

## Otis Spriggs

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**From:** Richard P. Wang [rwang@astate.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 2:15 PM  
**To:** Otis Spriggs  
**Subject:** MAPC: Proposal to change the bylaws

Mr. Spriggs:

According to a recent [Jonesboro Sun](#) news story, the MAPC will consider at its meeting today a proposal to change its bylaws. The proposal came from the Mayor's Office (according to the newspaper) and would change the voting majority necessary to approve a petition to rezone property in the City from a "majority of the whole" (or a minimum of 5 votes) to a "majority of those present" (or a minimum of 3 votes, assuming that what constitutes a quorum would remain at 5). Is this an accurate reading of the proposal? If so, I would like to strongly urge your office and, through your office the members of the MAPC, to reject this proposal. I could offer a number of reasons for rejecting the proposal, but at the top of the list would be the following: The MAPC acts as the chief advisory board to the City Council on all land use questions; indeed, members of the Council make their individual voting decisions on land use issues which come before them based largely on the recommendation of the MAPC; the Council is well served only to the extent that the voice of the MAPC is clear and legitimate—which would not be the case, in my view, if that voice is the voice of 3 (of 9) members.

Thanks.

Richard Wang