



City of Jonesboro City Council
Staff Report – RZ08-19: St. Bernard’s Washington/Kitchen
Huntington Building - 900 W. Monroe
For Consideration by the City Council on Tuesday, August 19, 2008

REQUEST: To consider rezoning a parcel of property containing approximately .04 acres more or less.

PURPOSE: A request for rezoning from R-2 Single Family High Density Residential to C-1 Downtown Core Commercial

APPLICANT/ OWNER: St. Bernard’s Health Care, 525 E. Jackson Ave., Jonesboro AR

LOCATION: E. Washington Ave.

SITE Tract Size: Approx. .04 acres; 1,942 sq. ft.

DESCRIPTION: Frontage: Approx. 61’ on Kitchen St.; 32’ on Washington Ave.

Topography: flat
 Existing Dvlpmt: Vacant

SURROUNDING CONDITIONS:	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>LAND USE</u>
North:	R-2, C-1	Residential
South:	R-2, C-1, C-5	Residential
East:	R-2, C-1	Residential
West:	C-1, R-2	Commercial

HISTORY: Neighboring property was rezoned approximately 2 months ago and the subject property was accidentally omitted by the applicant for rezoning.

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

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP

The 1996 Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (page 24) shows the area recommended as Medium-Density Residential. This sector is currently under update/study by the Land Use Advisory Committee. This area will mostly likely remain recommended as commercial.

Pertinent Zoning Ordinance sections include Section 14.44.05(b), ‘change in District Boundary’, beginning on page 104.

Approval Criteria- Section 14.44.05, (5a-g) - Amendments:

The criteria for approval of a rezoning are set out below. Not all of the criteria must be given equal consideration by the planning commission or city council in reaching a decision. The criteria to be considered shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) Consistency of the proposal with the Comprehensive Plan;
- (b) Consistency of the proposal with the purpose of the zoning ordinance;

- (c) Compatibility of the proposal with the zoning, uses and character of the surrounding area;
- (d) Suitability of the subject property for the uses to which it has been restricted without the proposed zoning map amendment;
- (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;
- (f) Length of time the subject property has remained vacant as zoned, as well as its zoning at the time of purchase by the applicant; and
- (g) 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.

Findings:

The applicant has proposed to use the property for medical and office/business use. The proposed site is surrounded by residential, governmental and religious uses within an R-2 Zoning District, and should be developed with sensitivity to neighborhood scale.

Because of the proximity to a number of residential homes off-premise signage would not be reasonable. Any future request for such conditional use requests should be discouraged. Otherwise particular buffering and protection from light spillage should be required of the applicant if and when the site is developed.

MAPC RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS:

The Metropolitan Area Planning Commission held a public hearing on August 12, 2008 and offers the following record:

Patrick Lemley came forward as the proponent of this item. Motion was recommended an approval to the City Council with the same stipulations as the adjacent tract.

A motion was made by Secretary Marvin Day, seconded by Lonnie Roberts Jr., that the Rezoning be Recommended to Council. The motion CARRIED by the following vote: Norris-aye, Tomlinson-aye, Day-aye, Roberts-aye and Hoelscher-aye.

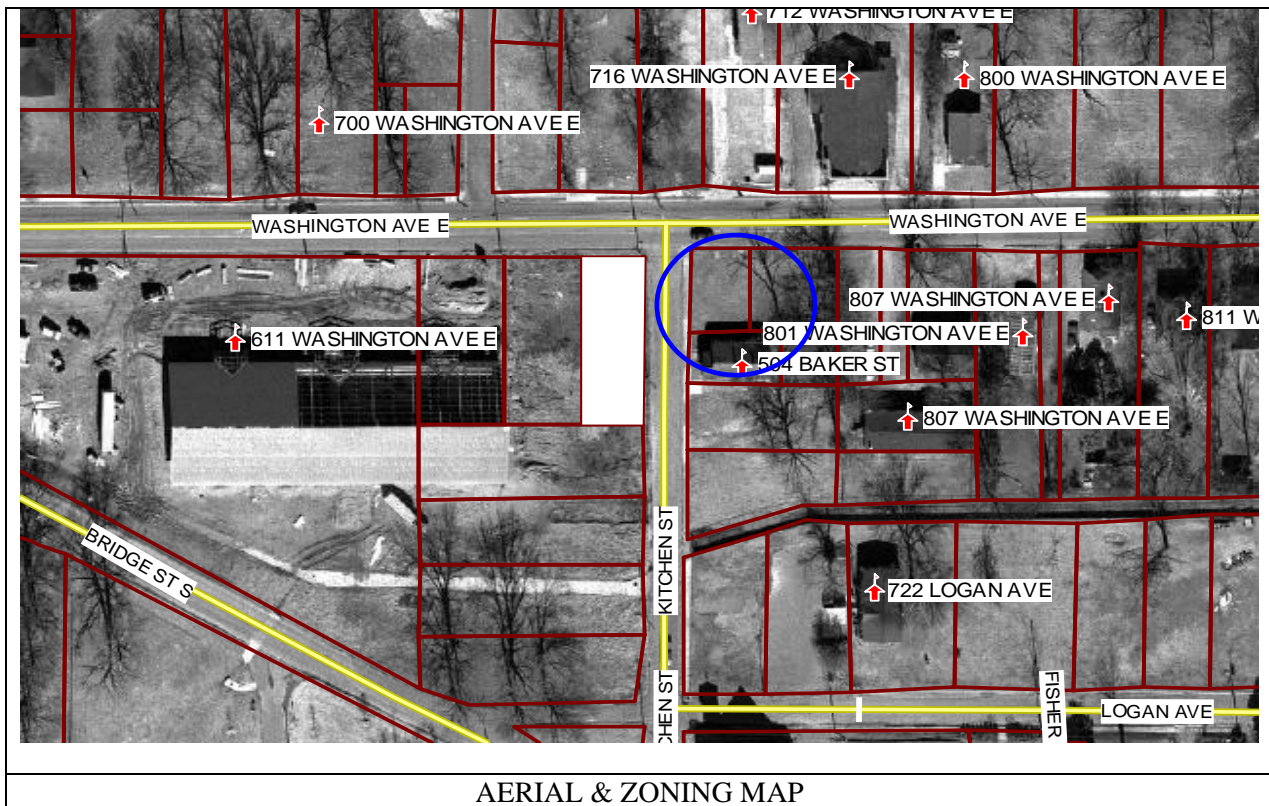
Conclusion:

The MAPC finds that the requested zone change submitted by St. Bernard’s Health Care should be evaluated based on the above observations and criteria in making recommendation to the City Council. Staff is recommending that the property be rezoned from R-1 to C-1 and it would follow good land use design principles if all of the above concerns are addressed.

Respectfully Submitted for City Council Consideration,

Otis T. Spriggs, AICP
Planning & Zoning Director

Site Photographs





View of the site looking Southeast



View looking Easterly along Washington Ave.



View from the site looking toward the West along Washington Ave.



View looking West from subject site



View of the site looking South



View of the site looking South