

Augusta-Richmond County
Planning Commission
Staff Report

Hearing Date: December 2, 2024

Case Number: SE-24-18

Applicant: Old Time Way Church of God In

Christ

**Property Owner:** Old Time Way Church of

God In Christ

Property Address: 3451 Old McDuffie Road

Tax Parcel No(s): 094-0-027-01-0 Current Zoning: R-1C (One-family

Residential), R-3A and R-3C (Multiple-family

Residential)

Fort Eisenhower Notification Required: N/A

Commission District 4: Alvin Mason Super District 9: Francine Scott



REQUEST	PROPOSED USE/ACTIVITY	APPLICABLE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION(S)
Special Exception	Cemetery	Section 26-1(m)

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The petition seeks a special exception for 5 acres of a 30.76-acre tract located at 3451 Old McDuffie Road. The property is currently situated in the R-1C (One-family Residential) and R-3A and R-3C (Multiple-family Residential) zones. The portion of the property being affected by this request is entirely in the R-3A zone. No future development is planned for the proposed cemetery site.

## **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONSISTENCY:**

According to the 2023 Comprehensive Plan, the property is located in the South Augusta Character Area. The 2023 Comprehensive Plan's vision for the South Augusta Character Area includes the continued mix of housing types at low to medium density to preserve the suburban-style, single-family residential character that is predominant in the area. Recommended development patterns for the South Augusta Character Area include maintaining low density single-family residential development in areas where it is already the predominant land use, infill residential development at densities compatible with the surrounding area and to place additional commercial development at major intersections.



#### **FINDINGS:**

- 1. The property contains a surface parking lot but remains vacant.
- 2. On Tuesday, March 19, 2002, the Augusta Commission approved zoning case (Z-02-19) for a proposed senior living apartment complex with the following conditions:
  - 1. That a 50-foot undisturbed natural buffer be retained along all portions of the subject property that adjoin existing single-family residences.
  - 2. That a solid board fence 6 feet in height be erected and maintained by the church on the entire property line adjacent to where the apartments would be located.
  - 3. That the proposed use be limited to a 60-unit senior citizen center or those uses allowed in an R-1C zone.
- 3. In January of 2012, the Augusta Commission approved special exception (Z-12-01) to allow for a church on the property. The church has not been built and the owners will be required to obtain approval of a new special exception prior to constructing a church on the property.
- 4. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Function Classification Map, 2017, classifies this section of Old McDuffie Road as a local road. There are no transit routes or stops located within a half mile of the property.
- 5. The property is located outside of the 100-year Special Flood Hazard Area and there are no wetlands located on the property.
- 6. Adjacent zoning districts surrounding the property include R-1C, R-3C and B-2 (General Business) to the north, A (Agricultural), R-1C, R-1E (One-family Residential) and R-MH (Manufactured Home Residential) to the south, A and R-1C to the east and R-1C and R-MH to the west.
- 7. The request is consistent with the 2023 Comprehensive Plan as property located on a local residential street that dead-end approximately 1,400 feet from the subject property and is situated primarily adjacent to A and R-1-C zoned properties.
- 8. A survey submitted with the application shows that the proposed cemetery will be formed with the creation of a new 5-acre tract. The parcel of land is in the southern portion of the tract and has direct abutting access Old McDuffie Road.
- 9. As completion of this report, staff have received one call in opposition concerning this special exception application.

#### **ENGINEERING/UTILITIES COMMENTS:**

**Traffic Engineering Comments:** 

None received at this time

**Engineering Comments:** 

None received at this time

**Utilities Comments:** 

None received at this time

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Planning Commission recommends <u>Approval</u> of the special exception request with the following condition(s):



- 1. Creation of a 5-acre cemetery in the southern portion of the property according to the survey filed with the application is the preferred location.
- 2. A 50-foot undisturbed natural buffer be retained along all portions of the subject property that adjoin existing single-family residences.
- 3. A 10-foot planted buffer shall be installed along the front parcel of Old McDuffie Road that serves as the cemetery.
- 4. The cemetery shall only have access through the existing asphalt parking lot. There will be no new curb cut.

NOTE: This staff report includes the information available approximately two weeks prior to the Planning Commission hearing. It represents an evaluation of the facts presented by the applicant, research done by the staff, and consideration of the relevant factors in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of Augusta, Georgia. New facts may emerge, and staff reserves the right to make a verbal recommendation at the hearing based on all the information available at that time.

# OLD TIME WAY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

3450 Old McDuffie Road Augusta, Georgia 30815 (706) 796-8540



Pastor, Supt. Mark Walden Chairman, Deacon Jessie Tarver Co-Chairman, Deacon James Lampkin Assistant Secretary, Missionary Dianne Roberson

September 16, 2024

Augusta Georgia Department of Planning and Development **Planning Division** 535 Telfair Street, Suite 300 Augusta, Georgia 30901

### LETTER OF INTENT REGARDING 3451 Old McDuffie Road Parcel# 0940027010

To the Department of Planning and Development:

We the Old Time Way Church of God in Christ Church is submitting a letter of intent to the Department of Planning and Development to propose 5.00 acres tract for a cemetery at our property 3451 Old McDuffie Road, Augusta, Georgia 30906.

Please note that out of a total of 30.63 acres which includes the 5.00 acres tract for a cemetery. The only thing that exists at 3451 is the parking lot that is being used for our services overflow.

Our future, plan is to build a Family Life Center. However, there are no plans to move forward at this time.

Yours in Christ,

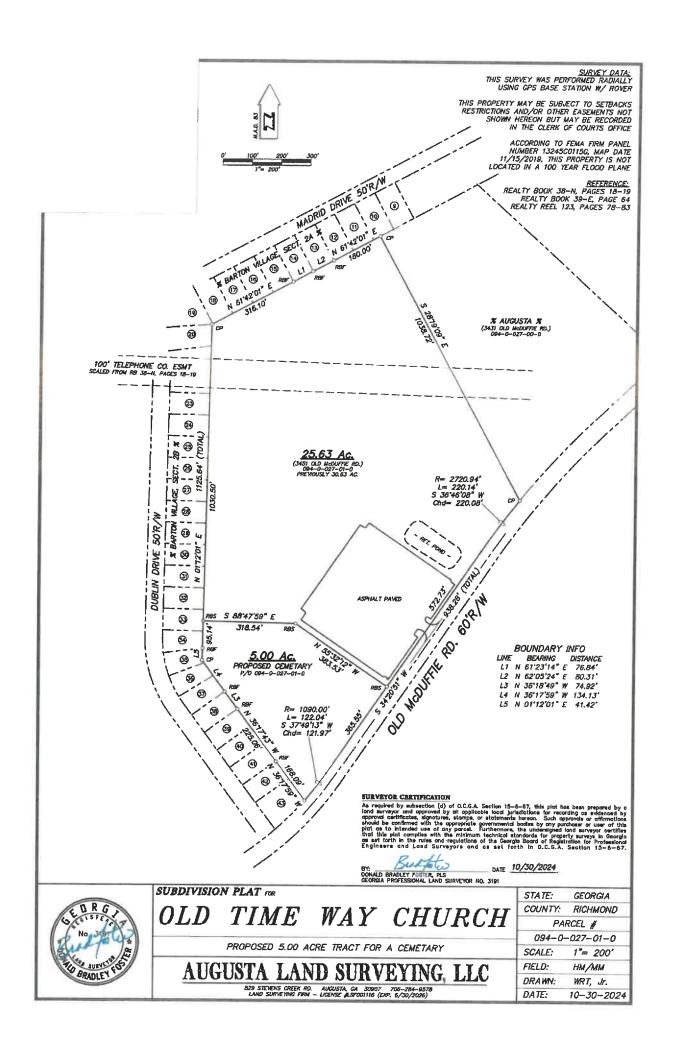
Jessie Tarver Jessie TARVER

Deacon Jessie Tarver, Chairman

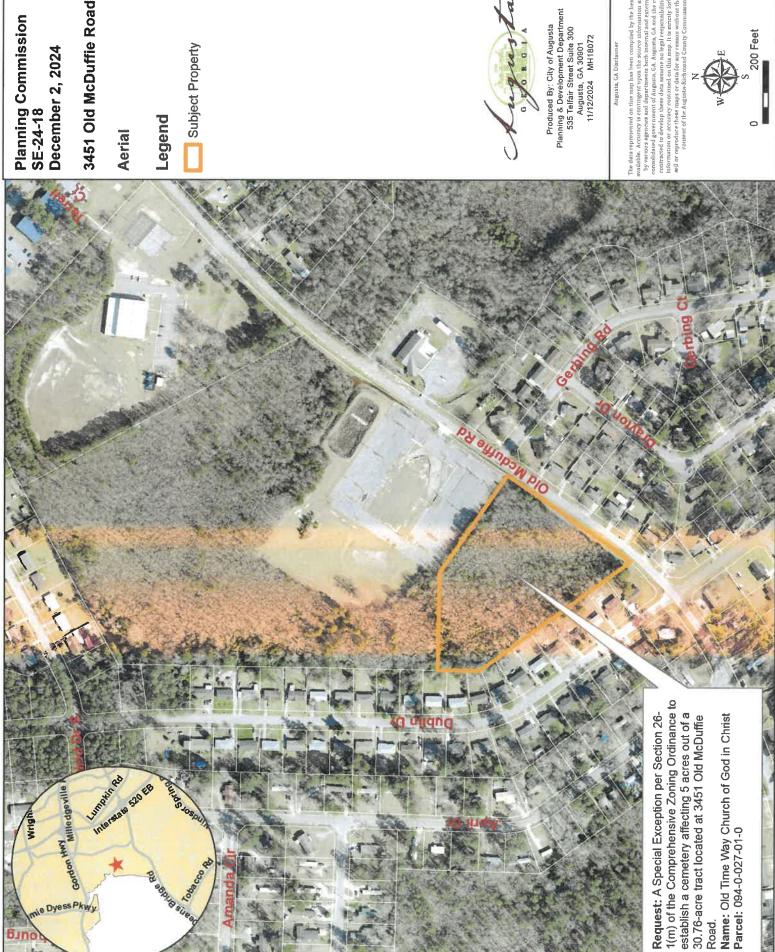
Trustee Board

JAMES LAMPKIN Deacon James Lampkin, Co-Chairman,

Trustee Board







Planning Commission SE-24-18 December 2, 2024

3451 Old McDuffie Road

Subject Property



