Board of Zoning Adjustment
November 5, 2026

Agenda Item # 8
BOA-003933-2026

View additional details on this proposal and all application materials using the following link:

Applicant Materials for Consideration

DETAILS

Location:
2851 Woodline Drive East

Applicant / Agent:
Darren Barrett

Property Owner:
Darren and Sharee Barrett

Current Zoning:
R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District

Future Land Use:
Low Density Residential

Case Number(s):
6800

Unified Development Code Requirement:

- The Unified Development Code (UDC) requires all structures be located outside of recorded setbacks in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District.

Board Consideration:

- Front Yard Setback Variance to allow a 20-foot setback from Woodmere Street and 35-foot setback along Woodline Drive East in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District; the Unified Development Code (UDC) requires all structures be located outside of recorded setbacks in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District.

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BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
VICINITY MAP - EXISTING AERIAL



The site is surrounded by residential units.

APPLICATION NUMBER 6800 DATE November 5, 2026

APPLICANT Darren Barrett

REQUEST Front Yard Setback Variance

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SITE HISTORY

The site was annexed into the city in 1956.

The subject site is lot 17 of the Basswoods Subdivision recorded in Probate Court in 1957.

The site has not had any Planning Commission or Board of Zoning Adjustment cases associated with it.

STAFF COMMENTS

Engineering Comments:

No comments on the proposed variance; however, according to the submitted plans, the proposed project will require a Land Disturbance Permit. The applicant will need to have the following conditions met:

1. The proposed site improvements will require that a Land Disturbance Permit be submitted through the CSS Portal.
2. The existing drainage patterns and surface flow characteristics should not be altered so as to have a negative impact on any adjoining properties or any public rights-of-way.
3. Any and all proposed land disturbing activity within the property will need to be in conformance with Mobile City Code, Chapter 17, Storm Water Management and Flood Control); the City of Mobile, Alabama Flood Plain Management Plan (1984); and, the Rules for Erosion and Sedimentation Control and Storm Water Runoff Control.
4. Applicant agrees to install adequate BMPs during construction to protect from sediment/pollutants leaving the site.

Traffic Engineering Comments:

No traffic impacts anticipated by this variance request.

Urban Forestry Comments:

Property to be developed in compliance with state and local laws that pertain to tree preservation and protection on both city and private properties [Act 929 of the 1961 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature (Acts 1961, p. 1487), as amended, and City Code Chapters 57 and 65]. Private removal of trees in the right-of-way will require approval of the Mobile Tree Commission. Removal of heritage trees from undeveloped residential sites, developed residential sites in historic districts, and all commercial sites will require a tree removal permit.

Fire Department Comments:

All projects within the City Limits of Mobile shall comply with the requirements of the City of Mobile Fire Code Ordinance (2021 International Fire Code). Fire apparatus access is required to be within 150' of all non-sprinklered commercial buildings and within 300' of all sprinklered commercial buildings. Fire water supply for all commercial buildings will be required to meet the guidance of Appendices B and C of the 2021 International Fire Code. The minimum requirement for fire hydrants is to be within 400’ of non-sprinkled commercial buildings, within 600’ of sprinkled commercial buildings, and within 100’ of fire department connections (FDC) for both standpipes and sprinkler systems.

Planning Comments:

The applicant is requesting a Setback Variance to allow a carport to encroach into the 35-foot side street side yard setback off of Woodmere Street and encroach into the 50-foot front yard setback off of Woodline Drive East in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District; the Unified Development Code (UDC) requires all structures be located outside of recorded setbacks in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Suburban District.

The site plan submitted with the application indicates a proposed carport closest to the front yard property line is setback approximately 25-feet from the property line abutting Woodmere Street that requires a 35-foot front setback per the recorded plat; a 10-foot encroachment into the required setback and reducing the setback along Woodmere Street to 20-feet. Also, the application states they are requesting to move the front yard setback from 50-feet to 35-feet along the property line that abuts Woodline Drive East to accommodate an existing front porch.

The entire application packet is available via the link on Page 1.

The applicant states in their justification paperwork that encroaching into the setbacks and connecting to the existing driveway is the most logical place for the carport to still be attached to the home by a breezeway.

It should be noted that there have not been any Setback Variances granted within the subject neighborhood.

Finally, if approved; the subject site will be required to obtain Subdivision approval to modify the recorded setbacks.

VARIANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Standards of Review:

Variances are not intended to be granted frequently. The applicant must clearly show the Board that the request is due to very unusual characteristics of the property and that it satisfies the variance standards. What constitutes unnecessary hardship and substantial justice is a matter to be determined from the facts and circumstances of each application.

Article 5 Section 10-E. 1. of the Unified Development Codes states that the Board of Adjustment may grant a variance if:

- The Applicant demonstrates that the variance shall not be contrary to the public interest;
- Where, owing to special conditions a literal enforcement of the provision of this Chapter will result in unnecessary hardship; and
- The spirit of this Chapter will be observed and substantial justice done.

Article 5 Section 10-E.2. states; no variance shall be granted:

(a) In order to relieve an owner of restrictive covenants that are recorded in Mobile County Probate Court and applicable to the property;
(b) Where economic loss is the sole basis for the required variance; or
(c) Where the variance is otherwise unlawful.

Considerations:

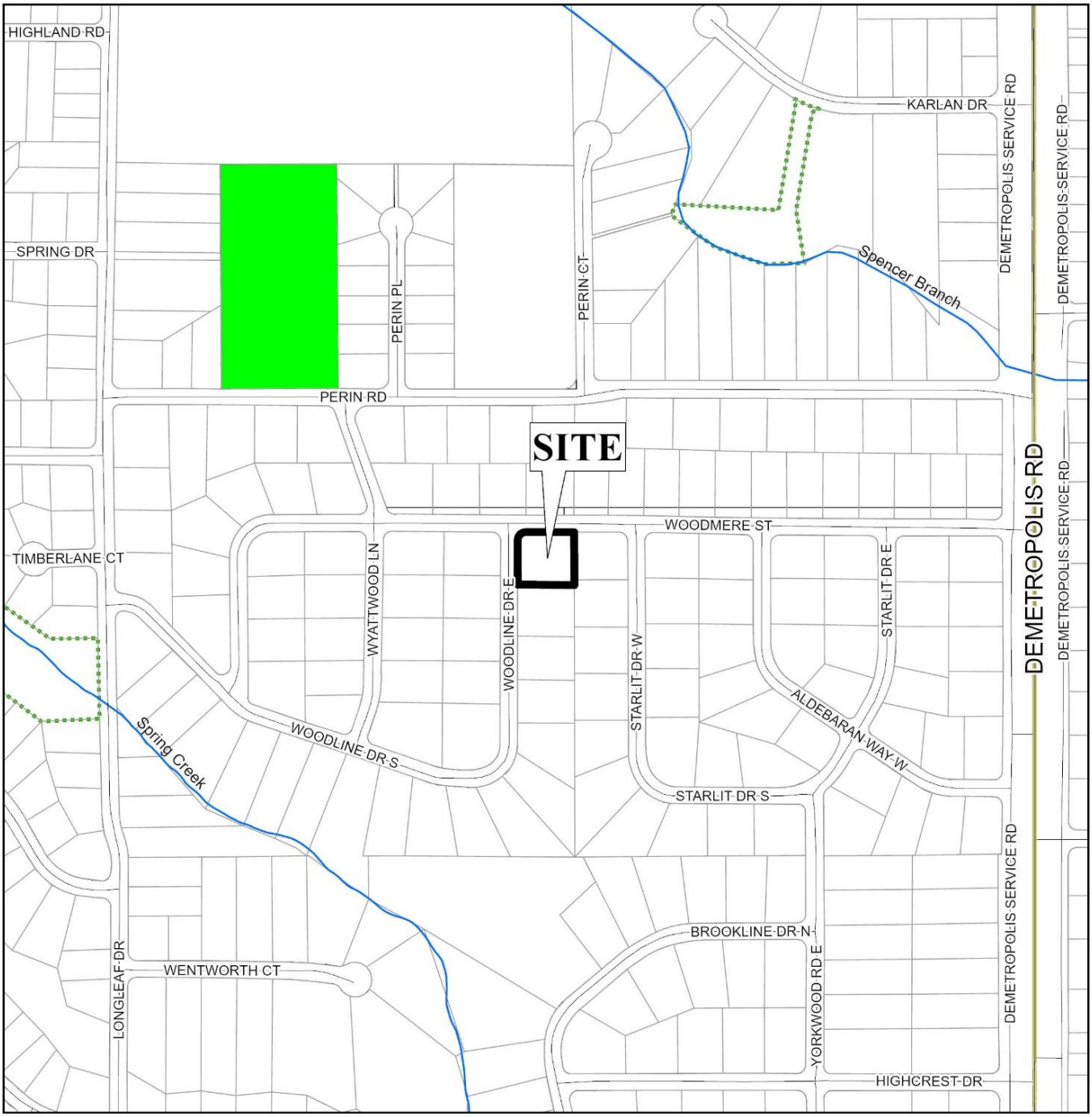
Based on the requested Variance application and documentation submitted, if the Board considers approval of the request, the following findings of fact must be present:

1) The variance **will not** be contrary to the public interest;
2) Special conditions exist such that a literal enforcement of the provisions of the chapter **will** result in unnecessary hardship; and
3) The spirit of the chapter **shall** be observed and substantial justice done to the applicant and the surrounding neighborhood by granting the variance.

If approved, the following conditions must apply:

1) Completion of the Subdivision process;
2) Obtaining of all necessary building permits;
3) Full compliance with all municipal codes and ordinances.

LOCATOR ZONING MAP



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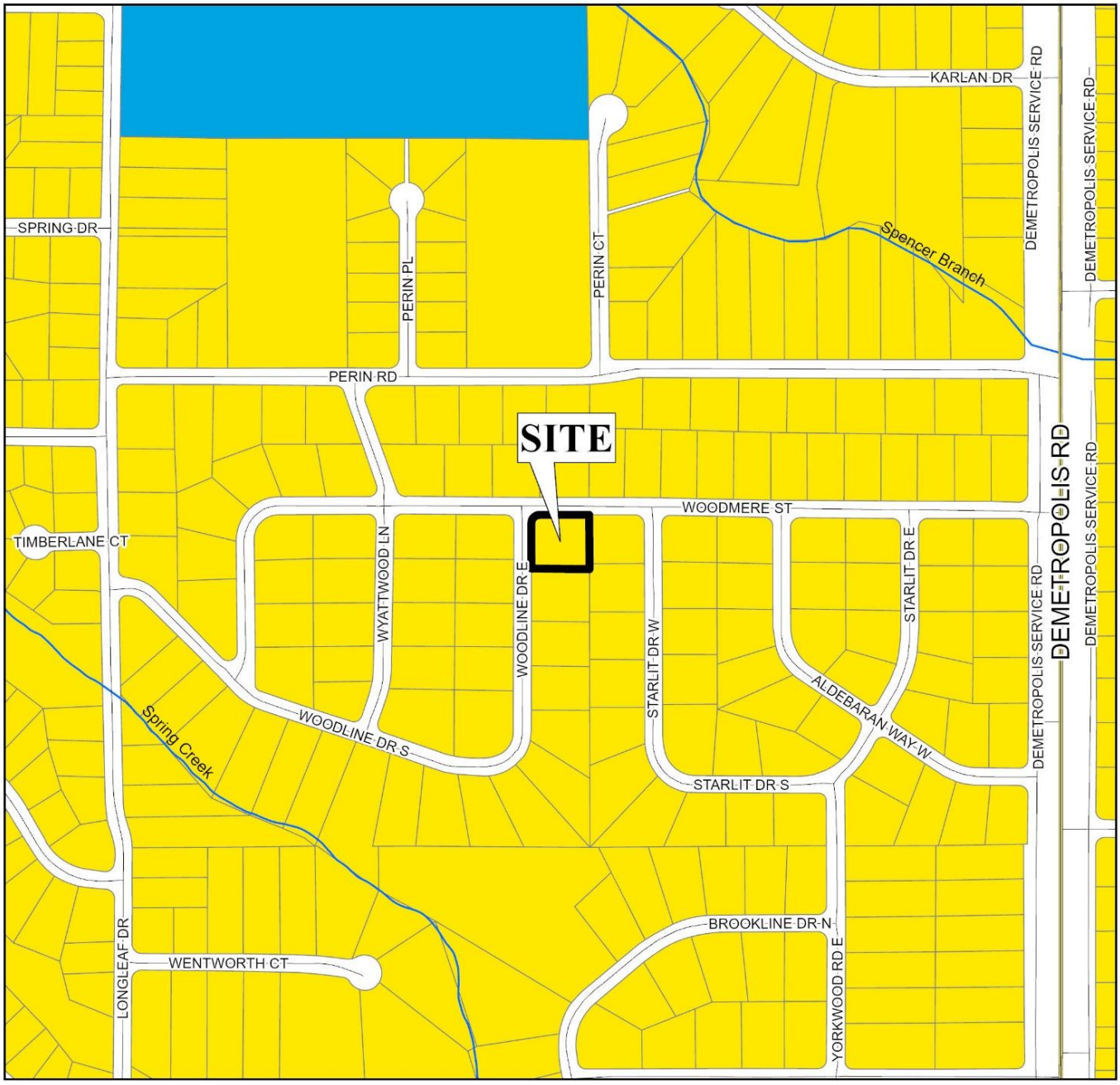
FLUM LOCATOR MAP



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Low Density Residential	Neighborhood Center - Traditional	Light Industry	Water Dependent
Mixed Density Residential	Neighborhood Center - Suburban	Heavy Industry	
Downtown	Traditional Corridor	Institutional	
District Center	Mixed Commercial Corridor	Parks, Open Space	

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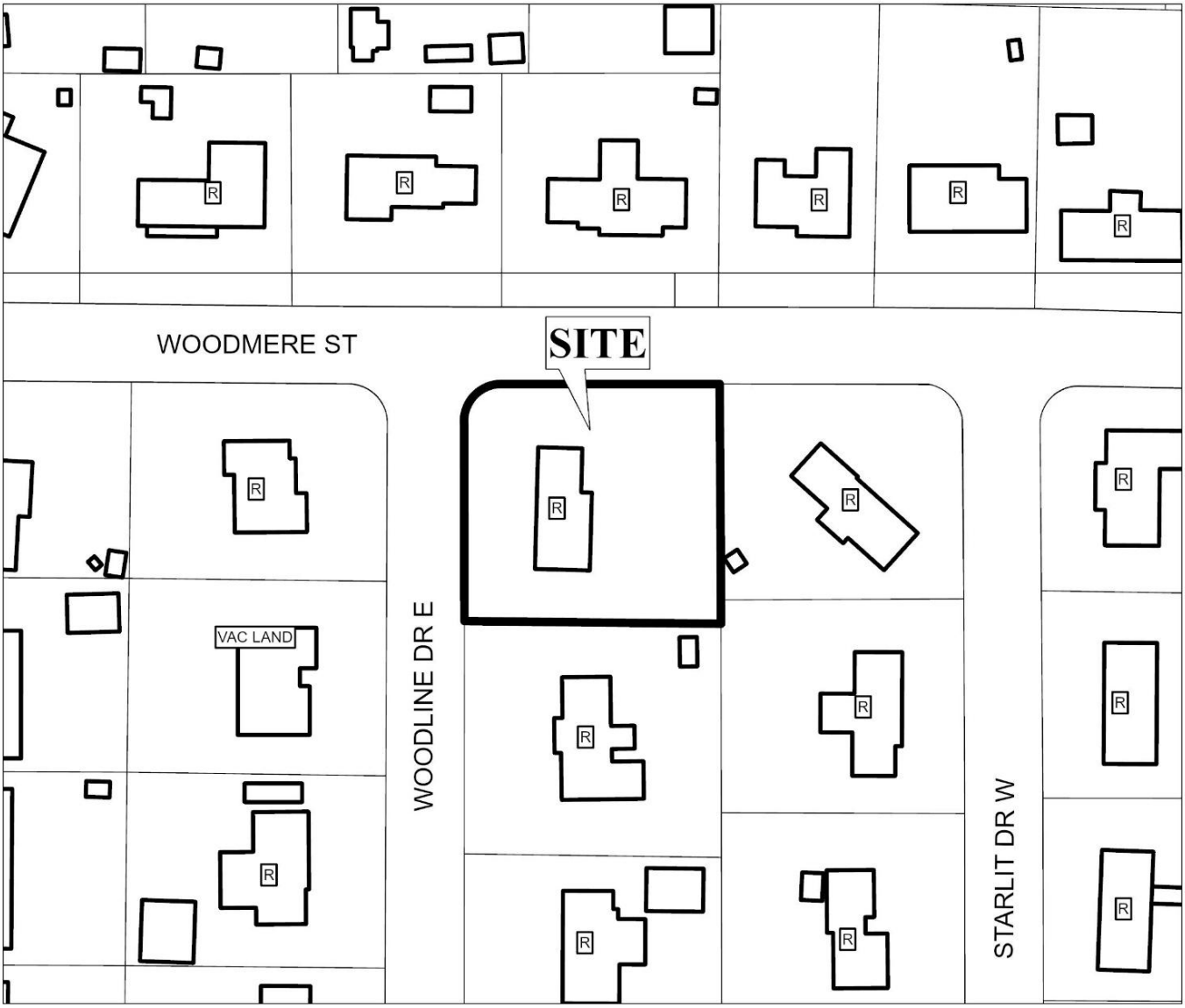
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
VICINITY MAP - EXISTING ZONING



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R-A	R-3	B-1	B-2	B-5	ML	I-2	OPEN	T-3	T-5.2
R-1	R-B	T-B	B-3	CW	MH	PD	SD	T-4	T-6
R-2	H-B	LB-2	B-4	MM	I-1	MUN	SD-WH	T-5.1	

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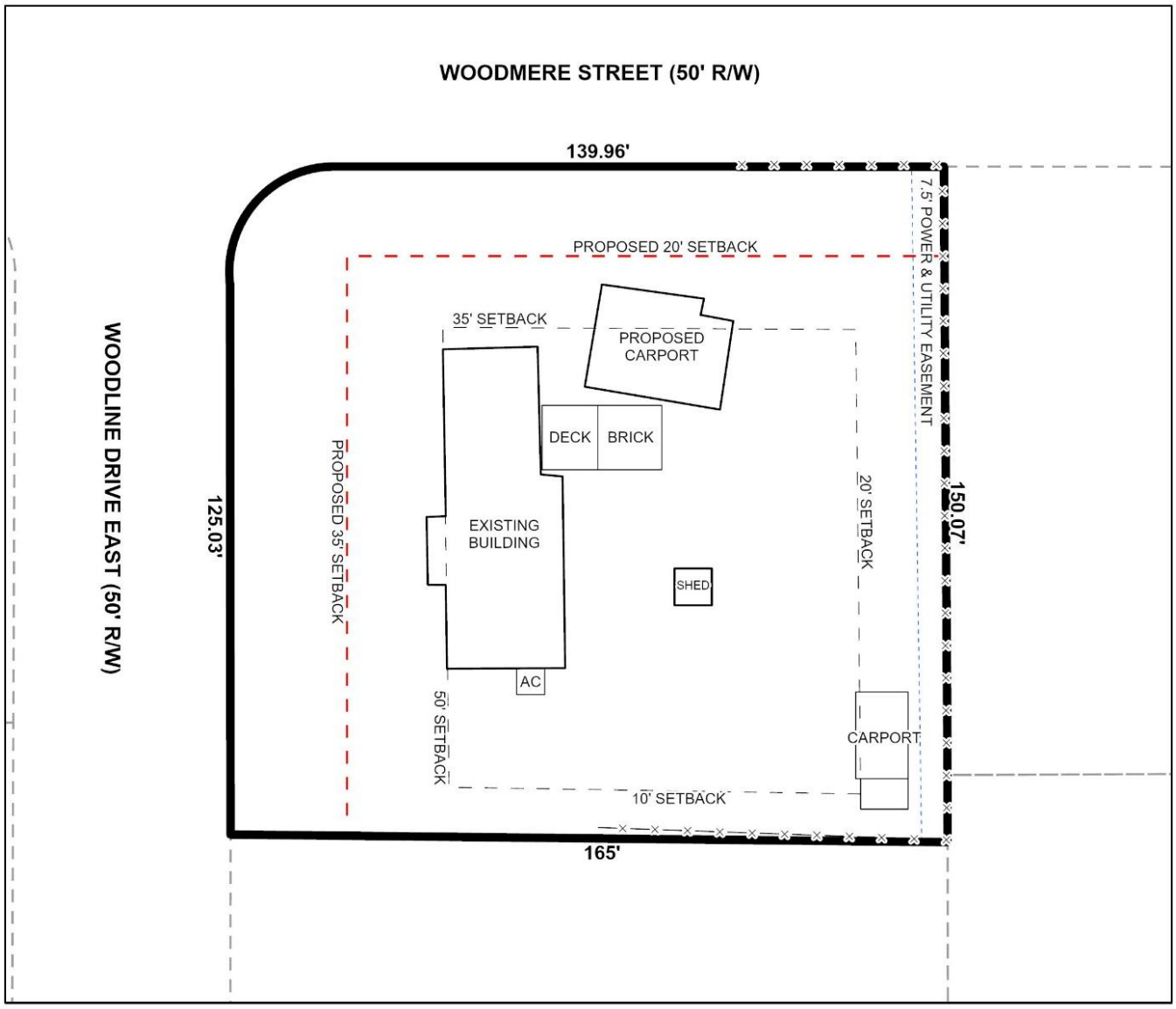
SITE PLAN



The site plan illustrates proposed setback reductions and proposed carport, as well as current buildings, structures, and easements.

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FUTURE LAND USE MAP CORRESPONDENCE TO ZONING

A primary purpose of the Future Land Use Map is to guide zoning decisions. In many cases the designation on the FLUM may match the existing use of land, but in others the designated land use may differ from what is on the ground today. For example, a parcel that is in commercial use today but designated as any of the "mixed use" types on the map could redevelop with a mix of residential and commercial uses (such as retail, office, entertainment, etc., depending on the location).

Each future land use designation on the FLUM will have at least one corresponding zoning district, allowing a more precise application of the FLUM based on specific local conditions. In most cases, there are multiple combinations or types of zoning techniques that can accomplish the future land use designation's objectives.

The correspondence between the FLUM and the zoning district structure is described in the matrix below. This tool gives the City the flexibility over the long-term to determine appropriate changes to the zoning map based on various factors.

The designation of an area with a FLUM land use category does not mean that the most intense zoning district consistent with that category is "automatically" assigned to a property. Instead, an area retains its existing zoning category until it is changed through a landowner-initiated rezoning application, or a rezoning that follows an area plan. This is because the FLUM is a long-term designation, while a change in zoning considers current conditions – such as market demands, availability of infrastructure, or impacts on the immediate neighborhood.

Zoning correspondence matrix

■ Zoning district is appropriate to implement the future land use category.

U S Zoning district with Urban or Suburban subdistrict is appropriate to implement the future land use category.

○ Elements of the zoning district are related to the future land use category and may be appropriate with qualifications or conditions.

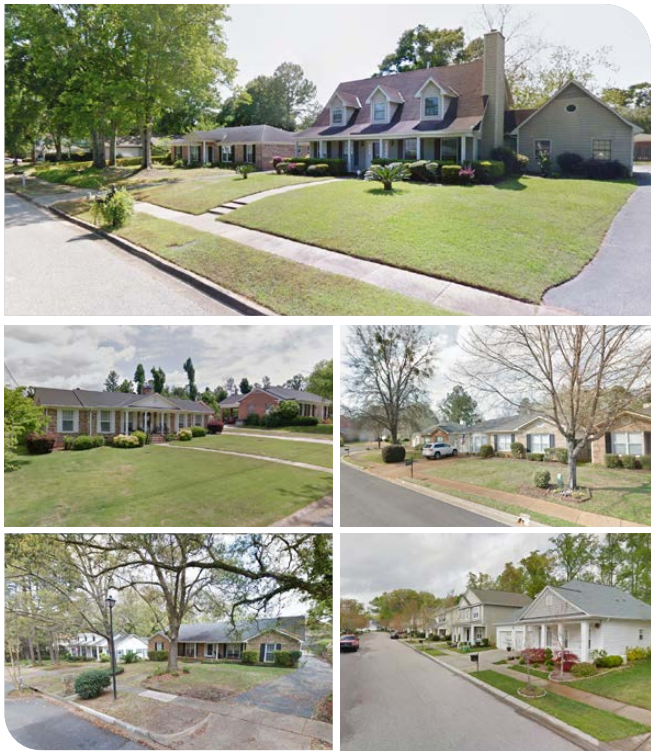
□ Zoning district is appropriate, but the district does not directly implement the category (e.g., open space in an industrial district)

	RESIDENTIAL - AC (R-A)	ONE-FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-1)	TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-2)	MULTIPLE-FAMILY (R-3)	RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS (R-B)	HISTORIC BUSINESS (H-B)	BUFFER BUSINESS (B-1)	TRANSITIONAL BUSINESS (T-B)	LIMITED BUSINESS (LB-2)	NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS (B-2)	COMMUNITY BUSINESS (B-3)	GENERAL BUSINESS (B-4)	OFFICE-DISTRIBUTION (B-5)	COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSE (CW)	MARITIME MIXED (MM)	MARITIME LIGHT (ML)	MARITIME HEAVY (MH)	LIGHT INDUSTRY (I-1)	HEAVY INDUSTRY (I-2)	VILLAGE CENTER (TCD)	NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER (TCD)	NEIGHBORHOOD GENERAL (TCD)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (T-6)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (T-5.1)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (T-5.2)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (T-4)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (T-3)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DDD (SD-WH)	DOWNTOWN DEV. DD (SD)
LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LDR)	■	S	S	S			○							○															○
MIXED DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MDR)		U	U	■	■			■	■	■					■															○
DOWNTOWN (DT)						■					■													■	■	■	■	■	○	○
DISTRICT CENTER (DC)								■			U	○	○																	
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - TRADITIONAL (NC-T)		■	■	U	■	■	○	■	○	○	○										■	■	■							
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - SUBURBAN (NC-S)				S			S	■	S	S	○									■	■									○
TRADITIONAL CORRIDOR (TC)		■	■		■	■	U	■	U	U	○																			○
MIXED COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (MCC)							■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■															
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI)													■	■	■	■			■										○	○
HEAVY INDUSTRY (HI)																■	■	■	■										○	○
INSTITUTIONAL LAND USE (INS)											■	■		○	○				○											
PARKS & OPEN SPACE (POS)	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
WATER DEPENDENT USES (WDWRU)	■					○								■	■	■		○												

LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LDR)

This designation applies to residential neighborhoods found mostly west of I-65 or immediately adjacent to the east side of I-65. These areas are primarily single family residential, but may contain small-scale complimentary uses and other residential types at appropriate locations. An LDR area may include a wide range of lot sizes, housing size and styles, including some small-scale multi-unit buildings, but housing styles are highly consistent within a subdivision and tend to have limited connectivity between residential types and non-residential uses. Neighborhoods tend to have longer blocks and may be designed in a network of meandering streets. Residential density ranges between 0 and 6 dwelling units per acre (du/ac).

Character Example



Development Intent

- Complementary uses are designed and sited in a manner compatible with and connected to the surrounding context.
- The presence of individual ancillary uses should contribute to the fabric of a complete neighborhood, developed at a walkable, bikeable human scale.
- When establishing new residential areas or expanding existing developments, provide pedestrian and vehicular connectivity between adjacent developments.

Land use mix

Primary Uses

- Residential, Single family
- Residential, Attached

Secondary Uses

- Residential, Multifamily
- Civic
- Parks

Housing mix

- Predominantly single family subdivisions with lots smaller than one acre
- Attached residential such as duplexes, multiplexes, and townhomes that have the scale of a single family home