

**AGENDA
for the
REGULAR MEETING
of the
CITY of KINGSPORT
GATEWAY REVIEW COMMISSION**

**IMPROVEMENT BUILDING
JIMMY WALKER CONFERENCE ROOM**

May 18, 2018

10:00 A.M.

- I. Introductions and recognition of visitors.**
- II. Approval of the Minutes from the April 20, 2018 regular meeting.**
- III. Old Business:**
 - a. Review of Gateway Regulations
- IV. New Business:**
 - a. Consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for the exterior remodel of McDonalds located at 1331 S. John B Dennis Highway.
- V. Other Business:**
 - a. Next meeting – June 22, 2018
- VI. Adjourn**

MINUTES OF THE April 20, 2018 MEETING OF THE KINGSPORT GATEWAY REVIEW COMMISSION

April 20, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Vivian Crymble, Co-Chairman
Jim Wright, Co-Chairman
Josh Davis
John Perdue
Debra Bridwell

Members Absent

Lynn Tully
Alderman Betsy Cooper

Staff Present

Jessica Harmon

Visitors

Co-Chairman Crymble called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone present at the meeting.

The minutes of the February 16, 2018 Gateway Review Commission meeting were presented. Staff pointed out one correction in the minutes. John Perdue motioned to approve the minutes with the correction noted by staff. The motion was seconded by Co-Chairman Jim Wright. The minutes were approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

The first item under old business was the presentation and consideration of a revised landscaping plan for KIA located at Tri Cities Crossing. Staff explained that KIA had submitted a revised landscaping plan with two revisions. The first was to eliminate the use of trees in their parking lot islands and replace those with hydrangea bushes. KIA's rationale was that the trees are not conducive to the Vehicle Sales business – as far as keeping the cars clean and not damaging them. The Landscaping Specialist had reviewed the plan and stated that trees do not typically do well in islands and that they had planted additional trees around the perimeter of the parking lot that exceed what we require. Staff also noted that the revised plan showed replacing the trees along the right-of-way with four trees that were on the City Tree List. On a motion by Josh Davis, and seconded by John Perdue, the revised landscaping plan for KIA was approved unanimously.

The second item on the agenda under old business was a review of the Gateway Regulations. Staff explained that the Planning Commission wanted the Gateway Commission to take a look at the regulations from top to bottom. During this time, the Commission went through the regulations topic by topic. Staff explained that they would put together a draft of these regulations with revisions proposed and the Commission would consider them at their next meeting. Staff also stated that another public hearing would be required for the new regulations.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items under new business.

OTHER BUSINESS

Under other business, staff explained that the next meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2018.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Crymble Co-Chairman, or Jim Wright Co-Chairman

Changes are shown as follows:

Bold and strikethrough – delete

Red – addition

Division 10. – Gateway District Overlay (GDO)

Sec. 114-421. - Development guidelines.

- (a) *Generally.* All businesses, commercial, manufacturing, and industrial development and changes to existing developments located in the Gateway District Overlay shall be reviewed by the gateway review commission, or their designee, except for residential structures or agricultural uses and structures. Such new and existing businesses, commercial, manufacturing and industrial developments shall receive a gateway review commission's approval by issuance of a certificate of appropriateness before receiving an erosion control, grading, building permit or certificate of occupancy.
- (b) *Design strategies for development within P-1, ~~TA~~, B-1, B-3, B-4P and BC districts.* The following shall apply to P-1, ~~TA~~, B-1, B-3, B-4P and BC zoning districts within the Gateway District Overlay:
 - (1) *Grading plan.* Improvements on the site should be developed to minimize changes in existing topography and the loss of existing mature vegetation. ~~All existing trees with trunks over 12 inches in diameter measured four feet above the lowest grade should be shown on the grading plans.~~ Incentives are provided to retain healthy existing trees. **If existing trees are to be counted towards landscaping credit (as explained in Section 114-421(b)(7)(b), then they shall be identified and shown on the grading plan.** Smooth topographic transition should be provided at the edges of property. Minimum changes in topography are recommended with no slopes exceeding 1:3 ratio (one-foot rise to a three-foot run). All grading plans require approval by the engineering department. All grading plans over one-acre require approval by the state department of environment and conservation before a grading permit can be issued. See the erosion control provisions of this Code for additional requirements.
 - (2) *Site plan.* ~~A building setback of a minimum of 50 feet from the right-of-way shall be maintained for all buildings locating adjacent to any interstate, expressway or principal arterial street.~~ Where the need exists for retaining an open image, protecting views, creating a high quality image, and maintaining natural edges along the roadway's borders, a wider setback may be **requested required above that which is required in the underlying zoning district.** Developments are encouraged to be located and configured in a visually harmonious manner with surrounding developments, existing terrain, and not to impede scenic views within the corridor. Additional district setback information is in this chapter. For details regarding the required information for development

plan submittals, see the zoning development plan, parking and landscaping provisions of this chapter.

- (3) *Drainage plan.* To minimize runoff and provide adequate green space, impervious surfaces such as roofs and pavement should not cover more than 75 percent of the site area. Undeveloped right-of-way immediately adjoining the site may be used in calculation of the ~~impervious~~ pervious area, provided it is not more than 15 percent of the overall calculation and is maintained by the occupant. Stormwater entry and exit points must be protected to avoid erosion. An open space system of ridges, steep slopes, drainage corridors, periphery yards, buffers and landscaped areas provide natural stormwater absorption and filtration zones avoiding the need for large scale piping and retention systems. When such designs are not possible, stormwater areas will be landscaped to blend with natural features of the site. Retention or detention ponds, if needed, are encouraged to be graded gradually enough not to require fencing. Appropriate stormwater and drainage calculations shall be provided by a licensed professional, as permitted by the state, and approved by the city engineer.
- (4) *Landscape plan.* ~~Visual buffers shall be provided along interstates, expressways or major arterial streets by using a combination of opaque fencing, natural vegetation, berming, and/or informal plantings as recommended by the landscape specialist.~~ The property owners shall maintain all plant material within the right-of-way, when used as a credit for pervious area, and on the property for the lifetime of the proposed use. For any new use, this maintenance responsibility must continue. Visual buffers used to soften the appearance of structures and parking lots from interior streets are recommended. Options for landscaping are made available for developers who create dedicated open public spaces, walkways, or other creative, resourceful, land uses in the landscape and buffer provisions of this division. For additional requirements of landscape plans, see the article VII of this chapter, landscaping.
- (5) *Architectural design.* A compatible relationship for proposed developments in the Gateway District Overlay is of critical public concern for any building or site improvements. The intent of the design review is not to stifle innovative architecture but to ensure respect while reducing incompatible and adverse impacts on the visual experience from the roadways. The commission may alter corporate colors or architectural designs within the district to create a compatible visual image. To accomplish this, the gateway review commission shall exercise the following guidelines for review of such proposed developments:
 - a. *Materials.* Selection and use of building materials should respect the climate and heritage of the area.
 1. Exterior building materials, which are encouraged include: brick, stone and stone veneers, plate glass, precast concrete panels,

architectural block, glass block, and EIFS (commonly known as Dryvit).

2. Materials considered unacceptable include: plywood or plywood-based products, pre-engineered metal, painted or natural concrete block, and composite building panels, and vinyl siding.

Designers are encouraged to vary materials from building to building while limiting the number of different materials to three on any individual structure.

- b. *Colors.* In general, neutral or muted tones should be used. A maximum of three predominant colors should be used. Painted or factory-finished metal should ~~be used only in dark colors with~~ have a matte finish.
 - c. *Accessory buildings.* Metal buildings shall be an accessory to the principal structure without public access, typically used for storage and must be concealed from view. Large areas of exposed concrete are discouraged.
 - d. *Architectural elements.* All development designs are to be consistent or compatible within a development in terms of architectural design, exterior building materials, colors and/or arrangement of buildings.
 1. Rooflines shall be strongly defined. Canopies and other architectural elements, such as brick or rockwork details, which define the roof, are encouraged. All mechanical/electrical equipment and rooftop- or ground-mounted equipment and protrusions are to be screened from view from entrances and pedestrian pathways as viewed from on-site ground level. Roof-mounted equipment must be screened on all sides. Sloped roofs may be used in combination with flat roofs to enliven the building profile and to provide screening.
 2. Large blank walls shall be avoided. Recessed or articulated wall surfaces, columns and beams are encouraged to visually segment exterior wall surfaces. Windows and other openings should reflect the character and style of the building.
 3. Service areas, including storage, special equipment, maintenance and loading area, shall be completely screened so as not to be visible from the interstate, expressway or arterial highway.
 4. Refuse collection areas shall be visually screened using materials and colors compatible with those of the primary structure and shall be roofed if the contents are visible from any public street, interstate, expressway or arterial street.
- (6) *Signs.* Although signs occupy little space, they have a major impact on the image of the Gateway District Overlay. For this reason, signage systems must be

designed to create a consistent quality image throughout the district. Specific requirements can be found in article IV of this chapter, signs, additional requirements are set forth in this document that also apply within the Gateway District Overlay. The intent is to create a cohesive image and to consistently decrease the amount of clutter and visual disturbance within the district. **Any appeals to the following standards must be presented to the gateway review commission:**

- a. Permanent signs will be reduced by **up to** 50 percent of the square footage allowed in the underlying zoning district by the gateway review commission, and are limited to one freestanding sign and **one two** wall mounted signs.
- b. On parcels adjacent to an interstate right-of-way, one free standing monument sign is permitted with a maximum height of 15 feet above the average ground level. **On parcels not adjacent to the interstate, one freestanding monument sign is permitted with a maximum height of such sign shall be 8 feet above the average ground level. Monument style signs are required with the signs height and square footage being in scale with the building or site.** Signs **are required to** **should** be internally illuminated block letters mounted on a raceway. Backlit letters and indirectly illuminated signs are **also** acceptable. A three-color maximum is allowed for signs with up to two font styles. Ground-mounted building identification signs shall have fully enclosed solid bases **utilizing the same materials as the principal structure, of either brick or stone,** mounted at the ground plane. No supporting structural members are to be exposed. Specific underlying zoning requirements for signs can be found in **Article I – Definitions** and article IV – **Signs** of this chapter.
- c. The following signs are prohibited: A-frame signs; roof-mounted signs or portico-mounted signs; bench signs; off-premises signage; captive balloon signs; inflatable signs; portable signs and portable signs converted to permanent locations; lollipop signs; paper, cloth, plastic streamers and canvas; painted signs on primary walls; pendants; traffic sign replicas; high-rise signs; permanent come-on signs (sale today, stop, look, etc.). Strings with continuous flags shall not be permitted.
- d. Changeable copy signs are allowed for automobile service stations, theaters, and conference centers. Electronic message board signs may be considered with the review of the commission if they are allowed by the underlying zoning district.
- e. Landscaped areas are required around the base of signs. The minimum landscaped area shall not be less than the square footage of the sign. The landscaped area must be protected from vehicular traffic and approved by the city landscape specialist.

- f. Interim signs. While signs of a nonpermanent nature are generally not permitted, any sign that is not permanent in nature and fails to meet permanent sign requirements must meet the following respective specifications:
 - 1. For sale and for lease signs shall be limited to two per parcel. The size shall be limited to one square foot of sign for every four feet of lot road frontage up to a maximum of 64 square feet for one surface, or 32 square feet per side with two faces maximum. Real estate signs shall have a maximum height of six feet, measured from the ground level (average grade).
 - 2. Temporary signs for construction sites shall not exceed 64 square feet total and shall be removed upon completion of construction activity and before occupancy of the building.
- g. Special event signs must be removed following the event and are permitted only on the premises during the event, but in no case longer than 15 days. See section 114-528(2)d for size allowances.

(7) *Landscaping and screening.* The landscape guidelines are designed to maintain overall visual continuity within the Gateway District Overlay. The intent is to reflect the traditional character of the area with informal groupings of plants amidst green lawns and woodlands. Landscape design should complement this image.

- a. A performance bond is required for a period of one-year, with extensions granted when necessary, for landscaping not installed at the time of issuance of a certificate of occupancy. Landscaping must be maintained for the lifetime of the intended use. Landscaped areas are required around the base of signs. The minimum landscaped area shall not be less than the square footage of the sign. The landscaped area must be protected from vehicular traffic and approved by the city landscape specialist.
- b. Healthy existing trees should be retained whenever possible and may be counted as credit (two trees for every saved tree) for other required landscaping. Grading and construction shall avoid the disturbance of such trees. Larger trees or up to double the amount of required number of trees and vegetation may be required by the commission if it is shown the site was clear cut within three years prior to submittal of a development plan.
- c. Landscape incentives may be utilized to encourage the preservation of existing healthy vegetation and innovative site design. Existing healthy vegetation and the area of land used to maintain the vegetation may be counted towards meeting performance criteria for buffers, streetscapes, open space, and interior parking areas.

1. ~~A five to 20 percent reduction in the number of parking spaces required on the site may be allowed to the extent that the reduction in the amount of pavement will preserve existing healthy trees in an undisturbed natural condition.~~
A reduction of one parking space for every 1,000 square feet of land containing existing healthy trees in an undisturbed natural condition may be granted, not to exceed ten percent of the total required parking.
2. ~~A ten percent reduction in the amount of pervious area is required on the site if public art/space in a compatible manner is included in the development.~~
3. ~~A reduction in required landscaping may be considered if the development includes innovative site/building design concepts, substantial redevelopment of a site, or if natural constraints exist.~~
4. ~~The area used for preservation of existing healthy vegetation in the interior parking area may be used as credits for other landscaping.~~

5.2. Substitutions for both trees and shrubbery amounts and locations may be considered by the commission with a recommendation from the landscape specialist.

- d. Fencing and screening. Long fences (50 feet or more) should be broken up by landscaping ~~or undulation in the fence line.~~ When necessary to secure outdoor equipment and storage, chain link fencing may be permitted on a case by case basis as long as it is black vinyl coated and screened with landscaping on all portions visible from the right-of-way. ~~and~~ Unfinished wood fences are not allowed.

1. Fencing and screening shall not be placed within 25 feet of any street corner. Fencing and screening shall not block access to aboveground, pad-mounted transformers and should provide 15 feet of clear access to the transformer doors.
2. Fencing and screening shall not impede or divert the flow of water in any drainageway.
3. The maximum height of fences should generally be six feet, except for tennis courts, storage screening, and similar uses which may be up to 12 feet in height. ~~No fences over two feet six inches shall be placed in any front yard.~~ Fencing is not allowed in the front yard and is only permitted in the side and rear yard.

4. The Gateway District Overlay approved standard for right-of-way border fencing or frontal fencing is required along interstate, expressways or arterial highways.
- (8) *Lighting and utilities.* Lighting should be used as a landscape element and for security purposes and should be designed to reduce impacts on adjacent sites. Consistency in style and design of fixtures shall be maintained throughout a site.
- a. Lighting levels should be as even as possible. For all private roadways, parking lots and entrances, the lighting system should provide a minimum ratio of 4:1 uniformity or better, or with the current Institute of Electrical Standards (IES) recommendations for office and mixed-use developments. General parking lot lighting shall not exceed an average of 2½ footcandles overall. All lighted canopies shall have recessed, indirect lights within the canopy.
 - b. Lights placement must avoid glare on-site or light spillage onto adjacent sites. Where necessary, cutoff boxes should be specified to reduce throw on adjacent sites.
 - c. Neon lighting is not encouraged; however, soft and/or muted colors may be allowed.
 - d. Light poles are to be neutral, preferably dark in color and not made of wood. All parking and security lights are to be cutoff luminaries. The height of light fixtures should be in proportion to the building mass, preferably no taller than the building height. Lighting for pedestrian areas should be 12 to 15 feet in height. Ground-oriented pedestrian scale lighting should be considered as an alternative to pole-mounted fixtures along pedestrian walkways at three to four feet in height.
 - e. Outside speakers shall not be permitted for use as paging or public address systems. Outside speakers may only be used under certain conditions, with the commission's approval, for special/cultural or public events.
 - f. All utility lines, including but not limited to electric, telephone and TV cable shall be placed underground.
- (9) *Parking.* The desire of the gateway review committee is to visually shield parking areas from public streets and residential areas.
- a. All parking lots and drives shall be hard surfaced with concrete or asphalt, unless an acceptable alternative is approved by the commission, and shall have concrete extruded curbs. Special paving or marking is required for accent areas such as: entrance dropoff zones and pedestrian walkways.
 - b. Innovative design concepts to improve parking area appearance are encouraged. All parking areas shall be visually screened from roadways with plantings or earth mounding (berms) 2½- to three-feet high. Where

planting material is used exclusively, 60 percent opacity must be achieved in the winter and 80 percent in the summer.

- c. A landscaped area with a minimum of ten feet shall be provided between parking and internal roadways and entry drives.
- d. Large parking areas shall be broken into smaller sections, using berms and landscape medians for separation. On wooded sites, preservation of groups of trees is encouraged to frame smaller parking cells and to screen the parked cars.
- e. Outdoor display areas may require up to 50 percent greater landscape requirements as established by these provisions.
- f. On-street parking is not permitted.
- g. Parking lots of contiguous developments should, where possible, interconnect among the differing developments to encourage continuous movement of traffic among developments to reduce traffic flow on public streets and to minimize the need for excessive curb cuts.

(10) Business needs that lie outside of these regulations may be considered on a case by case basis by the Gateway Review Commission

(c) *Design strategies for development within the TA/C district.* The following shall apply to the TA/C zoning districts within the Gateway District Overlay:

- (1) *Grading plan.* Improvements on the site should be developed to minimize changes in existing topography and the loss of existing mature vegetation. Incentives are provided to retain healthy existing trees. If existing trees are to be counted towards landscaping credit (as explained in Section 114-421(b)(7)(b)), then they shall be identified and shown on the grading plan. Smooth topographic transition should be provided at the edges of property. Minimum changes in topography are recommended with no slopes exceeding 1:3 ratio (one-foot rise to a three-foot run). All grading plans require approval by the engineering department. All grading plans over one-acre require approval by the state department of environment and conservation before a grading permit can be issued. See the erosion control provisions of this Code for additional requirements.
- (2) *Site plan.* Where the need exists for retaining an open image, protecting views, creating a high quality image, and maintaining natural edges along the roadway's borders, a wider setback may be required above that which is required in the underlying zoning district. Developments are encouraged to be located and configured in a visually harmonious manner with surrounding developments, existing terrain, and not to impede scenic views within the corridor. Additional district setback information is in this chapter. For details regarding the required information for development plan submittals, see the zoning development plan, parking and landscaping provisions of this chapter.

- (3) *Drainage plan.* To minimize runoff and provide adequate green space, impervious surfaces such as roofs and pavement should not cover more than 75 percent of the site area. Undeveloped right-of-way immediately adjoining the site may be used in calculation of the pervious area, provided it is not more than 15 percent of the overall calculation and is maintained by the occupant. Stormwater entry and exit points must be protected to avoid erosion. An open space system of ridges, steep slopes, drainage corridors, periphery yards, buffers and landscaped areas provide natural stormwater absorption and filtration zones avoiding the need for large scale piping and retention systems. When such designs are not possible, stormwater areas will be landscaped to blend with natural features of the site. Retention or detention ponds, if needed, are encouraged to be graded gradually enough not to require fencing. Appropriate stormwater and drainage calculations shall be provided by a licensed professional, as permitted by the state, and approved by the city engineer.
- (4) *Landscape plan.* The property owners shall maintain all plant material within the right-of-way, when used as a credit for pervious area, and on the property for the lifetime of the proposed use. For any new use, this maintenance responsibility must continue. Visual buffers used to soften the appearance of structures and parking lots from interior streets are recommended. Options for landscaping are made available for developers who create dedicated open public spaces, walkways, or other creative, resourceful, land uses in the landscape and buffer provisions of this division. For additional requirements of landscape plans, see the article VII of this chapter, landscaping.
- (5) *Architectural design.* A compatible relationship for proposed developments in the Gateway District Overlay is of critical public concern for any building or site improvements. The intent of the design review is not to stifle innovative architecture but to ensure respect while reducing incompatible and adverse impacts on the visual experience from the roadways. The commission may alter corporate colors or architectural designs within the district to create a compatible visual image. To accomplish this, the gateway review commission shall exercise the following guidelines for review of such proposed developments:
- a. *Materials.* Selection and use of building materials should respect the climate and heritage of the area.
 1. Exterior building materials, which are encouraged include: brick, stone and stone veneers, plate glass, precast concrete panels, architectural block, glass block, and EIFS (commonly known as Dryvit).
 2. Materials considered unacceptable include: plywood or plywood-based products, pre-engineered metal, painted or natural concrete block, and composite building panels, and vinyl siding.

Designers are encouraged to vary materials from building to building while limiting the number of different materials to three on any individual structure.

- b. *Colors.* In general, neutral or muted tones should be used. A maximum of three predominant colors should be used. Painted or factory-finished metal should have a matte finish.
 - c. *Accessory buildings.* Metal buildings shall be an accessory to the principal structure without public access, typically used for storage and must be concealed from view. Large areas of exposed concrete are discouraged.
 - d. *Architectural elements.* All development designs are to be consistent or compatible within a development in terms of architectural design, exterior building materials, colors and/or arrangement of buildings.
 - 1. Rooflines shall be strongly defined. Canopies and other architectural elements, such as brick or rockwork details, which define the roof, are encouraged. All mechanical/electrical equipment and rooftop- or ground-mounted equipment and protrusions are to be screened from view from entrances and pedestrian pathways as viewed from on-site ground level. Roof-mounted equipment must be screened on all sides. Sloped roofs may be used in combination with flat roofs to enliven the building profile and to provide screening.
 - 2. Large blank walls shall be avoided. Recessed or articulated wall surfaces, columns and beams are encouraged to visually segment exterior wall surfaces. Windows and other openings should reflect the character and style of the building.
 - 3. Service areas, including storage, special equipment, maintenance and loading area, shall be completely screened so as not to be visible from the interstate, expressway or arterial highway.
 - 4. Refuse collection areas shall be visually screened using materials and colors compatible with those of the primary structure and shall be roofed if the contents are visible from any public street, interstate, expressway or arterial street.
- (6) *Signs.* Although signs occupy little space, they have a major impact on the image of the Gateway District Overlay. For this reason, signage systems must be designed to create a consistent quality image throughout the district. Specific requirements can be found in article IV of this chapter, signs, additional requirements are set forth in this document that also apply within the Gateway District Overlay. The intent is to create a cohesive image and to consistently decrease the amount of clutter and visual disturbance within the district. Any

appeals to the following standards must be presented to the gateway review commission:

- a. Permanent signs will be reduced by 50 percent of the square footage allowed in the underlying zoning district by the gateway review commission.
- b. All monument signs shall have a fully enclosed solid base utilizing the same building materials as the principal structure, mounted at the ground plane.
- c. The following signs are prohibited: A-frame signs; roof-mounted signs or portico-mounted signs; bench signs; off-premises signage; captive balloon signs; inflatable signs; portable signs and portable signs converted to permanent locations; lollipop signs; paper, cloth, plastic streamers and canvas; painted signs on primary walls; pendants; traffic sign replicas; high-rise signs; permanent come-on signs (sale today, stop, look, etc.). Strings with continuous flags shall not be permitted.
- d. Changeable copy signs are allowed for automobile service stations, theaters, and conference centers. Electronic message board signs may be considered with the review of the commission if they are allowed by the underlying zoning district.
- e. Landscaped areas are required around the base of signs. The minimum landscaped area shall not be less than the square footage of the sign. The landscaped area must be protected from vehicular traffic and approved by the city landscape specialist.
- f. Interim signs. While signs of a nonpermanent nature are generally not permitted, any sign that is not permanent in nature and fails to meet permanent sign requirements must meet the following respective specifications:
 1. For sale and for lease signs shall be limited to two per parcel. The size shall be limited to one square foot of sign for every four feet of lot road frontage up to a maximum of 64 square feet for one surface, or 32 square feet per side with two faces maximum. Real estate signs shall have a maximum height of six feet, measured from the ground level (average grade).
 2. Temporary signs for construction sites shall not exceed 64 square feet total and shall be removed upon completion of construction activity and before occupancy of the building.
- g. Special event signs must be removed following the event and are permitted only on the premises during the event, but in no case longer than 15 days. See [section 114-528\(2\)d](#) for size allowances.
- h. All other regulations pertaining to signs can be found in Article 1 – Definitions and Article IV – Signs of this chapter.

- (7) *Landscaping and screening.* The landscape guidelines are designed to maintain overall visual continuity within the Gateway District Overlay. The intent is to reflect the traditional character of the area with informal groupings of plants amidst green lawns and woodlands. Landscape design should complement this image.
- a. A performance bond is required for a period of one-year, with extensions granted when necessary, for landscaping not installed at the time of issuance of a certificate of occupancy. Landscaping must be maintained for the lifetime of the intended use. Landscaped areas are required around the base of signs. The minimum landscaped area shall not be less than the square footage of the sign. The landscaped area must be protected from vehicular traffic and approved by the city landscape specialist.
 - b. Healthy existing trees should be retained whenever possible and may be counted as credit (two trees for every saved tree) for other required landscaping. Grading and construction shall avoid the disturbance of such trees. Larger trees or up to double the amount of required number of trees and vegetation may be required by the commission if it is shown the site was clear cut within three years prior to submittal of a development plan.
 - c. Landscape incentives may be utilized to encourage the preservation of existing healthy vegetation and innovative site design. Existing healthy vegetation and the area of land used to maintain the vegetation may be counted towards meeting performance criteria for buffers, streetscapes, open space, and interior parking areas.
 1. A reduction of one parking space for every 1,000 square feet of land containing existing healthy trees in an undisturbed natural condition may be granted, not to exceed ten percent of the total required parking.
 2. Substitutions for both trees and shrubbery amounts and locations may be considered by the commission with a recommendation from the landscape specialist.
 - d. Fencing and screening. Long fences (50 feet or more) should be broken up by landscaping. When necessary to secure outdoor equipment and storage, chain link fencing may be permitted on a case by case basis as long as it is black vinyl coated and screened with landscaping on all portions visible from the right-of-way. Unfinished wood fences are not allowed.
 1. Fencing and screening shall not be placed within 25 feet of any street corner. Fencing and screening shall not block access to

aboveground, pad-mounted transformers and should provide 15 feet of clear access to the transformer doors.

2. Fencing and screening shall not impede or divert the flow of water in any drainageway.
3. The maximum height of fences should generally be six feet, except for tennis courts, storage screening, and similar uses which may be up to 12 feet in height. Fencing is not allowed in the front yard and is only permitted in the side and rear yard.
4. The Gateway District Overlay approved standard for right-of-way border fencing or frontal fencing is required along interstate, expressways or arterial highways.

(8) *Lighting and utilities.* Lighting should be used as a landscape element and for security purposes and should be designed to reduce impacts on adjacent sites. Consistency in style and design of fixtures shall be maintained throughout a site.

- a. Lighting levels should be as even as possible. For all private roadways, parking lots and entrances, the lighting system should provide a minimum ratio of 4:1 uniformity or better, or with the current Institute of Electrical Standards (IES) recommendations for office and mixed-use developments. General parking lot lighting shall not exceed an average of 2½ footcandles overall. All lighted canopies shall have recessed, indirect lights within the canopy.
- b. Lights placement must avoid glare on-site or light spillage onto adjacent sites. Where necessary, cutoff boxes should be specified to reduce throw on adjacent sites.
- c. Neon lighting is not encouraged; however, soft and/or muted colors may be allowed.
- d. Light poles are to be neutral, preferably dark in color and not made of wood. All parking and security lights are to be cutoff luminaries. The height of light fixtures should be in proportion to the building mass, preferably no taller than the building height. Lighting for pedestrian areas should be 12 to 15 feet in height. Ground-oriented pedestrian scale lighting should be considered as an alternative to pole-mounted fixtures along pedestrian walkways at three to four feet in height.
- e. Outside speakers shall not be permitted for use as paging or public address systems. Outside speakers may only be used under certain conditions, with the commission's approval, for special/cultural or public events.
- f. All utility lines, including but not limited to electric, telephone and TV cable shall be placed underground.

(9) *Parking.* The desire of the gateway review committee is to visually shield parking areas from public streets and residential areas.

- a. All parking lots and drives shall be hard surfaced with concrete or asphalt, unless an acceptable alternative is approved by the commission, and shall have concrete extruded curbs. Special paving or marking is required for accent areas such as: entrance dropoff zones and pedestrian walkways.
 - b. Innovative design concepts to improve parking area appearance are encouraged. All parking areas shall be visually screened from roadways with plantings or earth mounding (berms) 2½- to three-feet high. Where planting material is used exclusively, 60 percent opacity must be achieved in the winter and 80 percent in the summer.
 - c. A landscaped area with a minimum of ten feet shall be provided between parking and internal roadways and entry drives.
 - d. Large parking areas shall be broken into smaller sections, using berms and landscape medians for separation. On wooded sites, preservation of groups of trees is encouraged to frame smaller parking cells and to screen the parked cars.
 - e. Outdoor display areas may require up to 50 percent greater landscape requirements as established by these provisions.
 - f. On-street parking is not permitted.
 - g. Parking lots of contiguous developments should, where possible, interconnect among the differing developments to encourage continuous movement of traffic among developments to reduce traffic flow on public streets and to minimize the need for excessive curb cuts.
- (10) Business needs that lie outside of these regulations may be considered on a case by case basis by the Gateway Review Commission

~~(e)~~(d) *Design strategies for development within M-1, M-1R and M-2 districts.* The following shall apply to all M-1, M-1R and M-2 zoning districts within the Gateway District Overlay:

- (1) *Grading plan.* Improvements on the site should be developed to minimize changes in existing topography and the loss of existing mature vegetation. **All existing trees with trunks over 12 inches in diameter measured four feet above the lowest grade should be shown on the grading plans.** Incentives are provided to retain healthy existing trees. *If existing trees are to be counted towards landscaping credit (as explained in Section 114-421(b)(7)(b), then they shall be identified and shown on the grading plan.* Smooth topographic transition should be provided at the edges of property. Minimum changes in topography are recommended with no slopes exceeding 1:3 ratio (one-foot rise to a three-foot run). All grading plans require approval by the engineering department. All grading plans over one-acre require approval by the state department of environment and conservation before a grading permit can be issued. See the erosion control provisions of this Code for additional requirements.

- (2) *Site plan.* The purpose of the gateway regulations in industrial areas is to minimize impacts on adjacent properties by providing adequate green space, buffering, and screening around the area proposed for development. A combination of opaque fencing, topography, berming or informal plantings, as recommended by the landscape specialist, is encouraged to be used. The site plans must meet all city requirements for grading, erosion control, and stormwater management.
- (3) *Architectural design and materials.* Permanence in quality should be evident in both the building design and construction materials. Permanence implies that buildings should age without deteriorating, given a minimum level of maintenance. This can be achieved through the use of quality building materials and methods of construction.
- a. The building facade shall be finished with brick, precast or cast in place concrete textured panels, glass, prefinished architectural panels (without exposed fasteners), stone or other materials acceptable to the committee.
 - b. No building shall be constructed of exposed concrete block unless it is split face, fluted, or such blocks are covered with stucco, Dryvit or equivalent.
 - c. The use of metal buildings is acceptable provided the facade shall be finished with acceptable materials listed in subsection (b)(5)a of this section.
 - d. Dumpsters shall be screened or fenced. Loading docks will be permitted on the main elevation of a building that faces the street. Landscaping and screening should be provided to soften the visual impact.
 - e. All HVAC or other equipment located on the roof of any building, or other equipment affixed to, or located on the ground, shall be landscaped or screened from public view.
- (4) *Landscape plan.* Plans and specifications for any building or structure to be constructed on any lot shall include a detailed landscape plan indicating the location, size, type and height of each planting. The area between the lot property line and the street curbline shall be grassed except for areas covered by pavement, sidewalks, and landscaping. All landscaping required on any lot shall be completed within 60 days of substantial completion of construction, or within schedules set forth in the approved plans.
- (5) *Parking areas.* Off-street parking will be determined by the underlying zoning district with review by the commission as part of the overall site plan review process. Parking shall be provided on the lot to accommodate all parking needs of employees, visitors, and company vehicles. All parking areas will be paved, curbed and appropriately marked.

- (6) *Signage.* Signage shall be determined by the underlying zoning district subject to commission review as part of the overall site plan review process.
- (7) *Lighting and utilities.* Plans and specifications for any building or structure to be constructed on any lot shall include a detailed lighting plan indicating the location, type and footcandle strength of the lights. Lighting may be used as a landscape element and for security purposes. Light placement must avoid glare on site or light spillage onto adjacent sites or roadways. Where necessary, cutoff boxes should be specified to reduce throw onto adjacent sites. All utilities from the service lines to the improvements on each lot shall be underground.
- (d)(e) *Design strategies for development within the MX district.* The following shall apply within MX districts:
 - (1) *Site plan.* The planning commission and the gateway review commission shall approve a master site plan for the entire district. The district allows flexibility in the development of compatible mixed uses with areas of light manufacturing, professional office, and commercial uses, and to do so by developing a self-contained campus-like atmosphere that protects adjacent uses.
 - (2) *Grading plan.* A master-grading plan shall be submitted which incorporates design features described in this article. The plan shall be designed to meet the erosion control provisions of the subdivision regulations (on file in the clerk's office) and this chapter and shall have the approval of the state department of environment and conservation, and the city engineering department prior to being submitted to the gateway review commission.
 - (3) *Landscape plan.* The master plan shall address the MX district as viewed from the surrounding road network and adjacent land uses. It is important that an image be presented that complements the sites natural setting. In order to achieve a natural edge, landscape treatments should be designed within the setback buffers and the periphery yard and aimed at providing an entry statement into the park. Earth contours and landscape plantings are to be organized to shield large buildings, parking areas, and lay down yards, which may be visible from adjacent areas.
 - (4) *Architectural design.* Within the MX district, architectural design is not specified; however, the materials, colors, architectural elements, and treatment of accessory buildings shall be provided on the master plan. It is encouraged that previous sections of this article be used in designing these elements.
 - (5) *Signs.* The number and size of signs shall be as permitted with the underlying zoning ordinance. Signs within the district shall be monument style and landscaped.
 - (6) *Landscaping and screening.* Where land uses change within the district, a densely planted strip of 15 to 25 feet in width, depending on the use, shall be created to screen areas from each other. Interstates, expressways, or arterial highways shall be screened with landscaping or architectural elements so that

service areas including special equipment, maintenance, and loading areas are obscured from view. Where landscaping is used exclusively for this purpose it must achieve 60 percent opacity in the winter and 80 percent opacity in the summer.

- (7) *Lighting and utilities.* Lighting should be used as a landscape element and for security purposes and should be designed to reduce impacts on adjacent sites. Consistency in style and design of fixtures shall be maintained throughout the site. All utility lines shall be underground.
- (8) *Parking.* Parking areas shall be designed and landscaped as required by the MX district parking provisions. The use of berms and landscaping is encouraged to shield parking areas from public streets and residential areas.

Property Information	McDonalds		
Address	1331 S John B Dennis Hwy		
Tax Map, Group, Parcel	TM 76, Parcel 19		
Civil District	13th Civil District		
Overlay District	Gateway		
Land Use Designation	Retail/Commercial		
Acres	1.97		
Existing Use	Gas Station/Restaurant	Existing Zoning	B-4P
Proposed Use	No change	Proposed Zoning	No Change
Owner /Applicant Information			
Name: McDonalds USA LLC Address: 4601 Six Forks Road Suite 200 City: Raleigh State: NC Zip Code: 27609 Email: klang@brittpeters.com Phone Number:		Request a Certificate of Appropriateness for: Building Permit for: _____ New Construction for _____ Real Estate Improvement for _____ Expansion or Renovation for <u>exterior façade renovation</u>	
Planning Department Recommendation			
(Approve, Deny, or Defer) The Kingsport Planning Division recommends approval for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new improvements meets the minimum requirements of the gateway district. • The new improvements will boost the aesthetics of the current building. Staff Field Notes and General Comments: The restaurant is connected to the existing gas station/convenience store and was originally constructed in 1999. The request is to renovate the exterior façade of the McDonalds portion of the structure only. No new additions, parking or landscaping is being proposed.			
Planner:	Harmon	Date: May 14, 2018	
Gateway Review Commission Action		Meeting Date:	May 18, 2018
Approval:			
Denial:		Reason for Denial:	
Deferred:		Reason for Deferral:	

PROPERTY INFORMATION

ADDRESS	1331 South John B Dennis Highway
DISTRICT, LAND LOT	13th Civil District, Tax Map 76, Parcel 19
OVERLAY DISTRICT	Gateway District
EXISTING ZONING	B-4P
PROPOSED ZONING	No Change

ACRES 1.97**EXISTING USE Fast Food Restaurant****PROPOSED USE no change**

PETITIONER: McDonalds USA LLC
ADDRESS: 4601 Six Forks Road Suite 200 Raleigh NC 27609

REPRESENTATIVE: Kristin Lang
EMAIL: klang@brittpeters.com

INTENT

REQUEST A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR:

Building Permit for: _____

New Construction for: _____

Real Estate Improvement for: _____

Expansion or Renovation for: exterior façade renovation

The McDonalds located at 1331 S. John B Dennis Hwy was originally constructed in 1999. The plans call for a complete façade renovation for the restaurant portion of the building only. The existing roof structure will be demolished and all brick surfaces will be prepared to be repainted.

The storefront will receive a new anodized aluminum door and storefront window. The EFIS and existing brick will be painted Benjamin Moore – Fairview Taupe and the brick surrounding the drive thru windows will be painted Benjamin Moore – Iron Mountain. A new metal wall panels will surround the top of the structure with metal canopies as well. All new silver wall sconces will be included on the façade. The front entry will be surrounded with a black wood look tile. All exterior doors will be painted to match the surrounding façade material.

Signage is not part of this submittal and will be submitted by another party at a later date.

Area Map



[illegible]

Prepared by Kingsport Planning Department for the
Kingsport Gateway Review Commission Meeting May 18, 2018

Prepared by Kingsport Planning Department for the
Kingsport Gateway Review Commission Meeting May 18, 2018

COA – 1331 S John B Dennis Hwy



color of metal wall panel addition



CONCLUSION

Staff recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness for the exterior façade renovation for 1331 S John B Dennis Highway based on conformance to the Gateway Regulations and the City of Kingsport Zoning Code.