



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Planning Commission

Virginia State Code 15.2-2232
Findings, Proposed Harrisonburg City Public Schools
New Elementary School Site Along Garbers Church Road

On April 8, 2015 at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Planning Commission for the City of Harrisonburg conducted a review of, and held a public hearing for, the proposed Harrisonburg City Public Schools new elementary school site along Garbers Church Road (the Site) pursuant to Harrisonburg City Code Section 10-1-6 and Virginia Code Section 15.2-2232. The Planning Commission received a presentation regarding details of the Site from Dr. Scott Kizner Superintendent of Harrisonburg City Public Schools and received the staff report of the Department of Planning and Community Development.

After due consideration of the information and comments received regarding the Site and the City of Harrisonburg's current Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Commission finds the general or the approximate location, character, and extent of the Site is substantially in accord with the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan, particularly with the following Goals:

- Goal 3: To strengthen existing neighborhoods and promote the development of new neighborhoods that are quiet, safe, beautiful, walkable, enhance social interaction, and offer a balanced range of housing choices.
- Goal 5: To provide a wide and equitably distributed range of educational opportunities for all ages.
- Goal 8: To preserve and enhance the City's natural resources and encourage development that is compatible with nature.
- Goal 10: To develop and maintain a safe and convenient transportation system serving all modes of travel, such as, automobile, pedestrian, bicycle and transit.
- Goal 11: To support a vital city with community facilities, infrastructure and services, which are efficient, cost-effective and conserving of resources.

The above findings are not without the Planning Commission's reservations associated with the trade-offs and costs with not meeting Objective 5.3, which states: To work with the School Board to encourage needed neighborhood elementary schools in underserved areas of the City.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deb Fitzgerald, Planning Commission Chair