

From: Kim Wilbanks [<mailto:kim.wilbanks@jonesboroschools.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 8:02 AM
To: Patricia Gail Lack <pglack@suddenlink.net>
Cc: James Dunivan <james.dunivan@nettletonschoools.net>; Bryan Russell <bryan.russell@valleyviewschools.net>; sgauntt@westsideschools.org; Derrel Smith <derrel.smith@jonesboro.org>; Donna Jackson <DJackson@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: Certified Letter Notifying Rezoning in your school district

Patti,

Thank you for sharing this information. You are correct...the past notifications took a great amount of time to determine if an item of interest to the district was on the agenda. Unfortunately, our school board meets on the second Tuesday of each month and it is impossible for us to attend the MAP meetings on this date.

Thanks,
KW

On Sun, Oct 22, 2017 at 1:57 PM, Patricia Gail Lack <pglack@suddenlink.net> wrote:
Hello to all of you,

My name is Patti Lack. I would like to give you a little background of why I am writing and notifying all of you of a new procedure/policy that the MAPC of Jonesboro will follow when there is a proposal of rezoning property in each of your school districts to multifamily units.

I have lived in Jonesboro for the past 30 years. Both of my kids attended Nettleton Schools and graduated many years ago. For the past 5 months, I have headed up a group of citizens in Jonesboro that are opposing the rezoning of 20.44 acres of land near the Home Depot/Neighborhood Walmart Store on Parker Road. They would like to rezone the land from Commercial property to Multifamily that is located at the end of Gladiolus Drive. They would like to build 280 units on this property. There are several large apartment complexes on Gladiolus Drive already. These apartments are in the Nettleton School District. I have been talking with Mr. Dunivan for these past five months concerning this rezoning request from Victor Ditta. Back in July, we got close to 1100 signatures of citizens of Jonesboro opposing the Ordinance. This is Ordinance 17-063. Mr. Ditta took a 90 day postponement to address the concerns of the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods and also to get the easement rights from the Warmack family for another entrance/exit on to the property. We will be on the City Council Agenda for the third reading/vote either Tuesday, November 7 or Tuesday, November 21.

So that is the background of my doings- so far! I found that the MAPC procedure/policy of notifying school superintendents of rezoning in their school districts for multifamily housing, which will impact your school funding, needs, and operations, was just by a mass email to 50 plus individuals stating that there is a MAPC meeting on the next Tuesday and if you were interested in finding out what is on the agenda, then call or check out their website. I felt this was so wrong and not fair to all parties involved.

I talked to Derrel Smith, the Planning and Zoning Director and he agreed to change the way that all Jonesboro School Districts/Superintendents are notified of a rezoning in their districts when multifamily units are being requested. Instead of a mass email, you all NOW will be receiving a certified letter from the Planning and Zoning Department. This is effective as of October 13, 2017. This is when I received a email from Mr. Smith stating this NEW procedure/process of rezoning notification. The MAPC meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. The individuals/groups requesting a multifamily rezoning must call by 10:00 a.m. the Thursday before the scheduled MAPC meeting to be on their agenda. You should receive this certified letter on that Friday or Monday before the meeting if there is a rezoning request in your district.

Whether it's 10 units or 280 more multifamily units in your school districts, it will have an impact on your schools! And you need to know about it! Wish us good luck in our third reading/vote on Ordinance 17-063. You can also go to our FACEBOOK page- Apartment 280 and read all about us and find out the outcome. It's a public page, so anyone can look at it anytime. I hope this change will help all of you. I'll be following up to make sure that it's being done. Thank you for everything you do for the kids in Jonesboro!

Sincerely,
Patti Lack

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Dr. Kim Wilbanks, Superintendent
Jonesboro Public Schools
"Excellence is our Standard, not our Goal, for All Students"