Staff Analysis: Neighborhood Model Principles ZMA20190001, 999 Rio Road

Pedestrian Orientation	The proposal includes extending the existing multi-use path (MUP) to connect the existing MUP along Rio Road with the MUP along Belvedere Boulevard. This promotes walkability to a mixed-use development. Within the development proposal, there are sidewalks that connect both blocks and provide access to the amenity and green spaces. The applicant has submitted a request for variation or exception to the curb and gutter, sidewalk and planting strip requirements for those dwelling units that front on a proposed private street serving as an amenity space (amenity-oriented lots). Staff is supportive of this request, which also provides pedestrian connectivity and an amenity space. This principle is met.
Mixture of Uses	Small-scale commercial, retail and office uses are proposed, as well as residential uses. Block 2 is proposed to be entirely residential, while Block 1 is a mixture of residential and retail/commercial/office/institutional potential uses. The ultimate mixture of uses will depend on the market. The Code of Development allows for a minimum of 0 square feet of non-residential uses; therefore the applicant will either need to revise the Code of Development to provide a greater than zero minimum square footage of non-residential uses, or apply for a special exception per 18-20.8(b). This principle will be met once either the Code is revised or the special exception is included and reviewed.
Neighborhood Centers	The proposal is not located in a center, however it is near several Neighborhood Service Centers. There are a variety of scale-appropriate amenity and green spaces in both Blocks. This principle is not applicable.
Mixture of Housing Types and Affordability	A mixture of housing types is proposed, including multifamily housing and single-family attached and/or detached units. While the cottage-style single-family units are assumed to be less expensive than typical larger single-family units, they are not formally affordable units, per HUD and County standards. Staff feels that this principle is partially met, and that not meeting the
	affordable housing goal in the Comprehensive Plan is a factor unfavorable.

Relegated Parking	Parking is mostly relegated from Rio Road. A parking reduction was requested, which supports the Neighborhood Model principle of reducing parking and sharing parking when possible.
	Staff feels that this principle is adequately met, although at site planning stage the Architectural Review Board may require additional screening or revised placement of parking along Rio Road. Recommendation to include buildings, if possible, all along the front of Rio Road to fully relegate parking.
Interconnected Streets and Transportation Networks	The proposal includes extending the existing multi-use path (MUP) to connect the existing MUP along Rio Road with the MUP along Belvedere Boulevard. Given the size and location constraints of the parcel, there are limited opportunities for additional networks.
	This principle is met. It should also be noted that no connection between this proposal and Fowler Ridge Court is proposed at this time. There is an approximately 50-foot right-of-way parcel in between this proposal and the end of the cul-de-sac at Fowler Ridge Court. Although it is County policy to create interconnected street networks, residents at Fowler Ridge Court preferred to not have a connection at this time. Residents in the Dunlora neighborhood can still use the multi-use path along Rio Road to access this development.
Multimodal Transportation Opportunities	The proposal includes extending the existing multi-use path (MUP). The proposed development is along existing bus route 11. There are sidewalks provided internally in the site that connect both blocks. This principle is met.
Parks, Recreational Amenities, and Open Space	The variety of green and amenity spaces contributes to the character of the proposal and provides future residents with multiple options for recreation. The required amount of amenity and green spaces are provided with this application. Block 1 contains a plaza and dog park, while Block 2 features an amenity space for amenity-oriented lots and an additional dog park. This principle is met.
Buildings and Spaces of Human Scale	The maximum building height per the COD is three (3) stories in both blocks, which is consistent with the scale of the area. The maximum building footprint is 5,000 square feet, which is roughly equivalent to the footprint of two single-family homes in the adjacent Dunlora neighborhood. The smaller-scale and mixed-use proposal is consistent with the character of developments near centers. Double-frontage lots are proposed, however they would front along an amenity space, instead of a street. This contributes to the pedestrian scale and accessibility of the proposal.
	This principle is met.

Redevelopment	The existing structures on the property will not be preserved, in order to create a more cohesive development with a density within the Comprehensive Plan (Places 29 Master Plan) recommendation. This can be considered an infill development, given that this is an underutilized parcel surrounded by existing development. This principle is met.
Respecting Terrain and Careful Grading and Re-grading of Terrain	There are no preserved or managed slopes on this site. This principle is met.
Clear Boundaries between the Development Areas and Rural Area	The proposal is located well within the Development Areas. This principle is not applicable.