

St. Charles Parish Department of Planning & Zoning

Land Use Report

Case Number: PZO 2017-03

Introduced by Paul J. Hogan, PE , Councilman-At-Large, Div. B

To exempt outdoor donation bins from building permit requirements if the bin is 36 square feet or less, located on commercially or industrially zoned property, benefitting a non-profit corporation, safely-sited, and well-maintained.

Background

Donation bins for clothing and shoes, clearly marked to show that donations will benefit a non-profit corporation began appearing in convenient locations in the parking lots of businesses some time ago. The markings on these bins allow people to contact someone to verify that the donations are going to a good cause, and to request maintenance of the site.



12125 Hwy 90, Luling



26 Apple St, Norco



12590 River Rd, Destrehan

Over time, additional bins of lower quality, with unclear messages, that are not marked with correct information that allows us to contact the owner or operator, and that do not appear to have any benefit other than profit to the owner—began appearing.



13001 Hwy 90, Boutte



17178 Hwy 90, Paradis



10800 River Rd, St. Rose

Planning and Zoning context

Code Enforcement has been not been able identify a person responsible for maintenance problems with some donation bins. These bins should be removed before they become a nuisance.

Potential outcomes

The proposed ordinance allows Code Enforcement to determine that any donation bin which does not benefit a legitimate non-profit corporation is in violation as an unpermitted structure. Code Enforcement can remove unpermitted structures.