### **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

**ZONING CASE FINAL REPORT** 

DATE:



MB

TO: Petitioners with Items before the Planning & Zoning Commission

FROM: Planning & Zoning Commission

VIA: Mike Bell, AICP, Development Review Manager acting as Secretary of the Planning &

**Zoning Commission** 

June 18, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Results of Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting of June 17, 2024

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 - ZONING CASE 2024-010 PETITIONER: MONTESSORI NEW BEGINNINGS ACADEMY, INC.

Request to amend Specific Use Permits No. 550 for Day Care Center and No. 551 for Private School on 7.5 acres located at the southeast corner of Legacy Drive and Ohio Drive Zoned Single-Family Residence-7. Project #ZC2024-010.

APPROVED: 5-	.0						
Speaker Card(s) Received:		Support:	_ 2	Oppose:	0	Neutral:	0
Letters Received Within 20	0' Notice Area:	Support:	1	Oppose:	_2	Neutral:	0
Petition Signatures Receive	ed:	Support:	0	Oppose:	0	Neutral:	0
Other Responses:		Support:	89	Oppose:	3	Neutral:	0

### **RESULTS:**

The Commission recommended the item for approval subject to the following stipulations:

S-550 for Day Care Center

- 1. Maximum number of children: 304 360
- 2. The number of day care center children must be combined with the number of private school students under S-551 and must not exceed a combined total of 360.

### S-551 for Private School

Maximum number of students: 80360. This The number of private school students must be combined with the number of day care center children under S-550 and must not exceed a combined total of 304360 children as restricted by Specific Use Permit No. 550 for Day Care Center.

- 2. Students must be under 14 years of age on September 1st of the school year.
- 3. An irrigated landscaped edge with a combination of trees and shrubs must be maintained between the easternmost building and the eastern property line.
- 4. Solid waste enclosures must be located between Ohio Drive and the westernmost building.
- 5. Interior lights must not be visible from outside the eastern facade of the eastern building from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.
- 6. Exterior lighting located within 65 feet of the easternmost property line must not be visible from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. unless directed downward.

To view the hearing, please click on the provided link: <a href="https://planotx.new.swagit.com/videos/308112?ts=1212">https://planotx.new.swagit.com/videos/308112?ts=1212</a>

### JK/ts

cc: Eric Hill, Assistant Director of Planning
Christina Sebastian, Land Records Planning Manager
Melissa Kleineck, Lead Planner
Justin Cozart, Sr. GIS Technician
Jeanna Scott, Building Inspections Manager
Dorothy Alatorre, Sr. Administrative Assistant - Neighborhood Services

### Google Link

### **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT: JUNE 17, 2024



**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3** 

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Zoning Case 2024-010

**PETITIONER:** Montessori New Beginnings Academy, Inc.

CASE PLANNER: John Kim, AICP Candidate

**DESCRIPTION:** Request to amend Specific Use Permits No. 550 for Day Care Center and No. 551 for Private School on 7.5 acres located at the southeast corner of Legacy Drive and Ohio Drive. Zoned Single-Family Residence-7. Project #ZC2024-010.

### SUMMARY:

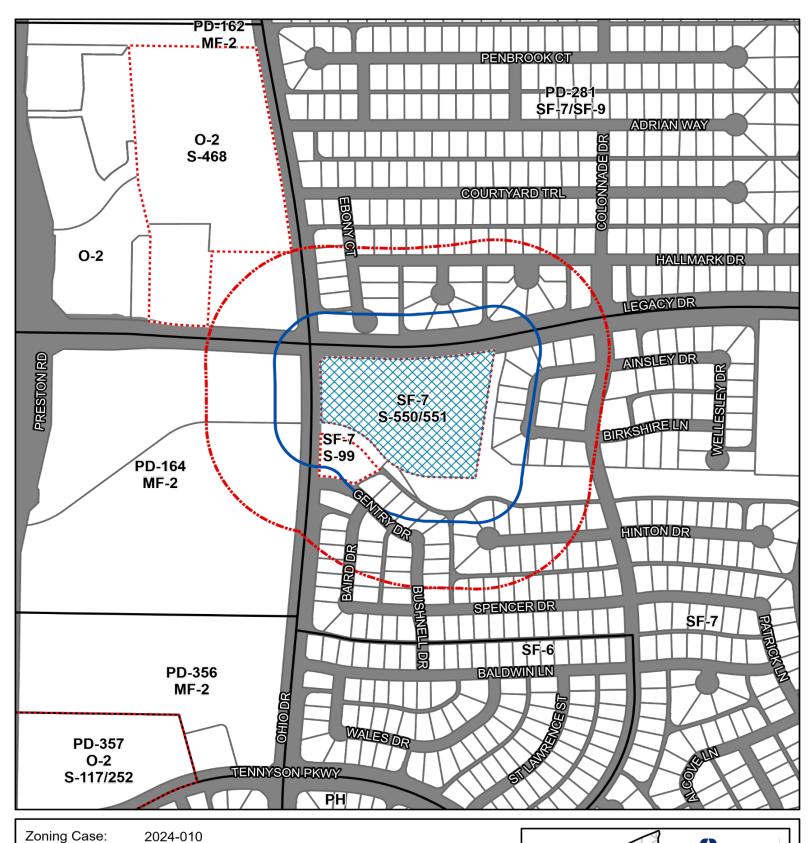
The subject property currently operates as a day care center and private school known as Archgate Montessori Academy. The applicant is requesting to amend Specific Use Permits No. 550 for Day Care Center (S-550) and 551 for Private School (S-551) for the following purposes:

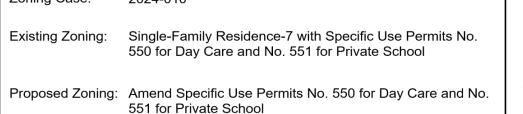
- 1. To increase the combined maximum number of day care children and private school students from 308 to 360.
- 2. To remove the existing restriction of no more than 60 private school students.

Other restrictions regarding the age of students, landscape edges, solid waste enclosures, and lighting will remain unchanged. According to the applicant's letter, these changes are needed to meet increased demand for private school enrollment and allow flexibility in classroom size as grade level enrollment fluctuates. Major considerations of this request include:

- Traffic The allowance for 56 additional children is estimated to increase the amount of trips generated by the site by 18%. There is sufficient space for queueing on site and the applicant is also using staggered pick-up/drop-off times to mitigate potential impacts to the surrounding street network.
- History of the Site S-550 for a day care center was initially approved in 2004 and began operations in 2006. In 2018, the day care center was approved for a two-story building expansion, and in 2019, S-551 was approved temporarily for a private school, with a limit on the number of private school students. In 2020, the expiration on S-551 for Private School was removed.
- Conformance to the Comprehensive Plan Staff finds the proposed amendments to S-550 and S-551 to be consistent with the Neighborhoods (N) future land use category of the Comprehensive Plan.

Staff is in support of the request.





500' Notification Buffer

GENDA ITEM NO. 3 (1527 7/24)

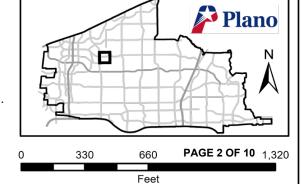
Zoning Boundary Change/SUP

Zoning Boundary

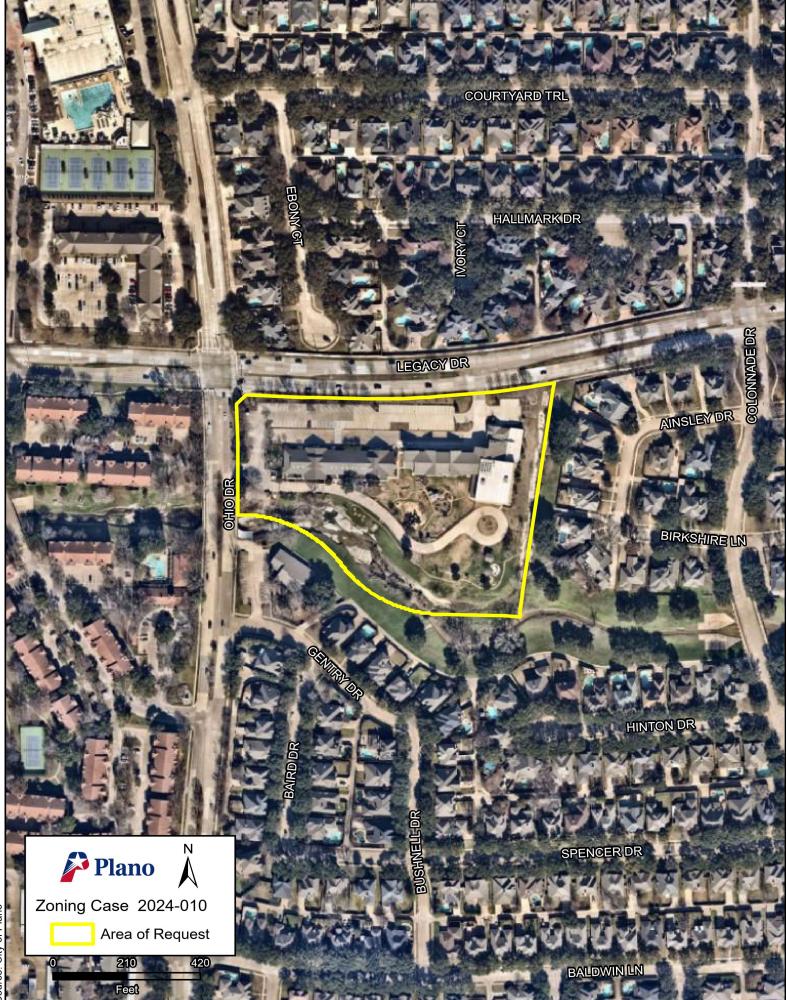
Zoning Boundary

Zoning Boundary

Specific Use Permit



Source: City of Plano



Source: City of Plano

### STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT – INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The applicant is requesting to amend Specific Use Permits No. 550 for Day Care Center (S-550) and 551 for Private School (S-551) to allow a combined maximum total of 360 children/students.

Specific Use Permit – Subsection 6.100.2 (Specific Use Permits) of the Zoning Ordinance states:

The purpose and intent of an SUP is to authorize and regulate a use not normally permitted in a district which could be of benefit in a particular case to the general welfare, provided adequate development standards and safeguards are established.

Additionally, Subsection 6.100.3 (Specific Use Permits) states the following:

The Planning & Zoning Commission in considering and determining its recommendations to the City Council on any request for a specific use permit may require from the applicant plans, information, operating data, and expert evaluation concerning the location, function, and characteristics of any building or use proposed. The City Council may, in the interest of the public welfare and to ensure compliance with this ordinance, establish conditions of operation, location, arrangement, and type and manner of construction of any use for which a permit is authorized. In authorizing the location of any of the uses listed as specific use permits, the City Council may impose such development standards and safeguards as the conditions and locations indicate important to the welfare and protection of adjacent property from noise, vibration, dust, dirt, smoke, fumes, gas, odor, explosion, glare, offensive view, traffic, or other undesirable or hazardous conditions.

<u>Uses</u> – The Zoning Ordinance defines private school and day care center as follows:

Day Care Center – An operation other than public, parochial, or private school providing care for 7 or more children under 14 years of age for less than 24 hours per day at a location other than a residence.

School (Private) – A school under the sponsorship of a private agency or corporation other than a public or religious agency, having a curriculum generally equivalent to public elementary or secondary school.

### S-550 and S-551 History

- 2004 S-550 for Day Care Center was approved. The original SUP included no restrictions on the number of children or other site improvements.
- 2006 The subject property was developed as a one-story, 14,790 square-foot building, including seven classrooms and other associated spaces. The initial concept plan for the day care center showed a future building expansion on the east side of the subject property.
- 2018 The property owner received approval for a two-story, 31,883 square-foot building expansion that included eight classrooms, a full-service kitchen, a gymnasium, and a storm shelter. During the construction of this expansion, the city became aware that the day care's operations included the education of primary-school-aged children, so staff informed the

property owner that they must request an SUP to continue the private school use or, alternatively, they could operate only day care programs onsite.

- 2019 After extensive discussion, S-551 for Private School was approved with a restriction limiting enrollment to no more than 50 students under 14 years of age, which, combined with the day care center, must total no more than 304 children. Standards for landscaping and solid waste enclosures were included to mitigate concerns about the building expansion's proximity to existing neighborhoods. S-550 for Day Care Center was also amended to restrict the maximum number of children to 304. These approvals were for the 2019-2020 school year only, as the ordinances included an expiration and rollback provisions effective May 31, 2020.
- 2020 (April) S-550 and S-551 were amended to remove the expiration and rollback date restrictions. The maximum number of private school students was increased to its current limit of 80 students. Stipulations on interior and exterior lighting were also included in response to neighborhood concerns.

### S-550 and S-551 Proposed Amendments

S-550 and S-551 stipulations are proposed to be amended as follows (additions are indicated by underline; deletions are indicated by strike-through):

### S-550 for Day Care Center

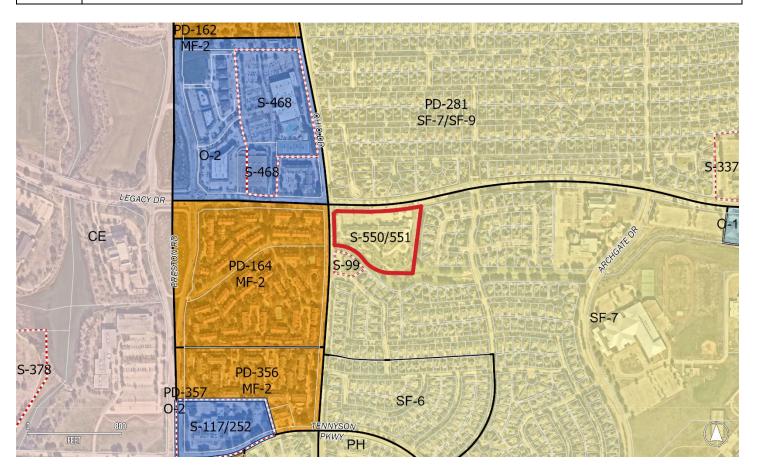
- 1. Maximum number of children: 304 360
- 2. The number of day care center children must be combined with the number of private school students under S-551 and must not exceed a combined total of 360.

### T-551 for Private School

- 1. Maximum number of students: 80360. This-The number of private school students must be combined with the number of day care center children under S-550 and must not exceed a combined total of 304360 children as restricted by Specific Use Permit No. 550 for Day Care Center.
- 2. Students must be under 14 years of age on September 1st of the school year.
- 3. An irrigated landscaped edge with a combination of trees and shrubs must be maintained between the easternmost building and the eastern property line.
- 4. Solid waste enclosures must be located between Ohio Drive and the westernmost building.
- 5. Interior lights must not be visible from outside the eastern facade of the eastern building from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.
- 6. Exterior lighting located within 65 feet of the easternmost property line must not be visible from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. unless directed downward.

## **Surrounding Land Use and Zoning**

North	The properties to the north across Legacy Drive are zoned Planned Development-281-Single-Family Residence-7/Single-Family Residence-9 (PD-281-SF-7/SF-9) and are developed with single-family residences.
East	The properties are zoned Single-Family Residence-7 (SF-7) and are developed with single-family residences.
South	The properties are zoned Single-Family Residence-7 (SF-7) and SF-7 with Specific Use Permit No. 99 (S-99) for Day Cay Center. They are developed with single-family homes and a day care center.
West	The properties to the west across Ohio Drive are zoned Planned Development-164-Multifamily Residence-2 (PD-164-MF-2) and developed with multifamily residences. The properties to the northwest are zoned General Office (O-2) and O-2 with Specific Use Permits No. 468 for Expanded Health/Fitness Center; these properties are developed with a hotel, health and fitness center, and medical offices.





VISION: "Plano is a global leader, excelling in exceptional education, abounding with world class businesses and vibrant neighborhoods" GUIDING PRINCIPLES: Plano Today. Plano 2050. Plano Together.

## 1 | Future Land Use Map



## Neighborhoods (N)

The Neighborhoods future land use category consists primarily of residential areas focused on sustaining a high quality of life through well-maintained infrastructure, housing, open space, schools, and limited service/institutional uses.

Residential Areas - Single-family residential should remain the primary use within neighborhoods. It is the intention to preserve and enhance these uses and to regulate the design of new residential infill products to be within the context of the surrounding environment. Existing multifamily developments, which function as transitions from moderate and high intensity commercial areas, should be well maintained to preserve neighborhood character. With few large tracts left for residential development, some infill and redevelopment opportunities may not fit the typical neighborhood design.

Non-Residential Areas - Institutional, light office, and service uses are considered secondary uses and may be located along the frontage of arterial streets and intersections.

Residential Adjaceny Standards - Adequate transitions in building setbacks and height must be provided when development is proposed near established neighborhoods.

#### **PRIORITIES**

- Preserving neighborhood character and quality of life
- 2. Upkeep of existing housing stock
- Requiring adjacent commercial land uses to provide adequate transitions
- 4. Variety of housing heights, sizes, and types

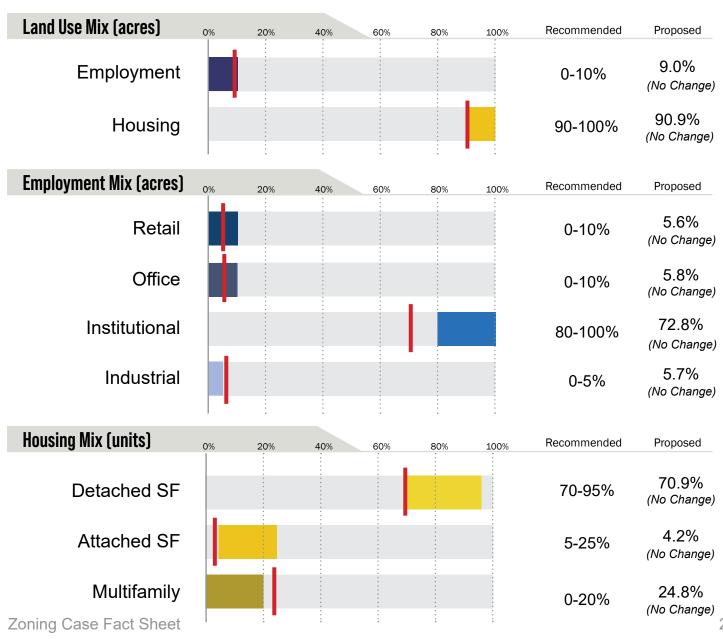


## 2 Mix of Uses



If approved, the request would result in the following Mix of Uses:



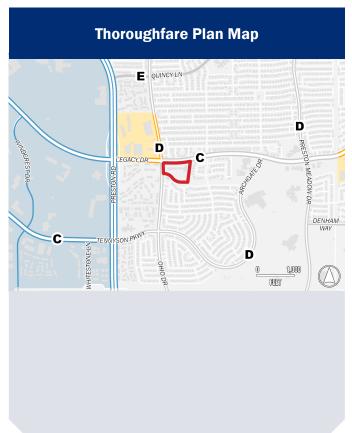


## 3 | Desirable Character Defining Elements

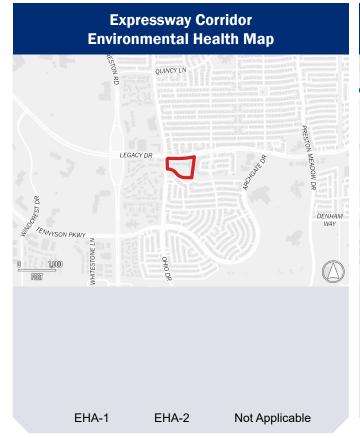


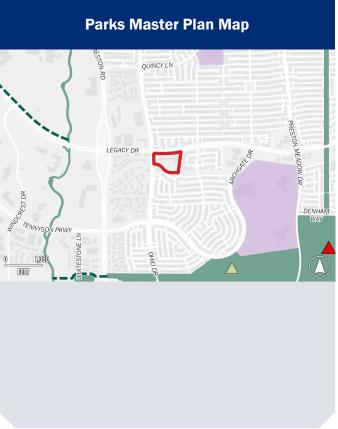
DESIRABLE CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENT	RECOMMENDED BY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN	APPLICANT PROPOSAL
Building Heights	1 to 2 stories	
Density	SF: 0.5 to 10 DUA MF: 10 to 22 DUA	
Intensity	Low (0 to 50% Lot Coverage)	
Open Space	10% to 50% Passive Open Space	
Parking Orientation	Res: garages with driveways Non-res: surface lots	
Block Pattern & Streetscape	Gridded or curvillinear blocks Traditional Residential Streets	
Multimodal Access		
1. Automobiles	HIGH: Direct access from local streets	
2. Transit	MEDIUM: Served by bus on pe- rimeter arterial streets	
3. Micromobility	HIGH: Connected to trails and bike routes	
4. Pedestrians	HIGH: Walkable to parks and schools	

## 4 | Other Comprehensive Plan Maps









## 5 | Comprehensive Plan Policies & Actions

**CORE POLICIES:** The following policies are applicable to all zoning cases. No specific analysis of these policies are provided in the staff report as these serve as the fundamental basis for all staff recommendations.



**Land Use:** Plano will support a system of organized land use to provide housing and employment choices aligned with the market, where new and redevelopment areas respect the viability and quality of life for existing neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions.



**Redevelopment & Growth Management:** Plano will protect and preserve the well-established built environment of Plano and prevent overcrowding by requiring new growth and redevelopment to respect the unique development patterns, suburban character, housing needs, infrastructure capacity considerations, and fiscal constraints of our community.

**LAND USE-RELATED POLICIES:** The following policies are applicable on a case-by-case basis depending upon the type, location, and general nature of the request. Refer to the staff report for analysis of these policies with the respect to the proposed zoning change, where applicable.



**Redevelopment of Regional Transportation Corridors:** Plano will encourage reinvestment and redevelopment of identified regional transportation corridors to create cohesive developments that incorporate well-designed commercial, retail, and housing opportunities, where those uses are appropriate according to the Future Land Use Map and other related Comprehensive Plan standards.

Applicable

Not Applicable



**Revitalization of Retail Shopping Centers:** Plano will encourage reinvestment, revitalization, and redevelopment of underperforming neighborhood retail corners to accommodate a viable combination of local commercial, retail, and entertainment uses. Where appropriate transitions can be maintained, redevelopment may present opportunities to introduce residential uses and improve access.

Applicable

Not Applicable



**Special Housing Needs:** Plano will support the special housing needs or residents including seniors, people with disabilities, and low- to moderate-income households through inclusive regulations and programs and actions furthering the goals stated in the Consolidated Plan. Proposed locations for special housing needs should be afforded the same health and safety considerations as other housing.

Applicable

Not Applicable



**Transit-Oriented Development:** Plano will proactively encourage development within walking distance of existing and planned transit stations to create an integrated mix of uses including residential, employment, retail, and civic spaces.

Applicable

Not Applicable



**Undeveloped Land:** Plano will reserve its remaining undeveloped land for high quality development with distinctive character, prioritizing businesses offering skilled employment. New housing in these areas will only be considered appropriate where it is consistent with the Future Land Use Map and other related Comprehensive Plan standards.

Applicable

Not Applicable

**OTHER POLICIES/DOCUMENTS:** Additional policies may apply where applicable:

Envision Oak Point (2018)

Downtown Vision & Strategy Update (2019)

Spring Creekwalk Master Plan (1990)

**FOR RESIDENTIAL AND MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS ONLY:** The following actions from the Redevelopment & Growth Management (RGM) Policy are applicable to requests for mixed-use developments:

**RGM5:** Ensure that any rezoning requests for multiuse development include:

Applicable

Not Applicable

- A) No more than 50% square footage for residential uses. Requests should also conform with other identifying elements (density, building heights, etc.) in the applicable Dashboard descriptions.
- B) Phasing requirements that prevent the disproportionate completion of residential uses prior to nonresidential uses within the development. Nonresidential square footage must constitue a minimum of 33% of all square footage approved for occupancy during development (e.g., every 2 square feet of residential development requires at least 1 square foot of nonresidential development; and
- C) Key design features provided prior to, or concurrent with, the construction of any residential uses. These include elements of the development supporting the long-term value to the overall community, and specificially any new residents, such as open/green space, amenities, street enhancements, and trails.

**RGM8:** Limit new residential development to areas that are appropriate based on individual site considerations and consistency with the Future Land Use Map and Dashboards. Multifamily developments should also meet a housing diversification or economic development need of the city, including transitoriented development, special housing needs (as defined by the city's Considered Plan), or be constructed as part of a high-rise 10 stories or greater.

Applicable

Not Applicable

## 6 | Findings Policy

### RGM1: Mix of Uses, Density, & Building Height

In accordance with the Redevelopment and Growth Management (RGM) Policy Action 1, zoning change requests that do not conform to the mix of uses, density, and building heights as described in the Dashboards are **disfavored**. Requests that do not conform to these criteria may be occasionally allowed when found:

- Consistent with the Guiding Principles of the Comprehensive Plan; and
- Substantially beneficial to the immediate neighbors, surrounding community, and general public interest.

### **RGM5: Mixed-Use Developments**

In addition, the Redevelopment and Growth Management (RGM) Policy Action 2 requires findings when approving a mixed-use development that exceeds 50% square footage for residential uses and/or does not conform to other identifying elements (density, height, etc.) in the applicable Dashboard.

### **Are Findings Required?**

Yes, because the request does not comply with the Mix of Uses of the associated Dashboard.

Yes, because the request does not comply with the Building Heights of the associated Dashboard.

Yes, because the request does not comply with the Maximum Density of the associated Dashboard.

Yes, because the request dis inconsistent with Action RGM5 (for mixed-use developments).

No, findings are not required.

### STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT - CONFORMANCE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The proposed request has been reviewed for conformance with the Comprehensive Plan. Major factors included in the analysis are provided below, but the Comprehensive Plan Fact Sheet has more specific details about the request.

<u>Guiding Principles</u> – This set of Guiding Principles to the Comprehensive Plan establishes overarching themes that apply to all policies and actions and express values for *Plano Today*, *Plano 2050*, and *Plano Together*. Since the principles do not stand alone but are used in concert with one another and carry across the Plan as a whole, each principle must be judged through a lens that incorporates all other principles to be fully and accurately understood. As such, the Commission is encouraged to review the full list of Guiding Principles and judge zoning requests through the lens of all principles.

### Future Land Use Map Category & Dashboard

<u>Future Land Use Category</u> – The subject property is located in the <u>Neighborhoods (N)</u> category of the Future Land Use Map (FLUM). Institutional uses, such as day care center and private schools, are secondary uses that are supported along the frontage of arterial roadways and intersections. Staff finds the request consistent with the description of the N category.

FLUM – N Description and Priorities			
Description	on Control of the Con	Meets	
Priorities	Preserving neighborhood character and quality of life	N/A	
Upkeep of existing housing stock N/A			
	Requiring adjacent commercial land uses to provide adequate transitions	N/A	
	Variety of housing heights, sizes, and types	N/A	

<u>Mix of Uses</u> – The private school and daycare is classified as an *Institutional Type* of use in the Land Use & Housing Inventory (LUHI) tool. The proposed amendment would not alter the type of use. Thus, there is no impact on the Mix of Uses.

FLUM – N Mix of Uses			
Land Use Mix	Meets		
Employment Mix	Meets		

<u>Desirable Character Defining Elements</u> – The proposed amendments will apply to the existing site and no significant changes are proposed to the site. Therefore, the Desirable Character Defining Elements section of the N dashboard is not applicable to this request.

FLUM – N Desirable Character Defining Elements
Not Applicable

**Other Comprehensive Plan Maps** – The scope of the request would not require improvements applicable to the *Thoroughfare Plan Map*, *Bicycle Transportation Plan Map*, *Expressway Corridor Environmental Health Map*, or *Parks Master Plan Map*.

# Other Comprehensive Plan Maps Not Applicable

### **Policies & Actions of the Comprehensive Plan and Other Studies**

<u>Land Use Policy</u> – This policy emphasizes the need for new and redevelopment areas to respect the viability and quality of life of existing neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions. The subject site is currently developed and operating as a private school and daycare. If approved, the increased traffic from additional students is not anticipated to impact the surrounding area. Staff finds the request consistent with the Land Use Policy.

### **Comprehensive Plan Summary**

Staff finds the proposed amendments to S-550 and S-551 consistent with the Comprehensive Plan as no significant changes are proposed to the site, and that the request is generally consistent with the description of the <u>Neighborhoods (N)</u> Future Land Use Map category.

**Comprehensive Plan Policy Summary** 

Policy or Study	Analysis
Future Land Use Map and Dashboards:	
Description & Priorities	Meets
Mix of Uses	Meets
Character Defining Elements	N/A
Thoroughfare Plan Map	N/A
Bicycle Transportation Plan Map	N/A
Parks Master Plan Map	N/A
Expressway Corridor Environmental Health Map	N/A
Land Use Policy	Meets

<u>Public Safety Response Time</u> – Fire emergency response times will be sufficient to serve the site based on existing personnel, equipment, and facilities.

### Access to and Availability of Amenities and Services

Parks: The subject property is located within Park Fee Service Area 10.

Libraries: The subject property is located within the Maribelle M. Davis Library's service area, and service to future residents would be possible with the current library resources.

### STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT – ANALYSIS & RECOMMENDATION

<u>Number of Students</u> – The applicant's request would allow Archgate Montessori Academy to have any mix of day care children and private school students up to a combined total of 360 children/students. All students must be under 14 years of age. According to the applicant, this would allow the school to be flexible with enrollment and allow more day care students to continue in their elementary and middle school programs. The license for childcare from the State of Texas rates the applicant's capacity at 629 students. The applicant is requesting to enroll 60% of the allowed capacity to assuage concerns regarding noise, traffic, and disturbances from the property.

<u>Traffic</u> – Day care centers are estimated to generate 4.10 daily trips per student and private schools (K-8) are estimated to generate 4.11 daily trips per student. This request would allow an additional 56 students/children in the school, resulting in an estimated increase of up to 230 trips per day (note: each entering vehicle and existing vehicle are considered separate trips).

		Trip Generation
Existing	304 students	1,250 trips (625 entering/exiting)
Proposed	360 students	1,480 trips (740 entering/exiting)
Net Change	56 students	230 trips (115 entering/exiting)

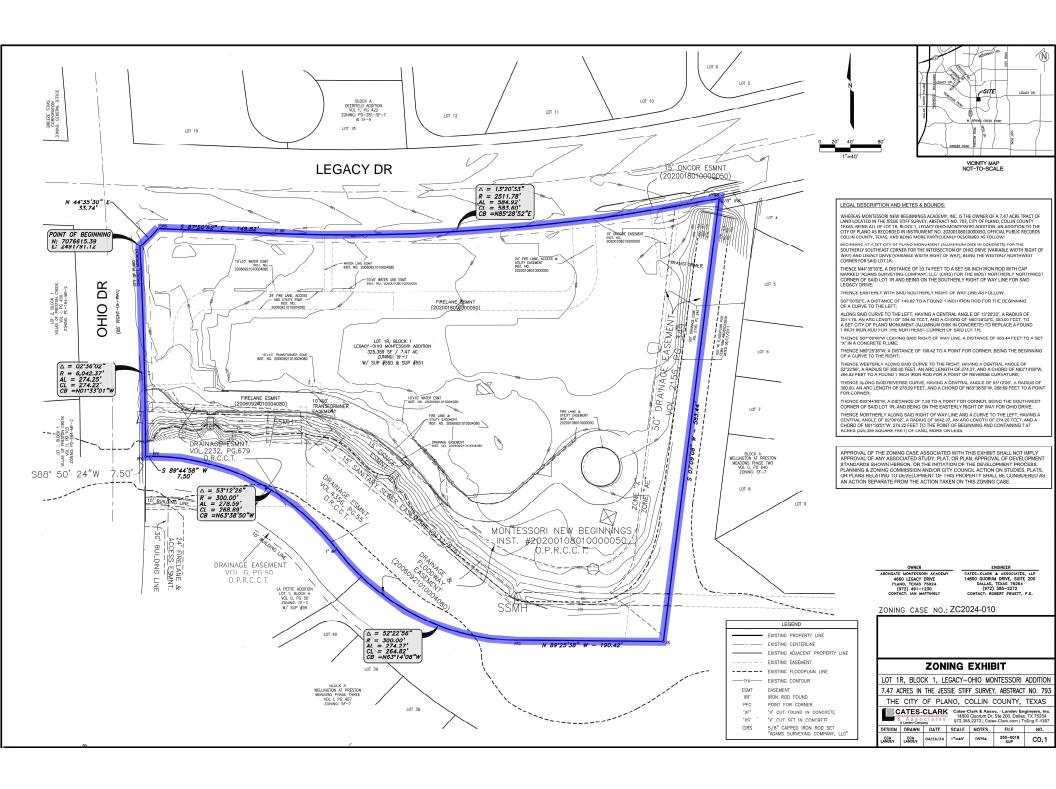
Onsite queuing capacity was reviewed by the Engineering Department and determined to be adequate to prevent queuing traffic from backing up onto adjacent streets. The school operates multiple drop-off and pick-up locations, including the front of the west building and the front and back of the east building. To help mitigate the impact on the traffic in the area, the drop-off and pick-up times are staggered to reduce or prevent traffic backup onto Legacy Drive or Ohio Drive.

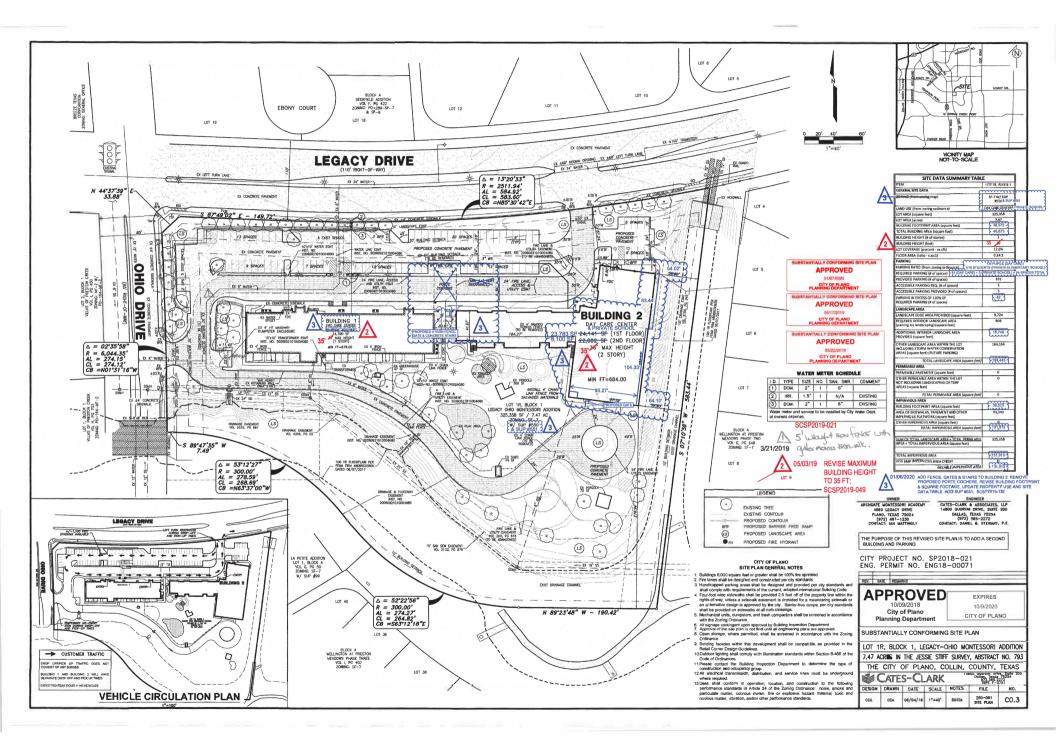
### SUMMARY:

The property owner is requesting to amend Specific Use Permits No. 550 for Day Care Center and 551 for Private School to increase the allowed maximum number of children and students on site from 304 to 360. These amendments will allow the existing onsite educational programs to continue serving a wide age range of children in the community while sustaining a high quality of life for adjacent residential properties. The request is in conformance with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. Staff is in support of the proposed amendments.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommended for approval as submitted.







We are so grateful that our school community continues to thrive, and for the positive impact we've made in the City of Plano and the educational journey of our students and their families. Our reputation as one of the finest private academic institutions in DFW continues.

Our families value the Montessori education provided at Archgate and want to keep their children in the program through elementary and increasingly through middle school. We want to meet their needs and not deny a child the opportunity to learn and thrive in our unique American Montessori Society member program.

To address this increased demand in private school enrollment, and to ensure continuity for our current families, we are requesting the following amendments to our Private School Special Use Permit (SUP as referenced below), changes highlighted in bold, and some text to be removed, all other restrictions to remain as is:

Private School (Ordinance Nos. 2019-8-3 and 2020-4-6) 1. Maximum number of private school students: 80. The number of private school students must be combined with the number of day care children and must not exceed a combined total of 304 360 children as restricted by Specific Use Permit No. 550 for Day Care Center. 2020-004 2019-005 City of Plano, Texas January 9, 2024 Page 20 Specific Use Permits Listed with Conditions of Approval Number Description Zoning Case 2. Students must be under 14 years of age on September 1st of the school year. 3. An irrigated landscaped edge with a combination of trees and shrubs must be maintained between the easternmost building and the eastern property line. 4. Solid waste enclosures must be located between Ohio Drive and the westernmost building. 5. Interior lights must not be visible from outside the eastern façade of the eastern building from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. 6. Exterior lighting located within 65 feet of the easternmost property line must not be visible from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. unless directed downward.

This requested adjustment to the SUP restrictions allows us to better serve our community and uphold our commitment to providing quality Montessori education to current and future families. The change in overall headcount allows for flexibility within our programs in the case that our Archgate community needs change. For example: our toddler program currently only allows for 12 students per classroom, while our preschool program has the highest per classroom headcount at 24 in the same size classroom. Allowing a total combined headcount of 360 students means we can transition a toddler room to a preschool room if primary enrollment surges and toddler enrollment dwindles. We can add elementary classrooms when needed, and transition those back to toddler classrooms if that is where demand is in the future, without having to seek additional modifications to the SUP restrictions. It gives us the flexibility to run our business in a way that best serves the community.

Additionally, the removal of the private school cap would mean that we no longer must turn away rising elementary students. We regularly have a waiting list for all our programs, but having to turn away students that are already a part of our community and usually have siblings in one of our programs due to a restriction to our SUP is disappointing. Our upper elementary and middle school programs are flourishing, but the cap is keeping us from filling those



classrooms to a normal size, which makes teacher/student ratios difficult and economically suboptimal. Right now, we have only 12 students in 3 of our classrooms, 3 in another, and one room is completely empty. Removing the private school cap would allow us to fill classrooms based on demand and give us a sustainable revenue to meet our obligations for payroll and other costs.

We value the positive relationship we have with our neighbors and have honored the five-year agreement we made with them in 2019. We have made several accommodations to our direct neighbors including moving our International Festival, our biggest event of the year, indoors to limit disruptions to the immediate neighbors. Based on direct neighbor feedback, we invested in \$10,000 remote-controlled blackout shades for windows that were allowing light to shine out of the gym in the afternoons and early evening. We set them to close after school and prevent any spillover lights from our after-school activities or from our cleaning team between 6-9pm. And our teachers are still able to raise them during the day to allow natural light into the play space for the children. We have planted \$10,000 in additional landscaping to provide privacy for neighbors. Drop-off and release times are staggered to prevent traffic backup onto Legacy or Ohio. We have continued to turn down offers to rent our facility and our gym as our promise to our neighbors.

We have continued to communicate with our neighbors, inviting them to our board meetings, open houses, offering to host neighbor meetings, communicating through both Homeowners Associations, even dropping off Starbucks gift cards to our direct neighbors as a thank you for their patience during our big annual weekend event at the school. We have kept the line of communication open for our neighbors, and when we have received constructive feedback, we have always attempted to either address or solve any issues.

Our license for childcare from the State of Texas states our capacity of 629 students, and we are humbly asking that we be permitted to enroll only 60% of the state allowed capacity. Our neighbors' concerns regarding noise, traffic, and disturbances will inevitably be lower with the cap of 360 students as compared to the state max for a daycare. Allowing for toddlers through middle school programs equates to even fewer cars, as our Archgate families typically have multiple children across our multi-stage programming.

The pandemic was a huge hardship on our school as well as other childcares around us. Preston Meadows Montessori that was behind us on Ohio Drive, closed their 36-year-old business after the COVID grant deadline lapsed in May 2023. The building continues to be vacant now a year later. A local childcare investor purchased the building last summer and has unsuccessfully had it on the market for lease and/or sale since. And several other daycares have closed within close proximity to our location. We are thriving, and we are grateful. We want to be a good neighbor, but we need a little more flexibility to our current SUP to be able to operate our business in a way that supports our school community and is flexible enough to adjust our daycare/private school mix as needed.