6-7 (F) and is not a result of economic considerations as the predominant reason for the application.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(h): The zone change does not apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area, one premises (i.e. create a “spot zone”) or to a strip of land along a street (i.e. create a “strip zone”) unless the change will clearly facilitate implementation of the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and at least one of the following applies:

1. The area of the zone change is different from surrounding land because it can function as a transition between adjacent zone districts.
2. The site is not suitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district due to topography, traffic, or special adverse land uses nearby.
3. The nature of structures already on the premises makes it unsuitable of the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district.
**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (h) because the properties just north of the Subject Site are zoned MX-L (Bank of America, etc.), the proposed zone change of the Subject Site to MX-L will be congruent to existing zoning in the direct vicinity to the north. The proposed development will also be complementary with the surrounding uses because the “small offices” to the west of the Subject Property buffer it from the houses to the west. The Applicant is simply attempting to explain to the EPC that the more appropriate zoning designation for the Subject Property is MX-L (and not MX-T).

During the IDO conversion the Applicant believes that a Drive Thru Bank (or Savings and Loan) is much more applicable to a C-1 zone, then an O-1 Zone and should have received the MX-L zoning identical to its neighboring bank (Bank of America).

The MX-T zoning is aimed largely after the O-1 zoning and is attempting to provide a buffer to the residents west of the small offices (which are located west of the Subject Property). It is important to note that there is no need to buffer the MX-L uses from the nearby small offices to the west (because they are also commercial/office zoning uses). The buffering is supposed to take place between commercial and residential properties. That is a huge factor in analyzing this request and helps justify why MX-L is the more appropriate land use than MX-T (and the zone change is also supported by over 10 Comp Plan Goals and Policies – see Section C above).

We appreciate the opportunity to submit for a zone map amendment. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Skarsgard

Joshua J. Skarsgard, Agent
July 11, 2019

City of Albuquerque
Care of: Chairman of the EPC
Environmental Planning Commission
600 2nd Street, NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: “Project Letter” for EPC submittal for Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L – 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87111

Dear Environmental Planning Commission:

Please be advised that Josh Skarsgard, as Agent, represents the landowner, Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC (jointly “Applicant”) regarding this application for a Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L (“Application”) on the real property located at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87111, further described as:

Lot numbered Three (3) of La Mirada Subdivision, as the same is shown and designated the plat entitled “Amended Summary Plat: Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14 and a Part of Lot 7, La Mirada Subdivision, Albuquerque, New Mexico,” filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico, on March 20, 1981, in Plat Book C18, Page 32. Said parcel lying situate within Section 6, Township 10 North, Range 4 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian, City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico (“Subject Site”).

Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision. (“Legal Description”)

Question: What is the intention of the project-i.e. why a zone change is claimed to be needed. What do you want to develop and why? What was the use of the property on May 17, 2018?

Applicant Answer: The intention of the project is to establish zoning (MX-L) which will allow for a subsequent ZHE Hearing, which if successful, could lead to the use of a drive thru window again on this property (even though a drive thru bank window has been used on the property from 1973 to 2017 (46 years). The property has received interest from coffee shops and restaurants that desire to provide convenience to customers through a drive thru pick up window for coffee of food. The use of the property was a vacant former bank with a drive thru window on May 17, 2018.
**Question:** Could the subject site have qualified for a voluntary zone conversion? Why or why not? If so, why did you not pursue the easier (and free) path?

**Applicant Answer:** On May 7, 2018, City Council adopted Resolution 18-29 directing the Planning Department to create a process for property owners to request a zoning conversion (at no cost to the property owner) for one of the five reasons. At the time of the zone change application request by the Applicant, none of the five reasons appeared to apply to the subject property.

**Question:** It can be argued that the MX-L zone is appropriate for the subject site, since MX-T was assigned based on the zoning conversion rules adopted by the City Council. Why shouldn’t the property be zoned MX-T?

**Applicant Answer:** The MX-T zone was inappropriate selected by the City for this property for four reasons: (1) The Subject Property has had an operational drive thru window (bank) since 1973 (and drive thru uses are disallowed in the current MX-T Zone). The IDO conversion rules missed the longstanding history of drive thru and retail uses utilized upon this Subject Property; and (2) the adjacent Loma Del Rey Neighborhood Association and nearby property owners overwhelmingly support a drive thru restaurant use to be applicable to the Subject Property (see their Letter of Support in the file); (3) the property neighboring to the north (also a Bank) are zoned MX-L which is the more appropriate use for the site (because the MX-L at least provides for an additional hearing to the ZHE to apply for a conditional use application to establish a drive thru use); and (4) the IDO describes the purpose of the MX-T zone as follows: “The purpose of the MX-T zone district is to provide a transition between residential neighborhoods and more intense commercial areas.” The Subject Property is NOT immediately contiguous to any residential zoned property and therefore the purpose of a “transition” or “buffer” between residential uses and “more intense commercial uses” is nonexistent. The Property immediately to the west of the Subject Property is an office complex (not residential homes that require any kind of “buffer” from a commercial use).

The more appropriate zoning to be assigned by the IDO should have been MX-L (which was provided to the Bank of America located directly north of the Subject Property). How is it that the Bank of America building neighboring to the north of the Subject Property...
CONCLUSION

We appreciate the opportunity to submit for a zone map amendment to re-establish a zoning designation that allows for a future conditional use hearing at the ZHE (for a drive thru window).

Thank you for your consideration of this Project Letter.

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Skarsgard

Joshua J. Skarsgard, Agent
CORRESPONDENCE
Dora, thanks for forwarding.

Hello Carolyn,
Thanks for reaching out. I haven’t heard anything from any neighbors until now. The Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) held its regularly scheduled hearing today, but this case was deferred for 60 days to the August 8, 2019 hearing.

Thank you for letting me know about the sign. Yes, there is a Sign Posting Agreement that has to be adhered to. Because of the deferral, there will be adequate notice. However, I will verify this.

The applicant intends a restaurant with a drive-thru (meaning fast-food restaurant). A restaurant can go on the site with the current zoning, but he wants the drive thru use.

Please read the Staff report, available at the following link, for Staff’s analysis of the requested zone change: http://documents.cabq.gov/planning/environmental-planning-commission/June2019/Agenda%20PR-2019-002353_La%20Mirada.pdf

Information about the EPC can be found here:
http://www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions/environmental-planning-commission/epc-agendas-reports-minutes

Please let me know if you have additional questions. Thank you.
From: Carolyn Baker-Nair [mailto:cnair@gmx.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2019 10:55 AM
To: Henry, Dora L.
Subject: 4201 Wyoming NE Hearing for Zoning Request

Hi Dora,

My name is Carolyn Baker-Nair. I am a homeowner in the Loma Del Rey Neighborhood, more specifically I live directly across the street from the empty property at 4201 Wyoming NE. I was surprised and also frustrated to see the request for a zoning change sign posted with the hearing date listed as this morning! The sign was not posted until Tuesday or Wednesday this week, 6/11 or 6/12. The request states that the sign is "Required to be posted from May 28, 2019 to June 13, 2019". The sign was not posted until two days ago. I know for sure the sign was not there until Tuesday or Wednesday because I cross Wyoming and walk right by the front doors and around the side (where a second notice is posted) of the building every other day. On Monday I noticed eggs had been thrown at the door - there was no request posted on Monday 6/10/2019.

If community members like myself would have known in advance then we could have arranged to attend the hearing this morning.

I am concerned that the zoning change would allow for the following additional uses: car wash, fueling station, car repair, vehicle sales and rental, commercial services, self storage, pawn shop, outdoor storage, or a drive through of some kind. The animal services are not so alarming as a pawn shop or a car wash. This is my community and I am concerned that the above listed changes would make my town home community an unsafe place to live, especially with the homes being directly visible from 4201 Wyoming NE.

Can you tell me what kind of business is being proposed for 4201 Wyoming and explain what will happen next because the request sign was not posted as required? Thank you for your time.

Carolyn Baker-Nair
Loma Del Rey Neighborhood
(505) 322-9318

This message has been analyzed by Deep Discovery Email Inspector.
Staff Report

Environmental Planning Commission

Staff Recommendation


Staff Planner
Catalina Lehner, AICP-Senior Planner

Summary of Analysis

The request is for a zone change for an approximately 0.85 acre site on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE. A building, a former bank, exists on the subject site.

The applicant seeks a zone change request in order to develop the site with a drive-thru use, which is not allowed in the MX-T zone. The subject site was zoned MX-T upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). The subject site is in an Area of Change as designated by the Comprehensive Plan.

The applicant has not adequately justified the zone map amendment pursuant to the IDO zone change criteria in 6-7-(f)(3). The responses to Sections A, C, D, F, G and H are insufficient. The burden is on the applicant to provide a sound justification that meets all the criteria.

The affected neighborhood organizations are the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4, District 7, and District 8 Coalitions, which was notified as required. Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified as required. The Loma del Rey NA sent a letter of support for a restaurant.

Staff recommends denial.
OLD ZONING MAP

Note: Gray shading indicates County.

Hearing Date: 6/13/2019
Project Number: PR-2019-002353
Case Numbers: RZ-2019-00021
Zone Map Page: G-19

1 inch = 100 feet
LAND USE MAP

Note: Gray shading indicates County.

Key to Land Use Abbreviations

LDRES | Low-density Residential
MULT | Multi-family
COMM | Commercial Retail
CMSV | Commercial Services
OFC | Office
IND | Industrial
INSMED | Institutional / Medical
ED | Educational
APRT | Airport
TRANS | Transportation
AGRI | Agriculture
PARK | Parks and Open Space
DRNG | Drainage
VAC | Vacant
UTIL | Utilities
CMTY | Community
KAFB | Kirtland Air Force Base

1 inch = 100 feet

Hearing Date:
6/13/2019
Project Number:
PR-2019-002353
Case Numbers:
RZ-2019-00021
Zone Map Page:
G-19
HISTORICAL MAP

Note: Gray shading indicates County.

1 inch = 100 feet

Hearing Date:
6/13/2019

Project Number:
PR-2019-002353

Case Numbers:
RZ-2019-00021

Zone Map Page:
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Attachments
I. INTRODUCTION

Surrounding zoning, plan designations, and land uses:

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Request

The request is for a zone map amendment (zone change) for an approximately 0.85-acre site known as Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision (the “subject site”). The subject site (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE) is located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE. A building, which was a small bank, exists on the subject site.

The subject site is zoned MX-T, which it received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) as a conversion from the former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office. The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru restaurant. Though a restaurant could develop by obtaining a conditional use (no zone change needed), the applicant specifically wants the drive-thru use. Drive-thrus are not allowed in the MX-T zone but are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. If the requested zone change is approved, the applicant would still need to get a conditional use approval from the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE).

EPC Role

The EPC is hearing this case because the EPC is required to hear all zone change cases, regardless of site size, in the City. The EPC is the final decision-making body unless the EPC decision is appealed. If so, the Land Use Hearing Officer (LUHO) would hear the appeal and make a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council would make then make the final decision. The subject request is a quasi-judicial matter.

Context

The subject site is located at the SW corner of the intersection of Wyoming Blvd. NE and La Mirada Place NE, approximately 800 feet south of Montgomery Blvd. NE. The subject site is part of a group of eight lots (not counting the small lots subdivided for condos), zoned MX-T, which provide a transition between the established neighborhood to the south and the shopping center to the north.
The area is characterized by older style shopping centers fronting Montgomery Blvd. NE that are surrounded by single-family subdivisions on their southern side. The subject sites, and the sites adjacent to it, have mature landscaping, including some very large trees in good condition (see photos attached).

North of the subject site, across La Mirada Place NE, is a bank branch with a lot of parking fronting Wyoming Blvd. NE. East of the subject site, across Wyoming Blvd. NE, is a church. South of the subject site is a small office building, used as a testing center. West of the subject site are two buildings containing small office suites, known as La Mirada Office Park.

The subject site is not located in a designated Activity Center. Wyoming Blvd. NE is designated as a multi-modal corridor.

**History**

The subject site was part of an annexation in the 1940s of a much larger area of land in the NE Heights, spanning from approximately Louisiana Blvd. to Tramway Blvd. and from Montgomery Blvd. to Central Ave. It appears that the subject site was assigned O-1 Office zoning with a strip of P Parking zoning along Wyoming Blvd.

In August 1973, the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) heard a request for a zone change from O-1 and P to SU-1 (Z-73-127, see attachments). The EPC voted to approve the request and the subject site was zoned SU-1 for a Savings and Loan Office. The building presently on the subject site was constructed for the Albuquerque Federal Savings and Loan Association, which operated on the subject site for many years.

A Google search reveals that the institution was established in Albuquerque in 1934 and is listed as Inactive as of 1990 ([https://www.usbanklocations.com/abq-bank-a-federal-savings-bank-29127.shtml](https://www.usbanklocations.com/abq-bank-a-federal-savings-bank-29127.shtml)). The successor was the Albuquerque Federal Savings Bank, which operated for about a year before it was acquired by Bank of America New Mexico. After that, the subject site was acquired by Bank of Albuquerque.

In January 2011, commercial lending institution BOKF, from Tulsa Oklahoma, acquired Bank of Albuquerque. BOKF did not establish a branch office on the subject site. The bank on the subject site, and its drive-thru, ceased to operate.

**Transportation System**

The Long Range Roadway System (LRRS) map, produced by the Mid-Region Metropolitan Region Planning Organization (MRMPO), identifies the functional classifications of roadways. Wyoming Blvd. NE is a Principal Arterial and La Mirada Pl. NE is a local street.

**Comprehensive Plan Corridor Designation**

The subject site fronts Wyoming Blvd. NE, which the Comprehensive Plan designates as a Multi-Modal Corridor. Multi-modal corridors are intended to encourage the redevelopment of aging, auto-oriented commercial strip development to be a more mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented environment that focuses heavily on providing safe, multi-modal transportation options.
Development of these corridors will enhance the environment for pedestrians and transit users, while nearby parallel streets will serve bicycle travel. The density and scale of development behind multi-modal corridors should diminish quickly to minimize impacts on existing neighborhoods and respect established development patterns (see Comprehensive Plan, p. 5-17).

Transit

Two Albuquerque Ride routes run along Wyoming Blvd. NE and serve the subject site. Route #31-Wyoming, runs from early morning to evening and has limited, less frequent service on Saturdays and Sundays. Route #98-Wyoming Commuter, runs during the week, twice in the morning and twice in the afternoons and serves mostly commuters to Kirtland Air Force Base.

Public Facilities/Community Services

Please refer to the Public Facilities Map (see attachment), which shows public facilities and community services located within one mile of the subject site.

II. ANALYSIS of APPLICABLE ORDINANCES, PLANS, AND POLICIES

Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO)

Definitions

Drive-through or Drive-up Facility: Facilities associated with a primary use, including but not limited to banks, financial institutions, restaurants, dry cleaners, and drug stores, but not including car washes or light vehicle fueling, to offer goods and services directly to customers waiting in motor vehicles. See also Car Wash and Light Vehicle Fueling.

Restaurant: An establishment that serves food and beverages that are consumed on its premises by customers seated at tables and/or counters either inside or outside the building thereon and which may also be engaged in providing customers with take-out service of food and/or non-alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption. Sale of alcoholic beverages is controlled by other provisions in this IDO and the New Mexico State statutes regarding alcoholic drink sales.

Zoning

The subject site is currently zoned MX-T [Mixed-Use Transition Zone District, IDO 14-16-2-4(A)], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. The purpose of the MX-T zone district is to provide a transition between residential neighborhoods and more intense commercial areas. Primary land uses include a range of low-density multi-family residential and small-scale office, institutional, and pedestrian-oriented commercial uses. Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, p. 130.

The MX-T zone is roughly the IDO equivalent of the former O-1 Office zone. The subject site was zoned SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office. Only a savings and loan office, as specified in the associated site development plan, was allowed (see also History section of this report). The closest equivalent zone under the former system was O-1, which converted to MX-T upon adoption of the IDO.
The request proposes to change the subject site’s zoning to MX-L [Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone District, IDO 14-16-2-4(B)], which approximates the former Zoning Code’s C-1 zone. The purpose of the MX-L zone is to provide for neighborhood-scale convenience shopping needs, primarily at the corners of collector intersections. Primary land uses include non-destination retail and commercial uses, as well as townhouses, low-density multi-family residential dwellings, and civic and institutional uses to serve the surrounding area, with taller, multi-story buildings encouraged in Centers and Corridors. Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, p. 130.

Comparison of MX-T and MX-L
There are some notable differences between the MX-T and the MX-L zones, mainly in the Motor Vehicle Related and the Food, Beverage, and other Indoor Entertainment categories. Car wash and light vehicle fueling and repair are not allowed in the MX-T zone but are permissive in the MX-L zone. Kennel, light vehicle fueling station, and light vehicle sales and rental are not allowed in MX-T but are conditional uses in MX-L.

Several uses that are conditional in the MX-T zone become permissive in the MX-L zone: veterinary hospital, other pet services, restaurant, tap room, other indoor entertainment, club or event facility, and artesian manufacturing. Liquor retail is conditional in MX-T but becomes an accessory use in MX-L. Outdoor storage is not allowed in MX-T but becomes a conditional accessory use in MX-L. The IDO contains use-specific standards for many of these uses in 14-16-4-3, the Use-Specific Standards.

A restaurant is a conditional use in the MX-T zone and could develop on the subject site, without a zone change, by obtaining a conditional use permit through the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE) process.

However, a drive-through or drive-up facility is not allowed in the MX-T zone but becomes a conditional accessory use in the MX-T zone. If the proposed zone change is approved, the applicant would still have to seek a conditional use approval for any future drive-through use, subject to a hearing before the ZHE.

Albuquerque / Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan
The subject site is located in an area that the 2017 Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan has designated an Area of Change. The Goals and policies listed below are cited by the applicant in the zone change justification letter dated May 23, 2019 (see attachment). Staff does not provide analysis or additional citations other than what the applicant provided because, pursuant to the IDO Subsection 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification for the request, based on substantial evidence.

Chapter 4: Community Identity
Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design
Chapter 5: Land Use
Goal 5.1-Centers & Corridors
Policy 5.1.1- Desired Growth & Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas
Policy 5.1.10- Major Transit Corridors
Goal 5.2-Complete Communities
Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses
Goal 5.3-Efficient Development Patterns
Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development
Goal 5.6- City Development Areas
Policy 5.6.2- Areas of Change

Chapter 6-Transportation
Policy 6.1.3 –Auto Demand

Chapter 7-Urban Design
Policy 7.3.5-Development Quality

Economic Development
Goal 8.1-Placemaking
Policy 8.1.1-Diverse Places
Policy 8.1.2-Resilient Economy
Policy 8.1.3-Economic Base

Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) 6-7(F)(3)-Review and Decision Criteria for Zone Map Amendments

Requirements
The review and decision criteria outline policies and requirements for deciding zone change applications. The applicant must provide sound justification for the proposed change and demonstrate that several tests have been met. The burden is on the applicant to show why a change should be made pursuant to Subsection 6-4(F)(2).

The applicant must demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because of one of three findings: 1) there was an error when the existing zone district was applied to the property; or 2) there has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site; or 3) a different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the Comprehensive Plan.

Justification & Analysis
The zone change justification letter analyzed here, received on May 23, 2019, is a response to Staff’s request for a revised justification in the first deficiency memo dated May 13, 2019 (see attachments). Because the response was insufficient, Staff provided the applicant with a second deficiency memo, dated May 24, 2019. However, the applicant did not respond to the second deficiency memo.
The subject site is currently zoned MX-T (Mixed-Use Transition Zone). The requested zoning is MX-L (Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone). The reason for the request is to allow re-development of the subject site with a drive-through or drive-up accessory use, for which a conditional use would be required in the MX-L zone.

The applicant believes that the proposed zone map amendment (zone change) meets the zone change decision criteria [14-16-6-7(F)(3)] as elaborated in the justification letter. The citation is from the IDO. The applicant’s arguments are in *italics*. Staff analysis follows with the heading “Staff”.

A. A proposed zone change must be found to be consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and other applicable plans adopted by the City.

*Applicant: The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comprehensive Plan as shown below (later in this justification letter). As demonstrated in our policy analysis below, the proposed zone change to MX-L would clearly facilitate the desired goals of the Comp Plan which provides a framework to guide private development land use decisions, and decision-makers as they contemplate new plans affecting the whole community. Also, the IDO design requirements will help ensure that this rehabilitate bank site will be consistent with the health and welfare of the Abq residents.*

*Specifically, our Application shows that the following comp plan polices demonstrate that the proposed zone map amendment to MX-L is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City based on the following guiding principles:*

- Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design; Goal 5.1-Centers & Corridors;
- Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas; Policy 5.1.10-Major Transit Corridor; Goal 5.2-Complete Communities; Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses; Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development; Policy 5.6.2-Areas of Change; Policy 6.1.3-Auto Demand; Goal 8.1-Placemaking; Policy 8.1.1-Diverse Places; Policy 8.1.2-Resilient Economy.

*Additionally the following components also demonstrate the zone change consistency with the health and welfare of the City of Albuquerque:*

- **Strong Neighborhoods** – The zone map amendment is consistent with the appropriate mix of land uses in the Subject Site’s neighborhood, which includes adequate infrastructure and community facilities to support such development.
- **Economic Vitality** – The zone map amendment encourages a healthy mix of uses and will create a desirable place to live and work for the surrounding residential communities.
- **Sustainability** – The Subject Site is currently a +/- 2,424 square foot vacant building that
would be rehabilitated requiring fewer natural resources to be used during redevelopment.

- **Mobility** – The Subject Site is located in a multi-modal corridor, the proposed zone map amendment would allow for a land use that would complement the existing transportation networks along Wyoming Blvd.

- **Equity** – The proposed development will locate jobs and community services near the surrounding residential communities lowering household transportation costs.

- **Community Health** – The proposed development is consistent with the existing land uses in the immediate area and does not conflict with the community health of the neighborhood.

**Staff:** Consistency with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare is shown by demonstrating that a request furthers applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies (and other plans if applicable) and does not conflict with them. The applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request would be consistent with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare by not fully analyzing and showing conformance with applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies (see Section C, below).

The applicant refers to guiding principles and components. Neither are a part of the analysis required by Criterion A. Criterion A is the most important part of a zone change justification, though all criteria are required to be fulfilled adequately. The applicant has placed a policy analysis in the response to Criterion C rather in the response to Criterion A, which is standard practice.

**Applicable citations:** Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design; Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses; Goal 5.3-Efficient Development Patterns; Goal 5.6-City Development Areas; Policy 5.6.2-Areas of Change; Policy 7.3.4-Infill; Policy 7.3.5-Urban Design; Policy 8.1.1-Diverse Places; Policy 8.12-Resilient Economy.

**Non-applicable citations:** Goal 5.1-Centers and Corridors; Goal 5.2-Complete Communities; Policy 5.1.1-Desired Growth; Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas; Policy 5.1.10-Major Transit Corridors; Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development; Policy 6.1.3-Auto Demand; Goal 8.1-Placemaking; Policy 8.1.3-Economic Base.

The applicant’s citations and analysis are uncannily similar to the policy analysis provided in Project #2019-002043, the Old Kmart site, which the EPC heard in April 2019. These are different sites, so many of the Goals and policies included in the applicant’s justification don’t apply to the request and therefore neither does the analysis.

In many instances, for example the applicant’s response to Policies 5.1.1 and 5.1.10, the applicant changed the zoning requested but did not modify the meaningful part of the previous analysis to make it relevant to the current request. Though encouraged to read other cases as a learning exercise, all applicants are required to justify their specific request using applicable Goals, policies, and corresponding analysis that reflect the conditions and context of the area. The response to Criterion A is insufficient.
B. If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Consistency (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the new zone would clearly reinforce or strengthen the established character of the surrounding Area of Consistency and would not permit development that is significantly different from that character. The applicant must also demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets any of the following criteria:

- There was typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
- There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site.
- A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Com Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

Applicant: The subject site is not located in an Area of Consistency.

Staff: The subject site is located wholly in an Area of Change, so this criterion does not apply. The response to Criterion B is sufficient.

C. If the proposed amendment is located wholly in an Area of Change (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended) and the applicant has demonstrated that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. There was typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site that justifies this request.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

Applicant: A different zone district is more advantageous to the community based on the goals and policies of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan. The subject site is located in an area that the 2017 Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan designates as Area of Change. Applicable Goals and policies are listed below: Note: the entire list is not repeated here-please see the justification letter, attached.

Staff: The subject site is located in an Area of Change. The applicant chooses #3, that a different zone district is more advantageous to the community, as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, than the current zoning. However, the applicant has not adequately demonstrated, through the required policy analysis, that the request would be more advantageous to the community as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan. The burden is on
the applicant to identify applicable Goals and policies and provide a pertinent analysis of how the request furthers them, while addressing any conflicts. The response to criterion C is insufficient.

D. The zone change does not include permissive uses that would be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, unless the Use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3 associated with that use will adequately mitigate those harmful impacts.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(d) because *the subject site is currently zoned MX-T [IDO 14-16-2-4], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are described in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130.

The request proposes to change the subject site’s zoning to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone District, IDO 14-16-2-4(B)], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are non-destination retail and commercial uses, townhouses, low-density multi-family residential dwellings, and civic and institutional uses to serve the surrounding area. Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130. [*]

A couple of key differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones are general retail and drive thru windows are “conditional uses” in the MX-L zone. In the MX-L zone, only General Retail, Small is allowed. In the MX-T zone, General Retail, Small and General Retail, Medium are allowed permissively. The IDO’s assignment of MX-T zoning to the subject site made the existing drive thru window a non-conforming use. There are other notable differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones. A bar, light vehicle fueling station, and light vehicle sales and rental, mortuary, pawn shop, and transit facility are conditional uses in the MX-L zone (and require a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE). Hospital, catering service, and nightclub are not allowed in MX-L. Liquor retail is an accessory use in MX-L. [*]

The requested MX-L zone does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. The zone change would be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the north and south of the Subject Site, and allow a slightly broader variety of community services to be developed on the Subject Site than the existing zoning allows, adding to the healthy mix of uses already present in the neighborhood. It is important to remember that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property.

A drive-through is a conditional use in MX-L and therefore, if the Applicant is successful in this Zone Map Amendment then the Applicant will follow up with a conditional use application to the ZHE for a drive thru.

The permissive uses between the MX-L zoning designation and the MX-T zoning designation are very similar. I have outlined the permissive uses in MXM in the following list:

INSERT THE CHART DEMONSTRATING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MX-L and MX-T
The Change in Permissive Uses Will Not be Harmful:

The Permissive uses in MX-L that could be construed as having possible harmful effects such as a bar, nightclub, fueling station or retail liquor are regulated by local, state and federal requirements and must comply with all New Mexico state laws, including but not limited to any required spacing from other uses or facilities. They are also controlled by Specific-Use Standards found in the IDO to mitigate potential harmful effects on the surrounding area. Future development on the subject site under the MX-M zone would be subject to IDO requirements including Neighborhood Edges (14-16-8-9), the mixed-use zone dimensional standards (Table 5-1-2), buffer landscaping (14-16-5-6-(E)), and building design standards (14-16-4-11) to help ensure appropriate scale and location of development and character of building design. [**]

Other City ordinances, such as the Noise Ordinance, and State regulations pertaining to alcohol licensing, for example, would also apply to future uses and serve to mitigate the potentially harmful impacts of such uses on the subject site. [**]

The Use Standards in the IDO include precautionary measures such as distance requirements, size restrictions, design standards, screening requirements will give confidence to the neighbors and the EPC that the expanded permissive uses will not be harmful to the neighborhood. [**]

Staff: The applicant did not provide an adequate discussion of the differences between the existing MX-T zoning and the proposed MX-L zoning, and therefore did not adequately address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. A table is commonly used to do this, since it allows for an easy comparison of the differences between zones and is consistent with the IDO’s format.

The first two paragraphs of the applicant’s response, indicated with a *, were copied from an old Staff report. The paragraphs in the applicant’s response marked with ** were copied from the applicant’s response. Both pertain to Project #2019-002043.

Furthermore, there are factual errors in the applicant’s response. The IDO’s assignment of MX-T zoning to the subject site did not render the drive-thru non-conforming because a drive-thru use ceased operation in approximately 2011 and did not exist at the time of IDO adoption. The applicant has not demonstrated that the proposed zone change would be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the south as claimed. The subject site had functioned as a small bank, permissive in the O-1 zone, for many years and is surrounded by small-scale office uses to the south and west and a church/school to the east.

Certain permissive uses in the MX-L zone, including restaurant, taproom, club, and liquor retail (an accessory use) would become allowed on the subject site and could potentially be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. The MX-T zoned area created to buffer the neighborhood from the shopping center’s more intense commercial uses could begin to erode. The response to Criterion D is insufficient.
E. The City's existing infrastructure and public improvements, including but not limited to its street, trail, and sidewalk systems meet 1 of the following requirements:

1. Have adequate capacity to serve the development made possible by the change of zone.
2. Will have adequate capacity based on improvements for which the City has already approved and budgeted capital funds during the next calendar year.
3. Will have adequate capacity when the applicant fulfills its obligations under the IDO, the DPM, and/or an Infrastructure Improvements Agreement.
4. Will have adequate capacity when the City and the applicant have fulfilled their respective obligations under a City-approved Development Agreement between the City and the applicant.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e) because the existing infrastructure and public improvements currently have adequate capacity to serve the proposed development. The Subject Site includes an existing building that was formerly a Bank of Albuquerque branch. The proposed development will not create the need for any additional infrastructure or public improvements.

Staff: Requirement 1 applies. The applicant states that existing infrastructure and public improvements would have adequate capacity to serve development made possible by the proposed zone change. This is likely since the subject site has already been developed. However, if the use change would cause the need for infrastructure improvements, the applicant would be responsible for providing them. The response to Criterion E is sufficient.

F. The applicant's justification for the requested zone change is not completely based on the property's location on a major street.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(f) because the rationale and justification for the zone change is not based on the property’s location on Wyoming Blvd. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan. Additionally, it is noteworthy that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property. The site next door (Bank of America) has a drive up ATM service and historically there are many drive thru windows in this trade area (Satellite Coffee, McDonald’s, Starbucks, etc.).

Staff: The subject site is located on Wyoming Blvd. NE, a Principal Arterial. The applicant’s response is insufficient because the applicant refers to Criteria A, C, and D (which are about Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies), but does not demonstrate that they are met.

Furthermore, there is no provision in Criterion F, or elsewhere in 6-7(F)(3), that allows a historical argument to be used to justify a zone change request. The applicant’s statement that the request would attempt “to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years” is irrelevant. Re-establish means that the use ceased, which is did—years prior to the
adoption of the IDO. The presence of other drive-thru chain uses in the trade area is also irrelevant. Therefore, the response to Criterion F is insufficient and appears to be based on the subject site’s location on Wyoming Blvd. NE.

G. The applicant's justification is not based completely or predominantly on the cost of land or economic considerations.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F) (3) (g) because the cost of the land or economic considerations is not the basis for the Applicant’s justification. The rationale is clearly contained in the letter above and is not a result of economic considerations as the predominant reason for the application.

Staff: Economic considerations are a factor. Since the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan policies (Criteria A, C, and D), it has not been shown that the justification is not completely or predominantly based on the cost of land or economic considerations. The response to Criterion G is insufficient.

H. The zone change does not apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area or one premises (i.e. create a "spot zone") or to a strip of land along a street (i.e. create a "strip zone") unless the change will clearly facilitate implementation of the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and at least one of the following applies:

1. The area of the zone change is different from surrounding land because it can function as a transition between adjacent zone districts.
2. The site is not suitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district due to topography, traffic, or special adverse land uses nearby.
3. The nature of structures already on the premises makes it unsuitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district.

Applicant: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(h) because the properties just north of the Subject Site are zoned MX-L, the proposed zone change of the Subject Site to MX-L will be congruent to existing zoning in the direct vicinity. The proposed development will also be complementary with the surrounding uses. The Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property. The site next door (Bank of America) has a drive up ATM service and historically there are many drive thru windows in this trade area (Satellite Coffee, McDonald’s, Starbucks, etc.).

Staff: It appears that the applicant believes that the request would not result in a spot zone, though this is not expressly stated. There is no provision in Criterion G, or elsewhere in 6-7(F)(3), that allows a historical argument to be used to justify a zone change request. The statement that “the applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years” is irrelevant. The response to Criterion H is insufficient because it does not precisely answer the question and relies on extraneous information.
III. AGENCY & NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

Reviewing Agencies
City departments and other interested agencies reviewed this application from 5/6/2019 to 5/22/2019. Few agency comments were received. Long Range Planning Staff note that the site was previously used for a bank branch and that there is MX-T, MX-L, and R-ML zoning in the area.

The Water Utility Authority stated that the subject site is currently receiving service. The Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRMPO) states that Wyoming Blvd. NE is a principal arterial and is projected to be a regional principal arterial. PNM noted that an overhead electric transmission line is located along the east side of the subject site, and that they will need to be contacted regarding new service delivery. Agency comments begin on p. 21.

Neighborhood/Public
The Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4 Coalition of NAs, the District 6 Coalition of NAs, and the District 8 Coalition of NAs were required to be notified, which the applicant did (see attachments). The Loma del Rey NA submitted a letter of support, which states that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant on the subject site (see attachment).

Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified, as required (see attachments). Note that the 100 feet does not include the right-of-way of Wyoming Blvd. NE, so the buffer around the subject site was approximately 215 feet.

IV. CONCLUSION
The request is for a zone change for an approximately 0.85 acre site located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE) (the “subject site”). A building, which was a savings and loan office, exists on the subject site.

The subject site is zoned MX-T, received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO), and is part of a buffer of MX-T zoned properties that separate the shopping center to the north from the established neighborhood to the south. The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru use, most likely a restaurant as stated in the applicant’s letter. Drive-thrus are an accessory use not allowed in the MX-T zone, but are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. A conditional use would still be needed if the zone change request is approved.

The affected neighborhood organizations are the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4 Coalition of NAs, the District 6 Coalition of NAs, and the District 8 Coalition of NAs, which was notified as required. Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified as required. The Loma del Rey NA submitted a letter stating that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant on the subject site.
However, the zone map amendment has not been adequately justified pursuant to the IDO Review and Decision criteria for zone changes 6-7(F)(3). The responses to Sections A, C, D, F, G and H are insufficient. Pursuant to IDO Section 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification.

Staff recommends denial of the zone change request.
1. The request is for a zone map amendment (zone change) for an approximately 0.85 acre site known as Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision (the “subject site”). The subject site is located on the western side of Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE). A building, which was a bank, exists on the subject site.

2. The subject site is zoned MX-T, which it received upon adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) as a conversion from the former zoning of SU-1 for Savings and Loan Office. The applicant is requesting a zone change to MX-L (Mixed-Use Low intensity zone) in order to re-develop the subject site with a drive-thru use, most likely a restaurant as indicated in the applicant’s letter.

3. A restaurant use could develop on the subject site without a zone change. However, the MX-T zone does not allow drive-thrus, which are an accessory use. Drive-thrus are conditionally allowed in the MX-L zone. Even if this zone change were approved, the applicant would still need to obtain a conditional use for the drive-thru.

4. The subject site is in an area that the Comprehensive Plan has designated an Area of Change. Wyoming Blvd. NE is designated as a Multi-Modal Corridor.

5. The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan and the City of Albuquerque Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) are incorporated herein by reference and made part of the record for all purposes.

6. The following are notable differences between the MX-T and the MX-L zones. Most are in the Motor Vehicle Related and the Food, Beverage, and other Indoor Entertainment categories.
   - Restaurant, tap room, other indoor entertainment, club or event facility, artesian manufacturing, car wash, light vehicle fueling and repair become permissive uses in MX-L.
   - Light vehicle fueling station, light vehicle sales and rental, and kennel become conditional uses in MX-L.
   - Liquor retail becomes an accessory use in MX-L.
   - Outdoor storage becomes a conditional accessory use in MX-L.

7. The applicant has not adequately justified the request pursuant to the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) Section 6-7(F)(3)-Review and Decision Criteria for Zone Map Amendments, as follows:
A. Criterion A: Consistency with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare is shown by demonstrating that a request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies and does not conflict with them. The applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request would be consistent with the City’s health, safety, morals and general welfare by not fully analyzing and showing conformance with applicable Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies. Neither guiding principles nor components apply.

The applicant’s citations and analysis are uncannily similar to the policy analysis provided in Project #2019-002043, heard in April 2019. These are different sites, so many of the Goals and policies don’t apply to the request and therefore neither does the applicant’s analysis. All applicants are required to justify their specific request using applicable Goals, policies, and corresponding pertinent analysis. The response to Criterion A is insufficient.

B. Criterion B: This criterion does not apply because the subject site is not located in an Area of Consistency, either wholly or in part.

C. Criterion C: The applicant believes that a different zone district is more advantageous to the community, as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, than the current zoning. However, the applicant has not adequately demonstrated, through the required policy analysis, that the request would be more advantageous to the community as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan. The burden is on the applicant to identify applicable Goals and policies and provide a pertinent analysis of how the request furthers them, while addressing any conflicts.

D. Criterion D: The applicant did not provide an adequate discussion of the differences between the existing MX-T zoning and the proposed MX-L zoning, and therefore did not sufficiently address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.

Six paragraphs of the applicant’s response were copied from the Staff report for Project #2019-002043.

Furthermore, the applicant’s response contains factual errors. The IDO’s assignment of MX-T zoning to the subject site did not render the drive-thru non-conforming because a drive-thru use did not exist at the time of IDO adoption. Also, the zone change would not be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the south as claimed. The subject site is surrounded by small-scale office uses to the south and west, and a church/school to the east.

Certain permissive uses in the MX-L zone, including restaurant, taproom, club, and liquor retail (an accessory use) would become allowed on the subject site and could potentially be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. The MX-T zoned area created to buffer the neighborhood from the shopping center’s more intense commercial uses could begin to erode.
E. Criterion E: Requirement 1 applies. The applicant states that existing infrastructure and public improvements would have adequate capacity to serve development made possible by the proposed zone change.

F. Criterion F: The response is insufficient because the applicant refers to Criteria A, C, and D (which are about Comprehensive Plan Goals and policies), but has not demonstrated that they are met.

Furthermore, there is no provision in Criterion F, or elsewhere in 6-7(F)(3), that allows a historical argument to be used to justify a zone change request. The applicant’s statement that the request would attempt “to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years” is irrelevant; that use ceased to operate prior to adoption of the IDO. The presence of other drive-thru uses in the area, on other sites, is also irrelevant and makes the applicant’s response appear to rely on the subject site’s location on Wyoming Blvd. NE.

G. Criterion G: Economic considerations are a factor. Since the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Comprehensive Plan policies (Criteria A and C), or responded sufficiently to Criterion F, the applicant has not shown that the justification is not completely or predominantly based on the cost of land or economic considerations.

H. Criterion H: The applicant does not state that the request would not result in a spot zone. There is no provision in Criterion G, or elsewhere in 6-7(F)(3), that allows a historical argument to be used to justify a zone change request. The statement that “the applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years” is irrelevant. The response does not sufficiently answer the question and relies on extraneous information.

8. The zone map amendment is not adequately justified pursuant to the IDO Review and Decision criteria for zone changes 6-7(F)(3). The responses to Sections A, C, D, F, G and H are insufficient. The policy analysis does not sufficiently demonstrate that the request furthers a preponderance of applicable Goals and policies and does not conflict with them (Sections A and C). The applicant did not adequately address the issue of potential harm to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community (Section D). The responses to Sections F, G, and H do not demonstrate that the applicant has fulfilled the requirements.

9. Pursuant to IDO Section 6-4(F)(2), the applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification for the requested decision, based on substantial evidence. The applicant has not done this.

10. The affected neighborhood organizations are the Loma del Rey Neighborhood Association (NA), the District 4 Coalition of NAs, the District 6 Coalition of NAs, and the District 8 Coalition of NAs, which was notified as required. Property owners within 100 feet of the subject site were also notified as required. The Loma del Rey NA submitted a letter of
support, which states that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant on the subject site.

11. As of this writing, Staff has received a letter of support from the Loma del Rey NA. The letter states that the board voted to support the zone change to allow for a new restaurant on the subject site.

RECOMMENDATION - RZ-2019-00021, June 13, 2019

DENIAL of Project #: 2019-002353, Case #: 2019-00021, a zone change from MX-T to MX-L, for Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision, an approximately 0.85 acre site located on Wyoming Blvd. NE, between Montgomery Blvd. NE and Comanche Rd. NE (4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE), based on the preceding Findings.

Catalina Lehner
Catalina Lehner, AICP
Senior Planner

Notice of Decision cc list:

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CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE AGENCY COMMENTS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Enforcement

Office of Neighborhood Coordination

Long Range Planning
The site is located at 4201 Wyoming Blvd NE and has a lot size of just under 1 acre. An existing structure on the property is 2,424 square feet. Previously, the site was used for commercial purposes as a Bank of Albuquerque branch. The applicant is proposing a restaurant with drive-thru pick up and/or commercial retail using the existing drive-thru window from the bank. The site is currently zoned MX-T. There is MX-T to the west and south, MX-L zoning to the north, and R-ML to the east. The site is located within an Area of Change but is not within a Center or Corridor area.

MX-L would allow the requested drive-through use conditionally with approval by the Zoning Hearing Examiner per IDO Subsection 14-16-4-3(F)(4). The purpose of the MX-L zone district is to “provide for neighborhood-scale convenience shopping needs, primarily at the corners of collector intersections.”

ABC Comprehensive Plan Policy 5.2.1 Land Uses: Create healthy, sustainable, and distinct communities with a mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods.

a) Encourage development and redevelopment that brings goods, services, and amenities within walking and biking distance of neighborhoods and promotes good access for all residents.

CITY ENGINEER

Transportation Development
No objection to the request.

Hydrology Development

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)
NMDOT has no comments at this time.

DEPARTMENT of MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

Transportation Planning
No comments.

Traffic Engineering Operations (Department of Municipal Development)

Street Maintenance (Department of Municipal Development)
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS FROM THE CITY ENGINEER: none.

WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY

Utility Services
1. RZ-2019-00025 – Zone Map Amendment (Zone Change)
   a. Identification: UPC – 101906051439910915
   b. No adverse comment to the proposed Zone Change
   b. The site is currently receiving service.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Air Quality Division

Environmental Services Division

PARKS AND RECREATION

Planning and Design

Open Space Division

City Forester

POLICE DEPARTMENT/Planning

No CEPTED comments on the zone changes.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Refuse Division

No comment.

FIRE DEPARTMENT/Planning

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

COMMENTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

BERNALILLO COUNTY

ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY

Reviewed, no objections.

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

No adverse impacts.
MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MRMPO has no adverse comments. For informational purposes:

- Wyoming Blvd NE is functionally classified as a principal arterial currently, and projected to be a regional principal arterial in the Long Range Roadway System.

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO

1. An existing overhead electric transmission line is located along the east side of the subject property on Wyoming Blvd. NE. It is the applicant’s obligation to abide by any conditions or terms of those easements and required clearances.

2. It will be necessary to contact the PNM New Service Delivery Department to coordinate electric service regarding this project. Contact:

   Andrew Gurule, PNM Service Center
   4201 Edith Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107
   Phone: (505) 241-0589
Figure 1: Looking south while standing on the subject site.

Figure 2: Looking east while standing on the subject site.

Figure 3: Looking north while standing on La Mirada Place.
Figure 4: Looking west while standing on the subject site.

Figure 5: Looking west at the existing building’s eastern elevation, while standing on Wyoming Blvd. NE.

Figure 6: Looking north at the existing building’s southern elevation. Note the mature trees on the subject site.
Figure 7: Looking south at the existing building’s northern elevation.

Figure 8: The small-suites office park south of the subject site, on La Mirada Pl. NE.
HISTORY
CERTIFICATION OF ZONING

File: 73-127
Date of Final Action: 8-21-73
Location: Portion of Lots 13 & 14, La Mirada Subdivision

M-M Co.
420 Simms Bldg.
City 87102

The Environmental Planning Commission ruled favorably on your request to amend the zone map as it applies to the above cited property.

☐ The possible appeal period having expired, the zoning on the above cited property is now changed to SU-1 (Special Use for a Savings & Loan Office) subject to compliance with all conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission.

☐ The possible appeal period has expired, but the zoning on the above cited property is NOT CHANGED to until the following requirements are met, as specified in the decision of the Commission:

If such requirements are not met within six months after the date final City approval is voted, the approval is void; however, the Planning Director or his designated representative may extend this time limit up to an additional six months.

Successful applicants are reminded that other regulations of the City must be complied with, even after approval of the zoning is secured. Approval of this case does not constitute approval of plans for a building permit. You should take two copies of your plans to the Building & Inspection Division of the City to initiate a building permit.

cc: Zoning Administration
Drafting Room

Sincerely,

George L. Carruthers
Principal Planner
For the Planning Director
The Planning Commission made this recommendation at its meeting of **August 21, 1973**.

**Findings:**
1. The proposed zoning is compatible with the surrounding land use.
2. The traffic pattern on the site plan is to be revised to the satisfaction of the Traffic Engineer prior to obtaining signatures on the development.
3. Submission of a drainage plan satisfactory to the City Engineer and ANAFC, filing of a land division plat delineating the subject parcels from the remainder of Tracts 13 & 14, and securing all required signatures on the remainder development plan are required prior to issuance of building permits.

**THEREFORE,** **BE IT RESOLVED** **THAT Z-73-127**, subject to compliance with Items 2 & 3 above, be approved, changing the zoning from P-1 to O-1 to SU-1 (Special Use for a Savings & Loan Office).

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by:

1. Written notice of appeal shall be filed with the Planning Director.
2. Public notice of any appeal shall be given by legal advertisement in the manner prescribed for a change to the text of this ordinance. The Planning Director shall give written notice of any appeal together with notice of hearing date to the applicant, a representative of opponents, if any, and the applicant. The appeal shall be presented to the City Commission within thirty (30) months after the date of filing. Once the appeal is presented to the City Commission any request for delay in hearing the appeal shall be acted upon at a regular City Commission meeting.

---

Mr. Vance Hauney  
520 Simms Bldg.  
City 87102

Theodore Pochter  
Planner
ZONING

Please refer to the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) for specifics regarding the MX-T and MX-L zones.
APPLICATION INFORMATION
**City of Albuquerque**

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW APPLICATION**

Effective 4/17/19

Please check the appropriate box and refer to supplemental forms for submittal requirements. All fees must be paid at the time of application.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Decisions</th>
<th>Decisions Requiring a Public Meeting or Hearing</th>
<th>Policy Decisions</th>
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<td>☐ Site Plan – EPC including any Variances – EPC (Form P1)</td>
<td>☐ Adoption or Amendment of Comprehensive Plan or Facility Plan (Form Z)</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Historic Certificate of Appropriateness – Minor (Form L)</td>
<td>☐ Master Development Plan (Form P1)</td>
<td>☐ Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation (Form L)</td>
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<td>☐ Minor Amendment to Site Plan (Form P3)</td>
<td>☐ Demolition Outside of HPO (Form L)</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ WTF Approval (Form W1)</td>
<td>☐ Historic Design Standards and Guidelines (Form L)</td>
<td>☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – EPC (Form Z)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Alternative Signage Plan (Form P3)</td>
<td>☐ Wireless Telecommunications Facility Waiver (Form W2)</td>
<td>☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – Council (Form Z)</td>
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<td>☐ Appeal</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Decision by EPC, LC, ZHE, or City Staff (Form A)</td>
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</tbody>
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**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Applicant: Land Development 8 LLC  
Phone: 505-262-2323

Address: 8220 San Pedro NE, Ste 500  
Email:

City: Albuquerque  
State: NM  
Zip: 87113

Professional/Agent (if any): Joshua Skarsgard  
Phone: 505-803-3758

Address: 8220 San Pedro NE, Ste 500  
Email: josh@retailsouthwest.com

City: Albuquerque  
State: NM  
Zip: 87113

Proprietary Interest in Site: Owner

List all owners: Land Development 8 LLC & Red Shamrock 2 LLC

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST**

Zone map amendment from MX-T to MX-L

**SITE INFORMATION**

Lot or Tract No.: Lot 3  
Block:  
Unit:  
Subdivision/Addition: La Mirada Subdivision  
MRGCD Map No.:  
UPC Code: 101900514391915

Zone Atlas Page(s): G-19  
Existing Zoning: MX-T  
Proposed Zoning: MX-L  

# of Existing Lots: 1  
# of Proposed Lots: 1  
Total Area of Site (acres): 0.8070

**LOCATION OF PROPERTY BY STREETS**

Site Address/Street: 4201 Wyoming NE  
Between: Montgomery Blvd. NE and: Comanche Rd. NE

**CASE HISTORY** (List any current or prior project and case number(s) that may be relevant to your request.)

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Numbers</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Fees</th>
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<tr>
<td>PR-2019-00021</td>
<td>ZMA</td>
<td>$185.00</td>
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</table>

Meeting/Hearing Date: June 13, 2019  
Fee Total: $185.25

Staff Signature: [Signature]  
Date: 4/25/19  
Project #: PR-2019-02353
Form Z: Policy Decisions

Please refer to the EPC hearing schedule for public hearing dates and deadlines. Your attendance is required.

A single PDF file of the complete application including all plans and documents being submitted must be emailed to PLNDRS@abc.gov prior to making a submittal. Zipped files or those over 9 MB cannot be delivered via email, in which case the PDF must be provided on a CD.

✓ INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ALL POLICY DECISIONS (Except where noted)
  - Interpreter Needed for Hearing? NO
  - Proof of Pre-Application Meeting with City staff per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(B)
  - Letter of authorization from the property owner if application is submitted by an agent
  - Traffic Impact Study (TIS) form (not required for Amendment to IDO Text)
  - Zone Atlas map with the entire site/plan amendment area clearly outlined and labeled (not required for Amendment to IDO Text) NOTE: For Annexation of Land, the Zone Atlas must show that the site is contiguous to City limits.

☐ ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
☐ ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF FACILITY PLAN
  - Plan, or part of plan, to be amended with changes noted and marked
  - Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Sections 14-16-6-7(A)(3) or 14-16-6-7(B)(3), as applicable
  - Required notices with content per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(K)(6)
  - Office of Neighborhood Coordination notice inquiry response, notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing
  - Proof of emailed notice to affected Neighborhood Association representatives
  - Buffer map and list of property owners within 100 feet (excluding public rights-of-way), notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing

☐ AMENDMENT TO IDO TEXT
  - Section(s) of the Integrated Development Ordinance to be amended with changes noted and marked
  - Justification letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-7(D)(3)
  - Required notices with content per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(K)(6)
  - Office of Neighborhood Coordination notice inquiry response, notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing
  - Buffer map and list of property owners within 100 feet (excluding public rights-of-way), notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing

✓ ZONING MAP AMENDMENT – EPC
✓ ZONING MAP AMENDMENT – COUNCIL
  - Proof of Neighborhood Meeting per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(C) none requested
  - Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-7(G)(3), as applicable
  - Required notices with content per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(K)(6)
  - Office of Neighborhood Coordination notice inquiry response, notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing
  - Proof of emailed notice to affected Neighborhood Association representatives
  - Buffer map and list of property owners within 100 feet (excluding public rights-of-way), notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing
  - Sign Posting Agreement

☐ ANNEXATION OF LAND
  - Application for Zoning Map Amendment Establishment of zoning must be applied for simultaneously with Annexation of Land.
  - Petition for Annexation Form and necessary attachments
  - Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-7(E)(3)
  - Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Notice of Decision

I, the applicant or agent, acknowledge that if any required information is not submitted with this application, the application will not be scheduled for a public meeting or hearing, if required, or otherwise processed until it is complete.

Signature: __________________________ Date: 4/24/19
Printed Name: Joshua Skarsgard

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Project Number: PR-2019-002353 Case Numbers R2-2019-00021

Staff Signature: __________________________ Date: 4-25-19

Effective 5/17/18
Note: changes made to development proposals / assumptions, from the information determined.

REQUESTED CITY ACTION(S):
- ANNEXATION [ ]
- ZONE CHANGE [ ] From MX-T To NR-C
- SECTOR, AREA, FAC, COMP PLAN [ ]
- AMENDMENT (Map/Text) [ ]

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:
- NO CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENT [ ]
- NEW CONSTRUCTION [ ]
- EXPANSION OF EXISTING DEVELOPMENT [ ]

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:
- # OF UNITS: 1
- BUILDING SIZE: 2424 (sq. ft.)

Note: changes made to development proposals / assumptions, from the information provided above will result in a new TIS determination.

APPLICANT OR REPRESENTATIVE
TO BE SIGNED UPON COMPLETION OF PROCESSING BY THE TRAFFIC ENGINEER
DATE 4/14/19

TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY (TIS) REQUIRED: YES [ ] NO [X] BORDERLINE [ ]

THRESHOLDS MET? YES [ ] NO [ ] MITIGATING REASONS FOR NOT REQUIRING TIS: PREVIOUSLY STUDIED: [ ]

Notes: TIS not required for zone change. A new TIS form will be required when this goes into development.

If a TIS is required: a scoping meeting (as outlined in the development process manual) must be held to define the level of analysis needed and the parameters of the study. Any subsequent changes to the development proposal identified above may require an update or new TIS.

TRAFFIC ENGINEER
DATE 4/23/19

Required TIS must be completed prior to applying to the EPC and/or the DRB. Arrangements must be made prior to submittal if a variance to this procedure is requested and noted on this form, otherwise the application may not be accepted or deferred if the arrangements are not complied with.

Revised January 20, 2011
April 25, 2019

City of Albuquerque
Care of: Chairman of the EPC
Environmental Planning Commission
600 2nd Street, NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: EPC submittal for Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L — 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Dear Environmental Planning Commission:

Please be advised that Josh Skarsgard, as Agent, represents the landowner, Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC (jointly “Applicant”) regarding this application for a Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-L (“Application”) on the real property located at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87111, further described as:

Lot numbered Three (3) of La Mirada Subdivision, as the same is shown and designated the plat entitled “Amended Summary Plat: Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14 and a Part of Lot 7, La Mirada Subdivision, Albuquerque, New Mexico,” filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico, on March 20, 1981, in Plat Book C18, Page 32. Said parcel lying situate within Section 6, Township 10 North, Range 4 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian, City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico (“Subject Site”).

Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision. (“Legal Description”)

I. History of the Subject Site and Location of the Subject Site.

The Subject Site is 0.8070 acres with a +/-2,424 square foot building. This building was formerly a Bank of Albuquerque branch with drive up facilities (Drive Thru Window). We don’t know exactly how long it has been a bank, but we have information to suggest that it has been a bank since at least 2009. It is located a few blocks south of the Montgomery Blvd. and Wyoming Blvd. intersection at 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE. The proposed use on the Subject Site is retail commercial space and/or a restaurant with drive thru pickup window. The current IDO MX-T zoning adopted by the City of Albuquerque did not allow a drive thru window (even though the current use on the property was a drive thru window). Therefore, we are essentially asking for a zone map amendment request to obtain a land use that existed prior to the adoption of the IDO.

II. Summary of the Zone Map Amendment Request

Current Zoning: The subject site is currently zoned MX-T. It was previously zoned SU-1 prior to the adoption of Albuquerque’s Integrated Development Ordinance (“IDO”).

Proposed Zoning: The application for zone map amendment is from the existing MX-T to MX-L.
III. Compliance with IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3)

IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3) “Review and Decision Criteria” requires that an Applicant of a zone map amendment offer sufficient justification for the Application by providing a detailed response to all of the policies contained within that section. In compliance, Joshua Skarsgard, as Agent on behalf of the Applicant, provides the following responses to IDO Section 14-16-6-7(F)(3):

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(a):
The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and other applicable plans adopted by the City.

Applicant Response: The proposed zone change is consistent with the health, safety, and general welfare of the City as shown by furthering (and not being in conflict with) a preponderance of applicable Goals and Policies in the ABC Comprehensive Plan as shown below (later in this justification letter). As demonstrated in our policy analysis below, the proposed zone change to MX-L would clearly facilitate the desired goals of the Comp Plan which provides a framework to guide private development land use decisions, and decision-makers as they contemplate new plans affecting the whole community. Also, the IDO design requirements will help ensure that this rehabilitate bank site will be consistent with the health and welfare of the Abq residents.

Specifically, our Application shows that the following comp plan polices demonstrate that the proposed zone map amendment to MX-L is consistent with the health, safety and general welfare of the City based on the following guiding principles:

Policy 4.1.2-Identity and Design;
Goal 5.1-Centers & Corridors;
Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas;
Policy 5.1.10-Major Transit Corridor;
Goal 5.2- Complete Communities;
Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses;
Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development;
Policy 5.6.2-Areas of Change;
Policy 6.1.3-Auto Demand;
Goal 8.1-Placemaking;
Policy 8.1.1- Diverse Places;
Policy 8.1.2-Resilient Economy.

Additionally the following components also demonstrate the zone change consistency with the health and welfare of the City of Albuquerque:

- Strong Neighborhoods – The zone map amendment is consistent with the appropriate mix of land uses in the Subject Site’s neighborhood, which includes adequate infrastructure and community facilities to support such development.
- Economic Vitality – The zone map amendment encourages a healthy mix of uses and will create a desirable place to live and work for the surrounding residential communities.
- Sustainability – The Subject Site is currently a +/- 2,424 square foot vacant building that would be rehabilitated requiring fewer natural resources to be used during redevelopment.
• **Mobility** – The Subject Site is located in a multi-modal corridor, the proposed zone map amendment would allow for a land use that would complement the existing transportation networks along Wyoming Blvd.

• **Equity** – The proposed development will locate jobs and community services near the surrounding residential communities lowering household transportation costs.

• **Community Health** – The proposed development is consistent with the existing land uses in the immediate area and does not conflict with the community health of the neighborhood.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(b): *If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Consistency (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the new zone would clearly reinforce or strengthen the established character or the surrounding Area of Consistency and would not permit development that is significantly different from that character. The applicant must also demonstrate that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets any of the following criteria:*

1. There was a typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

**Applicant Response:** The Subject Site is not located in an Area of Consistency.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(c): *If the proposed amendment is located wholly or partially in an Area of Change (as shown in the ABC Comp Plan, as amended), the applicant has demonstrated that the existing zoning is inappropriate because it meets at least one of the following criteria:*

1. There was a typographical or clerical error when the existing zone district was applied to the property.
2. There has been a significant change in neighborhood or community conditions affecting the site that justifies this request.
3. A different zone district is more advantageous to the community as articulated by the ABC Comp Plan, as amended (including implementation of patterns of land use, development density and intensity, and connectivity), and other applicable adopted City plan(s).

**Applicant Response:** A different zone district is more advantageous to the community based on the goals and policies of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan. The subject site is located in an area that the 2017 Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan designates as Area of Change. Applicable Goals and policies are listed below:

**Policy 4.1.2 - Identity and Design:** Protect the identity and cohesiveness of neighborhoods by ensuring the appropriate scale and location of development, mix of uses, and character of building design.

The request would facilitate re-development of the subject site under the MX-L zone in an Area of Change and along a Major Transit Corridor where development is intended. Any future site plans would be subject to IDO requirements established specifically to protect the identity and cohesiveness of adjacent neighborhoods, which are intended to remain
stable: Neighborhood Edges (14-16-5-9), buffer landscaping (14-16-5-6-(E)), mixed-use zone dimensional standards (Table 5-1-2), and building design standards (14-16-4-11). These requirements help ensure appropriate scale and location of development and character of building design. The request furthers Policy 4.1.4- Identity and Design.

Chapter 5: Land Use Goal 5.1-Centers & Corridors: Grow as a community of strong Centers connected by a multimodal network of Corridors.

The subject site is located close to the Activity Center at Wyoming and Montgomery and is connected to these areas via the Major Transit Corridor, Wyoming Blvd. The request would foster redevelopment of the subject site, which would help the community grow in general, though the growth would be adjacent to a designated Activity Centers and not in them as desired. The request partially furthers Goal 5.1- Centers & Corridors.

Policy 5.1.1- Desired Growth: Capture regional growth in Centers and Corridors to help shape the built environment into a sustainable development pattern.

The subject site’s location immediately adjacent to the Wyoming and Montgomery intersection gives it visibility and access directly from both the Montgomery Major Transit Corridor and the Wyoming Blvd. Major Transit Corridor. This could help future development capture regional growth along the Major Transit Corridor of Montgomery Blvd which could generally contribute to shaping a sustainable development pattern. The request generally furthers Policy 5.1.1- Desired Growth.

Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas: Direct more intense growth to Centers and Corridors and use Development Areas to establish and maintain appropriate density and scale of development within areas that should be more stable.

The subject site is located along a designated Major Transit Corridor, Montgomery Blvd and Wyoming Blvd. which is intended to receive more intense growth. The MX-L zone would allow a variety of commercial, service, and residential uses to develop in an Area of Change, which would support and encourage transit usage. The surrounding residential areas (an Area of Consistency) would remain stable be protected by the Neighborhood Edge provisions of the IDO (14-16-5-9), which include screening, buffering, and building height regulations that would help maintain an appropriate density and scale of development in the non-growth area. The request furthers Policy 5.1.2-Development Areas.

Policy 5.1.10- Major Transit Corridors: Foster corridors that prioritize high-frequency transit service with pedestrian-oriented development.

The request would facilitate development of uses under the MX-L zone. Though similar to the MX-T zone, the MX-L zone is intended to provide moderate intensity retail uses and a conditional use application for the existing drive thru window of the bank. More intense uses (especially drive thru window rehabilitation of the bank building) are generally desirable along Major Transit Corridors because they would result in more people using transit and walking along the corridor. The request furthers Policy 5.1.10-Major Transit Corridors.

Goal 5.2 - Complete Communities: Foster communities where residents can live, work, learn, shop, and play together.
The request to rezone the subject site to MX-L would allow a greater range of uses that the market desires on this intersection of Wyoming and Montgomery. Although the MX-T has a larger variety of uses (including housing), the purpose of the MX-I zone is to provide a smaller variety of moderate-intensity retail, commercial, institutional, which would facilitate re-development of the subject site and help foster sense of community. New commercial use (rehabilitated bank and drive thru window) could develop on the subject site and help strengthen the community by providing more opportunities where residents can work, learn, shop, and play together. The request partially furthers Goal 5.2-Complete Communities.

Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses: Create healthy, sustainable, and distinct communities with a mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods.

The request would facilitate redevelopment of the subject site under the MX-L zone, which allows a variety of commercial, civic, and institutional uses that could add to the mix of uses in this Area of Change. Future uses would generally help contribute to a healthy, sustainable, and distinct community because they would bring additional opportunities (services, food and coffee, jobs, etc.) to the area and help contribute to its distinct character. The subject site’s location along a Major Transit Corridor (both Wyoming Blvd and the nearby Montgomery Blvd) would help transit users, pedestrians, bicyclists, and residents from the surrounding neighborhoods to have convenient access to the uses. The request furthers Policy 5.2.1-Land Uses.

Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development: Support additional growth in areas with existing infrastructure and public facilities.

The request would facilitate redevelopment of the subject site as a closed down bank with drive thru window, which is located in an area already served by existing infrastructure and public facilities. The additional growth would be considered infill development due to the subject site’s location in an established urban area that has been developed since approximately the 1950s. The request furthers Policy 5.3.1-Infill Development.

Goal 5.6- City Development Areas: Encourage and direct growth to Areas of Change where it is expected and desired and ensure that development in and near Areas of Consistency reinforces the character and intensity of the surrounding area.

The subject site (Former Bank of Albuquerque with a drive thru window) is designated an Area of Change and the surrounding, established neighborhoods are designated an Area of Consistency. The request would encourage and direct growth to an Area of Change, as desired by the Comprehensive Plan. Focusing growth in this location would also help direct pressure for development away from the surrounding neighborhoods, which are intended to remain stable in order to reinforce their character and maintain the low-intensity of the surrounding area. The request generally furthers Goal 5.6-City Development Areas.

Policy 5.6.2- Areas of Change: Direct growth and more intense development to Centers, Corridors, industrial and business parks, and Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas where change is encouraged.
The subject site is located in an Area of Change, along a designated Major Transit Corridor (Montgomery Blvd to the south and Wyoming Blvd. in front of the subject site), where the Comprehensive Plan intends and encourages change to happen. The request would direct growth and more intense development to the subject site and accommodate it along a Major Transit Corridor, while directing growth away from the surrounding neighborhoods located in an Area of Consistency. The request furthers Policy 5.6.2- Areas of Change.

Chapter 6-Transportation Policy 6.1.3-Auto Demand: Reduce the need for automobile travel by increasing mixed-use development, infill development within Centers, and travel demand management (TDM) programs.

The request could increase shopping and dining to an infill development, which could generally help reduce the need for automobile travel away from this Montgomery and Wyoming Blvd. corridor. Though the development would not be in a designated Activity Center as intended, the subject site is located along a Major Transit Corridor (Wyoming Blvd) that links two designated Activity Centers to the south and north of the Subject Site, which could encourage more transit usage. The request partially furthers Policy 6.1.3.

Chapter 7-Urban Design Policy 7.3.5 -Development Quality: Encourage innovative and high quality design in all development.

The request is for a zone change, which does not include building elevations. The Applicant does not exactly what the final land use will be, but it will likely be retail, banking of dining (with a drive thru). There is no way to evaluate design at this stage, though the applicable IDO design standards (see 4.1.2-Identity and Design) would ensure higher quality design than what exists today. Therefore, the request partially furthers Policy 7.3.5-Development Quality.

Chapter 8- Economic Development Goal 8.1-Placemaking: Create places where business and talent will stay and thrive.

The request could facilitate development of a place where business and talent will stay and thrive because the MX-L zone allows for a greater variety of business, commercial, and restaurant uses that would support such a place. Higher-density residential uses is not the goal of this zone change so the housing will not be applied to this Subject Site. The Applicant believes that rehabilitating a closed bank will create place where new jobs and new talent can thrive. The request partially furthers Goal 8.1 Placemaking.

Policy 8.1.1 –Diverse Places: Foster a range of interesting places and contexts with different development intensities, densities, uses, and building scale to encourage economic development opportunities.

In general, the request could help foster a range of interesting places and contexts in the area when you consider as part of a larger re-development taking place behind the subject site with the closed HASTINGS and large boxes that will be rehabilitated. A wider variety of uses (bank, retail, dining with drive thru window, etc.) could develop under the MX-L zone, and therefore could encourage economic development opportunities with different intensities, densities, and building scales as compared to the existing commercial and single-family residential uses in the area. The request generally furthers Policy 8.1.1 – Diverse Places.
**Policy 8.1.2 -Resilient Economy:** Encourage economic development efforts that improve quality of life for new and existing residents and foster a robust, resilient, and diverse economy.

The request would encourage and facilitate redevelopment of the subject site from a closed bank to new uses (retail, dining with drive thru), an economic development effort, which would generally contribute to improved quality of life for existing and new area residents. Redeveloping the subject site would clean it up and therefore improve quality of life. A wider variety of commercial, civic, and institutional uses would be possible under the MX-L zone, which would generally contribute to a robust, resilient, and diverse economy. The request generally furthers Policy 8.1.2-Resilient Economy.

**Policy 8.1.3 -Economic Base:** Strengthen and diversify the economic base to help reduce reliance non-government spending.

Typically, economic base jobs are jobs in manufacturing and production. They provide a "base" to the economy that generates and supports retail and service jobs. The request would result in MX-L zoning on a smaller one acre site. Some permissive uses in the MX-L zone (not allowed in the MX-T zone) could provide some non-service and better paying jobs. However, the goal of this redevelopment is to later file for a Conditional Use application to preserve the drive thru window that was existing on the site prior to the IDP adoption. The goal is to create jobs in the redevelopment of the site. These new jobs would generally help strengthen and diversify the economy and reduce reliance on government spending, though they are not true economic base jobs. The request partially furthers Policy 8.1.3 -Economic Base.

**Goal 5.3- Efficient Development Patterns:** Promote development patterns that maximize the utility of existing infrastructure and public facilities and the efficient use of land to support the public good.

The request would promote re-development of the subject site, which is an infill site because it’s located in an area of the City that has been developed since approximately the 1950s. Existing infrastructure and public facilities are already in place to serve the subject site; infill development is an efficient use of land that supports the public good because it promotes an efficient development pattern. The request furthers Goal 5.3-Efficient Development Patterns.

**ABC Comp Plan Policy 5.6.2 Areas of Change.** The Subject Site is in an Area of Change. The proposed development would be complementary with the existing land uses in the area, create new jobs, and take advantage of this neighborhood located by highly connected street grid and already well served by infrastructure and transit.

The Subject Site is surrounded on ALL SIDES by commercial uses. The zone change will not have negative impacts on surrounding residential areas with respect to noise, stormwater runoff, contaminants, lighting, air quality, or traffic because they are not located near the Subject Site to be impacted by the redevelopment and operation retail space or a restaurant.

Retail and/or restaurant use would be a great addition to the neighborhood and be a nice benefit by rehabilitating an aging building with a fresh, visually appealing look. The Applicant believes that this location for retail/restaurant respects the neighborhood values.
**14-16-6-7(F)(3)(d):** The zone change does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community, unless the Use-specific Standards in Section 16-16-4-3 associated with that use will adequately mitigate those harmful impacts.

**Applicant Response:** The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(d) because the subject site is currently zoned MX-T [IDO 14-16-2-4], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are described in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130.

The request proposes to change the subject site’s zoning to MX-L [Mixed-Use Low Intensity Zone District, IDO 14-16-2-4(B)], which was assigned upon adoption of the IDO. Primary land uses are non-destination retail and commercial uses, townhouses, low-density multi-family residential dwellings, and civic and institutional uses to serve the surrounding area. Specific permissive uses are listed in Table 4-2: Allowable Uses, IDO p. 130.

A couple of key differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones are general retail and drive thru windows are “conditional uses” in the MX-L zone. In the MX-L zone, only General Retail, Small is allowed. In the MX-T zone, General Retail, Small and General Retail, Medium are allowed permissively. The IDO’s assignment of MX-T zoning to the subject site made the existing drive thru window a non-conforming use. There are other notable differences between the MX-L and the MX-T zones. A bar, light vehicle fueling station, and light vehicle sales and rental, mortuary, pawn shop, and transit facility are conditional uses in the MX-L zone (and require a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE). Hospital, catering service, and nightclub are not allowed in MX-L. Liquor retail is an accessory use in MX-L.

The requested MX-L zone does not include permissive uses that would be harmful of adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community. The zone change would be consistent with the surrounding land uses to the north and south of the Subject Site, and allow a slightly broader variety of community services to be developed on the Subject Site than the existing zoning allows, adding to the healthy mix of uses already present in the neighborhood. It is important to remember that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property.

A drive-through is a conditional use in MX-L and therefore, if the Applicant is successful in this Zone Map Amendment then the Applicant will follow up with a conditional use application to the ZHE for a drive thru.

The permissive uses between the MX-L zoning designation and the MX-T zoning designation are very similar. I have outlined the permissive uses in MXM in the following list:

*INSERT THE CHART DEMONSTRATING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MX-L and MX-T*

**The Change in Permissive Uses Will Not be Harmful:**

The Permissive uses in MX-L that could be construed as having possible harmful effects such as a bar, nightclub, fueling station or retail liquor are regulated by local, state and federal requirements and must comply with all New Mexico state laws, including but not limited to any required spacing from other uses or facilities. They are also controlled by Specific-Use Standards found in the IDO to mitigate potential harmful effects on the surrounding area. Future development on the subject site under the MX-M zone would be subject to IDO requirements.
including Neighborhood Edges (14-16- S-9), the mixed-use zone dimensional standards (Table 5-1-2), buffer landscaping (14-16-5-6 (E), and building design standards (14-16-4-11) to help ensure appropriate scale and location of development and character of building design.

Other City ordinances, such as the Noise Ordinance, and State regulations pertaining to alcohol licensing, for example, would also apply to future uses and serve to mitigate the potentially harmful impacts of such uses on the subject site.

The Use Standards in the IDO include precautionary measures such as distance requirements, size restrictions, design standards, screening requirements will give confidence to the neighbors and the EPC that the expanded permissive uses will not be harmful to the neighborhood.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e): The City's existing infrastructure and public improvements, including but not limited to its street, trail, and sidewalk systems meet one of the following requirements:
1. Have adequate capacity to serve the development made possible by the change of zone.
2. Will have adequate capacity based on improvements for which the City has already approved and budgeted capital funds during the next calendar year.
3. Will have adequate capacity when the applicant fulfills its obligation under the IDO, the DPM, and/or an Infrastructure Improvements Agreement.
4. Will have adequate capacity when the City and the applicant have fulfilled their respective obligations under a City-approved Development Agreement between the City and the applicant.

Applicant Response: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(e) because the existing infrastructure and public improvements currently have adequate capacity to serve the proposed development. The Subject Site includes an existing building that was formerly a Bank of Albuquerque branch. The proposed development will not create the need for any additional infrastructure or public improvements.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(f): The applicant’s justification for the requested zone change is not completely based on the property’s location on a major street.

Applicant Response: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(f) because the rationale and justification for the zone change is not based on the property’s location on Wyoming Blvd. The zone map amendment is justified pursuant to the goals and policies of the Albuquerque Comp Plan. Additionally, it is noteworthy that this site was historically a bank with a drive thru window, and the Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property. The site next door (Bank of America) has a drive up ATM service and historically there are many drive thru windows in this trade area (Satellite Coffee, McDonald’s, Starbucks, etc.).

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(g): The applicant’s justification is not based completely or predominately on the cost of land or economic considerations.

Applicant Response: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(g) because the cost of the land or economic considerations is not the basis for the Applicant’s justification. The rationale is clearly contained in the letter above and is not a result of economic considerations as the predominant reason for the application.

14-16-6-7(F)(3)(h): The zone change does not apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area, one premises (i.e. create a “spot zone”) or to a strip of land along
a street (i.e. create a “strip zone”) unless the change will clearly facilitate implementation of the ABC Comp Plan, as amended, and at least one of the following applies:

1. The area of the zone change is different from surrounding land because it can function as a transition between adjacent zone districts.
2. The site is not suitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district due to topography, traffic, or special adverse land uses nearby.
3. The nature of structures already on the premises makes it unsuitable for the uses allowed in any adjacent zone district.

Applicant Response: The request meets the criteria of 14-16-6-7(F)(3)(h) because the properties just north of the Subject Site are zoned MX-L, the proposed zone change of the Subject Site to MX-L will be congruent to existing zoning in the direct vicinity. The proposed development will also be complementary with the surrounding uses. The Applicant is simply attempting to re-establish a drive thru window use that existed for years on the Subject Property. The site next door (Bank of America) has a drive up ATM service and historically there are many drive thru windows in this trade area (Satellite Coffee, McDonald’s, Starbucks, etc.).

We appreciate the opportunity to submit for a zone map amendment. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Skarsgard, Agent
PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW TEAM (PRT) MEETING NOTES

PA# 19.090  Date: 03.26.2019  Time: 1:00pm
Address: 4201 Wyoming NE

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES AT MEETING:
Planning:
Code Enforcement:
Fire Marshall:
Transportation:
Other:

PRT DISCUSSIONS ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY!
THEY ARE NON-BINDING AND DO NOT CONSTITUTE ANY KIND OF APPROVAL.
Additional research may be necessary to determine the exact type of application and/or process needed.
Factors unknown at this time and/or thought of as minor could become significant as the case progresses.

REQUEST:

SITE INFORMATION:
Zone: MX-T  Size: 0.8354 acre
Use: commercial
Comp Plan: Change
Overlay Zone: N/A
Associated Plans:
MPOS / Sensitive Lands / MR Area / CPO: 11/06/20/20
Parking / Landscaping / Street Trees:
Use Specific Standards:
Dimensional Standards: N/A
*Neighborhood Organization/s: District 7 Coalition SIS Youth
*This is preliminary information only. Neighborhood Organization information is only accurate when obtained from the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC) at www.cobq.gov/neighborhoods/resources.

PROCESS:
Review and Approval Body: EPC for Zone Change
Is this PRT a requirement?
Type of Action: Zone Change
Notification:
Could try for NR-C, but would be spot zone difficult to justify

Please Review EPL Zone Change Renewal Decision Criteria per 6.7 F p. 427 6.6A p385

Could try for MX-L, and then Conditional Use Permit for Drive-through this seems most viable option but a process

Could try for MX-M because same MX-M easy - corner, however many more uses to justify

Wanted to know when Start drive-through was last in operation - burden on applicant

Allowable Uses Table 4.2

If use is within 24 months of May 17, 2018 may be able to do Voluntary Zone Conversion

MX-L

MX-M - most difficult

Post 1DO Voluntary Zone Conversion
STAFF INFORMATION
May 24, 2019

TO: Josh Skarsgard, Land Development 8, LLC
FROM: Catalina Lehner, Senior Planner
City of Albuquerque Planning Department
TEL: (505) 924-3935
RE: Project #2019-002353, RZ-2019-00021, La Mirada Zone Change

I re-reviewed version 2 (v.2) of the proposed zone map amendment (zone change) request. Some questions remain outstanding.

Many of the suggestions to bring the justification up to the standards expected of all applicants were not incorporated, though they were described in the first deficiency memo, dated May 13, 2019. Unaddressed, or insufficiently addressed, items from the first deficiency memo are highlighted.

Please provide the following:

⇒ A revised zone change justification letter pursuant to the zone change criteria (one copy) by:

12 pm on Thursday, May 30, 2019.

Note: If you have difficulty with this deadline, please let me know.

1) Introduction:

A. Please use the date the letter is written, NOT the old April 25, 2019 date. This helps for tracking versions.

B. The paragraph regarding history of the subject site is misleading. There is no “current use” on the subject site; this use ceased to operate, apparently a long time ago. Please remove the word “current”, as this will confuse the EPC.

C. Same with the last sentence regarding “essentially asking for a zone change to get a use that existed prior to the IDO”. This will also create confusion. Remove sentence. The EPC will want to know why you didn’t apply for a zone conversion.

C. How long did the most recent use on the property exist? When did it cease to operate?

2) Process: please refer to the May 13, 2019 letter.

3) Notification & Neighborhood Issues: please refer to the May 13, 2019 letter.

4) Project Letter:

A. There really is no project letter with this request. Some of that type of information is found under I. I would change this section to “I. Project Background” and expand it to address several items (see B, below).
B. Please discuss the following: intention of the project-i.e. why a zone change is claimed to be needed. What do you want to develop and why? What was the use of the property on May 17, 2018?

C. Could the subject site have qualified for a voluntary zone conversion? Why or why not? If so, why did you not pursue the easier (and free) path?

D. It can be argued that the MX-L zone is appropriate for the subject site, since MX-T was assigned based on the zoning conversion rules adopted by the City Council. Why shouldn’t the property be zoned MX-T?

5) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- General:

A. A zone change justification is all about the requirements of the zone change criteria in the IDO at 6-7(F)(3) and how the applicant can demonstrate that the request fulfills them.

   The merits of the project and neighborhood support are not included in the criteria. Therefore, these belong in the project letter and not in the justification.

B. The task is to choose applicable Goals and policies from the Comprehensive Plan and show how the request furthers them. How does the request relate to the Goal or policy and make it a reality?

   Guiding principles, objectives, and text are not included in the requirement so no need to address them.

C. Responding the A-H of the zone change criteria is both a legal exercise and a planning exercise. It is critical to “hit the nail on the head” conceptually and in terms of form. This can be done by:

   i. responding to each requirement in the customary way (see examples).
   ii. using conclusory statements such as “because_______”.
   iii. re-phrasing the requirement itself in the response, and
   iv. choosing an option when needed to respond to a requirement (ex. Criterion B, E, and H).

D. Please use the GIS map tool previously mentioned to identify if the subject site is an Area of Change or Area of Consistency, and if it is located in a designated Center or along a designated Corridor.

6) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- Concepts & Research: please refer to the May 13, 2019 letter.

7) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- Section by Section:

Please address and incorporate the following to provide a strengthened response to the IDO zone change criteria.

A. Criterion A (re-do in entirety): Criterion A is like the old subsection C of R270-1980. This is where a fully-developed policy analysis goes to support the request. The requirement reads “a
preponderance of applicable Goals and policies. Therefore, do not cite guiding principles, objectives, or text as they are not included in the requirement.

Copy each cited Goal and policy verbatim from the Comp plan. Then respond after each. Please see how policy analysis is done as a standard procedure.

- Add citations of Goals and policies- full text.
- Add your responses, in accordance with the above, after each citation.
- Take the policy analysis outline provided in the response to Criterion C and bring it into Criterion A, as a starting point.
- Question: Is the subject site in a designated Activity Center or along a designated Corridor?
- Devil’s advocate: redevelopment of the subject site could occur without the zone change.
- Be sure to include a conclusory statement regarding the entirety of Criterion A.

B. Criterion B: OK.

C. Criterion C (re-do): Please place the policy analysis in the response to Criterion A, as explained previously.

It's very obvious that the policy analysis was copied, pretty much verbatim, from the analysis pertaining to another project. Your task is to select Goals and policies that are relevant to your request. Some of the Goals and policies copied over do not apply. There has not been sufficient thought, on your part, regarding the Goals and policies selected. Without a nexus, your case isn't proven.

Questions: how is the request for more intense growth? How would it facilitate “regional growth” or base jobs?

D. Criterion D (re-do): To properly answer this test requires a discussion of the permissive uses in the proposed zone. Please list them and discuss each, with emphasis on whether or not they would be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.

Please see examples of how this is done using a table or columns.

Again, this is copied information clearly taken from another case. Some of the statements do not make sense in the context of the current case.

DELETE the sentence “It's important to remember that the site was historically a bank with a drive-thru window”. This is NOT important or relevant to the zone change criteria. There is no criterion for a historical argument.

E. Criterion E: OK

F. Criterion F (strengthen): Is Wyoming Blvd. a major street? What is its designation? This needs to be included in the response (look it up on AGIS). Delete the third and fourth sentences regarding history because they are not relevant to this criterion.
G. **Criterion G (clarify and strengthen):** It appears that the cost of land or economic considerations are the reasons for the proposed zone change. If not these, then what are the reasons? Say what it is, not that the “rationale is clearly contained in the letter above”. What is this rationale?

H. **Criterion H (re-do):** The question needs to be expressly re-stated in the response to ensure that it is answered. Does the zone change apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area, to one premise or to a strip of land along a street? Use these words and then explain why or why not.

Delete the third and fourth sentences in the response, as they are not relevant to the requirement in Criterion H. It doesn’t matter what’s happening on other properties; the zone change is ONLY about the subject site.
May 13, 2019

TO: Josh Skarsgard, Land Development 8, LLC
FROM: Catalina Lehner, Senior Planner
City of Albuquerque Planning Department
TEL: (505) 924-3935
RE: Project #2019-002353, RZ-2019-00021, La Mirada Zone Change

I’ve completed a first review of the proposed zone map amendment (zone change) request. I have some questions and suggestions that will help strengthen the justification. I am available to answer questions about the process and requirements. Please provide the following:

⇒ A revised zone change justification letter pursuant to the zone change criteria (one copy) by:

12 pm on Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

Note: If you have difficulty with this deadline, please let me know.

1) Introduction:

A. Though I’ve done my best for this review, additional items may arise as the case progresses. If so, I will inform you immediately.

B. This is what I have for the legal description: Lot 3, Summary Plat of Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14, La Mirada Subdivision. Is this correct?

C. How long did the most recent use on the property exist? When did it cease to operate?

D. Please tell me about the letter of authorization.

2) Process:

A. Information regarding the EPC process, including the calendar and current Staff reports, can be found at:
http://www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions/environmental-planning-commission

B. Timelines and EPC calendar: the EPC public hearing for June is the 13th. Final staff reports will be available one week prior, on June 6th.

C. A pre-application review team (PRT) meeting is required. I found the PRT notes in the file.

D. Agency comments will be distributed around Wednesday, May 22nd. I will email you a copy of the comments and will forward any late comments to you.

E. A Traffic Impact Study (TIS) will be required at a future date if the subject site re-develops.

3) Notification & Neighborhood Issues:

Notification requirements for a zone change are found in Table 6-1-1 (IDO, p. 328) and are explained in Section 6-4(K), Public Notice (IDO, p. 345).
A. The required notification consists of an emailed letter to neighborhood representatives indicated by the ONC and a mailed letter (first-class) to property owners within 100 feet of the subject site. Why were certified letters sent to NA representatives?

B. A separate offer for a meeting (pre-application facilitated meeting) was sent via email on April 2nd, but it looks like it only went to one neighborhood representative. Please clarify.

C. Do you anticipate that a facilitated meeting will be requested? Are you aware of any concerns?

D. Have any neighborhood representatives or members of the public contacted you so far? As of this writing, no one has contacted me.

4) Project Letter:

A. There really is no project letter with this request. Some of that type of information is found under I. I would change this section to “I. Project Background” and expand it to address several items (see B, below).

B. Please discuss the following: intention of the project—i.e. why a zone change is claimed to be needed. What do you want to develop and why? What was the use of the property on May 17, 2018?

C. Could the subject site have qualified for a voluntary zone conversion? Why or why not? If so, why did you not pursue the easier (and free) path?

D. It can be argued that the MX-L zone is appropriate for the subject site, since MX-T was assigned based on the zoning conversion rules adopted by the City Council. Why shouldn’t the property be zoned MX-T?

5) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- General:

A. A zone change justification is all about the requirements of the zone change criteria in the IDO at 6-7(F)(3) and how the applicant can demonstrate that the request fulfills them.

The merits of the project and neighborhood support are not included in the criteria. Therefore, these belong in the project letter and not in the justification.

B. The task is to choose applicable Goals and policies from the Comprehensive Plan and show how the request furthers them. How does the request relate to the Goal or policy and make it a reality?

Guiding principles, objectives, and text are not included in the requirement so no need to address them.

C. Responding the A-H of the zone change criteria is both a legal exercise and a planning exercise. It is critical to “hit the nail on the head” conceptually and in terms of form. This can be done by:

i. responding to each requirement in the customary way (see examples).

ii. using conclusory statements such as “because________”.

iii. re-phrasing the requirement itself in the response, and
iv. choosing an option when needed to respond to a requirement (ex. Criterion B, E, and H).

D. Please use the GIS map tool previously mentioned to identify if the subject site is an Area of Change or Area of Consistency, and if it is located in a designated Center or along a designated Corridor.

6) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- Concepts & Research:

A. A thorough, substantiated, and well-thought out zone change justification essay is expected of all applicants.

Please review recent zone change cases and see how other applicants have presented their justifications (though of course, each case is different). Old EPC cases are publicly available online at: http://www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions/environmental-planning-commission/epc-agendas-reports-minutes

The links are listed by hearing date. Each contains a Staff report and attachments. The applicant’s justification essay, which is evaluated in the associated Staff report, is found in the attachments.

B. It would be beneficial to study a recent zone change case and note how the criteria were responded to. Please pay careful attention to how Staff does a policy analysis, because the same is expected of applicants. Here is a link to a Staff report where approval is recommended:

http://documents.cabq.gov/planning/environmental-planning-commission/April2019/Agenda%203%202019-002043%20Old%20Kmart%20ZC.pdf

The Staff reports explain in detail regarding why the responses are sufficient or insufficient, so please read the analysis in each and incorporate this understanding into your own justification.

7) Zone Map Amendment (zone change)- Section by Section:

Please address and incorporate the following to provide a strengthened response to the IDO zone change criteria.

A. Criterion A (re-do in entirety): Criterion A is like the old subsection C of R270-1980. This is where a fully-developed policy analysis goes to support the request. The requirement reads “a preponderance of applicable Goals and policies”. Therefore, do not cite guiding principles, objectives, or text as they are not included in the requirement.

Copy each cited Goal and policy verbatim from the Comp plan. Then respond after each. Please see how policy analysis is done as a standard procedure.

Like responding to a legal requirement, the words of the Goal or policy cited need to be incorporated into your responses; otherwise, they are not sufficiently tied together and the link is not strong and your case is not proven.

- Add citations of Goals and policies- full text.
- Add your responses, in accordance with the above, after each citation.
- Take the policy analysis outline provided in the response to Criterion C and bring it into Criterion A, as a starting point.
- The responses in Criterion C, which will move to Criterion A, are deficient because they do not cite each Goal and policy verbatim, and the responses don’t “hit the nail on the head” with respect to the words and meaning of each citation. In other words, insufficient nexus. Without a nexus, your case isn’t proven.

- Q: Is the subject site in a designated Activity Center or along a designated Corridor?

- Devil’s advocate: redevelopment of the subject site could occur without the zone change.

- Tip: do not choose Goals and policies that have to do with site design, because a site development plan is not a part of the request, unless you can tie them to 1DO requirements in some way.

- Be sure to include a conclusory statement regarding the entirety of Criterion A.

B. **Criterion B:** OK.

C. **Criterion C (re-do):** Please place the policy analysis in the response to Criterion A, as explained previously. The response to Criterion C is insufficient because the policy analysis does not provide verbatim citations, lacks adequate citations of both Goals and policies, does not contain a meaningful connection between each citation and the request, and therefore does not demonstrate that a different zoning category would be more advantageous to the community.

D. **Criterion D (re-do):** To properly answer this test requires a discussion of the permissive uses in the proposed zone. Please list them and discuss each, with emphasis on whether or not they would be harmful to adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.

Please see examples of how this is done using a table or columns. The discussion should not only address permissive uses in the MX-L zone, but should explain the differences between the existing and proposed zones as a meaningful way to address the question of harm that could result from the request.

E. **Criterion E:** OK

F. **Criterion F (strengthen):** Re-state the requirement in the response, using each word. Is Wyoming Blvd. a major street? What is its designation? This needs to be included in the response.

G. **Criterion G (clarify and strengthen):** Re-state the requirement in the response. It appears that the cost of land or economic considerations are the reasons for the proposed zone change. If not these, then what are the reasons?

If economic reasons was not the determining factor, and the request qualifies for a City-sponsored zone conversion, then it seems that would be the more logical pathway (and it would be free).

H. **Criterion H (re-do):** The question needs to be expressly re-stated in the response to ensure that it is answered. Does the zone change apply a zone district different from surrounding zone districts to one small area, to one premise or to a strip of land along a street? Use these words and then explain why or why not.

Delete the second and third sentences in the response, as they are not relevant to the requirement in Criterion H. This is project letter stuff that doesn’t help in the justification.
NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION
# Retail Southwest Development

## 0220 South Street
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Office: 505.342.2333
Fax: 505.342.9866
Email: info@realsouthwestdevelopment.com

### Contact Information

**Name:** Retail Southwest Development

**Address:**
- 5220 San Pedro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113
- Office: 505.262.2333
- Fax: 505.558.9030

### Development Director

**Name:**
-Vicente M. Quevedo

**Email:**
-vicente@realsouthwestdevelopment.com

**Phone:**
-505.262.2333

### Development & Redevelopment

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- 3400 Central Avenue NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107

**Email:**
-develop@realsouthwestdevelopment.com

**Phone:**
-505.262.2333

### Neighborhood Meeting Requirements & Template

**Purpose:**
- To provide a structure for organizing and conducting Neighborhood Meetings.

### Template:

- [Neighborhood Meeting Requirements & Template](https://www.ender.gov/planning/real-estate-development/neighborhood-meeting-requirements-in-the-integrated-developer-ordinance)

### Administration & Enforcement

**Purpose:**
- To ensure compliance with the Integrated Development Ordinance.

### Providing Notice of Public Notice Requirements & Template

**Purpose:**
- To provide a structure for notifying the public of Development Ordinance requirements.

### Template:

- [Public Notice Requirements & Template](https://www.ender.gov/planning/real-estate-development/neighborhood-meeting-requirements-in-the-integrated-developer-ordinance)
April 24, 2019

Loma Del Rey NA
Jessica Armijo
3701 Erbbe Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111
jmarmijo@hotmail.com

RE: Public Notice of proposed Zone Map Amendment for 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE

Dear Ms. Armijo,

In accordance with the procedures of the City of Albuquerque’s Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) Subsection 14-16-6-4(K)(2) Mailed Public Notice, we are notifying you as a representative of an affect Neighborhood Association that Joshua J. Skarsgard, as agent, on behalf of Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC will be submitting an application(s) for Zone Map Amendment to be reviewed and decided by the Environmental Planning Commission. The application(s) is proposing a zone map amendment from MX-T to MX-L.

1. Property Owner – Land Development 8, LLC and Red Shamrock 2, LLC
2. Agent – Joshua J. Skarsgard
3. Subject Property Address – 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87111
4. Location Description – South corner of Wyoming Blvd. and La Mirada Pl. (see attached location map)
5. Zone Atlas Page – G-19 (see attached)
6. Legal Description - Lot numbered Three (3) of La Mirada Subdivision, as the same is shown and designated the plat entitled “Amended Summary Plat: Lots 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14 and a Part of Lot 7, La Mirada Subdivision, Albuquerque, New Mexico,” filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalilla County, New Mexico, on March 20, 1981, in Plat Book C18, Page 32. Said parcel lying situate within Section 6, Township 10 North, Range 4 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian, City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico.
7. Area of Property – 0.8070 acres
8. IDO Zone District - Transition
10. More detailed Description of the Request/Project – Zone map amendment from MX-T to MX-L to allow for a retail and or restaurant use with the possibility of a drive-thru upon conditional use allowance.

The anticipated public hearing for this request will be on June 13, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in the Hearing Room (Basement Level) of Plaza Del Sol, 600 2nd St NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102. You can check the agenda for the relevant decision-making body online here: https://www.cabq.gov/planning/boards-commissions or call the Planning Department at 505-924-3860.

NOTE: Anyone may request and the City may require an applicant to attend a City-sponsored facilitated meeting with Neighborhood Associations, based on the complexity and potential impacts of a proposed project [IDO Section 14-16-6-
To request a Facilitated Meeting regarding this project, contact the Planning Department at devhelp@cabq.gov or 505-924-3955. To view and download the Facilitated Meetings Criteria, visit http://www.cabq.gov/planning/urban-design-development/facilitated-meetings-for-proposed-development.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at 505-998-9093 or via josh@retailsouthwest.com.

**Useful Links**

**Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO):**

**IDO Interactive Map**
https://tinyurl.com/IDOzoningmap

**City of Albuquerque Planning Department**
https://www.cabq.gov/planning

**Zone Atlas Pages for Download**
http://data.cabq.gov/business/zoneatlas/

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Skarsgard

Attachments: Location Map
Zone Map Atlas page G-19

**Trish Kvern**
Development Director

8220 San Pedro NE Suite 500 / Albuquerque, NM 87113 / Office 505.262.2323 / Fax 505.998.9080
Direct 505.998.9093 / www.retailsouthwest.com
Your message has been delivered to the following recipients:

jmarmijo@hotmail.com (jmarmijo@hotmail.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

eagan.brian@gmail.com (eagan.brian@gmail.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone...
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

dhc@zianet.com (dhc@zianet.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

mary.kurkjian@gmail.com (mary.kurkjian@gmail.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

dlreganabq@gmail.com (dlreganabq@gmail.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

Michael Pridham (michael@drpridham.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

Imartin900@aol.com (Imartin900@aol.com)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the
destination server:

davidh2420@comcast.net (davidh2420@comcast.net)

Subject: 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE - Zone Map Amendment Notice
April 24, 2019

Loma Del Rey NA
Jessica Armijo
3701 Errbe St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

RE: Public Notice of proposed Zone Map Amendment for 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE

Dear Neighborhood Association Representative,

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https://tinyurl.com/IDOzoningmap

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https://www.cabq.gov/planning

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http://data.cabq.gov/business/zoneatlas/

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joshua J. Skarsgard, Agent

Attachments: Location Map

Zone Map Atlas page G-19
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**Total Postage and Fees:** $7.00

**Sent To:**
- Michael Pridham
  - 7413 Northland Ave NE
  - ABQ NM 87110

**For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com**

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**Sent To:**
- Lynne Martin
  - 1531 Espero NE
  - ABQ NM 87112

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**Sent To:**
- Donald O'Keough
  - 6441 Concordia Rd. NE
  - ABQ NM 87111

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**Sent To:**
- Daniel Reagan
  - 1109 Chamisa St. NE
  - ABQ NM 87109

**For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com**

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**Sent To:**
- Brian Eagan
  - 8416 Hilton Ave. NE
  - ABQ NM 87111

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**Sent To:**
- Mary Kunzian
  - 13709 Camino del Oso Place NE
  - ABQ NM 87111

**For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com**
**U.S. Postal Service™ CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT**

**Domestic Mail Only**

For delivery information, visit our website at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110**

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From: Michael Pridham
To: Trish Kvern
Subject: Re: Neighborhood Association Meeting Request
Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2019 1:12:52 PM

Thank you Trish!

I appreciate the information and at this point, we do not have a need for a meeting. I will let you know if anything changes.

On Tue, Apr 2, 2019 at 12:26 PM Trish Kvern <trish@retailsouthwest.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Pridham,

In accordance with the procedures of the City of Albuquerque’s Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) Subsection 14-16-6-4(C) Neighborhood Meeting, we are providing you an opportunity to discuss a Zone Map Amendment proposed in or near your neighborhood before we submit an application. This would be an informal meeting where Joshua J. Skarsgard, as agent, on behalf of Land Development 8, LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company, as the property owner, would present the proposal, and we could discuss any ideas or concerns you may have.

Contact Information

Trish Kvern - Direct: (505) 998-9093 Email: trish@retailsouthwest.com

Project or Development Proposal

4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

(former Bank of Albuquerque building – Zone Atlas page and survey showing property attached)

Joshua J. Skarsgard, as agent, for Land Development 8, LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company, as the property owner

Zone Map Amendment from MX-T to MX-I with drive thru
We are proposing to amend the zoning of this property to allow for a quick service restaurant use with a drive-thru.

**Per the IDO, you have 15 days from April 2, 2019, to respond,** by either 1) requesting a meeting or 2) declining the meeting. If you do not respond within 15 days, you are waiving the opportunity for a Neighborhood Meeting, and we can submit our application anytime thereafter. We would like to submit our application on May 30, 2019. The meeting must be scheduled for a date within 30 consecutive days of the meeting request being accepted by the Neighborhood Association.

If you would like to meet, please let us if any of the following dates/time work for a meeting in the **first floor conference room of the Paseo Nuevo Office Complex located at 8220 San Pedro Dr. NE Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113:**

- **April 17, 2019 6:00 p.m.**
- **April 29, 2019 6:00 p.m.**
- **May 8, 2019 6:00 p.m.**

This email is being sent to the following Neighborhood Associations: Loma Del Rel NA, District 8 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, District 4 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, and District 7 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations. If acceptable, we would like to have one meeting for all affected associations that are wish to meet, to attend.

Before submitting our application, we will send Mailed and/or Emailed Public Notice as required by IDO Table 6-1-1 to make you aware of the public hearing at which the project will be reviewed and decided by the City.

The following is what we are currently proposing for this development: We are proposing to amend the zoning of this property to allow for a quick service restaurant use with a drive-thru. The exact user of this location has not yet been determined.

**Useful Links**
Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO):


IDO Interactive Map

https://tinyurl.com/IDOzoningmap

Cc: Loma Del Rel NA

District 8 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
District 4 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
District 7 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations

Trish Kvern
Development Director

8220 San Pedro NE Suite 500 Albuquerque, NM 87113 Office 505.262.2323 Fax 505.998.9080

Direct 505.998.9093 www.retailsouthwest.com

Michael Pridham, DC-APC, NRCME, CKTI
Equilibrium Wellness Center
3901 Georgia St. NE Building F
Good Afternoon Catalina:
The Loma Del Rey NA letter of support is attached below for the file (and the Staff Report). Thanks for your help! Josh

From: Brian Eagan [mailto:eagan.brian@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2019 7:38 PM
To: Josh Skarsgard <josh@retailsouthwest.com>
Subject: Loma Del Rey neighborhood association, letter of support; application for zoning change, vacant former Bank of ABQ, 4201 Wyoming Blvd NE at La Mirada Place NE - from Zone MX-T to MX-L, to allow for new restaurant

Dear Josh Skarsgard,

I have good news. This is a letter of support for the proposed application for changing zoning for the land at 4201 Wyoming Boulevard Northeast, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The board of directors for Loma Del Rey neighborhood association voted 7-0 in the favor of the proposal. We wish you success at the environmental Planning Commission. Please let me know if you want me to come testify in person at the hearing to support the proposed zoning change.

Sincerely,

Brian Eagan
on application for zoning change, vacant former Bank of Albuquerque building, 4201 Wyoming Blvd NE at La Mirada Place NE - from Zone MX-T to MX-L, to allow for a new restaurant to move in and make use of the drive up window lanes.

Please see attached PDF file, to view notice of hearing, location map (showing the development site), and city zoning atlas map.

Public Notice of Public Hearing
City of Albuquerque
Environmental Planning Commission (EPC)
June 13, 2019
at 8:30 a.m
Plaza Del Sol Bldg
600 2nd St NW, basement level
Albuquerque, NM

EPC to vote on possible approval of zoning change, to change from Zone MX-T to MX-L, to allow for new restaurant. I move approval of the proposal and I am voting yes.

If you have any questions, please let me know. If needed, we can schedule a special meeting of the Board of Directors in May 2019 to consult with:

Mr. Joshua J. Skarsgard, Esq.
Real Estate Developer
Retail Southwest Inc.

about his proposal. The owner, Land Development 8 LLC purchased the land. His is the agent of the owner.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Eagan, President
Loma Del Rey Neighborhood Association
3620 Wyoming Blvd NE, Suite 130
Albuquerque, NM 87111
505-480-8894 cell
cagan.brian@gmail.com

This message has been analyzed by Deep Discovery Email Inspector.
April 24, 2019

Daughters of Charity of Canossa
5625 Isleta Blvd. SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

RE: Public Notice of proposed Zone Map Amendment
for 4201 Wyoming Blvd. NE

Dear Daughters of Charity of Canossa,

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joshua J. Skarsgard, Agent

Attachments: Location Map
Zone Map Atlas page G-19
IDO Zone Atlas
May 2018

IDO Zoning information as of May 17, 2018
The Zone Districts and Overlay Zones are established by the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO).

For more details about the Integrated Development Ordinance visit: http://www.cabq.gov/planning/codes-policies-regulations/integrated-development-ordinance
DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY OF CANOSSA
5625 ISLETA BLVD SW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87105-6623

LAND DEVELOPMENT 8 LLC & RED
SHAMROCK 2 LLC
8220 SAN PEDRO BLVD NE SUITE 500
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87113-2476

BURNETT WILLIAM D & JOANNE H RVT
8221 PICKARD CT NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87110-1556

W & M CO
317 6TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

G & L INVESTMENT CO INC
317 6TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

BANK OF AMERICA ATTN: CORP REAL
ESTATE ASSESSMENTS
101 N TYRON ST
CHARLOTTE NC 28246-0100

M & M CO
8220 LA MIRADA RD NE SUITE 700
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-1659

W & M CO
317 6TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

DUNCAN THOMAS RAY & LORNA L
8217 PICKARD CT NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87110-1556

G & L INVESTMENT CO INC
317 6TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

BURNETT WILLIAM D & JOANNE H RVT
8221 PICKARD CT NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87110-1556

WI EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD
3900 WYOMING BLVD NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87111

M & M CO
8220 LA MIRADA RD NE SUITE 700
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-1659

W & M CO
317 6TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

ESQUIBEL ALBERT R & ISABEL
8225 PICKARD CT NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87110-1556

HARRISON ALBERT P & ROSEY S
3717 DELMAR DR NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87111