



City of Jonesboro Metropolitan Area Planning Commission
Staff Report – RZ 26-03
300 S. Church Street/Municipal Center
For Consideration by Planning Commission on March 10, 2026

REQUEST: To consider a rezoning of 2005 East Highland Drive, East of Bernard St

PURPOSE: A request to consider recommendation to Council for a rezoning from “C-2”, downtown fringe commercial district, to “C-3” general commercial district

APPLICANT: **Kristie Lands**

LOCATION: 2005 East Highland Dr

SITE DESCRIPTION: **Total Size:** Approx. 7.37 Acre- 321,234 S.F.
Street Frontage: Approx. 334’ ft along Bernard St

Existing Development: Circa 2002, and 2003 this site was designed and approved as a subdivision.

Physical Characteristics of the Site: Vacant Lot

SURROUNDING CONDITIONS:

| ZONE | LAND USE |
|--------------|-----------------|
| North | C-3 |
| South | C-3 |
| East | C-3 |
| West | C-3 |

HISTORY:

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 High Intensity Growth Sector.

High Intensity:

A wide range of land uses is appropriate in the high intensity zone, from multi-family to fast food to Class A office space to outdoor display/highway oriented businesses like automotive dealerships, because they will be located in areas where sewer service is readily available, and transportation facilities are equipped to handle the traffic.

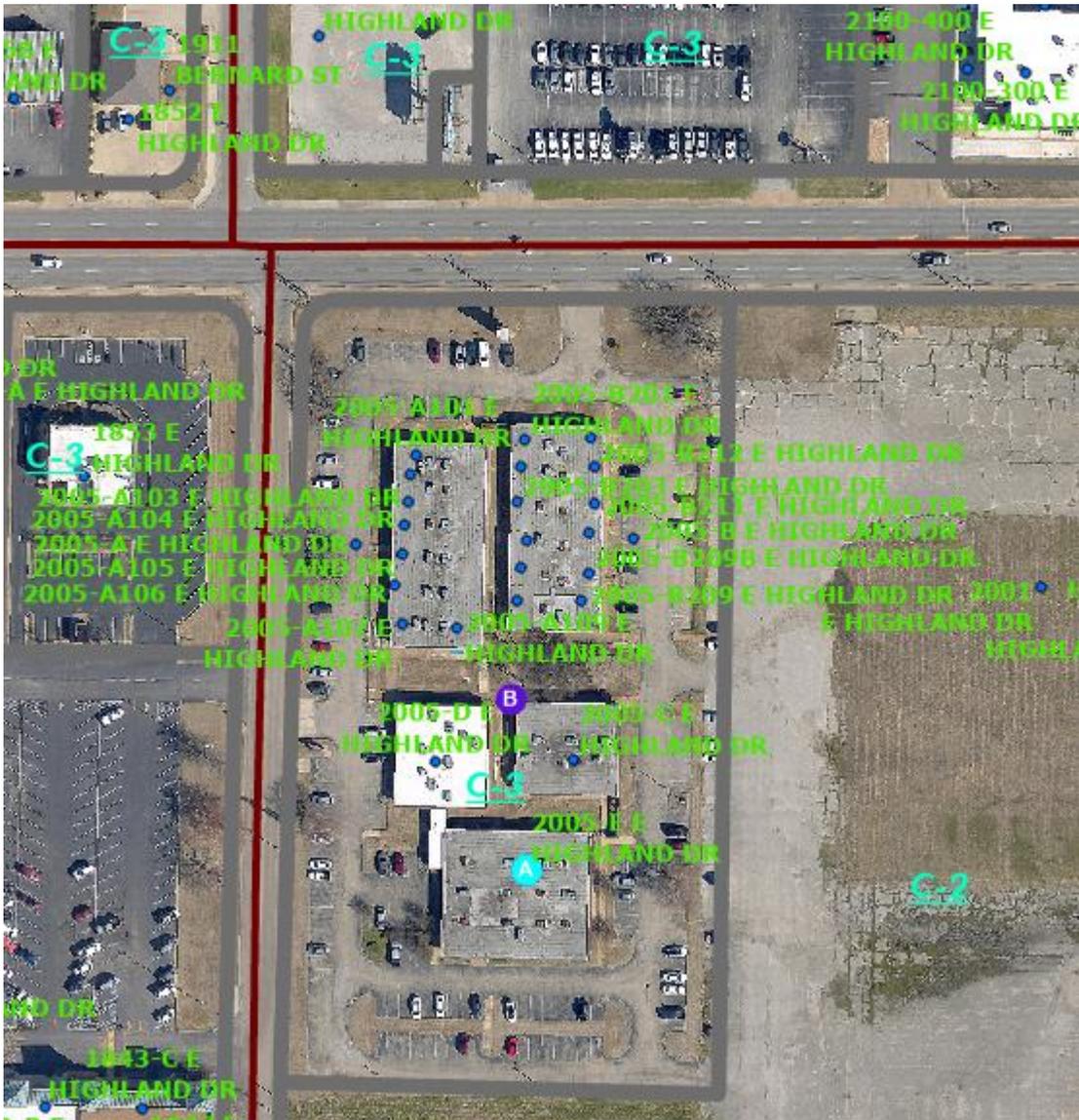
Typical Land Uses:

- Regional Shopping Centers
- Automotive Dealerships
- Outdoor Display Retail
- Fast Food Restaurants
- Multi-family
- Service Stations
- Commercial and Office
- Call Centers
- Research and Development
- Medical
- Banks
- Big Box Commercial
- Hotel

Density: Multi-family 8-14 Dwelling Units per acre

Height: 150 feet

Traffic: This will be located along arterial streets with high traffic volume.



Land Use Map

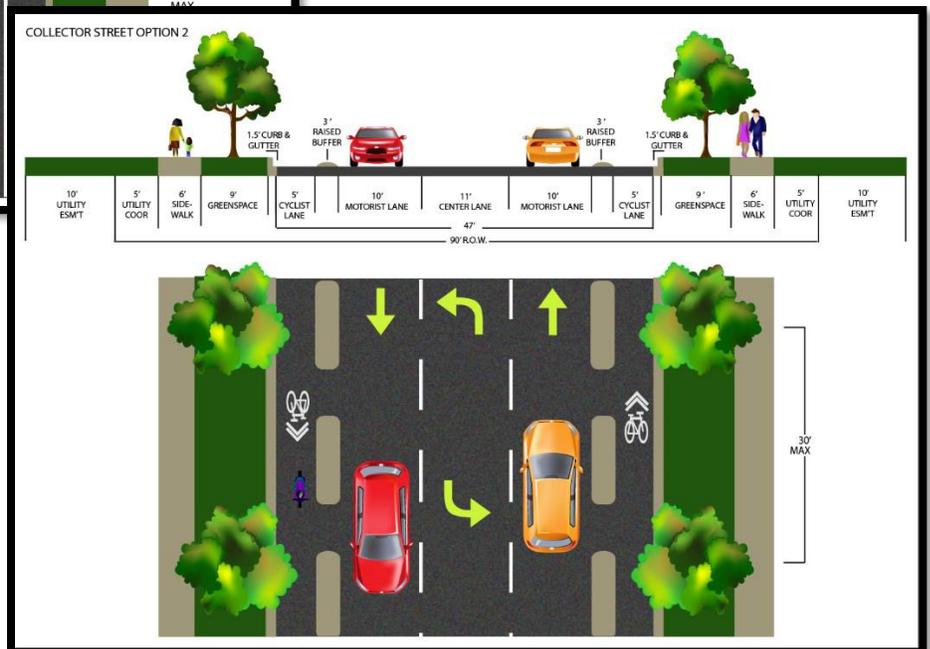
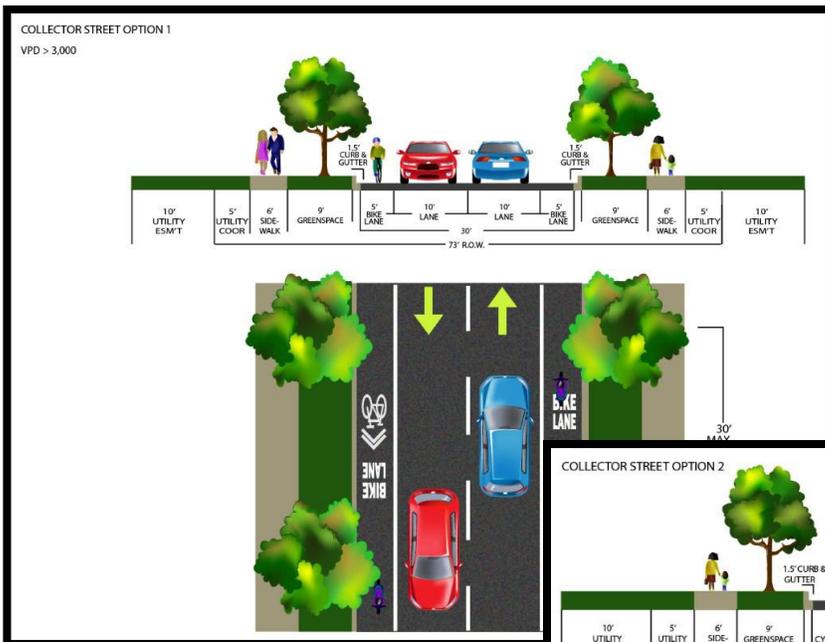
Master Street Plan/Transportation

The subject property will be served by Bernard St. The Master Street Plan classifies Bernard St as a Collector Street.

Collectors provide for traffic movement between arterials and local streets. They carry moderate traffic volumes over moderate distances and have a higher degree of property access than arterials.

FUNCTION: A Collector Street is the traffic connection from Local Streets to Arterials, with the secondary function of providing access to adjoining property. The Collector system should not be continuous but should direct traffic to Arterials. This class of road is generally at a spacing of a quarter mile. At the time of the subdivision, the exact location and additional need for Collectors will be determined by the MAPC upon advice of the City Staff.

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).



Approval Criteria- Chapter 117 - Amendments:

The criteria for approval of a rezoning are set out below. Not all 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. This property is in the 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 with all District standards. |  |
| (c) Compatibility of the proposal with the zoning, uses and character of the surrounding area. | Compatibility is achieved with this rezoning considering the surrounding area includes residential and commercial zoning and 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 an Planned Development District use. |  |
| (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. |  |
| (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 because the area is already equipped to handle residential uses. |  |

Staff Findings:

Applicant's Purpose

The proposed area is currently classified as "C-2", downtown fringe commercial district. The applicant is applying for a rezoning to allow C-3 general commercial at this location.

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-3 as follows:

C-3, general commercial district. The purpose of this district is to provide appropriate locations for commercial and retail uses which are convenient and serve the needs of the traveling public. The district also provides locations for limited amounts of merchandise, equipment and material being offered for retail sale that are more suitable for storage and display outside the confines of an enclosed structure. Appropriate locations for this district are along heavily traveled arterial street. Development of groupings of facilities shall be encouraged, as opposed to less desirable strip commercial.

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 | |
| Code Enforcement | No issues were reported | |

Conclusion:

The Planning Department Staff finds that the requested zone change submitted for the subject parcel should be evaluated based on the above observations and criteria of Case RZ-26-04 ; a request to rezone property “C-2”, downtown fringe commercial district, to “C-3” general commercial District. The following conditions are recommended:

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.

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

Sample Motion:

I move that we place Case: RZ 26-04 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 “C-2”, downtown fringe commercial district, to “C-3” general commercial District., will be compatible and suitable with the zoning, uses, and character of the surrounding area.