



Application for **REZONING/CONDITIONAL REZONING**

Department of Planning and Development Review
Land Use Administration Division
900 E. Broad Street, Room 511
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 646-6304
<http://www.richmondgov.com/>

Project Name/Location

Property Address: _____ Date: _____

Tax Map #: _____ Fee: _____

Total area of affected site in acres: _____

(See **page 6** for fee schedule, please make check payable to the “**City of Richmond**”)

Zoning

Current Zoning: _____

Existing Use: _____

Proposed Zoning/Conditional Zoning

(Please include a detailed description of the proposed use and proffers in the required applicant's report)

Existing Use: _____

Is this property subject to any previous land use cases?

Yes

No

☐☐

If Yes, please list the Ordinance Number: _____

Applicant/Contact Person: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _() _____ Fax: _() _____

Email: _____

Property Owner: _____

If Business Entity, name and title of authorized signee: _____

(The person or persons executing or attesting the execution of this Application on behalf of the Company certifies that he or she has or have been duly authorized and empowered to so execute or attest.)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _() _____ Fax: _() _____

Email: _____

Property Owner Signature:  _____

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of all owners of the property are required. Please attach additional sheets as needed. If a legal representative signs for a property owner, please attach an executed power of attorney. Faxed or photocopied signatures will not be accepted.

Application for Rezoning
500 – 520 Commerce Road
TD 11, LLC

City of Richmond



Prepared by:
LaBella Associates
1604 Ownby Lane
Richmond, VA 23220

LaBella Project No. CZ82117.00

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Introduction

The Applicant, TD 11, LLC¹, requests the rezoning of 500 – 520 Commerce Road from Heavy Manufacturing (M-2) to Transit-Oriented Nodal District (TOD-1) from the City of Richmond's City Council. The site is located at the southern gateway to the City on a 2.09-acre parcel comprised of two tax parcels.² Currently, these parcels are developed with a Truck Pro facility that provides retail auto parts sales and a repair shop.

1.2 Land Use

The site is located between the Historic Blackwell and Manchester neighborhoods near South Richmond. North of the site is a social services facility, east of the site includes auto repair and services, and south of the site is a parking lot and carry-out restaurant. Across Commerce Road, the site abuts a trucking facility, construction contractor and a fire station. The CSX railroad travels south and east of the site.

Recent rezonings have taken place in the immediate area. For instance, 600, 602 and 606 Commerce was recently rezoned from M-2 to TOD-1, 600 and 610 Maury Street was recently rezoned from M-2 to TOD-1; and 1003 Commerce Road was recently rezoned from M-2 to TOD-1. With these rezonings, the area is in a better position to realize the vision of Richmond 300, which identifies these sites as, "Destination Mixed Use" and "Industrial Mixed Use."

Similar to the sites noted above, the site is designated, "Destination Mixed Use," further described in Richmond 300 as, "key gateways featuring prominent destinations, such as retail, sports venues, and large employers, as well as housing and open space. Located at the convergence of several modes of transportation, including Pulse BRT or other planned transit improvements." A rezoning of 500 - 520 Commerce Road to TOD-1 would allow a mix of uses and include form-based design requirements that will ensure development is contextual and relates to/promotes street activity.

Furthermore, the site is located just outside the Manchester Node, which is a priority growth node. A rezoning to TOD-1 would enable residential use, which could better support the vision for Manchester, which includes increased population and economic activity to support the Hull Street corridor. Commerce Road is identified as a Greenway and Shared Use Path and is less than 0.5 miles from enhanced transit service.

Finally, Commerce Road is a designated "Great Street," which are described as, "significant entrances to the city and serve as major connectors between city destinations." As this relates to the site, Commerce Road, connects Manchester and Bellemeade. The

¹ TD 11, LLC is an affiliate of Tessera Development. Tessera Development is a boutique, commercial real estate development firm headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, and operating across the Southeast. www.tesseradevelopment.com

² Tax Lot S0000274010 is comprised of 0.89 acres and is developed with the 30,598 SF Truck Pro facility. Tax Lot S0000274012 is comprised of 1.2 ac. and is developed with a 9,600 SF one-story cinder block building.

redevelopment of this site under TOD-1 would enable development that addresses the street complementing the Greenway and Shared Use Path qualities.

1.3 Zoning

1.3.1 Permitted Uses

The site is currently zoned M-2, which permits commercial, manufacturing, wholesaling and distribution establishments, see Table 1 below. Note that no residential is permitted. As shown in Table 1, the TOD-1 District allows a variety of residential and commercial uses, including retail, offices, personal service businesses and restaurants. A plan of development is required for certain uses, (including buildings with greater than 10 dwelling units) and for any newly constructed building with greater than 30,000 square feet of floor area, and construction of any new building where vehicular circulation, including driveways, parking areas or loading areas, is to be provided on the site.

From a use standpoint, the TOD-1 District better enables the type of development proposed in the Richmond 300 Plan. Given the site's location adjoining the Manchester Node and the other nearby rezonings to TOD-1, the impetus is in place to transform this area into a more prominent destination. Given market conditions, TD 11, LLC anticipates a mixed use building, with ground floor commercial and dwelling units above for the site.

1.3.2 Bulk and Dimensional Requirements

The M-2 District requires yard setbacks only where the site adjoins a property in the Residential or Residential Office Districts. Screening is required for parking areas, refuse areas and junkyards or similar uses. Heights are limited to 45 FT maximum and may not penetrate the inclined plane.

In the TOD-1 District, there is a required front yard setback maximum of 15 FT for residential on ground floor. No front yard is required for other uses. No side or rear yards area required. The TOD-1 requires buildings to have 2 stories at minimum and 12 stories are the permitted maximum. The TOD-1 District requires open space at a ratio of not less that 0.1 for residential developments. Screening is required for parking areas and refuse areas. Parking and vehicular circulation is required to be located behind the main building on the lot. In addition, TOD-1 requires building façade fenestration stipulated by use type and varied according to story height.

One of the primary next steps for the Manchester Nodes is to, "implement design standards to create a high-quality, well-designed urban realm, including elements such as street lights and exploring the creation of signature public art." According to Richmond 300, a "Destination Mixed Use,"

"should be urban in form, may be of larger scale than existing context, and, where relevant, should pay special attention to the historic character of the existing context. Development should enhance the public realm and create a sense of place. Many buildings are vertically mixed-use. Developments continue or introduce a gridded street pattern to increase connectivity. Ground floor uses engage with, and enliven, the street. Monolithic walls are discouraged, while

windows, doors, storefronts, and other features that allow transparency and interaction between building and street are encouraged. Active commercial ground floor uses are required on street-oriented commercial frontages. Buildings typically a minimum height of five stories."



Figure 1: Manchester Conceptual Aerial - Richmond 300

Accordingly, the rezoning of the site to TOD-1 would result in a building envelope that would enliven the streetscape, create a sense of place, and would assist in connecting this area with the greater Manchester Node complementing the vision for the Node, see Figure 1. TD 11, LLC anticipates redevelopment of this site with a zoning compliant structure (including bicycle parking) that will complement the vision for the area and activate the street with a building that is scaled to that vision.

Table 1: M-2 vs. TOD-1 Permitted Uses

M-2 Zoning District	Permitted Uses	TOD-1 Zoning District	Permitted Uses
	Any use in the M-1 District (light industrial food and beverage; metal and metal products, textiles, bedding and fiber, wood and paper products, and several other unclassified uses (e.g., substations, generating plants, and chemical compound blending)		Adult day care
	Any use or structure not permitted in any other district		Art galleries
	Curing, smoking, packing, storing of fish		Banks and other financial services
	Non-governmental waste/dead animal/refuse incineration, dumping, transfer station		Breweries < 10,000 barrel of beer annually and distilleries < 25,000 case of liquor annually
	Manufacturing chemicals, including explosive or flammable products		Catering
	Medical waste management facilities		Day nurseries
	Flea market		Dwelling units
	Outdoor shooting range		Grocery stores, convenience stores, specialty food and beverage, and bakeries
	Nightclub		Hospitals, but not psychiatric
	Private penal institution		Hotels, except on transitional sites
	Public/private alternative incarceration dorms and institutions		Laundromats and dry cleaning
	Refineries of tallow, grease or lard		Laboratories and research facilities
	Petroleum refinery		Manufacturing, warehouse, and distribution of < 8,000 SF of food or beverages with consumption on premise
	Fat rendering		Nursing homes
	Liquor sales		Office supply, business and office service
			Offices, business, professional, medical and artist studios

M-2 Zoning District	Permitted Uses	TOD-1 Zoning District	Permitted Uses
	Used tires sales, storage, disposal		Parking decks and garages
	Storage of dyestuffs, explosives, pyrotechnics		Personal service businesses
	Bulk petroleum storage for distribution		Pet shop, veterinary clinic, and animal hospital
			Postal and package mailing services
			Printing, publishing and engraving establishments < 20 people
			Professional, business and vocational schools
			Recreation and entertainment, including theaters and museums, except on transitional sites
			Restaurants, tearooms, cafes, and similar food and beverage establishments, including catering
			Retail sales, food, beverage
			Retail stores and shops
			Rights-of-way, easements, public utility and public transportation, limited
			Service businesses
			Governmental facilities, not including incarceration or substance abuse facilities
			Wireless communications
			Short-term rental
			Nightclubs
			Social service delivery uses

Note: Uses listed above have been abbreviated and may include supplementary or condition use requirements not stated herein.

1.4 Public Policy

TD 11, LLC has engaged with the local community and the City's Councilmember for this area. The following meetings were held to discuss the potential rezoning of this site from M-2 to TOD-1:

- 8/12/21 Manchester Alliance President Mr. David Bass – Introduction to rezoning petition
- 8/16/21 Councilmember Robertson and Tavares Floyd – Introduction to rezoning petition
- 11/3/21 Ms. Louise McQueen, Councilmember Robertson and Mr. Tavares Floyd – Introduction to rezoning petition
- 10/6/2022 Councilmember Robertson and Mr. Tavares Floyd – Check-in on neighborhood trends

During these meetings, the existing conditions and existing zoning were discussed and compared to the possibilities under the TOD-1 Zoning District. TD 11, LLC explained their anticipated development scenario for the site. To date, no major objections have been communicated; however, TD 11, LLC remains open to any concerns that may arise.

1.5 Conclusion

As described above, the site is categorized as, "Destination Mixed Use" in Richmond 300, which means that it is considered a "Key Gateway" area that can feature prominent destinations, such as retail, sports venues, and large employers, as well as housing and open space. Richmond 300 identifies 500 – 520 Commerce Road as a site that is suited to higher density, transit-oriented development that enhances the public realm and creates a sense of place. The site is located on a Major Mixed Use Street and form-based design elements, such as building windows and entrances on the street, are required for a Destination Mixed Use site. Furthermore, this site is located near to enhanced transit opportunities and along a Greenway and Shared Use Path. TD 11, LLC anticipates building a mixed-use development with ground floor commercial and residential on upper floors in a structure that complies with zoning and meets the intent of the Richmond 300 vision.



**City of Richmond
Department of Planning
& Development Review**

Rezoning

LOCATION: 500 & 520 Commerce Road

APPLICANT: Andrew Stone

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 6

PROPOSAL: To rezone the properties known as 500 Commerce Road and 520 Commerce Road from the M-2 Heavy Industrial District to the TOD-1 Transit Oriented Nodal District.

*For questions, please contact Alyson Oliver
at 804-646-5789 or alyson.oliver@rva.gov*



