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Lake Wylie's Waterside owner looks to county for plans

Developer looking to get 'on track' with county redevelopment

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LAKE WYLIE -- As of Monday, new land owners for Waterside Market Place hadn't set a plan for the vacated shopping center.

"I know it's kind of the gateway to Lake Wylie, and we want it looking great and we want as much input as possible," York Development Group owner Doug Baumgartner said Monday afternoon.

He said he would be "remiss in conveying intentions or ideas" for the property before meeting with York County planners.



"At this time we have not been contacted by the new owners of Waterside Market Place regarding plans for redevelopment of the site, but we certainly look forward to meeting with them," acting York County director of planning and development services Dave Pettine said Monday afternoon.

In mid-December, former land owner Crescent Resources sold the property on Blucher Circle in Lake Wylie, once home to a Food Lion shopping center, to Waterside Partners, an affiliate of York Development Group. Baumgartner said his company and existing land-use planning "seem to be on the same track" in terms of what could make up the redevelopment.

Nearby business owners praised the news in hopes of changing the "eyesore" into an attractive entrance into the Lake Wylie community.

"That's the first thing you see, basically, as you come across the bridge," said Rob Johnson, owner of Sportscenter Athletic Club for 20 years.

Waterside includes more than 22 acres, with outparcels surrounding the main shopping area. York Development has other nearby projects including a leased property at Winds Crossing Shopping Center on Carowinds Boulevard and a site for sale at Moss Road and South Tryon Street.

Together, the two Steele Creek properties include a proposed 25,000-square-foot neighborhood center near South Pointe Business Park and another 2.75-acre intersection property approved for a 30,000-square-foot, two-story office building with a single-story bank branch.