

Centennial Council says 'yes' to Southglenn plan

BY SHIRLEY SMITH

The Centennial City Council unanimously approved the Master Development Plan for the Streets at SouthGlenn that included the original scheme of 350 residential units, at its June 5 meeting. The developer, Alberta Development Partners, would like to increase the residential units possible on the site to 700.

Ward I City Councilman Rick Dindinger said, "He (Don Provost) said that he intended to file an amendment to ask for 700 units."

Despite the vote, the developer still does retain the right to ask for the 700 units. The city council would still have to approve it, however.

"If they come back and ask for (approval of 700 units) the public will have been notified," Dindinger said.

Centennial Council members had a myriad of questions concerning the development. The plan will renovate the 1970s shopping mall into a "high quality" area for living and shopping. The plan calls for restaurants, a market, bistros, retail (Foley's, soon to be Macy's, and Sears will remain as anchors), a movie theater, a park, a library, offices and more.

Provost called the plan "monumental, it will affect generations to come. "The



AN ARTIST'S RENDERING shows how the Streets at SouthGlenn will look when it is completed.

street is the river of life," he said. It will have a grand community center, understated elegance, eclectic charm."

Ward III Councilwoman Andrea Suhaka had a lot of questions. "I'm opposed to the 700 residential," she said. She had concerns about the parking structure, the height as in five-story buildings.

Ward III Councilwoman Rebecca McClellan said the target was 350 residences (to be built above the retail).

Dindinger said the Web site about the development said 350 residential units were planned.

Provost pointed out that not one person had asked how many units (at the presentation

meetings).

"Density matters," McClellan said.

Dindinger also talked about the traffic impact.

Ward II Councilwoman Sue Bosier had concerns about the parking for the residents. It will be underground parking only for residents. A two-bedroom apartment would have two parking spots, a one-bedroom, one spot. Residents would have to pay an additional fee for added parking spaces for their units, Provost said. Residential units will sell for \$200,000-\$500,000.

Ward II Councilman Bart Miller asked about pedestrian movement. He was told that Southglenn was designed as "a

pedestrian enclave."

Ward IV Councilman Todd Miller questioned the square footage for residential.

Ward I Councilman Vorry Moon asked about the financial viability of the project with 350 units.

There was even some talk about the possibility of a boutique hotel on the property.

Centennial City Treasurer Doug Milliken, who cannot vote with the council, said, "It's so important to allow a hearing, for the people to have the right information."

Demolition is projected to begin at Southglenn on June 15. The Streets at SouthGlenn is scheduled to open in September 2008.