### SIDEWALK WAIVER REQUEST STAFF REPORT

### Date: September 5, 2013

NAME	Corporate Property Services
<u>LOCATION</u>	4707 Airport Boulevard (South side of Airport Boulevard, 2/10± mile West of University Boulevard)
PRESENT ZONING	B-2, Neighborhood Business District

### ENGINEERING COMMENTS

**<u>COMMENTS</u>** It appears that there is sufficient room within the ROW for construction of a sidewalk, providing removal of the trees is permitted. If tree removal is not allowed then the sidewalk should be constructed to a logical tie-in point within the destination.

# TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

**<u>COMMENTS</u>** Light poles can be repositioned at the expense of the developer/owner to make way for necessary roadway improvements (e.g. driveways, turn lanes, sidewalks, etc). In this instance, the relocation of the light poles (and associated underground conduit/wiring) in relation to the trees and their root system may not be conducive. Urban Forestry should be consulted on matters related to excavating in the critical root zone.

## URBAN FORESTRY

**<u>COMMENTS</u>** Property to be developed in compliance with state and local laws that pertain to tree preservation and protection on both city and private properties (State Act 61-929 and City Code Chapters 57 and 64). Installation of a sidewalk will have a negative impact on the existing Live Oak tree roots along Airport Boulevard.

#### **REMARKS**

The applicant is requesting a waiver for the construction of

a sidewalk along Airport Boulevard.

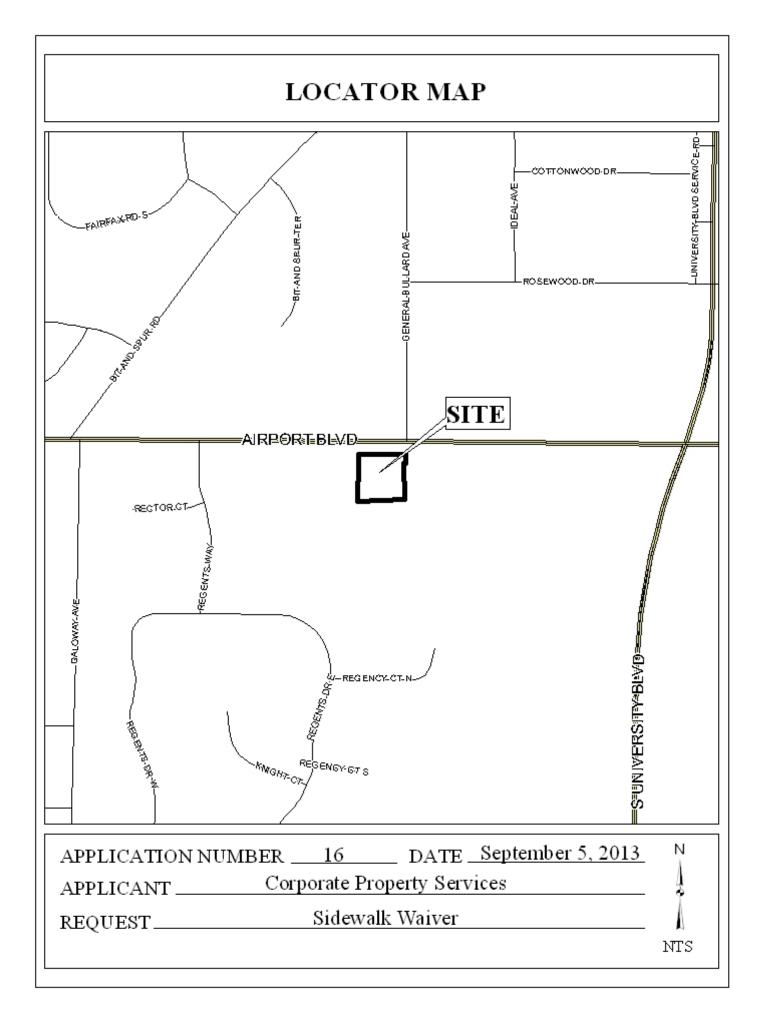
The sidewalk waiver site is adjacent to a site that was previously developed with a restaurant, now demolished, and is proposed to be developed with a new restaurant.

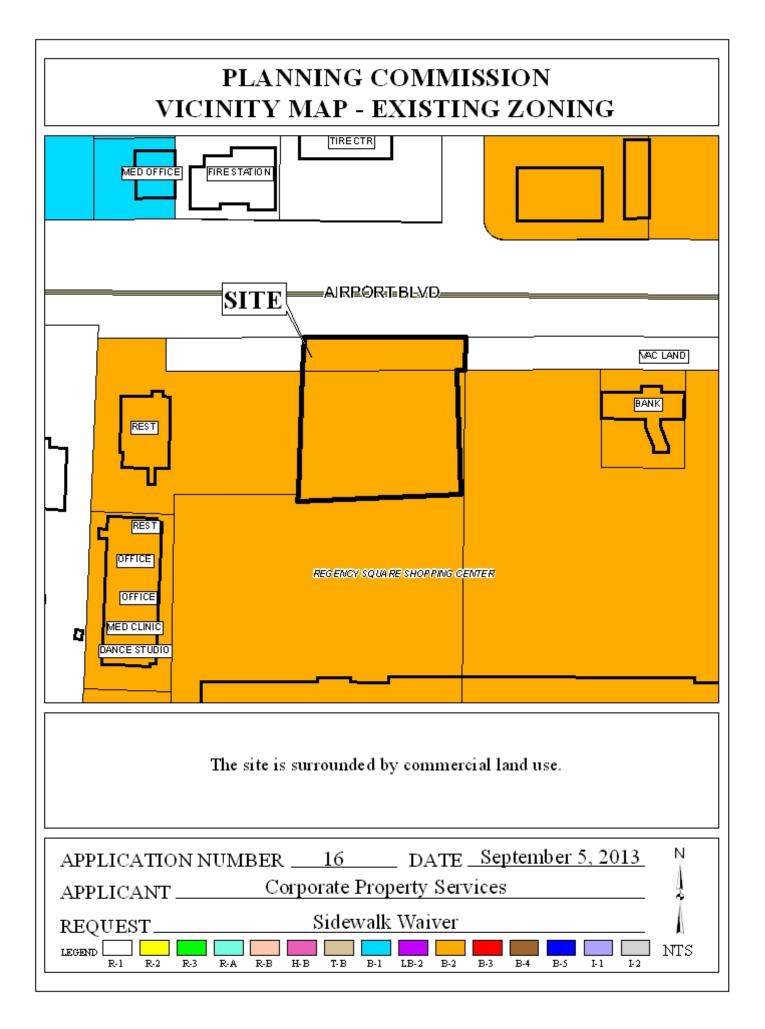
The applicant states that there are six existing live oak trees, ranging in size from 16 to 22 inches in diameter, located in the area where a sidewalk would normally be built. The applicant also states that there are light poles along Airport Boulevard, between the trees and the curb, further complicating installation of a sidewalk.

Airport Boulevard is a 6-lane major street, with traffic counts exceeding 48,000 cars per day adjacent to this site. The WAVE Transit System also has a bus route which passes the site, providing at least hourly service.

A sidewalk ends at the Western boundary of the site in question, but there are no sidewalks East of the site or across Airport Boulevard from the site.

**RECOMMENDATION** Based upon the preceding, this application for waiver of the sidewalk is recommended for Approval.





# PLANNING COMMISSION VICINITY MAP - EXISTING ZONING

