

Typical Development Process

A basic overview of the steps involved in the identification, due diligence, evaluation, acquisition and development of real estate



Prepared by

EDP Best Practices, LLC Greg Last, CEO, (817) 992-6156 glast@EDPBestPractices.com www.EDPBestPractices.com

With Contributions From

Best Practices Advisory Board 40+ Experienced ED Professionals Best Practices Advisory Board

Courtesy of

GVEC 825 E. Sarah DeWitt Dr., Gonzales Gerri Lawing, (830) 857-6110 www.gvec.org

Typical Development Process

Development Process - Gantt Chart

This Gantt Chart shows an approximation of the sequencing of major steps in the development process. The length of time to complete each item can vary significantly with the type and scale of project. (8 months shown)

#	Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Site Search / Due Diligence								
2	Site Identification					The Site	Search / Due	Diligence	
3	Site Requirements					phase	can be much	longer	
4	Price Range								
5	Broker Engagement								
6	Preliminary Feasibility								
7	Political receptivity								
8	Market Analysis - Preliminary								
9	Location Analysis								
10	Contracting								
11	Letter of Intent (LOI)								
12	Due Diligence Period								
13	Due Diligence								
14	Level I Environmental								
15	Environmental Mitigation								
16	Deed Restrictions Search								
17	Easement Restrictions								
18	Survey								
19	Topography								
20	Drainage-Floodplain-Floodway								
21	Water Distribution								
22	Sanitary Sewer								
23	Streets / Access								
24	Adequate Truck Routes								
25	Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA)								
26	TxDOT Restrictions / Access								
27	ROW Dedications								
28	Rail Access								
29	Soils Analysis								
30	Utilities: Gas, electric, Internet								
31	Existing Zoning								
32	Future Land Use Plan (FLUP)								
33	Development Process								
34	Financial Analysis / Feasibility								
35	Cost Identification								
36	Preliminary Engineering Costs								
37	Incentive negotiations								
38	Funding Source Identification								
39	Market Analysis - Detailed								
40	Fee Identification								
41	Pro-Forma Financial Plan								
42	Go / No-Go Decision								

#	Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
43	Entitlements					Entitlement	s are sometim	nes required	
44	Staff Review						omeone will c		
45	Pre-Submittal Mtgs w Staff						property.		
46	Development Review Com.								
47	Zoning Change								
48	Property Owner Notices								
49	P&Z Hearing					This can	be considerab	ly longer	
50	CC Hearing(s)					depending	on the freque	ncy of mtgs	
51	Preliminary Plat								
52	Property Owner Notices								
53	Preliminary engineering plans								
54	P&Z Hearing								
55	CC Hearing								
56	Final Plat								
57	P&Z Action								
58	Site Plan Approval								
59	P&Z Hearing								
60	CC Hearing								
61	Plan Review / Permitting								
62	Building Construction Plans								
63	Pre-Submittal w Staff								
64	Plan Preparation								
65	Submittal / Staff review								
66	Permit Issued								
67	Public Works Construction Plans								
68	Pre-Submittal w Staff								
69	Preparation								
70	Submittal / Staff review								
71	Developer's Agreement - CC								
72	Notice to Proceed								
73	Land Acquisition / Closing								
74	Purchase								
75	Contract Development								
76	Title Work								
77	Closing								
78	Construction								
79	Mobilization								
80	Clearing & Grubbing								
81	Earth Disturbance Permit								
82	Erosion Control								
83	Tree Preservation								
84	Site Grading								
85	Public Works Construction								
86	Utilities (Water / Sewer)								
87	Drainage / Streets / Driveways								
88	Site Development								
89	Utility services			Constructi	on processes o	an be much			
90	Hardscape			longer thar	n what's show	n depending			
91	Building			on comp	olexity / scale of	of project			
92	Landscape								
93	Certificate of Occupancy								
		-	-						

Development Process - Item Descriptions

#	Item	Description	Notes		
1		Site Search / Due Diligence			
2	Site Identification				
3	Site Requirements	Create a list of all site requirements, in	Knock-out factors are typically those that		
		prioritized order, with "knock-out" factors	you cannot change much (location, topo,		
		identified	drainage)		
4	Price Range	How much are you willing to pay in total,			
		and per acre or square foot			
5	Broker Engagement	Hiring a broker to search for an identify	Would typically require a commission		
		sites, contact owner / representative,			
		begin negotiations			
6	Preliminary Feasibility	Items typically not requiring paid consultar			
7	Political receptivity	Meetings with Mayor, Councilmembers,	Also good way to establish a relationship		
		P&Z Chair	with community leaders		
8	Market Analysis - Preliminary	Quick look at occupancy rates,			
		competition, market growth			
9	Location Analysis	Supply / distribution analysis, road / rail			
		availability, preliminary workforce			
10	Contracting				
11	Letter of Intent (LOI)	A letter describing the intent of both			
		selling and purchasing parties			
12	Due Diligence Period	Include a period of time for you to	Include right to extend if needed		
		perform your due diligence w/o them	Often this can require the purchase of an		
		marketing the property	"Option"		
13	Due Diligence				
14	Level I Environmental	Fairly high-level analysis, identifies need	A 'must have' before purchasing		
		for Level II analysis or potential issues,	TCEQ can help with Level I		
		archeological, endangered species, etc.			
15	Environmental Mitigation	Has there been any mitigation in past, any	This is not the actual mitigation, just an		
		required to move forward	understanding of what has been done		
16	Deed Restrictions Search	Any deed restrictions that might prohibit			
		the desired use			
17	Easement Restrictions	Identify any easements that may restrict			
		the development of the land			
18	Survey		ALTA / ACSM stands for American Land		
		survey which is very detailed and	Title Association / American Congress on		
		comprehensive	Surveying and Mapping		
19	Topography	Evaluate extent of slopes, drainage			
		patterns, extent of grading needed			
20	Drainage-Floodplain-Floodway	Evaluate the extent that floodplain	Use FEMA / FIRM maps		
		reduces useable acreage, drainage			
		patterns through the property, etc.			
21	Water Distribution	Does it currently exist, right size, if not,			
22		what does it take to get it there			
22	Sanitary Sewer	Does it currently exist, right size, if not,	Contact City regarding capacity, long-term		
22		what does it take to get it there	plan		
23	Streets / Access	Are there restrictions to drive locations,			
		proximity to intersections, on/off ramps			
24	Adequate Truck Routes	Are there designated truck routes, are			
		they accessible from this site			

#	Item	Description	Notes			
25	Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA)	Frequently a TIA is required by a City if				
		there is likely negative impacts resulting				
		from a development				
26	TxDOT Restrictions / Access	Are adjacent roadways TxDOT, are there	Ask local TxDOT engineer			
		access restrictions for driveways	Usually shown on ROW maps			
27	ROW Dedications	Does Master Thoroughfare Plan (MTP)	Determine extent of required ROW			
		show increased width on adjacent roads	dedication			
28	Rail Access	Is rail in close proximity, is access allowed	Discuss with Area Rail Manager			
20	Colla Arcolucia	/ desired				
29	Soils Analysis	Is the soil stable, depth to bedrock, water table	Can refer to USGS maps preliminarily			
30	Utilities: Gas, electric, Internet	Does it currently exist, right size, if not,	Get utility providers to summarize			
	ountes: dus, ciccure, internet	what does it take to get it there	availability and costs to provide			
31	Existing Zoning	Is it currently zoned appropriately	Ask Planning Dept. to confirm required			
		·····	zoning based on your desired use			
32	Future Land Use Plan (FLUP)	Is the desired future land use support a	FLUP shows the long-term desired land			
		rezoning to the required zoning	uses for all land in a City			
33	Development Process	How long is the full process, application	Typically the City Planning Dept. will have			
		costs, political whims	a good overview of this			
34	Financial Analysis / Feasibility					
35	Cost Identification	Identify all non-engineering costs	e.g. Marketing, financing,			
36	Preliminary Engineering Costs	Estimate all public works costs	Water, sewer, streets, drainage			
37	Incentive negotiations	Determine availability of incentives	Typically developer would request this as			
20		Determine course of funds for music st	part of their feasibility			
38 39	Funding Source Identification Market Analysis - Detailed	Determine source of funds for project Identify competing properties, costs,	Banks, grants, reserves, etc.			
55	Market Analysis - Detailed	absorption rates, fine tune product design				
		absorption rates, me tune product design				
40	Fee identification	City Entitlement fees, environmental	Incentives may include reductions to			
		permits, consultant costs, etc.	some fees			
41	Pro-Forma Financial Plan	Financial analysis of all costs and revenues				
		over a time period				
42	Go / No-Go Decision	Decision to proceed or drop project				
43		Entitlements				
44	Staff Review					
45	Pre-Submittal Mtgs w Staff	Informal meeting, typically w Planning	Explains submittal, checklists, etc.			
46	Development Review Com.	A mtg of all departments to review the development before formal submittal	Always consult with Fire Marshall re access, hydrants, fire lanes, etc.			
47	Zoning Change					
48	Property Owner Notices	Typically everyone within 200'				
49	P&Z Hearing	Public consideration by P&Z	Owners sometimes requiring purchase			
			before finalizing zoning			
50	CC Hearing(s)	Public consideration by Council	Typically two separate hearings			
51	Preliminary Plat					
52	Property Owner Notices	Typically everyone within 200'				
53	Preliminary engineering plans	Prelim. water, sewer, streets, drainage				
54	P&Z Hearing	Public consideration by P&Z				
55	CC Hearing	Public consideration by Council				
56	Final Plat	Final analysis 11, 202				
57 59	P&Z Action	Final approval by P&Z May have to go to CC also				
58 59	Site Plan Approval	This step may not be required depending on City requirements				
59 60	P&Z Hearing	Public consideration by P&Z				
00	CC Hearing	Public consideration by Council				

#	Item	Description	Notes			
61						
62	Building Construction Plans					
63	Pre-Submittal w Staff	Informal meeting w Building Inspector	Understand codes, submittal reqmts			
64	Plan Preparation	Architectural plans prepared				
65	Submittal / Staff review	Formal submittal, fees, review	Can take longer if sent to third party			
66	Permit Issued	Permission to move forward	Can sometimes get 'staged' permitting to			
			allow quicker start			
67	Public Works Construction Plans					
68	Pre-Submittal w Staff	Informal mtg to understand reqmts				
69	Preparation	Civil Engineer to prepare plans				
70	Submittal / Staff review	Submit for compliance with engineering				
		standards				
71	Developer's Agreement - CC	Bonding, insurance, cost participation	Usually reqd prior to construction			
72	Notice to Proceed	Permission to move forward				
73		Land Acquisition / Closing				
74	Purchase					
75	Contract Development	Finalize contract for purchase				
76	Title Work	Title company research and closing				
		document preparation				
77	Closing	Comsumates the sale of property				
78		Construction				
	Mobilization	Bringing all equipment to the site				
80	Clearing & Grubbing					
81	Earth Disturbance Permit	Allows clean up, tree removal				
82	Erosion Control	Plan, install perimeter erosion control				
83	Tree Preservation	Protection of trees to be saved				
84	Site Grading	Grading in accordance with grading plan p	repared by Civil Engineers			
85	Public Works Construction					
86	Utilities (Water / Sewer)	Underground utilities typically are first				
87	Drainage / Streets / Driveways	Culverts, streets, drives	Provides access to property			
	Site Development					
89	Utility services	Brings utilities from public ROW or				
		easements to the buildings				
90	Hardscape	Sidewalks, drives, parking,	Make sure Fire Marshall is engaged			
91	Building	Vertical construction				
92	Landscape	Irrigation, landscape, sod				
93	Certificate of Occupancy	Issuance of a C.O. allows occupancy of any buildings				