



## Agenda Item # 9

ZON-UDC-002847-2024

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

[Applicant Materials for Consideration](#)

### DETAILS

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**Location:**

5672 Commerce Boulevard West

**Applicant / Agent:**

Ritesh Gupta, Pinnacle, LLC / Eric J. Adams, Clark,  
Geer, Latham & Associates

**Property Owner:**

Ritesh Gupta, Pinnacle, LLC

**Current Zoning:**

B-5, Office Distribution District

**Proposed Zoning:**

I-2, Heavy Industry District

**Future Land Use:**

Light Industry

**Applicable Codes, Policies, and Plans:**

- Unified Development Code
- Map for Mobile Comprehensive Plan

**Proposal:**

- Rezoning from B-5 to I-2
- Any use permitted in the proposed district would be allowed at this location if the zoning is approved. The Planning Commission may consider other zoning districts than the proposed sought by the applicant for this property.

**Commission Considerations:**

1. Rezoning with two (2) conditions.


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## PLANNING COMMISSION VICINITY MAP - EXISTING AERIAL



The site is surrounded by commercial units and residential units.

APPLICATION NUMBER <u>      9      </u> DATE <u>      March 21, 2024      </u>	 NTS
APPLICANT <u>      Ritesh Gupta, Pinnacle, LLC (Eric J. Adams, Clark, Geer, Latham &amp; Associates, Agent)      </u>	
REQUEST <u>      Rezoning from B-5 to I-2      </u>	

## SITE HISTORY

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The site was annexed into the City of Mobile in 2008, and was rezoned in 2009 by the City Council from R-1, Single-Family Residential District, to B-5, Office Distribution District.

The site was originally part of the 28-lot Mobile Commercial Park Subdivision, Phase 1, which was approved by the Planning Commission in February 1990 and subsequently recorded in Mobile County Probate Court.

There have been no other Planning Commission or Board of Zoning Adjustment cases associated with the site.

## STAFF COMMENTS

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### Engineering Comments:

1. Any work performed in the existing ROW (right-of-way) such as driveways, sidewalks, utility connections, grading, drainage, irrigation, or landscaping will require a ROW permit from the City of Mobile Engineering Permitting Department (251-208-6070) and must comply with the City of Mobile Right-of-Way Construction and Administration Ordinance (Mobile City Code, Chapter 57, Article VIII).
2. A Land Disturbance Permit application shall be submitted for any proposed land disturbing activity with the property. A complete set of construction plans including, but not limited to, drainage, utilities, grading, storm water detention systems and paving will need to be included with the Land Disturbance permit. This Permit must be submitted, approved, and issued prior to beginning any of the construction work.
3. Any and all proposed land disturbing activity within the property will need to be submitted for review and 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. Any existing or proposed detention facility shall be maintained as it was constructed and approved. The Land Disturbance Permit application for any proposed construction includes a requirement of a Maintenance and Inspection Plan (signed and notarized by the Owner) for the detention facility. This Plan shall run with the land and be recorded in the County Probate Office prior to the Engineering Department issuing their approval for a Final Certificate of Occupancy.
5. The approval of all applicable federal, state, and local agencies (including all storm water runoff, wetland and floodplain requirements) will be required prior to the issuance of a Land Disturbance permit. The Owner/Developer is responsible for acquiring all of the necessary permits and approvals.
6. The proposed development must comply with all Engineering Department design requirements and Policy Letters.

### Traffic Engineering Comments:

Driveway number, size, location, and design to be approved by Traffic Engineering and conform to AASHTO standards. Any required on-site parking, including ADA handicap spaces, shall meet the minimum standards as defined in Article 3, Section 64-3-12 of the City's Unified Development Code.

### 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 commercial and residential buildings. A fire hydrant is required to be within 400' of non-sprinkled commercial buildings and 600' of sprinkled commercial buildings.

### **Planning Comments:**

A detailed description of the proposed request is available via the link on Page 1 of this report. In summary, the applicant is requesting to rezone the subject site from B-5, Office Distribution District, to I-2, Heavy Industry District, to allow a warehouse facility.

As mentioned, the site was annexed into Mobile City limits in 2008. Upon annexation, the property was given a B-5, Office Distribution District zoning designation. The applicant is currently in the plan review process to obtain Land Disturbance and Building Permits to develop the site with a new 25,000 square-foot pre-engineered metal warehouse structure with offices, a dumpster pad and enclosure, associated parking, tree plantings, and landscaping.

The site is within a predominantly commercial and heavy industrial area, with numerous other warehousing and distribution facilities in close proximity. This area has been given a Light Industry Future Land Use designation, which indicates a limited amount of commercial development should be supported. Use of the property for wholesale distribution, warehousing and storage (greater than and less than 40,000 square feet gross floor area) are both permitted by right in the existing B-5 zoning district. The applicant has not proposed a use which would necessitate the I-2 zoning district.

The site plan provided with the rezoning application depicts the proposed warehousing facility, dumpster pad, and associated parking; however, there are numerous deficiencies to the proposed site plan which include, but are not limited to:

- A compliant front yard setback is not illustrated;
- The proposed dumpster is located within the front yard setback;
- The proposed loading dock encroaches into the front yard setback; and
- No tree and landscaping plan has been provided, etc.

The proposed development will require full compliance with the Unified Development Code (UDC). Any signage placed on the property will also need to meet the requirements of the UDC, and be permitted separately through the Planning and Zoning Department.

No other reason was provided to justify the request, and while changing conditions in the area may make rezoning desirable, the fact that the proposed use is allowed in the current zoning district may mean that rezoning is not necessary.

## REZONING CONSIDERATIONS

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### Standards of Review:

The Unified Development Code (UDC) in 64-5-5.E. states that Rezoning is intended to carry out the objective of a sound, stable and desirable development and that casual change or amendment would be detrimental to the achievement of that objective.

The UDC goes on to say that zoning changes should be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. However, the Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Plan (FLUP) and Map (FLUM) are meant to serve as a general guide, not a detailed lot and district plan; they are not a legal mandate for development. The FLUP and FLUM allow the Planning Commission and City Council to consider individual cases based on several factors including: surrounding development, classification requested, timing of the request, and the appropriateness and compatibility of the proposed use the zoning classification.

The UDC states that an application for rezoning shall include a statement of the justification for the proposed amendment that addresses all of the following:

- A. Consistency. Whether the proposed amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan;
- B. Mistake. For a Rezoning, whether there was a mistake or error in the original zoning map; and
- C. Compatibility. Whether the proposed amendment is compatible with:
  - The current development trends, if any, in the vicinity of the subject property;
  - Surrounding land uses;
  - Would adversely impact neighboring properties; or
  - Cause a loss in property values.
- D. Health, Safety and General Welfare. Whether the proposed amendment promotes the community's public health, safety, and general welfare;
- E. Capacity. Whether the infrastructure is in place to accommodate the proposed amendment; and
- F. Change. Whether changed or changing conditions in a particular area make an amendment necessary and desirable.
- G. Benefits Consideration. In addition, consideration should also be given to the City's and the larger community's best interests and the need, benefit, or public purpose of the proposed request.

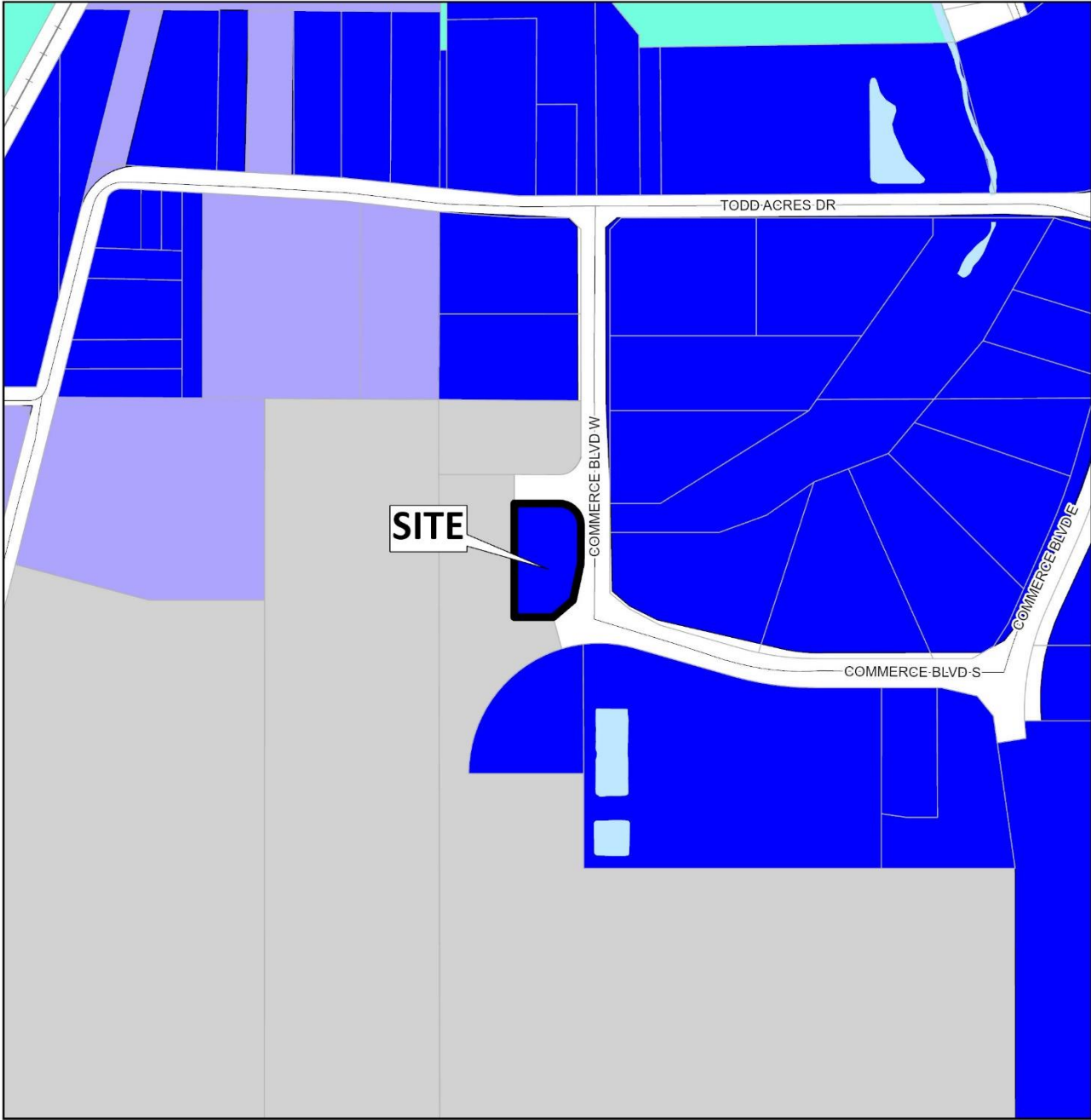
The applicant's responses to address the above criteria are available in the link on page one (1).

### Considerations:

If the Planning Commission considers a recommendation of approval of the request to the City Council to Rezone the site to I-2, the following conditions could apply:

1. Compliance with all Engineering, Traffic Engineering, Urban Forestry, and Fire Department comments noted in this staff report; and,
2. Full compliance with all municipal codes and ordinances.

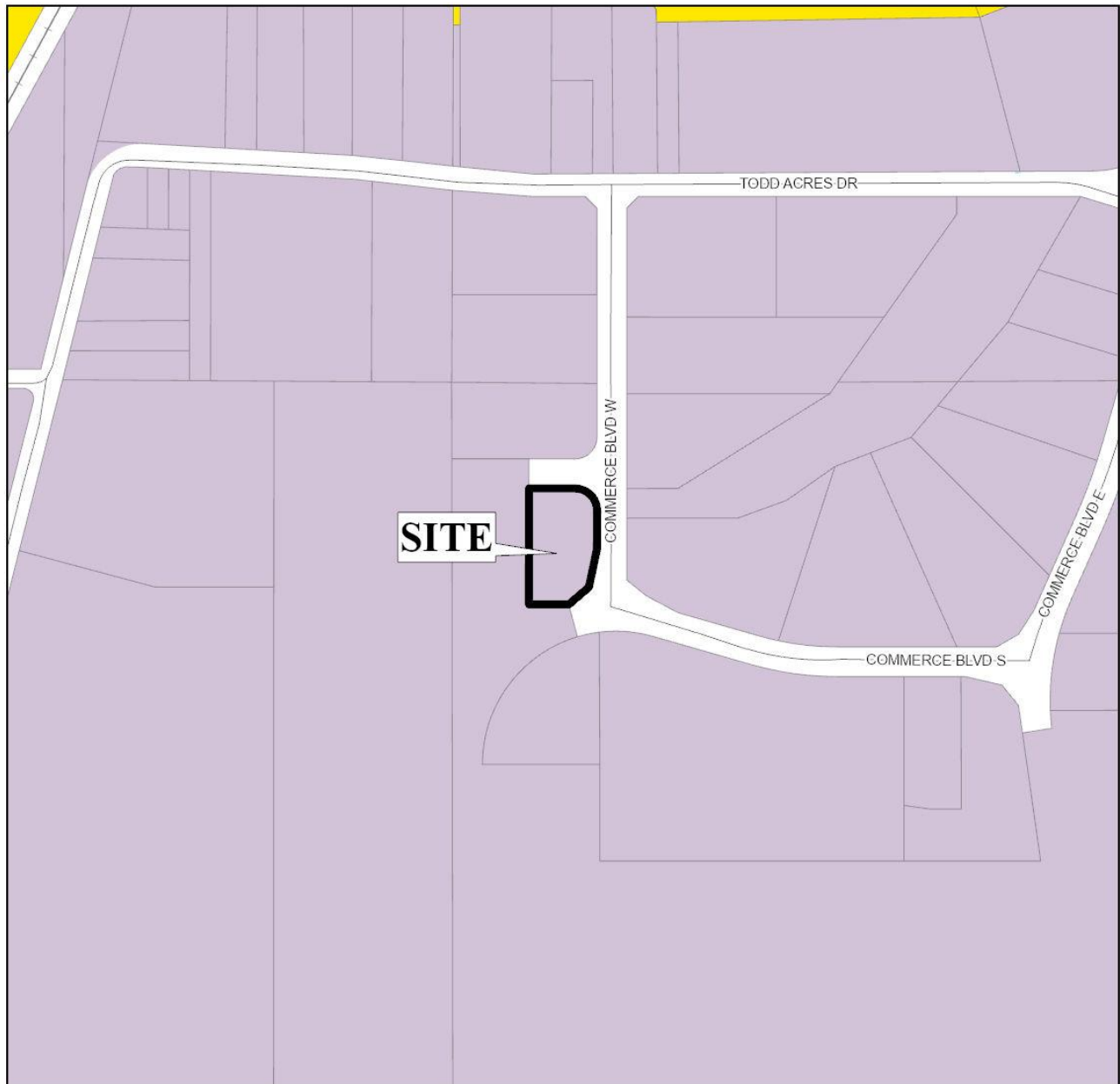
# LOCATOR ZONING MAP



APPLICATION NUMBER <u>9</u>	DATE <u>March 21, 2024</u>
APPLICANT <u>Ritesh Gupta, Pinnacle, LLC (Eric J. Adams, Clark, Geer, Latham &amp; Associates, Agent)</u>	
REQUEST <u>Rezoning from B-5 to I-2</u>	

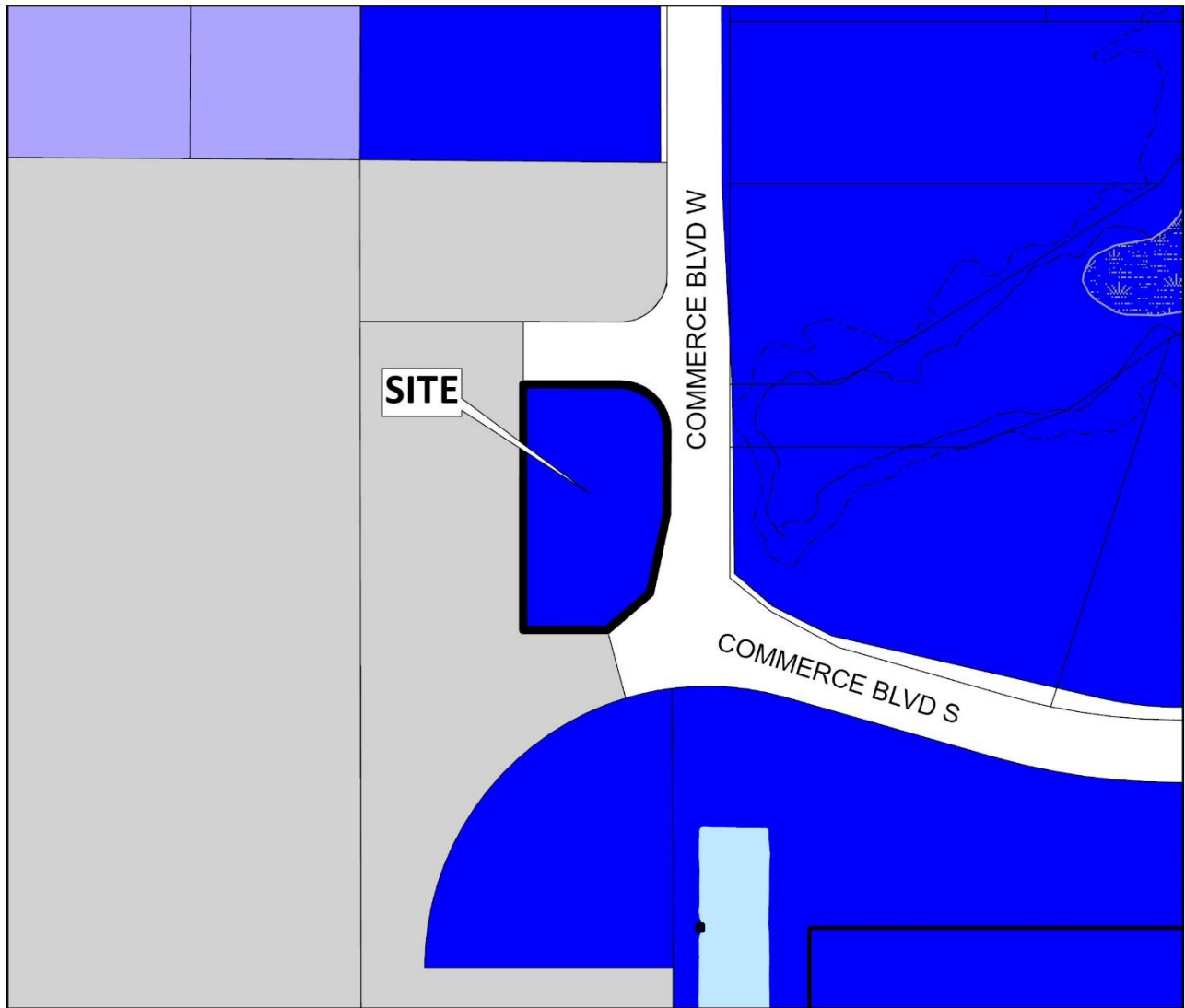


# FLUM LOCATOR MAP



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## PLANNING COMMISSION VICINITY MAP - EXISTING ZONING

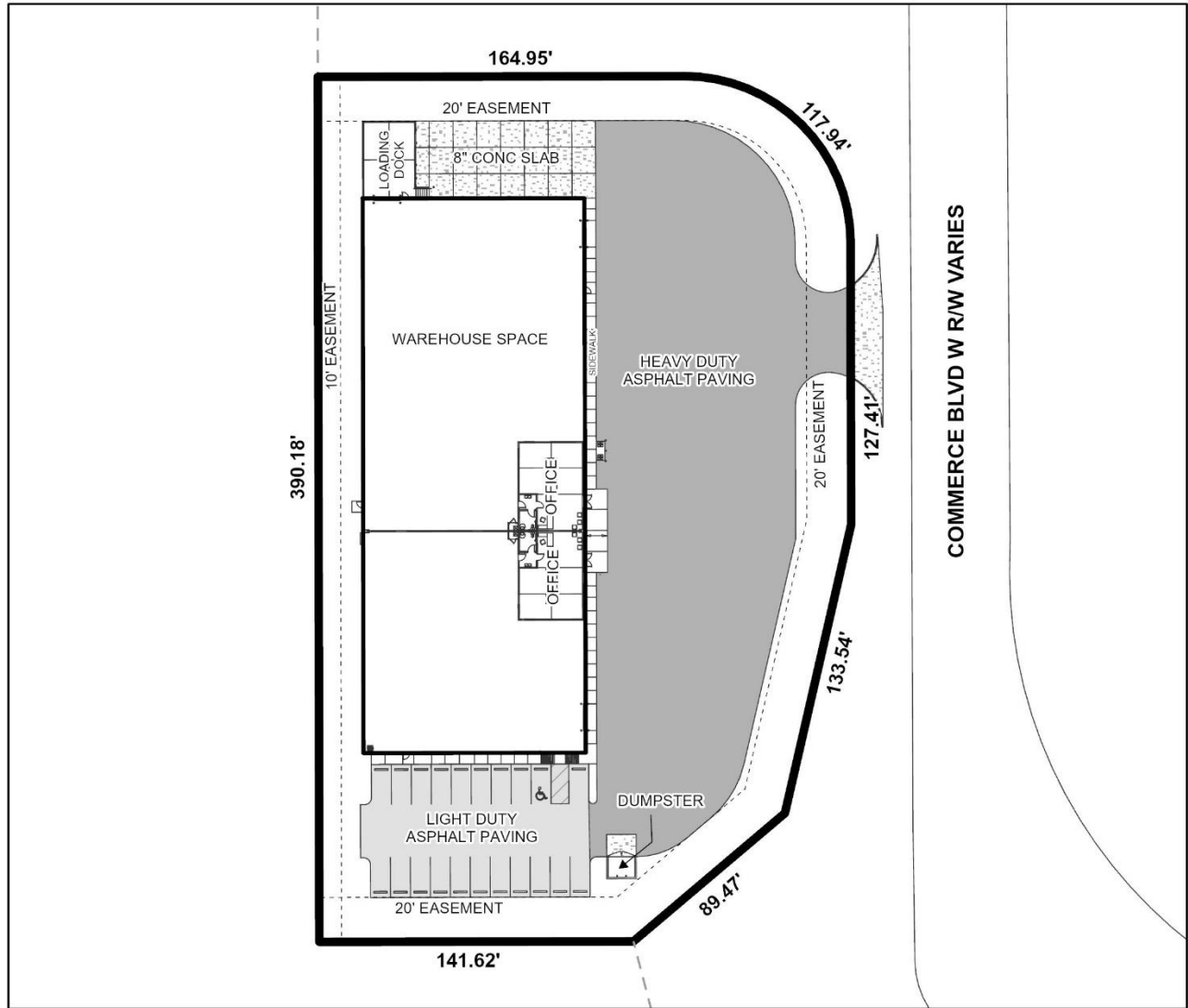


The site is surrounded by industrial and commercial vacant land.

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width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid black;"></span> MM	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightpurple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> I-1	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"></span> MUN	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black;"></span> SD-WH	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-5.1	
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: cyan; border: 1px solid black;"></span> R-A	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: green; border: 1px solid black;"></span> R-3	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: cyan; border: 1px solid black;"></span> B-1	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black;"></span> B-2	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border: 1px solid black;"></span> B-5	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid black;"></span> ML	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: grey; border: 1px solid black;"></span> I-2	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black;"></span> OPEN	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-3	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-5.2																						
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: white; border: 1px solid black;"></span> R-1	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: magenta; border: 1px solid black;"></span> R-B	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: brown; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-B	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: red; border: 1px solid black;"></span> B-3	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: grey; border: 1px solid black;"></span> CW	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: teal; border: 1px solid black;"></span> MH	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: green; border: 1px solid black;"></span> PD	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black;"></span> SD	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-4	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: darkpurple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-6																						
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"></span> R-2	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: peachpuff; border: 1px solid black;"></span> H-B	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> LB-2	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: brown; border: 1px solid black;"></span> B-4	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid black;"></span> MM	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightpurple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> I-1	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"></span> MUN	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black;"></span> SD-WH	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"></span> T-5.1																							



# SITE PLAN



The site plan illustrates the proposed building, parking, and easements.

APPLICATION NUMBER <u>9</u> DATE <u>March 21, 2024</u>	 N  NTS
APPLICANT <u>Ritesh Gupta, Pinnacle, LLC (Eric J. Adams, Clark, Geer, Latham &amp; Associates, Agent)</u>	
REQUEST <u>Rezoning from B-5 to I-2</u>	

**ZONING DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE MATRIX**

		LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LDR)	MIXED DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MIXDR)	DOWNTOWN (DT)	DISTRICT CENTER (DC)	NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - TRADITIONAL (NC-T)	NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER - SUBURBAN (NC-S)	TRADITIONAL CORRIDOR (TC)	MIXED COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (MCC)	LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI)	HEAVY INDUSTRY (HI)	INSTITUTIONAL LAND USE (INS)	PARKS & OPEN SPACE (POS)	DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT (DW)	WATER DEPENDENT USES (WDWRU)
RESIDENTIAL - AG	R-A														
ONE-FAMILY RESIDENCE	R-1	■				■		■					□		
TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCE	R-2	■				■		■					□	○	
MULTIPLE-FAMILY	R-3	○	■			■	■						□	○	
RESIDENTIAL-BUSINESS	R-B		○			■		■					□	○	
TRANSITIONAL-BUSINESS	T-B		○		■	■	■	■					□		
HISTORIC BUSINESS	H-B			■		■		■					□		
VILLAGE CENTER	TCD					■	■						□		
NEIGH. CENTER	TCD					■	■						□		
NEIGH. 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	○	○	○	○	○	○	○		○	○		□		
BUFFER BUSINESS	B-1		□			□	■	■	■				□	○	
NEIGH. BUSINESS	B-2		○			□	■	■	■				□	○	
LIMITED BUSINESS	LB-2		○			□	■	■	■				□	○	
COMMUNITY BUSINESS	B-3				■				■			○	□	○	
GEN. BUSINESS	B-4			■					■			○	□	○	
OFFICE-DISTRIBUTION	B-5								■	■			□	□	
LIGHT INDUSTRY	I-1									■			□	□	□
HEAVY INDUSTRY	I-2										■		□		□

**Zoning District Correspondence Matrix**

- Directly Related
- Elements of the zoning category are related to the future LU category, but with qualifications (such as a development plan with conditions)
- Land use category is appropriate, but the district does not directly implement the category (e.g., open space in an industrial district)

## LIGHT INDUSTRY (LI)

This land use designation applies to an array of modern, low-impact industrial uses that include assembly and processing, warehousing, distribution and wholesaling facilities. The bulk of the light industrial use must be contained within a building or facility. If a light industrial use requires outside storage, the storage must be limited in area and appropriately screened from view in accordance to specific zoning requirements. This designation may also include uses such as complementary offices and retail.

LI also includes areas that may be regarded as “industrial business”, where the land uses include business administration and logistics operations for industrial concerns, building trade contractors facilities and advance research facilities, as well as stand-alone educational, scientific and industrial research facilities, or any combination of those facilities located in light industrial and technology parks. Many parcels used for industrial business are smaller and scattered throughout Mobile. For this reason, these parcels are not singled out in the FLUM, but rather are addressed through zoning.

Light industrial uses are characterized by attractive, accessible and connected development, compatible with the character of surrounding neighborhoods. Development may take the form of planned campuses in park-like settings or unified design corridors, with consideration to factors such as site and building orientation, building design, landscaping and buffering, lighting, continuity of pedestrian networks, access and connectivity to transit and to freight transportation.

Heavy commercial and, in some cases, high-density residential land uses may serve as transitions between LI and other, lower-intensity land use designations. Protection buffers may also be required by zoning.