New $350 million Shawnee development with 1,000 homes advances. What comes next

BY CHRIS HIGGINS
chiggins@kcstar.com



Provided by Page Communications

A rendering of the proposed Clear Creek Village development in Shawnee.

Shawnee planning officials advanced plans for a $350 million mixed-use development on the city's west side that could mean 1,000 new homes on what was once farmland.

The city's planning commission voted to recommend initial plans for the proposed Clear Creek Village, off Clear Creek Parkway and Kansas Highway 7, and would include new restaurants, a hotel, apartments, offices, a drive-thru coffee shop and more.

There would also be amenities like walking trails and a community plaza overlooking a scenic pond with room for events and live music. Site work could begin by summer 2027, and the project would be constructed in phases over the years to come.

The project is being developed by the Kimball family, which has owned farmland at part of the proposed site for generations, and Jeffrey and Jeremy Alpert of The Alpert Companies, the firm that led development of the mixed-use Park Place in Leawood.

"This farm was a gathering place for us to share and make memories and for others to enjoy as well," Scott Kimball said at a public hearing on Monday. "Because of this, and in seeing all of the inevitable development that was closing in from all sides, we started to feel a responsibility to consider the future of what this land could become, not only for us, but more importantly, for the community."

City staff recommended approval. The planning commission voted unanimously to recommend approval ahead of a final City Council vote, which is expected in December.

The preliminary plan for Clear Creek Village shows 143,502 square feet of commercial space, including an office building, a drive-thru coffee shop, multiple restaurants, a mixed-use building with retail on the bottom and housing on the top and the community plaza.

Plans also show a 182-room hotel and 1,001 housing units across 15 duplexes, 15 five-plexes and nine four-story apartment buildings.

There would be a combination of surface parking and structured parking, including garages for the apartment buildings. The developers propose 2,392 parking spaces total, 170 fewer spaces than would normally be required when assuming two spaces per multi-family unit under city rules. The developers propose 1.7 spaces per unit for the apartment buildings.

There would be a shared parking system for the commercial areas: accounting for, as an example, parking demand being higher for the office building during the day and on weekends and demand being higher for the restaurants and plaza during the evening and on weekdays.

As conversations continue with neighbors and proposals are refined, the early plans could be subject to future changes. Each development phase will require approval of more detailed final plans by the planning commission, according to a city presentation.

The proposed development site is near existing development that includes residential neighborhoods, a golf course and commercial areas.

Some residents in nearby neighborhoods expressed concerns at the public hearing about traffic congestion and safety, buffering from surrounding homes, noise and light.

Johnson County man sentenced for killing of his 22-year-old sister at family home

BY KENDRICK CALFEE
kcalfee@kcstar.com



DOMINICK WILLIAMS dowilliams@kcstar.com

Parker J. Mays was sentenced to almost 36 years in prison for the 2020 killing of his sister, Layne Mays.

A Johnson County man has been sentenced on Wednesday to almost 36 years in prison for the 2020 killing of his sister, court records show.

Parker John Mays was sentenced in Johnson County District Court to 265 months for intentional second-degree murder and 135 months for aggravated kidnapping in connection to the homicide of 22-year-old Layne Mays.

The sentences are to be served consecutively for 430 months, or just under 36 years.

Parker Mays pleaded no contest to the charges in August, more than six years after Layne Mays' death. Pleading no contest means a defendant neither admits nor disputes a charge, but it can carry the same criminal convictions as a guilty plea.

MURDER AT OVERLAND PARK HOME

Layne Mays' mother found her body just after 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 14, 2020, at the family's Overland Park home in the 5500 block of W. 148th Terrace. Police were called to the home at 1:38 p.m.

An autopsy later determined Layne Mays died from strangulation. She was found with deep cuts on her body, court records said.

Police said Parker Mays was seen at a store in Lawrence in the hours leading up to the homicide. He allegedly told employees his family was dead and that he needed a gun to protect himself, according to court records.

Surveillance footage later showed Parker Mays' vehicle pulling into the driveway of his family's home, then leave about 20 minutes later.

POLICE INVESTIGATION

Layne Mays was found dead in the family's living room. A vase was found broken on a coffee table.

Layne Mays' mother said she had left the family home about 10 a.m. When she returned, she found Layne Mays on the floor. She said police needed to find Parker Mays because she believed he was involved.

Another witness called police and said she saw someone throw a boot, gloves and a floor mat out of a vehicle near Interstate 435 and Kansas 10 Highway.

When investigators found the items, some appeared to have blood on them. Parker Mays was arrested a few hours later at his Lawrence home.

Police said blood was found on the driver's side door of Parker Mays' vehicle, according to court records.

Court records said Parker Mays initially denied that he was involved in his sister's death.

Driver who hit school bus in Lee's Summit arrested in alcohol offense, police say

BY NATHAN PILLING
npilling@kcstar.com

The driver of a vehicle that struck a Blue Springs School District bus Tuesday afternoon was arrested for "an alcohol related offense," police said.

The collision happened in a Lee's Summit neighborhood near the intersection of Northeast Gateway Drive and Northeast Georgian Drive around 3:20 p.m. Tuesday, said Officer Amanda Geno, a spokesperson for the Lee's Summit Police Department, in an email.

Students were aboard the bus at the time of the collision, Geno said. No injuries were reported at the scene.

Geno said the driver of the vehicle that hit the school bus was arrested at the scene.

A spokesperson for the Blue Springs School District didn't respond to a request for comment Wednesday.

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY, 11AM - 8PM • SUNDAY, NOON - 6PM

Dillard's



ESTĒE LAUDER
Holiday Blockbuster
12-Piece Set with 9 Full-Size Favorites!
$90 with any Estée Lauder purchase.*
A $655 Value! *While supplies last.



LANCÔME
Holiday Beauty Box
11 Iconic Products!
$89 with any Lancôme purchase.*
A $616 Value! *While supplies last.

HOLIDAY Gifts for Her

SWEATERS

Leo & Nicole Knit Plaid Mandarin Long Sleeve Snap Front Jacket, $49



Multiples Textured Knit Cowl Neck 3/4 Sleeve Faux Button Novelty Sweater, $59



Jones New York Knit Jacquard Plaid Funnel Neck Long Sleeve Sweater Top, $69.50



COZY

Jones New York Quilted Point Collar Sleeveless Front Snap Vest, $69.50

Layering Turtleneck, $49.50



Jones New York Velour Separates: Tops, Pants, Jackets, $59.50 ea. pc.



Ruby Rd. Luxe Ribbed Comfy Separates, Tops, $50 Pants, $40



COATS

Donna Karan Quilt Pattern Stand Collar Removable Hood Faux Fur Trimmed Zip Front Puffer Jacket, $199



Azalea Wang Portia Faux Fur Collared Filled Jacket, $189



Donna Karan Cashmere Blend Notch Collar Single Breasted Reefer Coat, $249



Call **1-800-345-5273** to find a Dillard's store near you.