

Kenny Howell

Managing Editor

Mt. Juliet will be getting much bigger over the next few years, as an annexation, plan of services and a preliminary master development plan for Providence Central was approved by the planning commission Thursday.

“It will be this development that will take us to a whole new level,” said Mt. Juliet City Manager Kenny Martin.

Providence Central will be across from the existing Providence Marketplace, behind where Walgreens and Regions Bank is now, and will run over a wide tract of land all the way past Central Pike. An eventual I-40 exit at Central Pike is also in the long term plans.

The land covers 275 acres and will be a mixture of office, retail and residential. The majority of it will be office and retail, which will front Central Pike and along I-40. Two sections are set aside for high density living, one of which already has interest from an apartment complex developer. A small portion to the west of Central Pike will be for single family homes.

Martin said that the most important part of it is the high end offices. They will be 200,000 square feet office buildings that will hopefully attract major corporations to house their offices there. The largest office buildings in Mt. Juliet now are 50,000-75,000 square feet. He said to look at places like Cool Springs, and the larger buildings there to get an idea on what could come in the future to Mt. Juliet.

“This will be less about sales tax revenue, and more about creating jobs,” said Martin.

Martin said that will bring corporate heads to the community, and hopefully that will result in large, million dollar homes being built in Mt. Juliet and surrounding Wilson County.

The two high density living areas will provide the office workers a place to live. That way people can live, work and play in Mt. Juliet without having to drive to Nashville to work.

The first phase will be an extension of Providence Parkway west, and possibly one of the high density living areas. The next will connect Adams Lane and Providence Parkway and finish in the office and retail space around Adams Lane, which will curve southwest, and another high density living area. The last phase will fill in the rest, including the interstate exit and widening of Central Pike to five lanes.