

NAME: Hopper – STR-2 (2) – PD-C

LOCATION: 705 S. Oak Street

OWNER:

R.D Hopper
83 Greystone Blvd
Cabot, AR 72023

SURVEYOR/ENGINEER

Brooks Surveying, Inc
20820 Arch Street Pike
Hensley, AR 72065

AREA: .15 acre

NUMBER OF LOTS: 1

FT. NEW STREET: 0 LF

WARD: 3

CURRENT ZONING: R-4

VARIANCE/WAIVERS:

None Requested.

A. PROPOSAL/REQUEST/APPLICANT'S STATEMENT:

The applicant is requesting to rezone a 0.15-acre property located at 705 S. Oak Street from R-4 to PD-C to allow use of the property as a short-term rental 2 (STR-2) with a maximum stay of twenty-nine (29) days. The owner will not reside in the residence. The home is a duplex, and each side will be rented out separately. The residence is currently vacant and is not being used as a short-term rental.

B. EXISTING CONDITIONS:

The property is occupied by a 1,785 square foot, one-story, duplex. The home sits on a dead end; the southern edge of the property is adjacent to the I-630 corridor. There are single family homes surrounding the property going north on Oak. There is a two-car driveway as well as off-street parking. There is a natural land buffer between the home and I-630's corridor. The Future Land Use Plan is Residential Low Density "RL". The current zoning is R-4.

C. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMENTS:

All owners of property located within 300 feet of the site and all neighborhood associations registered with the City of Little Rock were notified of the public hearing.

D. ENGINEERING COMMENTS (PLANNING): No comments.

ENGINEERING COMMENTS (PUBLIC WORKS): No comments.

E. Utilities/Fire Department/Parks/County Planning:

Little Rock Water Reclamation Authority: No comments.

Entergy: No comments received.

Summit Utilities: No comments.

AT & T: No comments received.

Central Arkansas Water: NO OBJECTIONS; All Central Arkansas Water requirements in effect at the time of request for water service must be met

Fire Department: Full life Safety Inspection

Landscape: No comments.

F. Transportation/Planning:

Rock Region Metro: No comments received.

Planning Division:

Land Use Plan:

The request is in District 9, the I-630 Planning District. The development principle of this district is to preserve the residential character of the area and isolate the non-residential use to specific locations without affecting adjacent neighborhoods. The Land Use Plan shows Residential Low Density (RL) use for the application area. The Residential Low Density (RL) category provides for single-family homes at densities not to exceed 6 dwelling units per acre. Such residential development is typically characterized by conventional single-family homes but may also include patio or garden homes and cluster homes, provided that the density remains less than 6 units per acre. The application is for a PD-C for an STR-2 for an existing duplex.

South of the application area is Interstate 630. To the north, east, and west is area designated for Residential Low Density (RL) use and is characterized by single-family

dwellings. Further west is an area designated for Mixed Use (MX) uses characterized by single-family homes, duplexes, and multi-unit residences facing the UAMS Medical Center.

Master Street Plan:

S. Oak St. is a Local Street on the Master Street Plan. Local Streets are roads designed to provide access to adjacent property with the movement of traffic being a secondary purpose. The standard Right-of-way is 50'. Sidewalks are required on one side. This street may require dedication of right-of-way and may require street improvements.

Bicycle Plan:

S. Oak St. is not shown on the Master Bike Plan with existing or proposed facilities in this area.

Historic Preservation Plan:

The application, as shown, should have no effect on identified historic resources.

G. ANALYSIS:

The applicant is requesting to rezone a 0.15-acre property located at 705 S. Oak Street from R-4 to PD-C to allow use of the property as a short-term rental 2 (STR-2) with a maximum stay of twenty-nine (29) days. The owner will not reside in the residence. The home is a duplex, and each side will be rented out separately. The residence is currently vacant and is not being used as a short-term rental.

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On June 20, 2023, the City Board of Directors passed an ordinance regulating short-term rentals within the City of Little Rock. The new ordinance establishes "development standards" for short-term rentals. If approved, the applicant must comply with the newly established development standards as follows, in addition to all other requirements of the new ordinance:

1. Hosting of private parties and special events such as weddings, receptions, and other similar gatherings is not allowed in Short-Term Rentals.
2. Tours for a fee are not allowed to anyone other than an Occupant.
3. The Occupancy Fee may include any meal to be served to paying guests; no other meal service is permitted.
4. Allowable signage is that as permitted by the Single-Family Residential Standard.
5. Parking plan must be provided with permit application. Off-Street Standard for STRs shall be provided in accordance with Little Rock Arkansas Code, Chapter 36 36-54 (e) (1). If on-street parking is proposed as an alternative to meet the above requirements, parking must be available for guest use within 330 feet of the STR and parking plan must address neighborhood impact. If the STR is proposed within a Design Overlay District, any alternate parking requirements, as provided in Little Rock, Arkansas Rev. Code, Chapter 36. Zoning, Article V. District Regulations shall be applicable.
6. Applicants shall provide a scaled floor plan that includes all of the rooms available for rent with location of windows, doors, and smoke detectors identified. Smoke detectors (certified) are required in all sleeping areas, in every room in the path of the means of egress from the sleeping area to the exit, and in each story with sleeping unit, including basements.
7. All sleeping areas must have two (2) ways of egress, one of which can be an operable window.
8. Proof of homeowner's fire, hazard, and liability insurance. Liability coverage shall have limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence.
9. All persons operating a Bed and Breakfast House/Short-Term Rental (Type I & 2) shall meet all applicable requirements of the City of Little Rock's Municipal Code, Chapter 12, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article II. Arkansas Fire Prevention Code. Prior to use as a Bed and Breakfast House/Short-Term Rental (Type 1 & 2), the annual City of Little Rock, Building Code and Fire Marshal inspection fee must be paid, and payment of annual Business License received.
10. Smoke alarms shall be installed, all smoke alarms shall meet local and state standards (current Fire Code). Smoke alarms shall be installed in all sleeping areas and every room in the path of the means of egress from the sleeping area to the door leading from the sleeping unit.
11. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed as directed by City Staff if there are fuel-fired appliances in the unit or the unit

has an attached garage.

12. Five (5)-pound ABC-type extinguisher shall be mounted where readily accessible.
13. No recreational vehicles, buses, or trailers shall be visible on the street or property in conjunction with the Bed and Breakfast House/Short-Term Rental use.
14. Principal renter shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
15. Maximum occupancy. Maximum occupancy of any room or structure as a whole shall be determined by the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code.
16. Simultaneous rental to more than one party under separate contracts shall not be allowed.
17. The owner shall not receive any compensation or remuneration to permit occupancy of an STR for a period of less than a one (1)-day rental.

All trash pick-up shall comply with requirements for residential one – and two-family residential zones.

There have been no Department of Planning & Development enforcement cases nor any police reports for this property.

Currently the City of Little Rock Department of Planning and Development has one hundred and thirty-two (132) short-term rentals (STR-1 and STR-2) listed within the database for approved short-term rentals in the City of Little Rock. The City's new short-term rental ordinance allows a maximum of 500 short-term rentals within the corporate boundary of the City of Little Rock.

Staff is supportive of the requested rezoning to allow a short-term rental 2 as the desired use. Staff feels the rental will continue to create a diversity of housing options for this neighborhood. Staff feels that the rezoning of this property will have no adverse impact on the surrounding properties in the general area.

I. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the PD-C, subject to compliance with the comments and conditions outlined in paragraph E, and the staff analysis of the agenda staff report.

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:

(DECEMBER 11, 2025)

The applicant was present. There was (1) person registered in opposition. The item was taken off the Consent Agenda and opened for discussion. Evan Lewis expressed concerns about there being no off-street parking, how the Stift Station neighborhood doesn't need another STR and how UAMS is building a hotel a couple blocks away. After some discussion, there was a motion to approve the application. There was a second. The vote was (9) ayes, (0) noes and (2) open positions. The motion passed. The application was approved.