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## Scoreboard: Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting, Tuesday, June 13

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### **THE MAIN EVENT Second reading on two requests**

Aldermen approved last week the second readings of two rezoning requests and concept plans tied to the Goose Creek development — though build-out of a project encompassing more than 350 acres won't be completed for an estimated 15 to 20 years.

Initial approval was given to project developer Boyle Development on the project's two phases, including:

- Rezoning 144 acres from Agricultural to Planned Commercial and approval of the concept plan for the Berry Farms-Chadwell Tract on the western side of Interstate 65 and south of the Goose Creek Bypass.
- Rezoning 207 acres from Agricultural to Planned Commercial, rezoning 5.97 acres from estate residential to Planned Commercial and approval of the concept plan for the Berry Farms-Reams Fleming tract on the eastern side of Interstate 65 and south of Peytonsville Road. Aldermen voted 4-2 on this part of the project, with Aldermen Robert Kriebel and Pam Lewis voting against the project because of concerns about roads in that area.

But the annexation is just the first step in what will be a decades-long process, said Bryan Echols, Boyle's attorney.

"It's not a starting gun for development," Echols told aldermen.

The board also took up a discussion about inter-governmental cooperation on the project, especially as it concerns the development on the eastern side of Interstate 65.

If given final approval, the city stands to collect windfalls totaling more than \$30.5 million in estimated water, adequate facilities and sewer fees with the project's completion.

It's projected that the city's ongoing work to bring sewer service to these areas is early fall 2007.

The project still needs a third and final reading for final approval.

### **TAXATION City code change on housing horizon**

Aldermen unanimously approved the second reading of an amendment to the city code that would change a roughly 20-year city ordinance excluding payment of taxes on the first 500 square feet of space in residential development.

That could mean adding a new tax of roughly 68 cents per square foot or \$340 a house to total an

estimated \$250,000 a year into the city's adequate facilities tax fund on new housing.

Board members brought up concerns about how the amendment would affect the question of adding more affordable housing.

Alderman Bev Burger added an amendment that would make homes built by nonprofit agencies such as Habitat for Humanity exempt from paying adequate facilities taxes. Aldermen were split 3-3 on Burger's amendment, with Mayor Tom Miller breaking the tie against it.

Alderman Dan Klatt, who voted against Burger's amendment, encouraged the board to discuss the larger issue of affordable housing, adding that a housing assistance program fund might be created in the future to encourage affordable housing.

### **MISCELLANEOUS Emotional moment**

The meeting began on an emotional note for Mayor Tom Miller.

Miller won aldermanic approval to declare Pfc. Joseph Duenas an honorary citizen of Franklin in order to get him a ceremonial brick in the county's Veterans Park at Five Points in downtown Franklin, where the area's veterans who died in battle are commemorated.

Duenas, known as "Private Joe" to the children of Franklin Elementary School when the Fort Campbell soldier was "adopted," died after a recent mission in Iraq. He was an infantryman assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team.

Duenas died earlier this spring when he fell out of a helicopter in Kirkuk after a mission.

Miller's son-in-law, Sgt. 1st Class James "Tre" Ponder III, was one of 16 killed last June when a Special Forces helicopter crashed into a mountain ravine in eastern Afghanistan.

Miller read the proclamation with his voice choked with emotion.

"That was a tough one," Miller said afterward. •

— KEVIN WALTERS, STAFF WRITER

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