

City of Fayetteville, Arkansas

113 West Mountain Street Fayetteville, AR 72701 (479) 575-8323

Legislation Text

File #: 2018-0222, Version: 1

VAC 18-6088 (525 S. SCHOOL AVE./MILL DISTRICT):

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE VAC 18-6088 FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 525 SOUTH SCHOOL AVENUE AND 423 PRAIRIE STREET TO VACATE AN ACCESS EASEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority under A.C.A. § 14-54-104 to vacate public grounds or portions thereof which are not required for corporate purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the following described access easement is not required for corporate purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS:

<u>Section 1</u>. That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby vacates an access easement as described in Exhibit B attached to the Planning Department's memo.

<u>Section 2</u>. A copy of this Ordinance duly certified by the City Clerk along with the map attached as Exhibit A to the Planning Department's memo shall be filed in the office of the Washington County Circuit Clerk.

City of Fayetteville Staff Review Form

2018-0222

Legistar File ID

5/1/2018

City Council Meeting Date - Agenda Item Only N/A for Non-Agenda Item

Garner Stoll		4/13/2018	City Planning / Development Services Department		
Submitted By		Submitted Date		Department	
•	Actio	n Recommendatio		·	
VAC 18-6088: Vacation (525 S. SC for properties at 525 S. SCHOOL approximately 3.26 acres. The req	AVE. The	properties are zoned M	ISC, MAIN STREET	CENTER and contain	
		Budget Impact:			
Account Number			Fund		
Project Number		_	Project Title		
Budgeted Item?	NA	Current Budg	get \$	-	
		Funds Obligat	ed \$	-	
		Current Balan	ce \$	-	
Does item have a cost?	No	Item Co	ost		
Budget Adjustment Attached?	NA	Budget Adjustme	ent		
·		Remaining Budg	get \$	-	
Previous Ordinance or Resolution #				V20140710	

Approval Date:

Comments:

Original Contract Number:



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMO

MEETING OF MAY 1, 2018

TO: Mayor and City Council

THRU: Garner Stoll, Development Services Director

FROM: Quin Thompson, Planner

DATE: April 13, 2018

SUBJECT: VAC 18-6088: Vacation (525 S. SCHOOL AVE./MILL DISTRICT, 523):

Submitted by BATES & ASSOCIATES, INC. for properties at 525 S. SCHOOL AVE. The properties are zoned MSC, MAIN STREET CENTER and contain approximately 3.26 acres. The request is to vacate an access

easement between the two properties.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff and Planning Commission recommend approval of VAC 18-6088.

BACKGROUND:

The property is located at 423 W. Prairie Street. The property is currently zoned as MSC, Main Street Center and contains approximately 9,100 square feet of mixed use buildings. As a part of a previous Large Scale Development in 2007, this access easement was platted to allow cross access from Prairie Street to the Mill District parking lot. The easement was predicated on a redevelopment and reconfiguration of the site. This Large Scale Development was never built, however, the access easement remains and dead-ends directly into the required ADA parking spaces for the Greenhouse Grille building that was built in 1950. The access easement is not functional for the current parking lot and building layout.

Proposal: The applicant proposes vacation of an access easement as described above and depicted in an exhibit provided by the applicant (comprising 1,413 square feet), as shown in the attached Exhibits 'A' and 'B'.

DISCUSSION:

On April 9, 2018, the Planning Commission forwarded VAC 18-6088 to the City Council with a vote of 8-0-1 on the consent agenda, with Commissioner Sharp recusing. City Planning staff received two emails (attached) from residents in the Mill District building expressing concerns because of the difficult access situation at their property, and they did not get to speak because the item was on the consent agenda.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

N/A

Attachments:

- Exhibit A
- Exhibit B
- Public Comment
- Planning Commission Staff Report

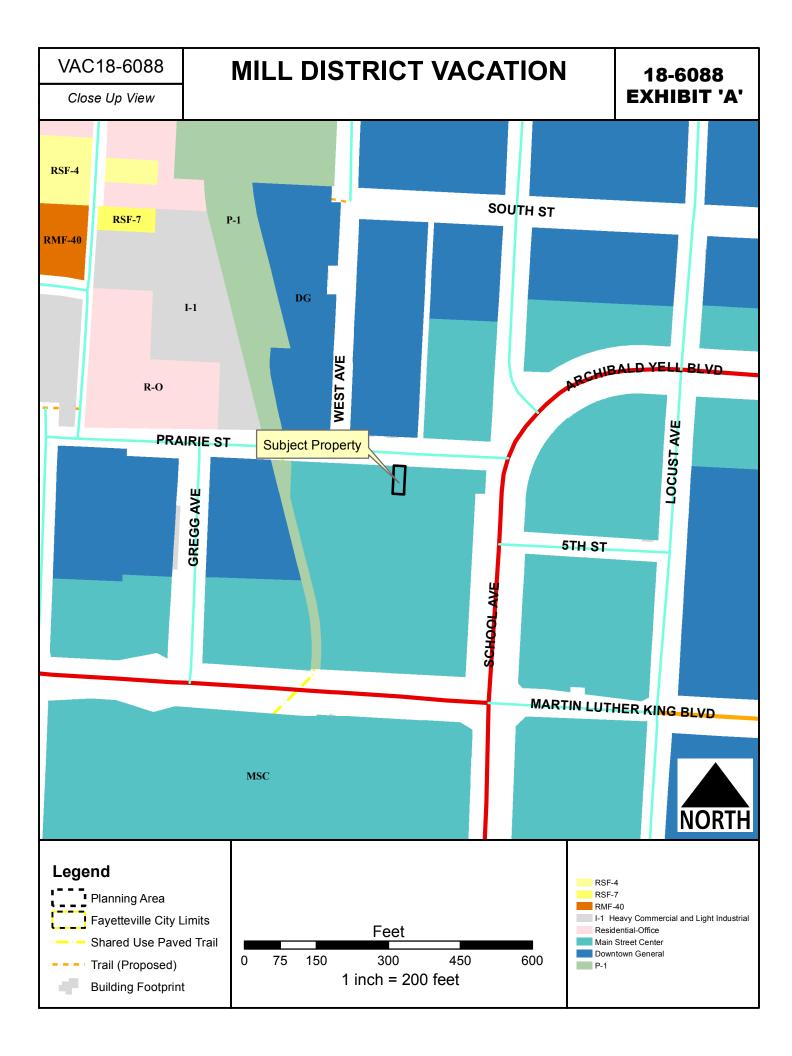


EXHIBIT 'B' VAC 18-6088

EXISTING ACCESS EASEMENT DESCRIPTION - TO BE VACATED (PLAT 23A - 313):

AN EXISTING 24' WIDE ACCESS EASEMENT LOCATED ON LOTS 21 AND 22, BLOCK 14 OF FERGUSON'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS N87°18'24"W 18.01' FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 21 AND RUNNING THENCE S02°49'39"W 8.84', THENCE N87°10'21"W 24.00', THENCE N02°49'39"E 58.76', THENCE S87°16'57"E 24.00', THENCE S02°49'39"W 49.96' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Garner, Andrew

From: David Condolora <davidcondolora@me.com>

Sent: Monday, April 9, 2018 3:08 PM

To: Garner, Andrew

Subject: Comment on Tonight's Meeting

Mr. Garner,

As I am unable to attend tonight's meeting to make a public comment, I wanted to submit my comments regarding item 1 on the agenda, VAC 18-6088.

I am a resident of the Mill District building at 525 S. School Ave, and oppose this easement vacation. In actuality, the easement in question is sorely needed, and if developed into a proper pass-through alley, would be of great benefit to residents, business owners, and customers of properties located at 481, 525, and 557 S School Ave.

Currently there are only two access points to the above buildings: S School Ave and MLK. Both are heavily trafficked roads, resulting in very difficult and dangerous exits from the parking lot. The easement in question can be used to connect the parking lot to W Prairie St, resulting in safer connections to the northern portion of School Ave and S West St. The safety benefit would be of great comfort to residents and customers, while the easement would also divert traffic from S School Ave and MLK, easing the pressure on those thoroughfares.

As a resident and someone who has had to exit onto S School Ave a plethora of times, I have firsthand faced the difficulty and have had several close calls. The lack of visibility on Archibald Yell as it turns and continues into S School Ave only exacerbaes this situation. The easement in question, if developed properly, would be of great benefit.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

- David Condolora

Garner, Andrew

From: Chloe Costello Hiley <chloeacostello@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:17 AM

To: Garner, Andrew

Subject: Issue 2 at Planning Commission Meeting last night

Hi Andrew Garner,

I live at 525 S School Ave, Apt 430, 72701, and I attended last night's meeting with my husband. We both attended the meeting to give public comment about the issue pertaining to the access easement, but there was no queue to stand up and give public comment for that issue. The vote was conducted very swiftly, and I didn't know if it would be proper for me to interrupt. We attended the whole meeting to see if we might be able to give comments at the end, but no opportunity arose.

I'm wondering, for future reference, how I give public comment on an issue. The document I read online said "no public comment has been received," but I was unsure when any public was given an opportunity to comment. A red sign appeared in front of our property, and that is what made me aware of the meeting last night. Therefore, I thought by attending the meeting that I would be able to give public comment.

We looked up the VAC issue on-line and found out that it was related to vacating the access easement, which I assumed was removing it from public property and making it private property. Therefore, I just wanted to bring up what I see as a need for assessment of the intersection between our lot and School, and our parking situation.

Both my husband and I have trouble pulling in to the parking lot from the School entrance in front of the former Greenhouse Grill. This intersection is quite dangerous around rush hour, and one of our neighbors has even been in an accident there. To be more specific, this is the 5-way compound intersection between Prairie, the School entrance to 525 S. School, School itself, and Archibald Yell. Because people are coming down the hill and there are multiple points for cars to turn out, this is a very difficult and perilous intersection to turn left out of and backs up very far during rush hour. It is also difficult to cross Prairie St. as a pedestrian, since it is not obvious if someone is turning right onto Prairie until the last second.

We wonder if having had an access road from the easement on the Prairie lot may have given us a back entrance to enter into the lot during rush hour. I'm not sure if this is the best solution to the problem, but my neighbors and I have hoped for a while that there would be another access point to our parking lot and have talked about it when we had parties together. We've mused about the possibility that the new Arsaga's property would put in a drive behind their building (the west side of the lot), allowing us to get in and out that way.

When Apple Blossom and the new Arsagas property move into the area, our parking situation may become much more difficult. When Greenhouse Grill was there, it was already difficult, but since they've moved away the issue has dissipated. Since there is not adequate parking for the Apple Blossom building, most customers will likely be parking in our lot. This could be why both property owners wanted the two lots unconnected by the easement. Keeping them separate might decrease traffic through our lot.

I am not sure why the decision and proposal was made, but essentially I just wanted to attend the meeting last night to give a tenant's assessment of what it's like to live at 525 S. School with the access/parking situation. I thought it would be pertinent to the issue.

Thanks so much for your time! Both my husband and I would appreciate knowing how better to give our public feedback in the future, if the time arises.

Sincerely, Chloe Hiley



PLANNING COMMISSION MEMO

TO: City of Fayetteville Planning Commission

THRU: Andrew Garner, Planning Director

FROM: Quin Thompson, Planner

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2018 UPDATED 4-11-2018

SUBJECT: VAC 18-6088: Vacation (525 S. SCHOOL AVE./MILL DISTRICT, 523):

Submitted by BATES & ASSOCIATES, INC. for properties at 525 S. SCHOOL AVE. The properties are zoned MSC, MAIN STREET CENTER and contain approximately 3.26 acres. The request is to vacate an access

easement between the two properties.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends forwarding VAC 18-6088 with conditions of approval.

BACKGROUND:

The property is located at 423 W. Prairie Street. The property is currently zoned as MSC, Main Street Center and contains approximately 9,100 square feet of mixed use buildings. As a part of a previous Large Scale Development, access and other easements were platted and are no longer necessary or feasible. The surrounding zoning and land uses are depicted in *Table 1*.

Table 1 - Surrounding Zoning and Land Use

Direction	Land Use	Zoning
from Site		
North	Residential	DG, Downtown General
South	Mill District/Commercial	MSC, Main Street Center
East	Mill District/Commercial	MSC, Main Street Center
West	Mill District/Commercial	MSC, Main Street Center

Proposal: The applicant proposes vacation of an access easement as described above and depicted in an exhibit provided by the applicant (comprising 1,413 square feet).

DISCUSSION:

Vacation Approval: The applicant has submitted the required vacation forms to the City utility departments, with the following responses:

<u>City of Fayetteville</u> <u>Response</u>

Recycling and Solid Waste

No objections and no comment

Public Comment: No public comment has been received.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends forwarding VAC 18-6088 to the full City Council with a recommendation for approval.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: "I move to forward VAC 18-6088 to the full City Council with a recommendation for approval."

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Required <u>YES</u>

Date: April 9, 2018 ☐ Tabled ☐ Forwarded ☐ Denied

Motion: BELDEN

Second: AUTRY

Vote: 8-0-1, WITH COMMISSIONER SHARP RECUSING. ITEM WAS APPROVED

ON CONSENT.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

None.

Attachments:

- Request Letter
- Petition to Vacate
- City Department Approval
- Vacation Exhibit
- One Mile Map
- Close Up Map



7230 S. Pleasant Ridge Dr. Fayetteville, AR 72704 PH: 479-442-9350 * FAX: 479-521-9350 www.nwabatesinc.com

January 16, 2018

To the City of Fayetteville Planning Staff,

Our clients, Mill District LLC & Prairiemonkeys LLC are proposing an access easement vacation within the City of Fayetteville.

The subject parcels are #765-05508-000 which is located at 498 W. Prairie Street, and #765-22548-000, which is located at 525 & 557 South School Avenue.

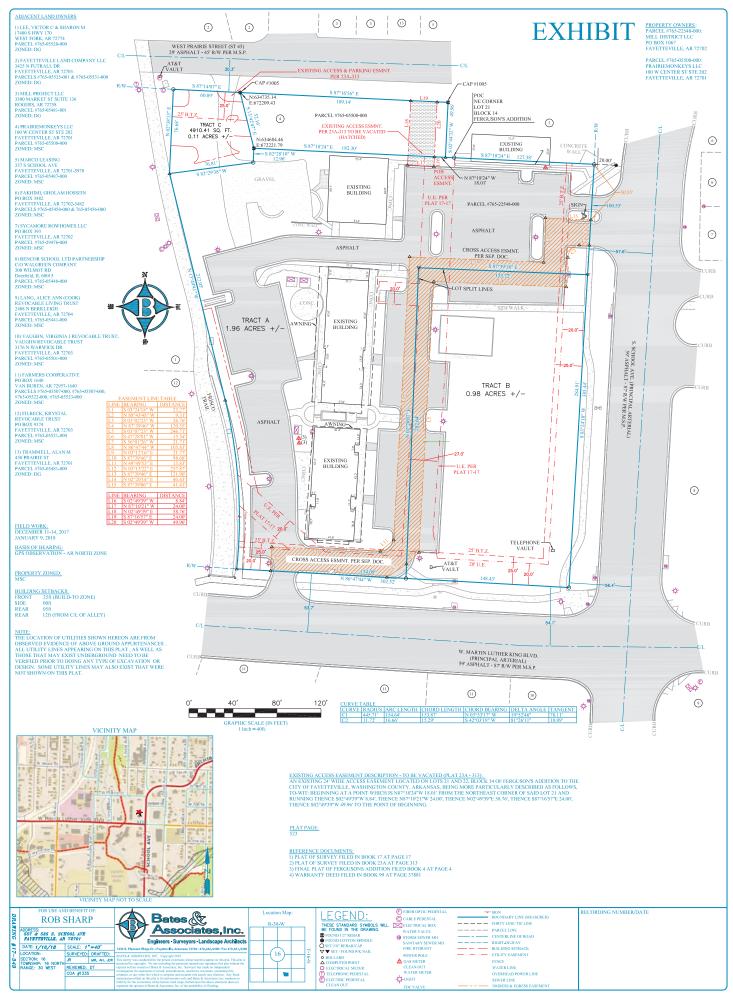
Our client would like to vacate an access easement that was originally dedicated per plat 23A - 313. That access easement is no longer needed by either property owners, and the vacation of the easement would benefit any future development of the properties.

This vacation request does not include any utilities that may fall within the access easement.

If you have any questions please contact us.

Sincerely,

Justin Reid Project Manager Bates and Associates



PETITION TO VACATE AN ACCESS EASEMENT LOCATED ON LOTS 21 AND 22, BLOCK 14, FERGUSON'S ADDITION, CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

TO: The Fayetteville City Planning Commission and The Fayetteville City Council

We, the undersigned, being all the owners of the real estate abutting the <u>access easement</u>, hereinafter sought to be abandoned and vacated, lying in (LOTS 21 AND 22, BLOCK 14 OF FERGUSON'S ADDITION), City of Fayetteville, Arkansas, a municipal corporation, petition to vacate an <u>access easement</u>, which is described as follows:

DESCRIPTION OF AREA OF PROPOSED ACCESS EASEMENT VACATION:

AN EXISTING 24' WIDE ACCESS EASEMENT LOCATED ON LOTS 21 AND 22, BLOCK 14 OF FERGUSON'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS N87°18'24"W 18.01' FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 21 AND RUNNING THENCE S02°49'39"W 8.84', THENCE N87°10'21"W 24.00', THENCE N02°49'39"E 58.76', THENCE S87°16'57"E 24.00', THENCE S02°49'39"W 49.96' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

That the abutting real estate affected by said abandonment of the alley are lots 21 and 22, block 14 of Ferguson's Addition, City of Fayetteville used by the public for a period of many years, and that the public interest and welfare would not be adversely affected by the abandonment of the portion of the above described utility easement.

The petitioners pray that the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas, abandon and vacate the above described real estate, subject, however, to the existing utility easements and sewer easements as required, and that the above described real estate be used for their respective benefit and purpose as now approved by law.

The petitioners further pray that the above described real estate be vested in the abutting property owners as provided by law.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned petitioners respectfully pray that the governing body of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas, abandon and vacate the above described real estate, subject to said utility and sewer easements, and that title to said real estate sought to be abandoned be vested in the abutting property owners as provided by law, and as to that particular land the owners be free from the easements of the public for the use of said access easement.

Printed Name Matthew Petty Prairiemonkeys LLC

Signature Mill District LLC

Signature Signature

Dated January 16, 2018,

PETITION TO VACATE AN ACCESS EASEMENT LOCATED ON LOTS 21 AND 22, BLOCK 14, FERGUSON'S ADDITION, CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

TO: The Fayetteville City Planning Commission and The Fayetteville City Council

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That the abutting real estate affected by said abandonment of the alley are lots 21 and 22, block 14 of Ferguson's Addition, City of Fayetteville used by the public for a period of many years, and that the public interest and welfare would not be adversely affected by the abandonment of the portion of the above described utility easement.

The petitioners pray that the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas, abandon and vacate the above described real estate, subject, however, to the existing utility easements and sewer easements as required, and that the above described real estate be used for their respective benefit and purpose as now approved by law.

The petitioners further pray that the above described real estate be vested in the abutting property owners as provided by law.

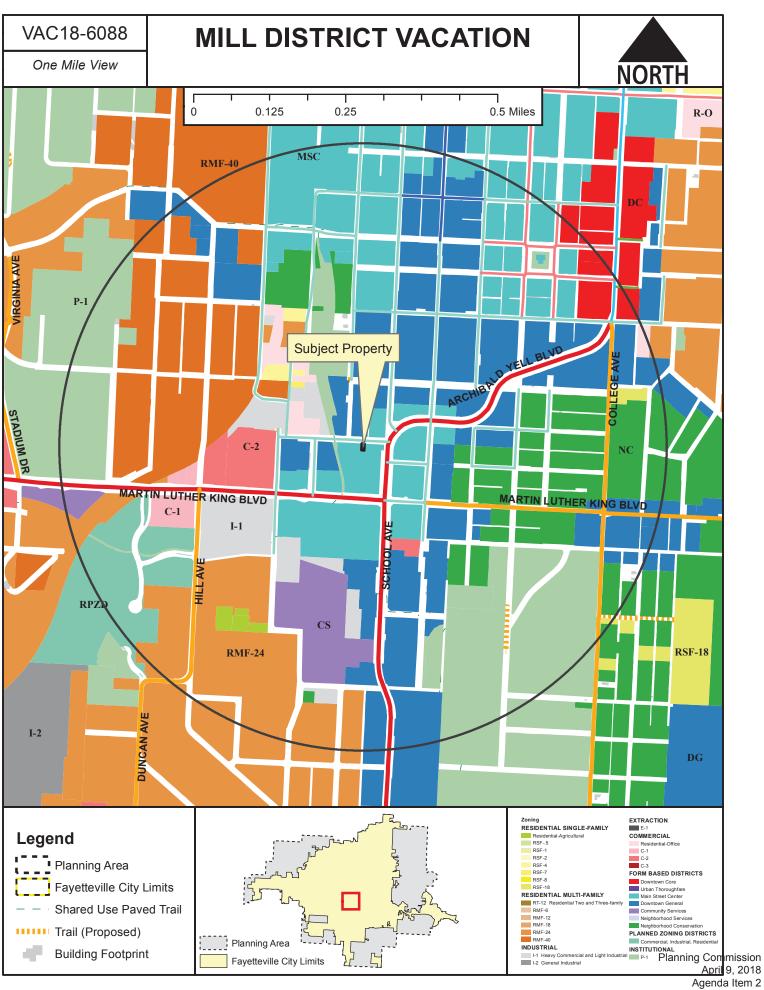
WHEREFORE, the undersigned petitioners respectfully pray that the governing body of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas, abandon and vacate the above described real estate, subject to said utility and sewer easements, and that title to said real estate sought to be abandoned be vested in the abutting property owners as provided by law, and as to that particular land the owners be free from the easements of the public for the use of said access easement.

Dated January	16, 2018,		
Printed Name			Prairiemonkeys LL
Signature			MALZALE CO
Printed Name	ROBERT	SHAPP	MEMBER Mill District LLC
Signature	K81	rup	_

UTILITY APPROVAL FORM

FOR RIGHT- OF- WAY, ALLEY, AND UTILITY EASEMENT VACATIONS

DATE:	1/8/2018			
UTILIT	Y COMPANY:	FAYETTEVILLE SOLID WASTE		
APPLIC	CANT NAME:	BATES AND ASSOCIATES APPLICANT PHONE: 479-442-9350		
REQUE	ESTED VACATION	ON (applicant must check <u>all</u> that apply):		
	Utility Easemen	^t DNA		
	Right-of-way for	r alley or streets and all utility easements located within the vacated right- of- way. DNA		
	AlleyDNA			
	Street right-of-w	vay DNA X - EXISTING ACCESS ESMNT.		
I have b	een notified of th	e petition to vacate the following (alley, <u>easement,</u> right-of-way), described as follows:		
Genera	l location / Addr	ess 525 S. SCHOOL, PARCEL #765-22548-000		
(ACCE	ESS ESMNT ON PA	ARCELS #765-05508-000 & #765-22548-000)	5	
×	(A MINT A COTT T			
	Y COMPANY C		id	Waste
	Y COMPANY C No objections to		id	Waste
UTILIT	Y COMPANY C No objections to No objections to (State the location)	COMMENTS: the vacation(s) described above, and no comments. the vacation(s) described above, provided following described easements are retained.	. d	Waste





VAC18-6088

MILL DISTRICT VACATION

NORTH

Current Land Use



Streets Existing MSP Class

COLLECTOR

PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL

Trail (Proposed)
Planning Area

Fayetteville City Limits

Feet 0 112.5 225 450 675 900 1 inch = 300 feet

FEMA Flood Hazard Data

100-Year Floodplain
Floodway

Planning Commission April 9, 2018

Agenda Item 2 18-6088 Mill District Page 10 of 10