

City of Jonesboro Metropolitan Area Planning Commission
Staff Report – RZ 25-07, 5905 E. Johnson Ave.
300 S. Church Street/Municipal Center
For Consideration by Planning Commission on April 8, 2025

REQUEST: To consider a rezoning of one tract of land containing 1 +/- acres

PURPOSE: A request to consider recommendation to Council for a rezoning from “R-1”, single family medium density district, to “C-3”, general commercial district.

APPLICANT: Anh Vu, 5905 E. Johnson Ave., Jonesboro, AR 72401

OWNER: Same

LOCATION: 5905 E. Johnson Ave.

SITE DESCRIPTION: **Total Size:** Approx. 1 Acre
Street Frontage: Approx. 140 ft. on Johnson Ave. and 270 ft. on Darrick Ln.

Existing Development: Residential

SURROUNDING CONDITIONS:

ZONE	LAND USE
North	C-3 – Commercial
South	R-1 – Vacant Residential
East	R-1 - Residential
West	R-1 – Residential

HISTORY: Previously used as residential

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 **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.

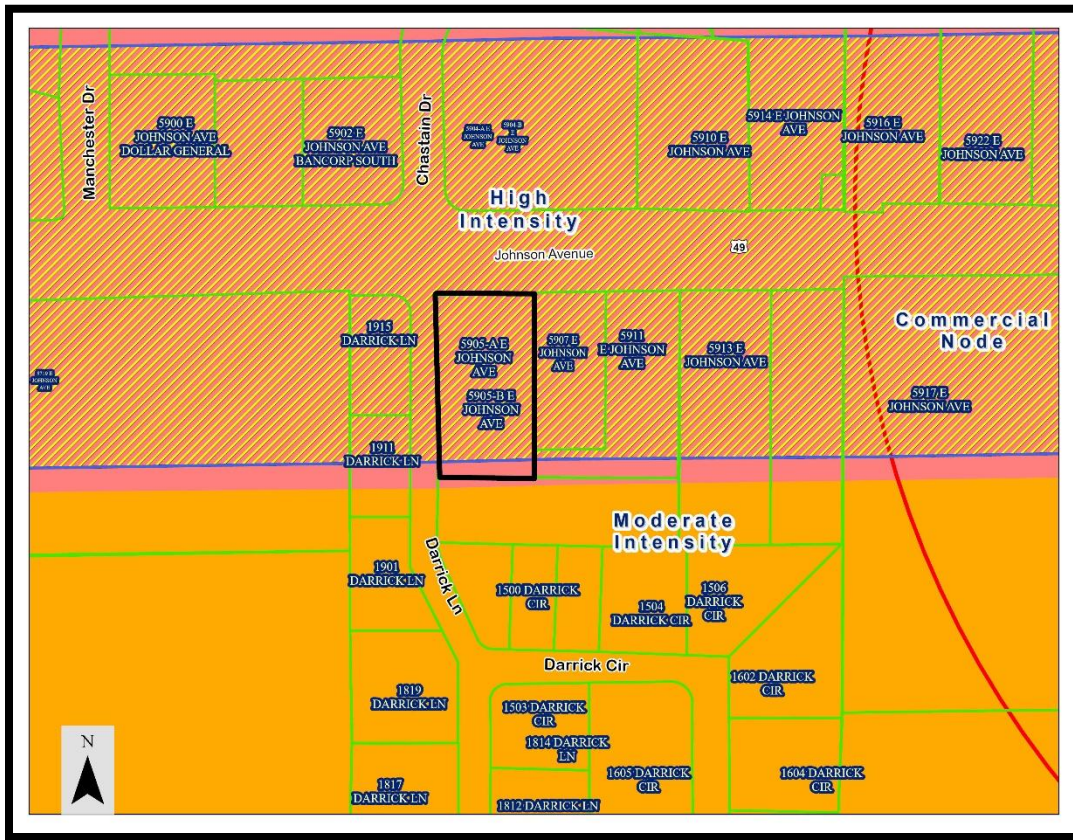
Typical Land Uses:

- 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

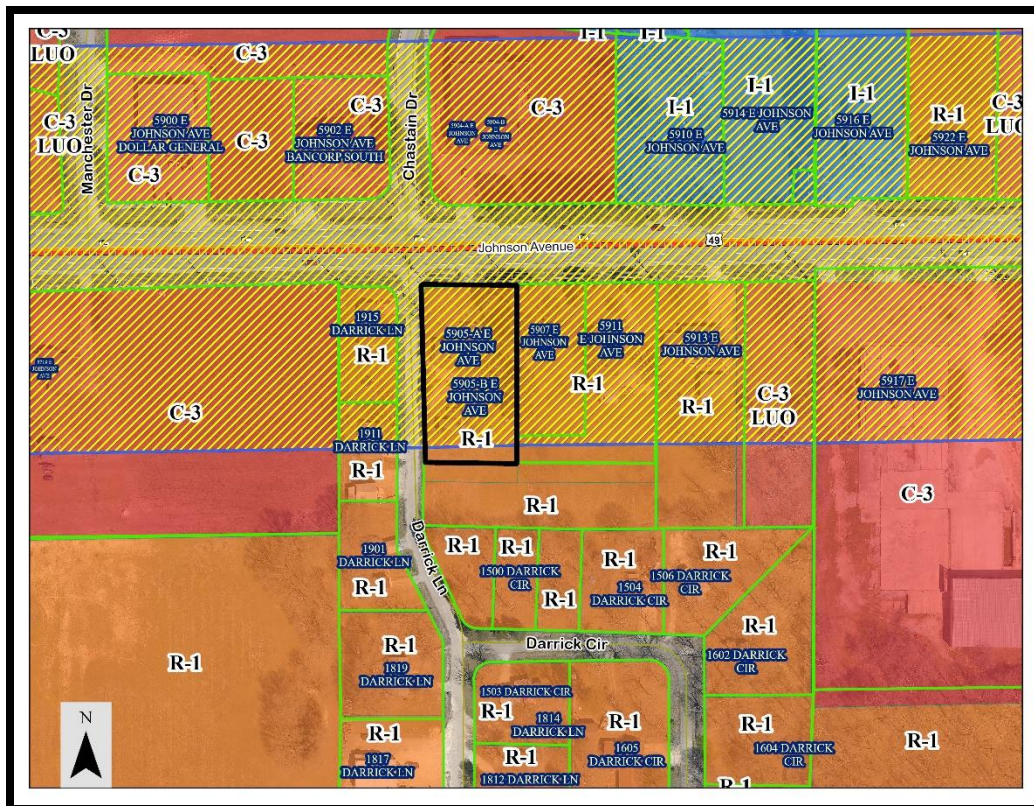
Density: Multi-family 8-14 Dwelling Units per acre

Height: 150 feet

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



Land Use Map



Zoning Map

Master Street Plan/Transportation

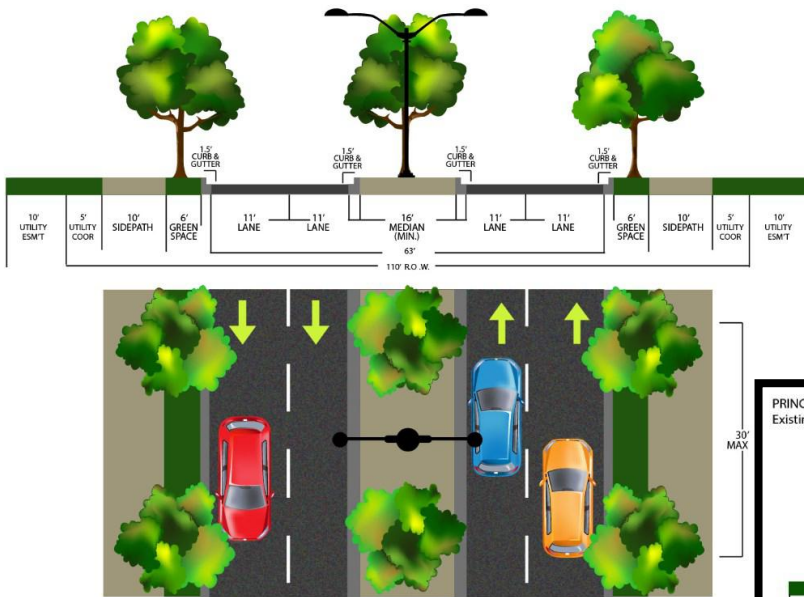
The subject property will be served by Johnson Avenue and Darrick Lane. The Master Street Plan classifies Johnson as a Principal Arterial and Darrick as a Local Street.

Principal Arterials provide both long distance connections through the urban area and to major traffic generators within the community. Roadways are designated principal arterials to imply the need to focus more on moving traffic rather than providing direct access to adjacent land. Traffic management techniques used to maintain a high level of traffic capacity on these roadways include the use of medians, restricting curb cuts per some spacing policy, and limiting the use of traffic signals to the intersection with other significant roadways.

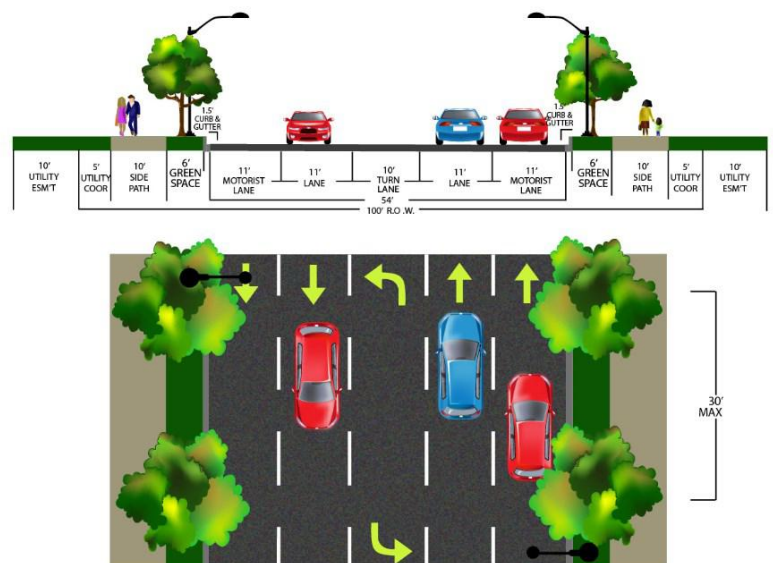
FUNCTION: The primary function of a Principal Arterial is to serve through traffic and to connect major traffic generators or activity centers within an urbanized area. Since these roads are designed for through traffic and are generally located three or more miles apart, dedication of additional right-of-way is required to allow for future expansion to four through lanes plus left and right turn lanes. 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: The standard Principal Arterial is to be used in all cases except where City Staff and the MAPC find that an unusual condition occurs. In such cases, the Other Principal Arterial Design Option provided in this section may be used. Cross-section selection shall be based on traffic impact analysis. Design in accordance with AASHTO policy on Geometric design of highways and streets (current edition).

PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL STREET 1
VPD > 12,000



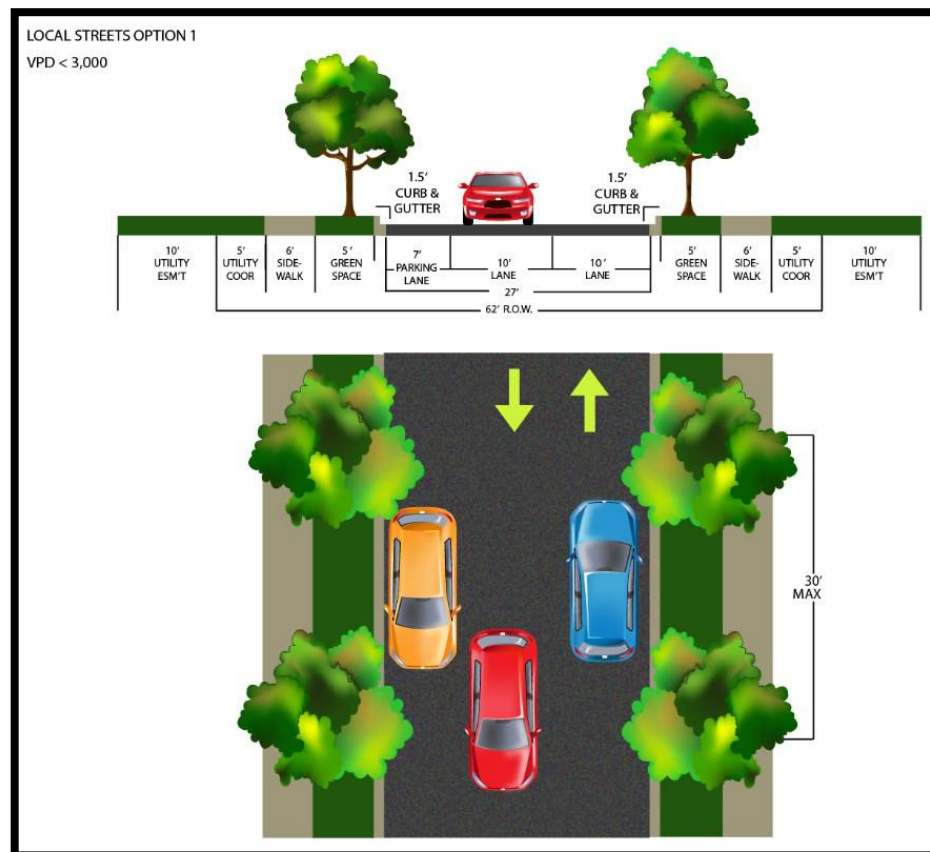
PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL STREET 2
Existing Routes



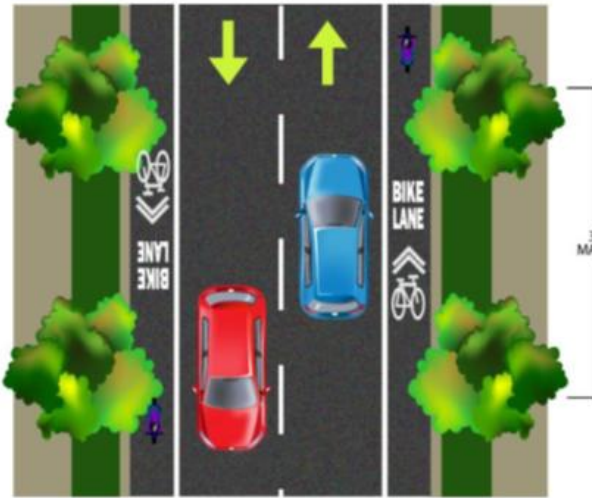
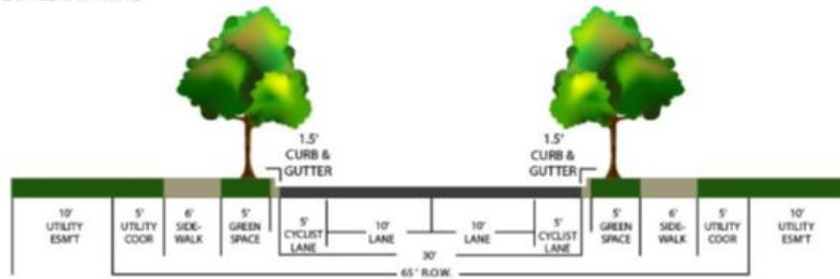
Local Streets serve the lowest traffic volumes. Low traffic volumes combined with slow travel speeds help to create a good residential setting. New developments should be reviewed to avoid creating cut-through streets that become commuter routes that generally lower quality of life for residents.

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.

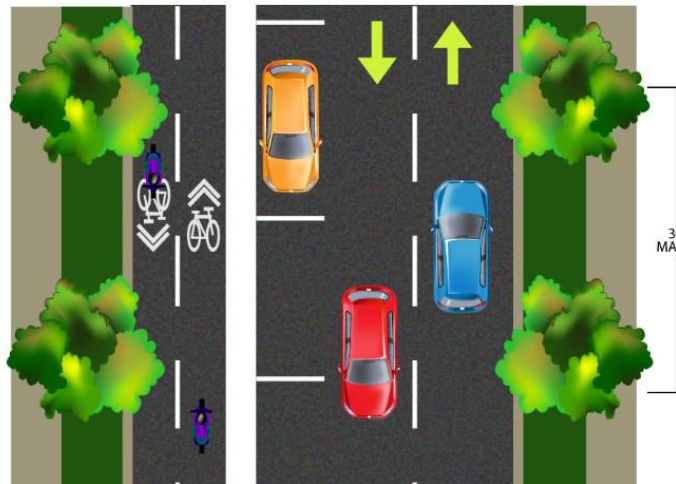
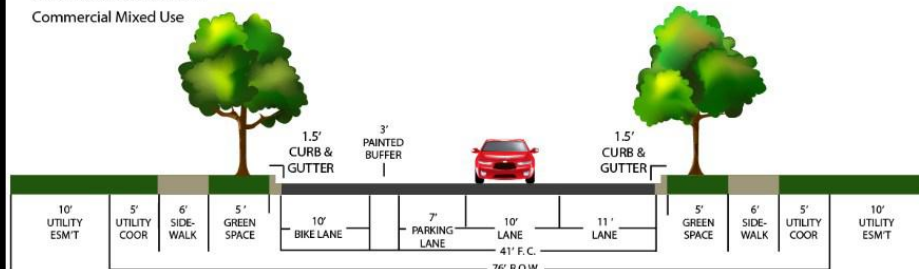
DESIGN: Local Street Option 1 is to be used when on-street parking is provided within the development. Option 2 is to be used when on-street parking is not provided within the development. Option 3 is to be used in commercial mixed use areas.



LOCAL 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 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 high 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 achieved with this rezoning considering the surrounding area includes 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 a commercial 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 commercial and uses.	

Staff Findings:

Applicant's Purpose

The proposed area is currently classified as "R-1", single family medium density district. The applicant is applying for a rezoning to allow commercial uses 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	CWL
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 25-07; a request to rezone property “R-1”, single family medium density 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.
4. The site shall comply with all overlay district standards.

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

Sample Motion:

I move that we place Case: RZ 25-07 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-1”, single family medium density district, to “C-3” general commercial district, will be compatible and suitable with the zoning, uses, and character of the surrounding area.

MAPC RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS: PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON APRIL 8, 2025

Rezoning: 5905 E. Johnson Avenue

Anh Vu is requesting a rezoning from R-1, single family medium density district to C-3, general commercial district. This request is for 1 acre, located at 5905 E. Johnson Ave.

Lonnie Roberts (Chair): Would you state your name for the record please?

Anh Vu (Proponent): My name is Anh Vu, and I would like to request rezoning at my location as 5905 East Johnson Avenue from residential to commercial C-3. This rezoning request is for the future development of commercial business. We believe it would fit in the area and with the city comprehensive land use plan.

Lonnie Roberts: Okay, city planner, do you have staff comments on this?

Derrel Smith (City Planner): Yes sir, we do. We have reviewed it, it does meet all the requirements for the zoning criteria and we would recommend approval with the following stipulations, that the proposed site shall follow all requirements of the city engineer, all requirements of the current stormwater drainage design manual, and floodplain regulations regarding any new construction. 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. Any change of use shall be subject to the planning department approval in the future and the site shall comply with all the overlay district standards.

Lonnie Roberts: Okay, and this is a zoning request, I'm going to open up, is anyone here to give public comments regarding this rezoning request? Any neighboring property owners want to give input? Okay, seeing none, I'm going to turn it over to the commissioners for any questions of the applicant or the city staff or any discussion on the matter?

COMMISSION ACTION:

Mr. Jimmy Cooper made a motion to approve Case RZ: 25-07, as submitted, to the City Council with the stipulations that were read by the Planning Department:

1. The proposed site shall satisfy all requirements of the city engineer, all requirements of the current storm water drainage design manual, and floodplain regulations regarding any new construction.
2. A final site plan subject to all ordinance requirements shall be submitted to, 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 site shall comply with all the overlay district standards.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jim Little.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: 8 – Paul Ford, Stephanie Nelson, Jeff Steiling, Kevin Bailey, Monroe Pointer, Jimmy Cooper, Dennis Zolper & Jim Little

Nay: 0
