

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION HEARING EXAMINER

October 10, 2024

Case Number: 2024-ZON-114

Property Address: 1751 South Lawndale Avenue

Location: Wayne Township, Council District #17

Petitioner: Indianapolis Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Trust Fund, by

David Kingen and Emily Duncan

Current Zoning: I-2, I-3, and SU-46

Reguest: Rezoning of 5.31 acres from the I-2, I-3, and SU-46 district to the I-2 district

to provide for industrial uses.

Current Land Use: Industrial uses / undeveloped land

Staff

Recommendations: Approval, subject to the commitments noted below:

Staff Reviewer: Kathleen Blackham, Senior Planner

PETITION HISTORY

This is the first public hearing on this petition.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approval, subject to the following commitments being reduced to writing on the Commission's Exhibit "B" forms at least three days prior to the MDC hearing:

- A 45-foot half right-of-way shall be dedicated along the frontage of West Minnesota Street, as
 per the request of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Engineering Division. Additional
 easements shall not be granted to third parties within the area to be dedicated as public right-ofway prior to the acceptance of all grants of right-of-way by the DPW. The right-of-way shall be
 granted within 60 days of approval and prior to the issuance of an Improvement Location Permit
 (ILP).
- 2. The existing Black Walnut trees shall be preserved.
- 3. The site and improved areas within the site shall be maintained in a reasonably neat and orderly manner during and after development of the site with appropriate areas and containers / receptables provided for the proper disposal of trash and other waste.



PETITION OVERVIEW

This 5.31-acre site, zoned I-2, I-3, and SU-46, is comprised of two parcels. The northern parcel is undeveloped, and the southern parcel is developed with industrial uses and associated parking. It is surrounded by industrial uses to the north, across West Minnesota Street, zoned I-2; industrial uses to the south, zoned I-3, industrial uses to the east, zoned I-2 and I-3; and Interstate 465 right-of-way to the west, zoned C-S.

The request would rezone both parcels to the I-2 (Light Industrial) District. "The I-2 district is for those industries that present minimal risk and typically do not create objectionable characteristics (such as dirt, noise, glare, heat, odor, etc.) that extend beyond the lot lines. Outdoor operations and storage are completely screened if adjacent to protected districts and are limited throughout the district to a percentage of the total operation. Wherever possible, this district is located between a protected district and a heavier industrial area to serve as a buffer. For application to the older industrial districts within the central city, standards specifically accommodate the use of shallow industrial lots."

The Comprehensive Plan recommends light industrial typology, with an Industrial Reserve (IR) overlay. This overlay is intended for areas that are prime for industrial development due to factors such as large parcel size, proximity to compatible uses, and/or interstate access.

As proposed, this request would be consistent with the Plan recommendation of light industrial. The site is surrounded by industrial uses and Interstate 465. Consequently, this rezoning would not result in any negative impact on surrounding land uses.

Staff, however, observed several Black Walnut trees on the northern half of the site and would request that those trees be preserved as future development occurs.

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works, Traffic Engineering Section, has requested the dedication and conveyance of a 45-foot half right-of-way along West Minnesota Street. This dedication would also be consistent with the Marion County Thoroughfare Plan.

Environmental Public Nuisances

The purpose of the Revised Code of the Consolidated City and County, Sec.575 (Environmental Public Nuisances) is to protect public safety, health and welfare and enhance the environment for the people of the city by making it unlawful for property owners and occupants to allow an environmental public nuisance to exist.



All owners, occupants, or other persons in control of any private property within the city shall be required to keep the private property free from environmental nuisances.

Environmental public nuisance means:

- 1. Vegetation on private or governmental property that is abandoned, neglected, disregarded or not cut, mown, or otherwise removed and that has attained a height of twelve (12) inches or more;
- 2. Vegetation, trees or woody growth on private property that, due to its proximity to any governmental property, right-of-way or easement, interferes with the public safety or lawful use of the governmental property, right-of-way or easement or that has been allowed to become a health or safety hazard;
- 3. A drainage or stormwater management facility as defined in Chapter 561 of this Code on private or governmental property, which facility has not been maintained as required by that chapter; or
- 4. Property that has accumulated litter or waste products, unless specifically authorized under existing laws and regulations, or that has otherwise been allowed to become a health or safety hazard.

Staff would request a commitment that emphasizes the importance of maintaining the site in a neat and orderly manner at all times and provide containers and receptables for proper disposal of trash and other waste.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Existing Zoning	I-2 / I-3 / SU-46	
Existing Land Use	Industrial uses / undeveloped	
Comprehensive Plan	Light Industrial	
Surrounding Context	Zoning	Land Use
North:	Ī-2	Industrial uses
South:	I-3	Industrial uses
East:	I-2 / I-3	Industrial uses
West:	C-S	Interstate 465 right-of-way
Thoroughfare Plan		
Lawndale Avenue	Local Street	Existing 40-foot right-of-way and proposed 50-foot right-of-way.
East Minnesota Street	Primary Collector	Existing 40-foot right-of-way and proposed 90-foot right-of-way.



Context Area	Metro
Floodway / Floodway Fringe	No
Overlay	Yes. Transit-Oriented Development / Industrial Reserve
Wellfield Protection Area	No
Site Plan	September 5, 2024
Site Plan (Amended)	N/A
Elevations	N/A
Elevations (Amended)	N/A
Landscape Plan	N/A
Findings of Fact	N/A
Findings of Fact (Amended)	N/A
C-S/D-P Statement	N/A

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANALYSIS

Comprehensive Plan

The Light Industrial typology provides for industrial, production, distribution, and repair uses
conducted within enclosed structures and unlikely to create emissions of light, odor, noise, or
vibrations. This typology is characterized by freestanding buildings or groups of buildings, often within
industrial parks. Typical uses include warehousing, self-storage, assembly of parts, laboratories,
wholesaling, and printing. Industrial or truck traffic should be separated from local/residential traffic.

Pattern Book / Land Use Plan

The Comprehensive Plan consists of two components that include The Marion County Land Use Pattern Book (2019) and the land use map. The Pattern Book provides a land use classification system that guides the orderly development of the county and protects the character of neighborhoods while also being flexible and adaptable to allow neighborhoods to grow and change over time.

The Pattern Book serves as a policy guide as development occurs. Below are the relevant policies related to this request.

The Pattern Book also provides guidance related to overlays and whether an overlay adds, modifies, or removes the recommended land uses within the base typology. This site lies within the Transit-Oriented Development and Industrial Reserve overlays.



- Overlays
 - Overlays are used in places where the land uses that are allowed in a typology need to be adjusted. They may be needed because an area is environmentally sensitive, near an airport, or because a certain type of development should be promoted. Overlays can add uses, remove uses, or modify the conditions that are applied to uses in a typology."
- Conditions for All Land Use Types Light Industrial Typology
 - Industrial truck traffic should not utilize local, residential streets.
 - Streets internal to industrial development must feed onto an arterial street.
 - Removed as a recommended land use where they would be adjacent to a living or mixeduse typology
- Modified Uses Transit-Oriented Development Overlay
 - Light Industrial Uses Development should be supportive of pedestrian activity (e.g. compact, connected to a pedestrian system, no more than one third of the frontage used for parking.) Only small-scale light industrial uses are appropriate in this overlay.

Red Line / Blue Line / Purple Line TOD Strategic Plan

- The Blue Line Transit-Oriented Development Strategic Plan (2018).
- This site is also located within an overlay, specifically the Transit Oriented Development (TOD), which is intended for areas within walking distance of a transit station. The purpose of this overlay is to promote pedestrian connectivity and a higher density than the surrounding area.
- This site is located within a ½ mile walk of a proposed transit stop located at the intersection of West Washington Street and High School Road with a Community Center typology that consists or varying types of commercial developments, from the large strip centers to shopping malls, along arterial corridors. Development opportunities vary from redevelopment into mixed-use, walkable patterns to multi-family residential infill development.
- Characteristics of the Community Center typology are:
 - Mix of retail, entertainment, office, and residential as desired.
 - Surface parking should be consolidated and placed behind buildings, allowing a pedestrian orientation at the street, while still supporting drive-to business
 - Cluster of multi-family, single-family on fringe



Neighborhood / Area Specific Plan

Not Applicable to the Site.

Infill Housing Guidelines

Not Applicable to the Site.

Indy Moves

(Thoroughfare Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, Greenways Master Plan)

- The Marion County Thoroughfare Plan (2019) "is a long-range plan that identifies the locations classifications and different infrastructure elements of roadways within a defined area."
- The following listed items describe the purpose, policies and tools:
 - Classify roadways based on their location, purpose in the overall network and what land use they serve.
 - o Provide design guidelines for accommodating all modes (automobile, transit, pedestrians, bicycles) within the roadway.
 - Set requirements for preserving the right-of-way (ROW)
 - o Identify roadways for planned expansions or new terrain roadways
 - o Coordinate modal plans into a single linear network through its GIS database



ZONING HISTORY

2022-ZON-083; **1751 South Lawndale Avenue**, requested rezoning of 1.237 acres from the SU-46 district to the I-2 district, **dismissed**.

2006-DV2-057; **1751 South Lawndale Avenue**, requested a variance of development standards to provide for a sign with a height exceeding the Ordinance, **approved**.

2001-HOV-016; **1701**, **1735** & **1751** South Lawndale Avenue (south of site), requested a variance of development standards to provide for deficient front and side setbacks, **approved**.

VICINITY

2020-ZON-074; 5830, 5832, 5836, 5840 and 5842 West Minnesota Street, 1600 and 1616 Lindley Avenue and 5900 Plainfield Avenue (north of site), requested the rezoning of 3.26 acres from the D-A, D-3 and SU-46 districts to the I-3 district, approved.

2019-UV3-001; **5900**, **5946**, **5959**, **5954** and **6002** West Minnesota Street (north of site), requested a variance of use to provide for a fleet terminal in a I-2 district and variances of development standards to provide for deficient side and rear transitional yards and parking exceeding the amount permitted in a front yard, **approved**.

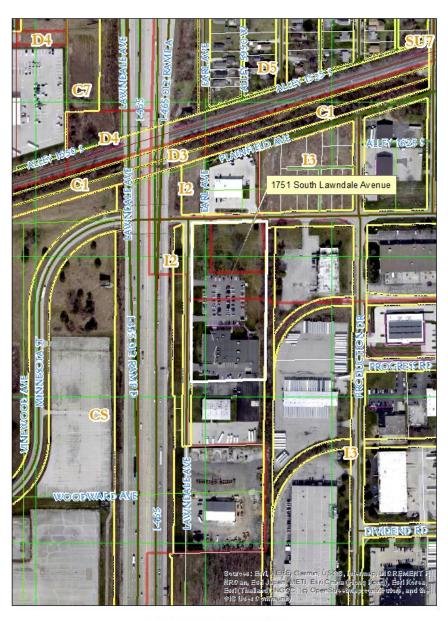
2017-ZON-011; 5900, 5946, 5959, 5954 and 6002 West Minnesota Street (north of site), requested the rezoning of 2.16 acres from the D-3 and SU-16 districts to the I-2 district, approved.

2013-UV2-012; **5811 West Minnesota Street (east of site),** requested a variance of use to provide for a detention center in an industrial district, **approved.**

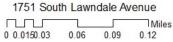
2000-ZON-861; **1820-1901 South Lawndale Avenue (west of site),** requested the rezoning of 5.9 acres from the I-3-S district to the C-S district to provide for I-3-S uses, motels, hotels, and auto rental and parking, **approved.**



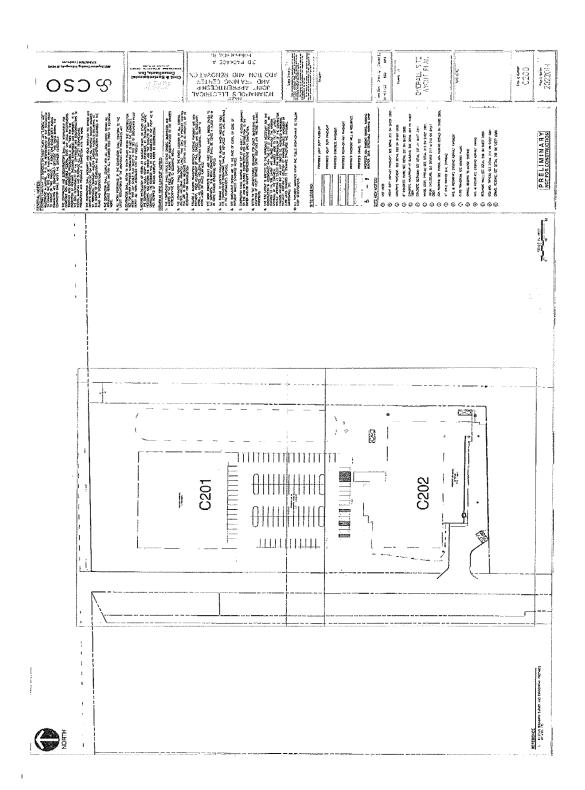
EXHIBITS



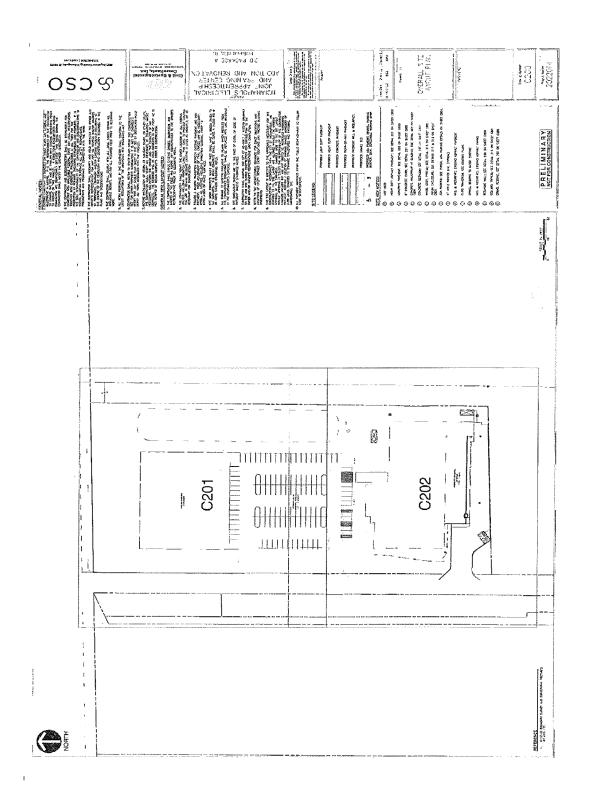




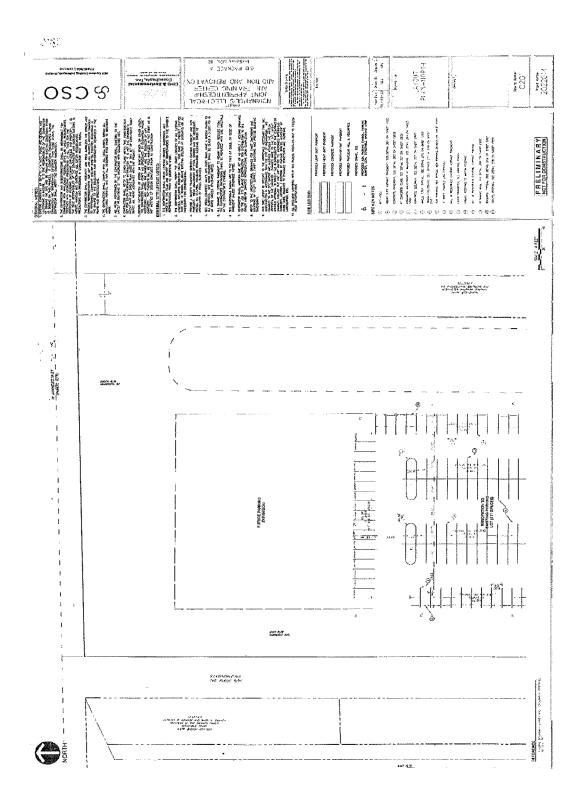




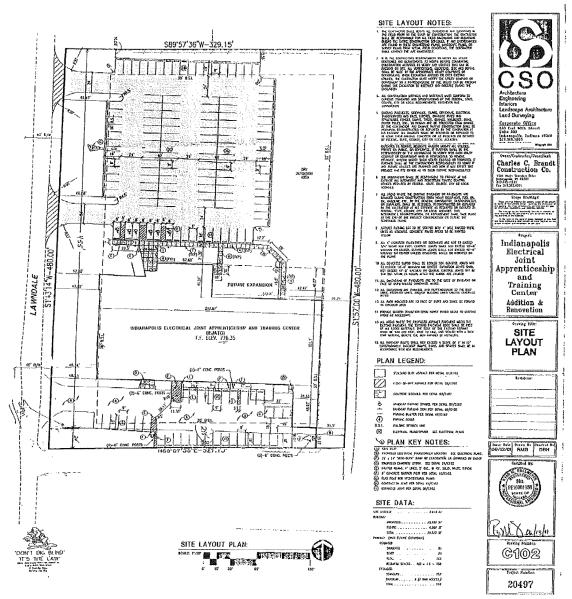
















View looking south along Lawndale Avenue



View looking north along Lawndale Avenue





View looking east along West Minnesota Street



View looking northwest across intersection of Lawndale Avenue and West Minnesota Street





View looking northeast across intersection of Lawndale Avenue and West Minnesota Street



View of site looking east across Lawndale Avenue





View of site looking east across Lawndale Avenue



View of site looking east across Lawndale Avenue





View of site looking southeast across Lawndale Avenue



View of site looking east across Lawndale Avenue





View of site looking northeast across Lawndale Avenue