

Reason for Request

In 2017, our family relocated to Alabaster from Washington, D.C. We were thrilled to find a 13-acre property that would allow us to give our children a very different lifestyle than they had experienced in our urban subdivision. We have enjoyed a variety of animals on our property since the move, primarily horses, but we are interested in creating a small hobby farm we can also use as a family-friendly party venue. No additional buildings will be required for this venture, and even without a potential business, our desire is to enjoy the property for more than just horses. When we began our application to the city for the farm business, we realized we are zoned as an estate lot. That zoning will not allow us to use our extensive barn and pastures for any animals except horses. We have made improvements to our property that include being fully fenced with 4 x 4 wire in addition to the existing split rail fencing, establishing a waste management plan with rotational grazing and harrowing of pastures, and a fly management system using natural FlyPredators that are distributed on the property from March-October. Adjacent properties are zoned Agriculture, and the historic use of this property is the same. We request a zoning change from estate lot to agriculture.