July 10, 2015



Mark C. Scheibmeir City of Olympia Hearing Examiner c/o City of Olympia Community Planning & Development 601 4th Avenue East PO Box 1967 Olympia, WA 98501-1967 Todd Stamm
City of Olympia
Community Planning & Development
601 4th Avenue East
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Olympia, WA 98501-1967

RE: Olympia File No. 15-0010 (Medela Group, LLC)
Public Hearing – July 20, 2015

Dear Examiner Scheibmeir: and Mr. Stamm:

This firm represents the applicant, Medela Group, LLC ("Medela"), with respect to the above-referenced proposed rezone. Medela provides this letter in response to correspondence dated June 22, 2015, submitted by Southwick, Inc. Southwick requests that the City require Medela to obtain a formal survey of the property proposed to be rezoned and resubmit its application. Based on this request, Southwick requests the City deny the rezone. Southwick cites no authority in support of its request. Southwick's request is without merit and is not supported by the Olympia Municipal Code ("OMC").

The OMC does not require (or even request) that a survey be submitted in support of a rezone proposal. Citywide zoning maps and area zoning districts are, of course, not based on surveyed property boundaries. The City rezone application does not require submission of a survey, and the City has no need for a surveyed depiction in considering rezone proposals. *Cf.* OMC 18.82.140. If, in fact, encroachment or property line issues exist, those issues are not relevant to the question of a rezone. While precise property boundaries may be relevant when site development is proposed, they are not relevant now as part of the City's consideration of a zoning amendment.

The OMC establishes zoning districts as depicted on the City's official zoning map, OMC 18.02.160(B), which is <u>not</u> a surveyed land description. The official zoning map is not intended to be a precise depiction of property boundaries. The OMC provides that established land use district boundaries are typically intended to follow lot lines or the centerline of streets and alleys as shown on the zoning map, OMC 18.02.160(C)(1), but also specifically contemplates

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¹ A copy of the City's Official Zoning Map is attached as <u>Attachment A</u>, and is also available online at: http://olympiawa.gov/city-government/departments/community-planning-and-development (last visited July 10, 2015).

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discrepancies between official zoning maps and actual property boundaries. *Id.* ("Where the lot line location or street layout on the ground varies from that shown on the zoning map the designations shown on the map shall be applied to carry out the intent and purpose of this title."). Where discrepancies exist, the least restrictive zoning designation applies. *Id.* In any event, the zoning map does not rely on establishment of precise boundaries, but provides a general overlay of zoning districts within the City.

In support of the rezone proposal, Medela included a vicinity map, other maps, and a site plan in support of its application, identifying and depicting the property proposed for rezone, together with the immediate vicinity. Medela further included the specific tax parcel numbers and legal descriptions for the area of land proposed for rezone. The City accepted the rezone application as complete consistent with OMC 18.82.140 and 18.72.120. Medela's application materials clearly identify the proposed parcels for rezone and describe the requested amendments to the City's Official Zoning Map. The City has published notices of the application and hearing, and has previously held a public meeting on the proposal. Southwick's assertion that somehow neither it nor the public is able to discern the nature of the rezone request is not credible.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Rehberger

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JR:en

Attachment

cc: Darren Nienaber, Deputy City Attorney

Matthew Edwards, Owens Davies, P.S.

Client

