

PZO-2016-06 requested by Larry Cochran, Parish President for an ordinance to amend Appendix A, the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, Section V.2. making the Digital Zoning Map of the St. Charles Parish Geographic Information System the official Zoning map of the Parish.

Michael Albert: this is a project the Planning Department has worked on with Luis Martinez of the GIS Department for a few months now. We've talked about doing this last year and finally got some capacity to start working on the project. Currently, the parish has an official zoning map adopted by ordinance that comes in two parts, two different scaled maps. What we have right now is a series of paper maps with transparencies on them as you all approve rezonings, we literally take tape, mark those new zoning lines and scan them in a blue line machine, we're operating with technology from the early 80's for the parish's zoning maps. We've worked to proof check what is in those paper maps and what Luis has in the GIS system, Chris our newest Planner on the staff has worked to make sure that both of those maps are representing the same data. We've gone back through ordinances for 10 years making sure that we've picked up on all of these zoning changes and that the system is up to date. What we are doing with the ordinance is we're asking you to evaluate is a total shift taking from our legally binding maps from the paper and transparencies that you can see on page 25 of your agenda, they sit currently in hanging files and are in various states of disrepair quite frankly. This project will allow us to provide data to residents faster through the website, we can look up addresses on the fly now and give accurate information as to what the zoning is and more than that we are able to scan in surveys to get correct parcel level data that can be used in a scale as approved by a surveyor. So not only are we increasing efficiency by not updating literally 3 maps at this point bringing it down to one, but we're providing better and more accurate data to the parish that we will be able to tie into a variety of systems going forward, not just in our office, but through what residents see, through what developers and people in the business community see. This is a first step, but it's a really big first step towards modernizing everything our office does. We hope that both you and the Council support this and we can put those maps away in a month or two. Thank you.

Mr. Booth: Thank you Mr. Albert. Public hearing for PZO-2016-16 for an ordinance to amend Appendix A, the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, Section V.2. moving us into the digital age for the mapping. Anyone to speak for or against? Our presenter is for it. Next we will call for the vote if there are no questions.

The foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	Pierre, Loupe, Granier, Richard, Booth, Frangella, Galliano
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None

Mr. Booth: That passes unanimous and goes before the Council on June 20th. Hopefully the Council will see the light and come to the digital age with us and Zoning.