

# PRESS RELEASE



## County Council

8 January 2008

Mike Cooper  
Dave Gossett  
John Koster  
Dave Somers  
Brian Sullivan

### *'A Quality of Life' Issue*

## **County Council poised to provide resources to move forward on Urban Design Standards**

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The county council called on the county's Planning and Development Service Department (PDS) to complete and forward for council action new neighborhood-friendly urban design standards to quickly address community concerns arising from increasingly dense development. The goal of urban design standards is to increase the compatibility or "neighborhood fit" in the transition between residential and non-residential development.

As part of the 2007 Update of the Unified Development Code Planning and Development Services (PDS) had originally promised to bring the proposed changes before the county's planning commission in December 2007. That deadline was extended to March 2008. Now, PDS is proposing to delay this important legislation into the late summer.

"Residents in the county's fast-growing neighborhoods have made it clear they want us to change how new, much denser development integrates into existing single-family communities," said Councilmember Dave Gossett. "This is a quality of life issue. We cannot afford anymore delays."

"Growth is all I hear about," said Councilmember Mike Cooper, "and the public doesn't see anything happening here."

"You need to tell us how the council can help speed up the process," Cooper said to PDS Director Craig Ladiser. "What are the resources you need to produce the results people want?"

Ladiser promised to return to the council Monday, Jan. 14 with recommendations on how to complete the new urban design standards on a faster track.

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