

Council to consider Price Road office park

Ari Cohn, Tribune, March 19, 2010



CHANDLER U? The potential future site of a University of Arizona campus will be looked at for rezoning by the Chandler City Council on Monday.
Darryl Webb, Tribune

A major new office park on Chandler's Price Road technology corridor, eventually expected to house businesses employing up to 9,000 people and a planned University of Arizona campus, goes before the City Council Monday.

The technology-oriented Continuum project would transform the 152-acre former Motorola site on the southeast corner of Price and Germann roads over the next five to 10 years. The City Council, at its Monday study session, is slated to consider a request from the land's owner, Capital Commercial Investments, to rezone the site to allow buildings up to 150 feet high.

Jane Poston, a city spokeswoman, said talks between city officials and UA President Robert Shelton to bring a new "University of Arizona, Chandler" campus to the site are ongoing. The new UA campus likely would host graduate classes in entrepreneurship and technology.

"It's still in the process," Poston said.

If the council accedes to rezoning the site, it would raise the maximum allowable building height from 45 feet to 150 feet. Plans call for rezoning the property to allow buildings up to 150 feet tall along Price Road on the site's western edge, then transitioning down to 90 feet in height in the middle of the property and retaining the 45-foot height restriction on the eastern edge to protect nearby residential neighborhoods, according to a report by Erik Swanson, a Chandler city planner.

Representatives of the developer have said the property is capable of housing up to 2.8 million square feet of commercial space, and the owners eventually plan to construct six- to eight-story

office buildings along Price Road. Construction on interior roads, utilities and landscaping could begin this year.

The proposal also calls for the inclusion of "support uses" such as office supply shops, coffee houses, cafeterias, barbers/salons, banking services, and restaurants, according to Swanson.

"Continuum will be used as a guide for future development," Swanson's report states.

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/152022>