

Derek Wolff, Assistant Editor



Heritage documents ready for drafting

The Highland Park City Council approved by a unanimous, 7-0 decision the drafting of necessary documents to approve the final developments to approve the final development plan for the 12-unit Heritage project planned unit subdivision at 1005-1055 Lake Cook Road during its regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 11 from City Hall.

Corporation Counsel Steven Elrod will be in charge of drafting the documents, which could be available as early as the council's next meeting on Monday, Jan. 25.

The council listened to a presentation from Joel Fontane, director of community development, and subsequent comments made from Cal Bernstein, the attorney for the applicant, before making their decision.

The council had previously discussed the subdivision plot during its Oct. 26 and Nov. 9 meetings, with the applicant making the required and suggested changes that led to the approval of the drafting of the documents.

A total of 18 additional trees were added to the northern portion of the lot that range from 8-14 feet tall, while the size of the shrubs have been increased from 4 to 6 feet high.

"Thank you to the builders for adding additional trees around that norther perimeter," Mayor Nancy Rotering said. "I know the neighbors will be appreciative. Thanks for being responsive to our requests and working with us."

The Plan and Design Commission recommended the approval of the plan at its Jan. 5 meeting after the applicant made several modifications, which were in tune with those previously considered by the council. A forester and the city engineer both looked over the plot.

Councilman Anthony Blumberg was impressed with the applicant's ability to handle a multitude of requests from both neighbors and the city during the process.

“You heard from some clearly articulate neighbors also about some flooding and water issues,” Blumberg said. “It’s been a very complicated thing for you to address between the different levels of the land and the importance of some of the trees along the property line. It’s not perfect, but I think you’ve done a really excellent job of trying to meet all of those requirements that the city has as well as the needs of the neighbors.”