2018-57 (1ST READING): AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MARKET COMMON MASTER PLAN ADDITIONAL PERMITTED USES SUBSECTION OF THE SITE ZONING SUMMARY SECTION TO ADD "KENNELS AND ANIMAL BOARDING FACILITIES INDOOR" AS A CONDITIONAL USE.

<u>Applicant/Purpose</u>: BEI Beach, LLC/to amend The Market Common Master Plan & add kennels & indoor animal boarding facilities as conditional uses.

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Brief:

- Applicant manages the commercial center of Market Common.
- The Market Common Master Plan does not allow commercial kennels of any type.
- Council approved ordinance 2017-24 (5/23/17) allowing Veterinary Day Clinics as a permitted use in the Market Common Master Plan.
- Conditions for indoor animal boarding include:
 - Facilities are only included in the Phase 1 area (bounded by Hackler, Johnson, Phillis, & Farrow).
 - o Boarding is for dogs & cats only.
 - Space shall be sound proofed by an architect or engineer.
 - o Pet waste shall go into an indoor animal relief system.
- 8/21/18: Planning Commission recommended approval (5-2, Commissioners Sivertsen & Shanks opposing).

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<u>lssues</u>:

- Potential for noise issues, particularly for nearby residents.
- Residential buildings in Phase 15 (above the commercial units), are separate from the commercial buildings below. The commercial units do not share a ceiling/floor w/ the residential units.

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Public Notification:

- Legal ad ran.
- Social media poll by local resident summarized & attached.

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Alternatives:

- Modify the request.
- Deny the proposed ordinance.

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<u>Financial Impact</u>: The City could see a nominal increase in business license revenue if this service is added.

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Manager's Recommendation: I recommend 1st reading.

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<u>Attachment(s)</u>: Proposed ordinance, staff report, referenced Phase 1 Area Map, Next Door post synopsis.

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CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH COUNTY OF HORRY STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MARKET COMMON MASTER PLAN ADDITIONAL PERMITTED USES SUBSECTION OF THE SITE ZONING SUMMARY SECTION TO ADD "KENNELS AND ANIMAL **BOARDING** FACILITIES, INDOOR" AS A CONDITIONAL USE.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED that Site Zoning Summary section, Proposed Zoning Modifications Conditional uses subsection, of the Market Common, Myrtle Beach Master Plan is amended as follows:

- No Modifications Kennels and animal boarding facilities, indoor, provided that:
 - 1. Such facilities are only allowed in the Phase 1 Area as shown in the Key Plan and shown in further detail in the Enlarged Phase 1 Site Plan on page 13 of the Market Common Master Plan.
 - 2. Boarding shall be for dogs and cats only.
 - 3. Space shall be sound-proofed by an architect or engineer.
 - 4. Waste shall go into an indoor animal relief system same as in local similar in design and disposal to the one at Myrtle Beach International Airport.

This ordinance will take effect upon second reading.

BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

JENNIFER STANFORD, INTERIM CITY CLERK

1st Reading: 2nd Reading:

ATTEST:

1	APPLICANT BEI Beach LLC					
2 3 4 5	REQUESTED ACTION	Include the Market Common Commercial District in the current ordinance change to allow day and overnight boarding for dogs and cats only.				
6 7 8 9	REASON FOR REQUEST "Currently Myrtle Beach is not meeting a high demand need for locals & tourists. You can only get this service in the county. We have a high request for this service."					
10 11	SITE LOCATION	Market Common Commercial District				
12 13 14 15	PUBLIC NOTICE	Legal Ad Ran Yes Signs Posted 4				
16 17 18 19	ALTERNATIVES TO APPROVAL	Recommend denial. Recommend alternative amendments.				
20	FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: Potential business license fees.					
21 22 23	ANALYSIS					
24 25	Section 403 of the Zoning Ordinance lists the following factors, which should be part of the information considered when evaluating requests to change the Zoning Ordinance Text or Map.					
26 27	Section 403.A. Whether or not the requested zoning change is [1] consistent with the Comprehensive Plan or [2] is justified by an error in the original ordinance.					
28 29 30 31 32 33 34	 [1] Neutral. The Comprehensive Plan does not specifically address kennels or uses relating to the Market Common. An economic strategy is to work with developers and business owners to develop new retail and service businesses in short supply. A tourism strategy is to encourage and develop local businesses to provide tourism-related goods and services. [2] No. There is no discernable error in the original ordinance. 					
35 36 37 38 39	Section 403.B. – The precedents, and the possible effects of such precedents, which might result from approval or denial of the petition. None perceived.					
40 41	Section 403.C. – The capability of the city or other government agencies to provide any services, facilities or programs that might be required if the petition were approved.					
42 43	 The City and other government agencies are able to provide services including utilities, business licenses, and site plan review to any potential kennel facility. 					
44 45	Section 403.D. Effect of approval of the petition on the condition or value of property in the city.					
46	No perceived effect.					
47 48	Section 403 E Effect of approval of	f the petition on adopted development plans and policies of				

Section 403.E. Effect of approval of the petition on adopted development plans and policies of the City.

•	Petition is	in compliance	with the	comprehensive	plan
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Other Policies

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Code of Ordinances of the City of Myrtle Beach - Chapter 14 Offenses and Miscellaneous **Provisions:**

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14-62(c) Noises Prohibited: (5) Animals, birds, etc. The keeping of any animal or bird on residential or commercial premises that causes frequent or long continued noise which disturbs the comfort or repose of any persons in the vicinity.

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14-62(g) Measurement Methodology: (7) Decibel Standards. In addition to the subjective standards established above, it shall be presumed that the allowable noise level limits have been violated whenever any noise or sound is projected from 1 property to another is such sound. Measured at the boundary of or on the property receiving the sound, exceeds the following decibel standards:

Residential Zones: 18

7AM-10PM 55 dBa

10PM-7AM 50 dBa

Medical/Professional Zones:

7AM-Midnight 65 dBa

Midnight-7AM 60 dBa

Highway Commercial Zones:

7AM-Midnight 70 dBa

Midnight-7AM 65 dBa

Warehouse and Light Manufacturing Zones:

o Medical services.

Anytime 75 dBa

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City Manager's Strategic Objectives Citations – Economic Development:

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Strategy 1: Define an Economic Development Vision & Define Strategies to Achieve that Vision.

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Proposed Vision – to foster an environment in which economic activity can be expanded so that all our citizens have an opportunity to enjoy what the community has to offer.

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Focus Sectors:

37 38 o Infill retail development. o New technology & communications.

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Strategy 4: Continue to Strengthen, Grow & Diversify Tourism.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

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One phone call 7/9/18 in support.

46 47 Next Door post by John Krajc 7/25-8/1/18 yielded 8 responders in favor of the amendment, 5 responders against the amendment, and 6 neutral responders. Detailed synopsis attached.

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STAFF COMMENTS

Public Works, Fire, C&L Services, Addressing, Construction Services: No concerns. 50 51

Police: the impact of sound, smell and traffic coming and going from the unit. This may not be

an issue as I am not familiar with Phase 1 of Master Plan. 52

Planning:

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Staff consulted with Tony Cochrane, a Veterinary Architect at Animal Arts (designing the facility for Dr. Thomas on 21st Ave N) on regulatory conditions that could reduce environmental impacts of kennels on neighboring properties. The conversation yielded the following:

- There is a point of diminishing returns at which a wall becomes ineffective at stopping noise.
- Distance is the best way to alleviate sound.
- Different dogs have different pitches and frequencies of bark. Materials that stop one frequency won't necessarily stop another.
- The best way to quiet a dog is to wear it out. Good kennels allow a great deal of "play time" during the day so the animals will sleep at night.
- Different sound deadening materials and devices work differently in different environments. Instead of regulating building materials, its best to choose an acceptable decibel level and let the designer figure out how to achieve it.

Excerpts from " A BARKING DOG NEVER BITES" by Dr. Leslie Ross B.Sc. D.V.M.:

"Interpreted literally, the expression "a barking dog never bites" supplies little consolation for many folks, dog-lovers or not, who happen to be within acoustic range of a raucous dog.

Along with being undeniably annoying, prolonged, high-decibel barking can cause psychological distress and sometimes permanent hearing damage to humans and other pets within hearing range.

Many dogs are capable of barking at a sound intensity level in the 100-decibel range. In rough comparison, starting at 0 as a baseline, 80 dB s a person shouting loudly and about 110 dB is a pneumatic drill nearby. A dog barking from four feet way can be as loud as 95 decibels. If the dog is closer up, the number could be much higher; two dogs barking together, higher yet!

According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) noises louder than 85 decibels can cause people to suffer hearing damage leading to hearing loss or persistent ringing of the ears (tinnitus). Furthermore, widespread noise control bylaws make it unlawful for a dog owner to allow a dog to bark or howl to the annoyance of neighbors or the public. For these reasons it follows that dog-owners must accept the responsibility that comes with owning a dog and control any objectionable barking behavior that their dog may have."

Dr. Ross goes on to describe several training methods and devices to control a dog's barking. The full article may be found at www.veddermountainvetclinic.com/articles/article-a-barking-dog-never-bites---by-dr-lesl 21.aspx

As a basis for comparison, the following table comes from a STEM Physics web site (Owlcation):



AECRITECTS

ARCHITECTS PLANNERS

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 July 25- August 1 is how long the post stayed up

RESULTS

29 "thank yous" to the post (I count these as positive reactions)

60 comments

20 UNIQUE comments (meaning 20 people were involved in the 60 total)

Of those comments, 8 were positively geared comments FOR the addition, 5 were geared AGAINST, and 6 were just GENERAL comments or questions. Those numbers are based on the unique comments, not the 60 total.

Post reads

Look what could be coming to the Market Common!! (Pet lovers unite)

Hello all, Check this out. I was talking with Heather Gray from the Market Common and this could be coming to the Market Common. Meadowlawn Veterinary has seen such success that they are exploring(very actively) the possibility of opening into the former Kangaroo Pouch location as well specifically for a Pet Boutique (think leashes, treats, clothing for your pooch or cat) as well as pet resort (high end pet boarding). They are working with an architect who specifically works on pet boarding projects for sound proofing walls to assist with noise reduction, and it would keep regular business hours as well as have an overnight employee to monitor the animals as well. You'll see little indoor "potty stations" that they'll have in the back for dogs that are staying that will be connected to a plumbing system similar to the service animal relief areas that they have in the airport now. This will be geared to have an upscale look throughout and these are some pictures she provided me of possible renderings. Their next step is one more meeting with zoning so that they can allow this type of use (overnight boarding) to the plan for Market Common. In speaking with Heather, she says that they are listening and trying to fill empty storefront with long term tenants that provide services that many of us local Market Common folk will have the potential to use on a regular basis. This would certainly fill up an ample amount of empty space, and the scuttlebutt around the Common is that folks have been pleased with the new veterinary service outside of our front door thus far.