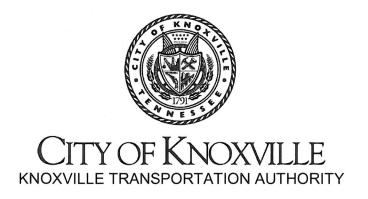
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RESOLUTION KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

A Resolution of the Knoxville Transportation Authority providing comments for Knoxville City Council regarding the transit implications of the Recode plan.

WHEREAS, the Knoxville Transportation Authority (KTA) applauds the incredible efforts of Knoxville/Knox County Planning for the update of Knoxville's zoning code; and

WHEREAS, the KTA has jurisdiction over Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) routes; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of transit and land use has major implications for the success of each; and

WHEREAS, high quality transit needs the following for success: a good density within walking distance of major corridors, and a diversity of passengers that can easily make use of the system, including seniors, business professionals and students of all levels, and those working low wage as well as higher wage jobs; and

WHEREAS, if a wide variety of housing opportunities for renters as well as homeowners does not exist within the urban core, the opportunities for renting – especially for workforce housing – will be predominately outside of the urban core in locations with lower quality transit service. This will mean longer commute times or the necessity of a personal vehicle for those individuals, increased congestion and less efficient transit services for the city as a whole; and

WHEREAS the current Recode proposal reduces the diversity of housing types within many close-in neighborhoods with good transit service, changing from its current zoning that allows multi-family, duplexes, triplexes, four-plexes, to only single family (with duplexes allowed as a special use); and

WHEREAS, the mixed use corridor zoning designation proposed with Recode has the potential to increase housing opportunities, these opportunities may price out many who wish to rent, and may not appeal to many renters who wish to have access to quality transit (seniors, graduate students with small children, or others) who may prefer a less urban-intensive rental setting while retaining good transit access;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOXVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (KTA):

Section 1: the Knoxville Transportation Authority (KTA) supports the Mixed-Use Corridor designation within the Recode document.

Section 2: In order for high quality transit to succeed in Knoxville the KTA recommends allowing the option for mid-level housing opportunities (duplexes, triplexes, bungalow courts, for example) within ¼ mile of the major corridors: Chapman Highway, Middlebrook Pike, Western Avenue, Central Street, Broadway, Magnolia Avenue, Kingston Pike, but to include detailed, thoughtful design guidelines to protect the character of Knoxville's beautiful neighborhoods.

Chair, Knoxville Transportation Authority