

COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

ITEM: Zoning Commission Case 2001-03, a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding freestanding signs for colleges and universities; Midwestern University, Petitioner; Tracy D. Kasson, Attorney and Agent.

DATE: July 3, 2001

PREPARED BY: Amanda G. Browne, Planner
Department of Planning Services

PURPOSE: To consider the recommendation of the Zoning Commission to approve the proposed Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

DISCUSSION:

The Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on May 24, 2001 to consider a proposed text amendment that would establish a new sign category for colleges and universities, with certain conditions.

As outlined in the attached Staff Memorandum dated May 18, 2001, colleges and universities are required to be located on parcels of 40 or more acres, but with respect to signage, are categorized with other institutional uses such as churches and grammar schools which do not have such a large land area requirement. The petitioners, therefore, propose the new sign category for colleges and universities, which would increase the maximum area of freestanding signs from 20 square feet to 50 square feet, and would increase the maximum number of freestanding signs which can be located at the primary entrance of the facility from one to two.

The Zoning Commission voted by a vote of 6:0 to forward a positive recommendation with respect to the proposed amendment.

ATTACHMENTS:

Correspondence to Mayor and Council from Chairman Lawrence Musilak, dated July 3, 2001.
Staff Memorandum dated May 18, 2001 regarding the proposed amendment.
Minutes excerpt of the May 24, 2001 Zoning Commission public hearing.

RECOMMENDATION:

To place consideration of an Ordinance authorizing the proposed text amendment on a future Active Agenda.