

City of Jonesboro Metropolitan Area Planning Commission
Staff Report – RZ 23-14, 312 E Nettleton Ave.
300 S. Church Street/Municipal Center
For Consideration by Planning Commission on September 26, 2023

REQUEST: To consider a rezoning of one tract of land containing 1.16 +/- acres

PURPOSE: A request to consider recommendation to Council for a rezoning from “R-2” multifamily low density district to “C-2 LUO” downtown fringe commercial district with a limited use overlay.

APPLICANT: Options, 910 South Main St, Jonesboro AR

OWNER: Nathan & Kendy Schimmel, 312 East Nettleton Ave, Jonesboro AR

LOCATION: 312 East Nettleton Ave.

SITE DESCRIPTION: **Tract Size:** Approx. 1.16 Acres
Street Frontage: Approx. 138 ft. on E. Nettleton Ave.

Existing Development: Residential

SURROUNDING CONDITIONS:

ZONE	LAND USE
North	R-2 – Residential
South	R-2 – Learning Center/Daycare
East	R-2 –Residential
West	R-2 – School

HISTORY: Property has been use as residential for many years.

ZONING ANALYSIS:

City Planning Staff has reviewed the proposed Zone Change and offers the following findings:

Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map:

The Current/Future Land Use Map recommends this location as a **Moderate Intensity** Growth Sector.

A wider mix of land uses is appropriate in the moderate intensity sectors. Control of traffic is probably the most important consideration in this sector. Additionally, good building design, use of quality construction materials, and more abundant landscaping are important considerations in what is approved, more so than the particular use. Limits on hours of operation, lighting standards, screening from residential uses, etc. may be appropriate. Consideration should be given to appropriate locations of transit stops.

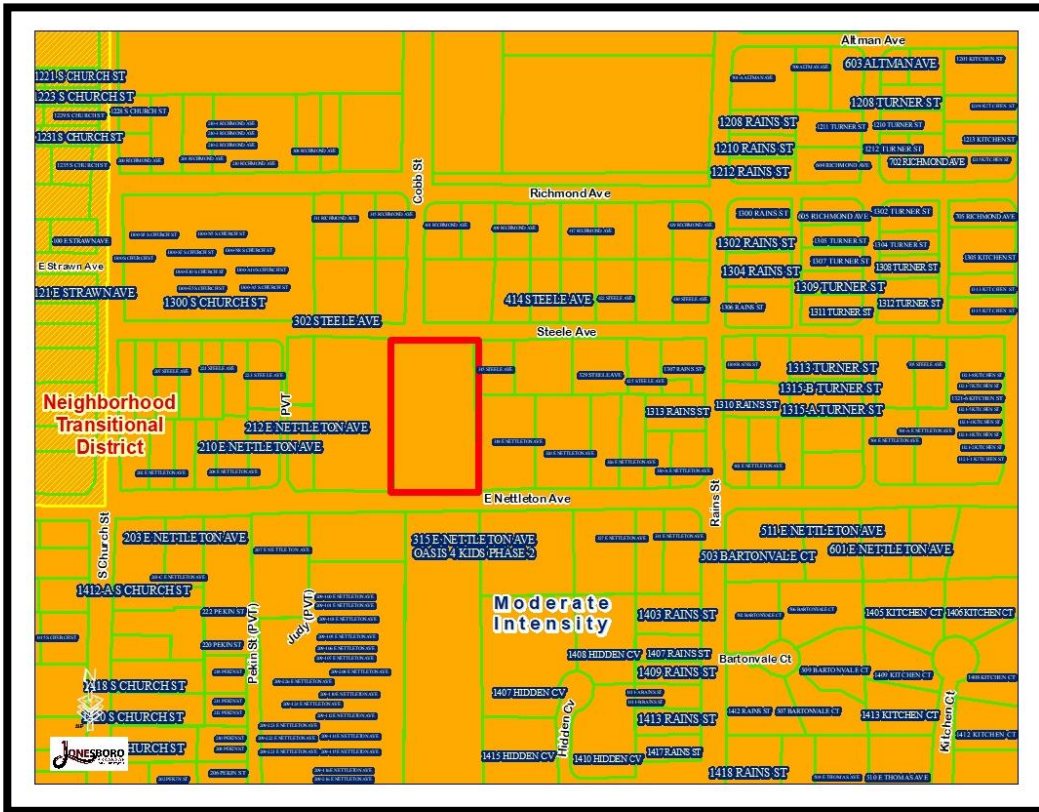
Typical Land Uses:

- Single Family Residential
- Attached Single Family, duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes
- Neighborhood retail, Neighborhood services Office parks
- Smaller medical offices
- Libraries, schools, other public facilities
- Senior living centers/nursing homes, etc.
- Community-serving retail
- Small supermarket
- Convenience store
- Bank
- Barber/beauty shop
- Farmer's Market
- Pocket Park

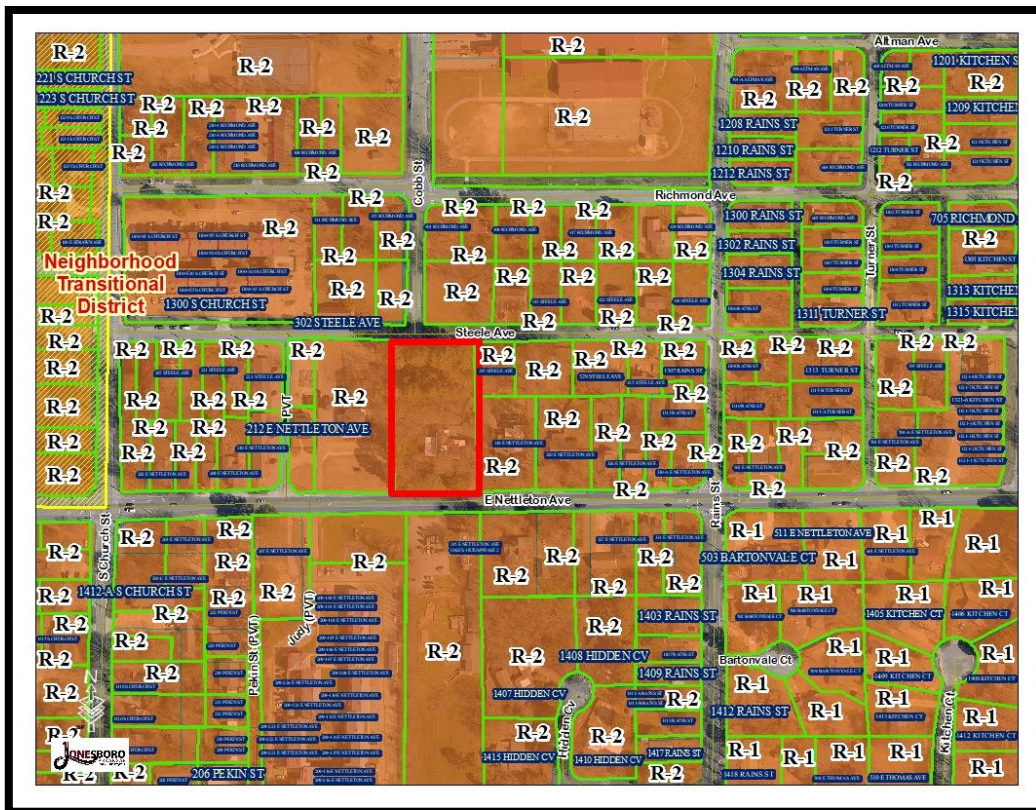
Density: No more than six dwelling units per acre for Multi-Family. Multi-Family should only be allowed on collector and above streets that have been improved or scheduled to be improved in the next construction cycle of city projects unless the developer is willing to build the roads to Master Street Plan stands that serve the development.

Height: 4 stories

Traffic: Approximately 300 peak hour trips (Commercial Only)



Land Use Map



Zoning Map

Master Street Plan/Transportation

The subject property is served by East Nettleton Ave. and Steele Ave., the Master Street Plan classifies East Nettleton Ave. as a **Minor Arterial** and Steele Ave. as a **Local Street**.

Minor Arterials function similarly to principal arterials, but operate under lower traffic volumes, serve trips of shorter distances, and provide a higher degree of property access than principal arterials.

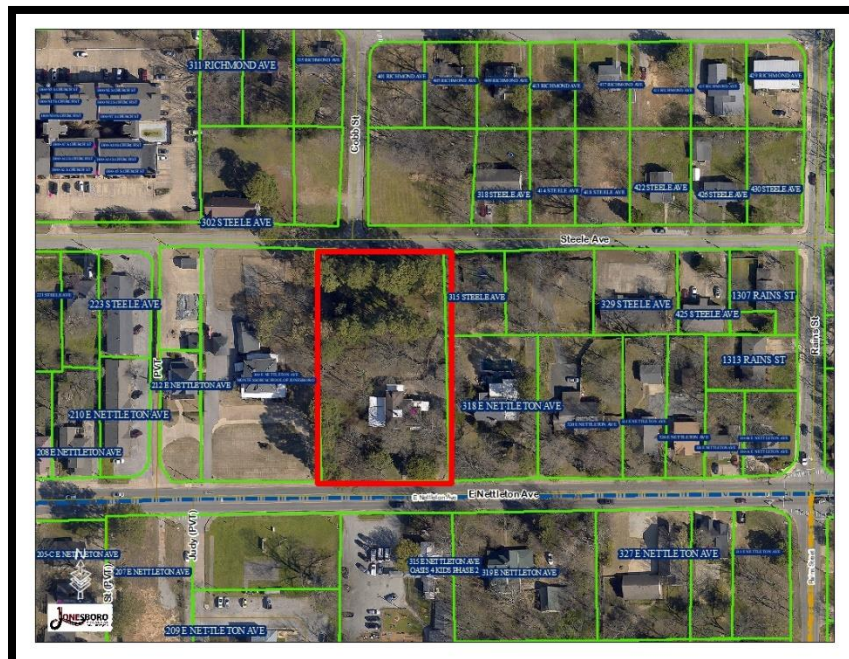
FUNCTION: Minor Arterials provide the connections to and through an urban area. Their primary function is to provide short distance travel within the urbanized area. Since a Minor Arterial is a high volume road, a minimum of 4 travel lanes is required. At intersections with Collector Streets or other Arterials (principal or minor), additional right-of-way may be required if the anticipated turning movements warrant extra lanes.

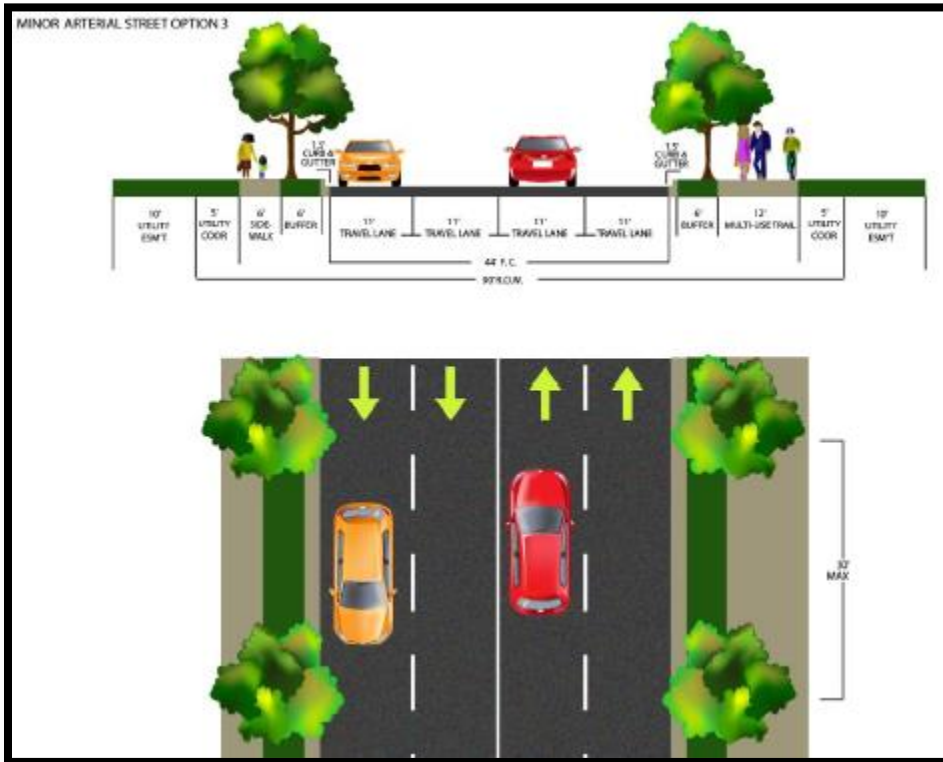
DESIGN: Cross-section selection shall be based on anticipated traffic volume and speed limit, or traffic impact analysis, if applicable. Design in accordance with AASHTO policy on Geometric design of highways and streets (current edition).

Local Streets serve the lowest traffic volumes. Low traffic volumes combined with slow travel speeds help to create a good residential setting. New developments should be reviewed to avoid creating cut-through streets that become commuter routes that generally lower quality of life for residents.

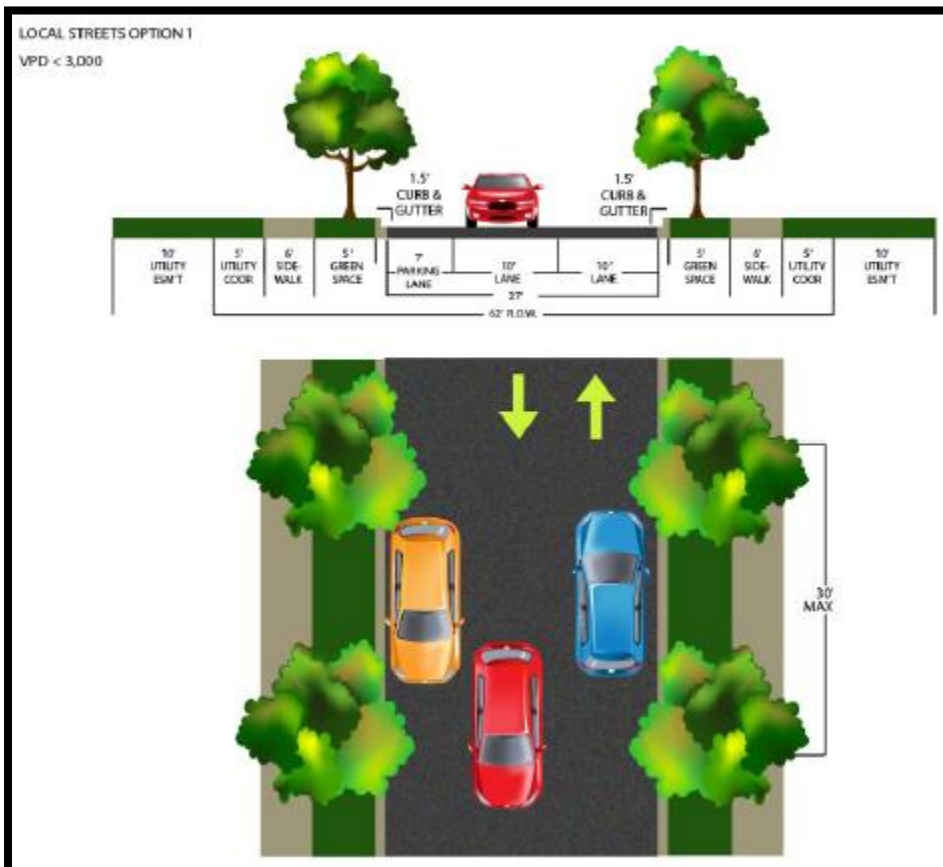
FUNCTION: The Local Street function is to provide access to adjacent property. The movement of traffic is a secondary purpose. The use of a Local Street in a residential area by heavy trucks and buses should be minimized.

DESIGN: Local Street Option 1 is to be used when on-street parking is provided within the development. Option 2 is to be used when on-street parking is not provided within the development. Option 3 is to be used in commercial mixed use areas.

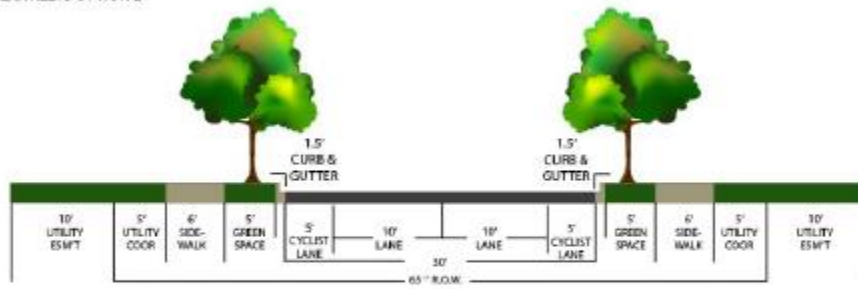




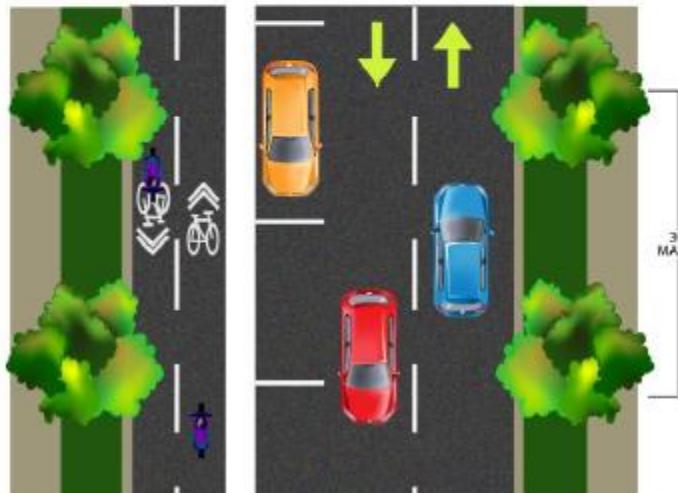
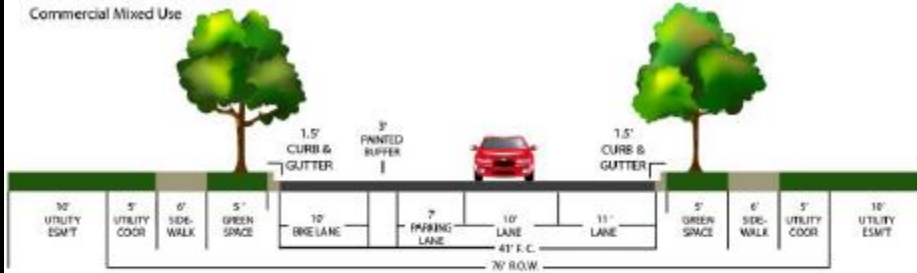
Local Street



LOCAL STREETS OPTION 2









LOCAL STREETS OPTION 3
Commercial Mixed Use



Approval Criteria- Chapter 117 - Amendments:

The criteria for approval of a rezoning are set out below. Not all of the criteria must be given equal consideration by the MAPC or City Council in reaching a decision. The criteria to be considered shall include, but not be limited to the following.

Criteria	Explanations and Findings	Comply Y/N
(a) Consistency of the proposal with the Comprehensive Plan/Land Use Map	The proposed district rezoning is consistent with the Adopted Land Use Plan, which is categorized as a Moderate Intensity Growth Sector.	
(b) Consistency of the proposal with the purpose of Chapter 117-Zoning.	The proposal will achieve consistency with the purpose of Chapter 117, with compliance of all District standards.	
(c) Compatibility of the proposal with the zoning, uses and character of the surrounding area.	Compatibility is not achieved with this rezoning considering the surrounding area is predominantly residential uses.	
(d) Suitability of the subject property for the uses to which it has been restricted without the proposed zoning map amendment;	Without the proposed zoning map amendment, this property cannot develop as a medical office.	
(e) Extent to which approval of the proposed rezoning will detrimentally affect nearby property including, but not limited to, any impact on property value, traffic, drainage, visual, odor, noise, light, vibration, hours of use/operation and any restriction to the normal and customary use of the affected property;	With proper planning there should not be any adverse effects caused by the property if rezoned to residential.	
(f) Impact of the proposed development on community facilities and services, including those related to utilities, streets, drainage, parks, open space, fire, police, and emergency medical services	Minimal impact if rezoned due to the fact that moderate/high intensity uses currently exist in this area.	

Staff Findings:

Applicant's Purpose

The proposed area is currently classified as "R-2" multifamily low density district. The applicant is applying for a rezoning to allow a pregnancy resource clinic to occupy this property.

Rezoning this property is consistent with the *Jonesboro Comprehensive Plan* and the *Future Land Use Plan*.

Chapter 117 of the City Code of Ordinances/Zoning defines C-2 as follows:

C-2, downtown fringe commercial district. This district provides for a transitional area between the downtown core commercial district (C-1) and the surrounding older residential areas which have yet to experience intrusions of other type uses. The fringe area is characterized by mixed uses, including offices, services, government facilities and housing. This district is generally considered an inappropriate location for large retail uses greater than 3,000 square foot, with the exception of C-2 zoned land within the Hotel Corridor area, defined and bound by I-63 to the South, Caraway Road to the West, Richardson Drive to the East, and Race Street to the North. In addition, residential is an allowed use in this district except in the hotel corridor as defined above.

Departmental/Agency Reviews:

The following departments and agencies were contacted for review and comments. Note that this table will be updated at the hearing due to reporting information that will be updated in the coming days:

Department/Agency	Reports/ Comments	Status
Engineering	No issues were reported	
Streets/Sanitation	No issues were reported	
Police	No issues were reported	
Fire Department	No issues were reported	
MPO	No issues were reported	
Jets	No issues were reported	
Utility Companies	No issues were reported	CWL
Code Enforcement	No issues were reported	

Conclusion:

The Planning Department Staff finds that the requested zone change submitted for subject parcel, should be evaluated based on the above observations and criteria of Case RZ 23-14 a request to rezone property from “R-2” multifamily low density district to “C-2 LUO”, downtown fringe commercial district with a limited use overlay; the following conditions are recommend:

1. The proposed site shall satisfy all requirements of the City Engineer, all requirements of the current Stormwater Drainage Design Manual and Flood Plain Regulations regarding any new construction.
2. A final site plan subject to all ordinance requirements shall be submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Planning Department, prior to any redevelopment of the property.
3. Any change of use shall be subject to Planning Department approval in the future.
4. The Limited Use Overlay shall prohibit the following uses:
 - Cemetery
 - Golf Course
 - Nursing Home
 - Restaurant (general & fast food)

Respectfully Submitted for Planning Commission Consideration,
The Planning and Zoning Department

Sample Motion:

I move that we place Case: RZ 23-14 on the floor for consideration of recommendation by MAPC to the City Council with the noted conditions, and we, the MAPC find that to rezone property from “R-2” multifamily low density district to “C-2 LUO”, downtown fringe commercial district with a limited use overlay will be compatible and suitable with the zoning, uses, and character of the surrounding area.



Rezoning Sign