

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

- TO: City of Peoria Planning & Zoning Commission
- **FROM**: Development Review Board (Prepared by Leah Allison)
- DATE: February 7, 2019
- **CASE NO:** PZ 19-04
- **REQUEST**: Hold a Public Hearing and forward a recommendation to City Council on the request of Gregory J. Tiemeier of RLI Insurance Company to amend an existing Special Use Ordinance No. 14,254 as amended, in a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District for a Shopping Center to add an Accessory Solar Facility for the properties located at 9000 N Lindbergh Dr, 9025 N Lindbergh Dr, 9106 N Lindbergh Dr, 9118 N Lindbergh Dr, 9126 N Lindbergh Dr, 9128 N Lindbergh Dr, 1021 W Bird Blvd, 1101 W Bird Blvd, 1116 W Bird Blvd, 1200 W Bird Blvd, 8903 N Hale Ave, 8919 N Hale Ave, and 9109 N Knoxville Ave, (Parcel Identification Nos. 14-05-201-016, 09-32-455-006, 09-32-455-003, 09-32-455-002, 14-05-202-017, 14-05-202-021, 14-05-201-004, 14-05-201-009, 14-05-201-005, 14-05-202-013, 09-32-455-001, 09-32-455-005, 14-05-201-006, 14-05-201-007, 14-05-202-012, 14-05-202-019, 14-05-202-020, and 14-05-251-008), Peoria IL. (Council District 5)

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL & REQUESTED WAIVERS

The petitioner is requesting to amend the existing Special Use to add an accessory solar facility located on approximately 6.5 acres (of the 28 acre site). The solar facility is comprised of ground mounted and roof mounted fixed-tilt panels placed on vacant land, an existing parking lot, and two building rooftops. The system is designed as a daylight-use system without storage for non-daylight time. The proposed solar field is further described below:

| Development Item | Applicant Proposal | Applicant Waiver Request & Justification | DRB Comment |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| Parking | Placement of the solar panels will eliminate approx 70 parking spaces of 499 total spaces. Handicap parking unchanged. | None | No objection |
| Mechanical & Utility Screening | Transformers associated with the solar facility will be screened. | None | No objection |
| Landscaping | 6-ft tall solid hedge along frontage of Hale Ave. Existing plantings for front yards and parking lot to remain. | Alternative landscape plan (per Section 8.2.15) to allow for hedge (561 points) in place of tree (403 points) requirement. And allow for existing trees and shrubs. | No objection |
| Screening | A 6-ft tall solid privacy fence located along the frontage of Hale Ave. Maximum front yard fence height, per the Unified Development Code, is 3 ft | Increase the fence height from 3 feet to 6 feet to provide security | No objection |
| Signs | No additional signage | None | No objection |
| Exterior Lighting | No additional lighting | None | No objection |
| Setbacks | All setbacks in compliance except for the 15-ft side yard setback of the solar field. | Reduce the side yard setback from 20 ft to 15 ft for the solar field. | No objection |
| Height | Ground mounted panels are 8 ft – 10 ft in height. Roof mounted panels are extended up to 4 ft from the roof. | None | No objection |

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|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Sidewalks | Maintain existing sidewalk system | No requirement for sidewalks on Bird and Hale | Staff recommends sidewalks on all public frontages. |

BACKGROUND

Property Characteristics

The special use property contains 28 acres developed with the RLI Insurance campus and other commercial businesses. It is zoned Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) and surrounded by industrial and commercial zoning to the west and south, commercial and residential zoning to the east, and commercial zoning to the north. The proposed solar facility is located on approximately 6.5 acres of the southernmost parcels. These parcels are surrounded by industrial and commercial zoning to the west and south, and commercial zoning to the north and east.

<u>History</u>

On February 18, 1997 a Special Use for a Shopping Center was approved for approximately 12 acres bound by Knoxville Ave, Bird Blvd, and Lindbergh Dr. Amendments to the special use in 2007 and 2010 allowed for a hotel expansion and a drive-thru addition. In 2015, the special use was amended to add property and allow for a building addition, parking lot expansion, and street vacation and dedication.

| Date | Zoning | |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1931 - 1958 | Not in the City | |
| 1958 - 1963 | Not in the City | |
| 1963 - 1990 | C2 (Neighborhood-Commercial) | |
| 1990 - Present | C2 (Large Scale Commercial) | |

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD ANALYSIS

The DRB examines each application against the appropriate standards found in the Code of the City of Peoria and/or in case law.

| Standard | Standard Met per DRB Review | DRB Condition Request & Justification |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| No detriment to public health, safety, or general welfare | Yes | None |
| No injury to other property or diminish property values | Yes | None |
| No impediment to orderly development | Yes | None |
| Provides adequate facilities | Yes | None |
| Ingress/Egress measures designed to minimize traffic congestion | Yes | None |
| If a public use/service, then a public benefit | N/A | N/A |
| Conforms to all district regulations | No | Fence height, side yard setback, landscaping, and sidewalk waiver |
| Comprehensive Plan Critical Success Factors | Reinvest in Neighborhoods | N/A |
| City Council Strategic Plan Goals | Smart Population Growth | N/A |

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Development Review Board recommends APPROVAL of the request with the following condition and waivers:

- 1) Install sidewalks along the frontages of Bird Blvd and Hale Ave.
- 2) Waiver to allow a six-foot tall fence along the frontage of Hale Ave.
- 3) Waiver to allow alternative landscaping for front yard along Have Ave.
- 4) Waiver to reduce the side yard setback from 20 feet to 15 feet for the solar facility.

NOTE: If a City Code Requirement is not listed as a waiver, then it is a required component of the development. The applicant is responsible for meetings all applicable code requirements through all phases of the development.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Surrounding Zoning
- 2. Aerial Photo
- 3. Site Plan with landscaping
- 4. Renderings



RLI - Lindbergh Dr

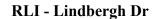


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Map Scale 1 inch = 333 feet



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