Public Hearing: YES ⊠ **NO** □ **Department:** Planning & Sustainability

SUBJECT:

COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): Commission District 03 Super District 07

Application of Leopold Ewing to rezone property from O-I (Office-Institution) zoning district to NS (Neighborhood Shopping) zoning district to allow a restaurant with no drive through, at 5488 Flat Shoals Parkway.

PETITION NO: N3-2025-1622 Z-26-1247784

PROPOSED USE: Restaurant, with no drive through.

LOCATION: 5488 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, Georgia 30034

PARCEL NO.: 15 066 01 001

INFO. CONTACT: John Reid, Sr. Planner

PHONE NUMBER: 404-371-2155

PURPOSE:

Application of Leopold Ewing to rezone property from O-I (Office-Institution) zoning district to NS (Neighborhood Shopping) zoning district to allow a restaurant with no drive through.

RECOMMENDATION:

COMMUNITY COUNCIL: (Dec. 2025) Denial.

PLANNING COMMISSION: (Jan. 6, 2026) Pending.

PLANNING STAFF: Approval with Conditions.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The subject site contains an existing 1,792 square foot vacant single-family structure. Based on field investigation, it appears that there may have been some work without a land disturbance permit since there is a gravel parking area on site that is not allowed by the zoning ordinance. The property is currently zoned O-I (Office Institutional) with conditions that restrict the use to a storage building for the church to the southwest across Flat Shoals Parkway (See CZ-87177). Since the applicant desires to use the existing structure as a sit-down restaurant (no drive-through), a rezoning to a commercial zoning district such as the proposed NS district is required. The property falls within a Suburban (SUB) Character Area. The intent of the SUB is to "recognize those areas of the county that have developed in traditional suburban land use patterns while encouraging new development to have increased connectivity and accessibility". Furthermore, SUB character areas intend to "allow limited non-residential development and small mixed-use developments outside of existing, stable single-family neighborhoods, particularly in locations with high levels of pedestrian connectivity, to meet the needs of surrounding residents" (2050 Comprehensive Plan, SUB Character Area Mixed Use and Non-Residential policy, page 47). It appears that the proposed rezone request to Neighborhood Shopping district, along with Staff's recommended conditions is consistent with these policies of the SUB Character Area. Furthermore, it appears that the proposed project aligns with the purpose and intent of the NS district to "provide for the development of new Neighborhood Shopping Districts where so designated on the comprehensive plan especially for commercial uses in Suburban character areas", and "to assure that the size and scale of neighborhood shopping centers and individual uses within said centers are compatible with the scale of adjoining neighborhoods". The NS district allows sit-down restaurants but prohibits drive--through restaurants which may be more compatible with surrounding single-family neighborhoods. Given the applicant is proposing to limit the scale of the proposed

restaurant use to the size and one-story building height of the existing structure, and that the NS district appears to better align with commercial uses specifically in SUB character areas, it appears that the rezoning request is consistent with the goals of the SUB Character Area and the 2050 comprehensive plan and compatible with the surrounding single-family neighborhoods [(Section 7.3.5.A Consistency with Comprehensive Plan) and 7.3.5.B (Suitability of Land Use)]. One of Staff's recommended conditions is to require that an approved Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) be obtained prior to issuance of any certificate of occupancy to address any potential site related issues including but not limited to paving of the parking lot, perimeter and interior parking lot landscaping, providing the minimum number of required parking spaces, sufficient provision of stormwater management, and providing sidewalks and street trees along the Medlock Road property frontage. Additionally, the DeKalb County Transportation Department has indicated provision for right-of-way dedication and installation of sidewalks, landscaping improvements, and streetlights (see attached inter-governmental comments). Therefore, upon review of Section 7.3.5. (Rezoning criteria) it is the recommendation of the Planning and Sustainability Department that the rezoning request be "Approved, with the attached conditions".

PLANNING COMMISSION VOTE: (January 6, 2026) Pending.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL VOTE/RECOMMENDATION: (December 2025) Denial 6-2-0. The reasons listed for denial were as follows: Denial due to the uncertainty of the use of this property in conjunction with the adjoining property, the amount of asphalt that needs to be placed, the topography of the land, the possible impacts on the single-family homes to the East of this property.

Z-26-1247784 (2025-1622) Recommended Conditions – Jan. 2026 5488 Flat Shoals Parkway

- 1. Use shall be located in a building no greater in size or height than the existing 1,792 square foot, one-story building on the property.
- 2. Compliance with parking requirements including paved parking spaces and internal and external parking lot landscaping requirements.
- 3. Approval of a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) will be required prior to the issuance of any building permits. The applicant shall provide all site-related improvement required by an LDP prior to issuance of any certificates of occupancy.
- 4. Prior to the issuance of any certificates of occupancy, the applicant shall either obtain written permission from the DeKalb County Health Department that the project can operate with septic, or that the project has been connected to sanitary sewer.
- 5. The approval of this SLUP application by the Board of Commissioners has no bearing on the requirements for other regulatory approvals under the authority of the Zoning Board of Appeals, or other entity whose decision should be based on the merits of the application under review by such entity.



DeKalb County Government Services Center 178 Sams Street Decatur, GA 30030 404-371-2155

 $\frac{www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning}{https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning-and-sustainability/public-hearing-agendas-info}$

Planning Commission Hearing Date: January 6, 2026 Board of Commissioners Hearing Date: January 22, 2026

STAFF ANALYSIS

CASE NO.:	Z-26-1247784	File ID #: 2025-1622
Address:	5488 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur	Commission District: 3 Super District: 7
Parcel ID(s):	15 066 01 001	
Request:	A request to rezone from O-I (Office I allow a sit-down restaurant.	nstitutional) to NS (Neighborhood Shopping) District to
Property Owner(s):	5488 Flat Shoals Parkway.	
Applicant/Agent:	Leopold Ewing	
Acreage:	0.8 acre	
Existing Land Use:	Vacant Single-Family structure	
Surrounding Properties:	North: NA—Avondale Estates; South: Gas Station; East: Multi-Family Apartments; West: Retail & Single-Family Residential	
Adjacent Zoning:	North: R-100 South: R-100 East: R-100 West: O-I	
Comprehensive Plan:	SUBURBAN (SUB) _X Cons	stent Inconsistent

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

The subject site contains an existing 1,792 square foot vacant single-family structure. Based on field investigation, it appears that there may have been some work without a land disturbance permit since there is a gravel parking area on site that is not allowed by the zoning ordinance. The property is currently zoned O-I (Office Institutional) with conditions that restrict the use to a storage building for the church to the southwest across Flat Shoals Parkway (See CZ-87177). Since the applicant desires to use the existing structure as a sit-down restaurant (no drive-through), a rezoning to a commercial zoning district such as the proposed NS district is required.

The property falls within a Suburban (SUB) Character Area. The intent of the SUB is to "recognize those areas of the county that have developed in traditional suburban land use patterns while encouraging new development to have increased connectivity and accessibility". Furthermore, SUB character areas intend to "allow limited non-residential development and small mixed-use developments outside of existing, stable single-family neighborhoods, particularly in locations with high levels of pedestrian connectivity, to meet the needs of surrounding residents" (2050 Comprehensive Plan, SUB Character Area Mixed Use and Non-Residential policy, page 47). It appears that the proposed rezone request to Neighborhood Shopping district, along with Staff's recommended conditions is consistent with these policies of the SUB Character Area.

Furthermore, it appears that the proposed project aligns with the purpose and intent of the NS district to "provide for the development of new Neighborhood Shopping Districts where so designated on the comprehensive plan <u>especially for commercial uses in Suburban character areas</u>", and "to assure that the size and scale of neighborhood shopping centers and individual uses within said centers are compatible with the scale of adjoining neighborhoods". The NS district allows sit-down restaurants but prohibits drive--through restaurants which may be more compatible with surrounding single-family neighborhoods.

Given the applicant is proposing to limit the scale of the proposed restaurant use to the size and one-story building height of the existing structure, and that the NS district appears to better align with commercial uses specifically in SUB character areas, it appears that the rezoning request is consistent with the goals of the SUB Character Area and the 2050 comprehensive plan and compatible with the surrounding single-family neighborhoods [(Section 7.3.5.A Consistency with Comprehensive Plan) and 7.3.5.B (Suitability of Land Use)]. One of Staff's recommended conditions is to require that an approved Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) be obtained prior to issuance of any certificate of occupancy to address any potential site related issues including but not limited to paving of the parking lot, perimeter and interior parking lot landscaping, providing the minimum number of required parking spaces, sufficient provision of stormwater management, and providing sidewalks and street trees along the Medlock Road property frontage. Additionally, the DeKalb County Transportation Department has indicated provision for right-of-way dedication and installation of sidewalks, landscaping improvements, and streetlights (see attached inter-governmental comments).

Therefore, upon review of Section 7.3.5. (Rezoning criteria) it is the recommendation of the Planning and Sustainability Department that the rezoning request be "*Approved, with the following conditions*":

- 1. Use shall be located in a building no greater in size or height than the existing 1,792 square foot, one-story building on the property.
- 2. Compliance with parking requirements including paved parking spaces and internal and external parking lot landscaping requirements.
- 3. Approval of a Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) will be required prior to the issuance of any building permits. The applicant shall provide all site-related improvement required by an LDP prior to issuance of any certificates of occupancy.
- 4. Prior to the issuance of any certificates of occupancy, the applicant shall either obtain written permission from the DeKalb County Health Department that the project can operate with septic, or that the project has been connected to sanitary sewer.
- 5. The approval of this SLUP application by the Board of Commissioners has no bearing on the requirements for other regulatory approvals under the authority of the Zoning Board of Appeals, or other entity whose decision should be based on the merits of the application under review by such entity.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Government Services Center 178 Sams Street Decatur, GA www.dekalbcountyga.gov

Chief of Executive OfficerDirectorLorraine Cochran-JohnsonJuliana A. Njoku

Zoning Comments January 2026

Z-26-1247832 (2025-1620) 3792 Memorial College Drive:

Memorial College Drive is classified as a collector road. Please refer to the requirements in Zoning Code 5.4.3 and Land Development Code 14-190. Requires a right of way dedication of 35 feet from centerline OR such that all public infrastructure is within right of way, whichever greater. Requires a 10-foot landscape strip with a 6-foot sidewalk and 4-foot bike lane or a 10-foot multi-use path. It requires pedestrian scale streetlights.

Z-26-1247833 (2025-1621) 8277 Norris Lake Way:

Norris Lake Way is classified as local roads. Please refer to the requirements in Zoning Code 5.4.3 and Land Development Code 14-190. Requires a right of way dedication of 27.5 feet from centerline OR such that all public infrastructure is within right of way, whichever greater. Requires a 5-foot landscape strip with a 5-foot sidewalk. It requires pedestrian scale streetlights. Adjacent street Norris Lake Drive is classified as a Collector. Please refer to the requirements in Zoning Code 5.4.3 and Land Development Code 14-190. Requires a right of way dedication of 35 feet from centerline OR such that all public infrastructure is within right of way, whichever greater. Requires a 10-foot landscape strip with a 6-foot sidewalk and 4-foot bike lane or a 10-foot multi-use path. It requires pedestrian scale streetlights. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.

Z-26-1247784 (2025-1622) 5488 Flat Shoals Parkway:

Flat Shoals Parkway is classified as a Major Arterial, also a Georgia State Route. Refer to the requirements in Zoning Code 5.4.3 and Land Development Code 14-190. If not already in place: Requires a right of way dedication of 75 feet from the centerline of roadway, all public infrastructure must be within right of way. Requires a 10-foot multiuse path with pedestrian scale streetlights.

SLUP-26-1247822 (2025-1623) 3396 Chamblee-Tucker Road:

Chamblee Tucker Road is classified as a Minor Arterial. SLUP does not change the existing shoulders or curb cuts. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.

SLUP-26-1247825 (2025-1624) 2931 Ward Lake Way:

Ward Lake Way is classified as a local road. SLUP does not change the existing shoulders or curb cuts. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.

SLUP-26-1247829 (2025-1625) 3915 Emerald North Drive:

Emerald North Drive is classified as a local road. SLUP does not change the existing shoulders or curb cuts. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.

Z-26-1247827 (2025-1626) 4493 Flakes Mill Road (4400 River Road):

Flakes Mill Road is classified as a Minor Arterial. Refer to the requirements in Zoning Code 5.4.3 and Land Development Code 14-190. The right-of way dedication of 35 feet minimum from centerline to allow all public infrastructure is within right of way. Requires a 10-foot multiuse path, with pedestrian streetlights. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.

SLUP-26-1247841 (2025-1627) 4493 Flakes Mill Road (4400 River Road):

Flakes Mill Road is classified as a local road. SLUP does not change the existing shoulders or curb cuts. Verify that all access points have intersection and stopping sight distance as described by AASHTO.



Wednesday, November 19, 2025

To: Mr. John Reid, Senior Planner

From: Ryan Cira, Director, Division of Environmental Health

Cc: Alan Gaines, Deputy Director, Division of Environmental Health

Re: Rezone Application Review

General Comments:

DeKalb County Health Regulations prohibit use of on-site sewage disposal systems for

- multiple dwellings
- food service establishments
- hotels and motels
- commercial laundries
- funeral homes
- schools
- nursing care facilities
- personal care homes with more than six (6) clients
- child or adult day care facilities with more than six (6) clients
- residential facilities containing food service establishments

If proposal will use on-site sewage disposal, please contact the Land Use Section (404) 508-7900.

Any proposal, which will alter wastewater flow to an on-site sewage disposal system, must be reviewed by this office prior to construction.

This office must approve any proposed food service operation or swimming pool prior to starting construction.

Public health recommends the inclusion of sidewalks to continue a preexisting sidewalk network or begin a new sidewalk network. Sidewalks can provide safe and convenient pedestrian access to a community-oriented facility and access to adjacent facilities and neighborhoods.

For a public transportation route, there shall be a 5ft. sidewalk with a buffer between the sidewalk and the road. There shall be enough space next to sidewalk for bus shelter's concrete pad installation.

Since DeKalb County is classified as a Zone 1 radon county, this office recommends the use of radon resistant construction.

N1-2025-1620	Z-26-1247832
3792 Memorial College Drive, Clarkston, GA	30021
- See general comments	
N2-2025-1621	Z-26-1247833
8277 Norris Lake Way, Snellville, Ga 30039	
- See general comments	
N3-2025-1622	Z-26-1247784
5488 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, Ga 3003	34

- Septic Diagram record from on file from 1999.
- DeKalb County Health Regulations prohibit use of on-site sewage disposal systems for
 - food service establishments

N4-2025-1623	SLUP-26-1247822
3396 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Chamblee, G	a 30341
- See general comments	
N5-2025-1624	SLUP-26-1247825
2931 Ward Lake Way, Ellenwood, GA 3029	4
Child day care facilitySee general comments	

N6-2025-1625

SLUP-26-1247829

3915 Emerald North Drive, Decatur, GA 30035

- Personal care home
- See general comments

N7-2025-1626

Z-26-1247827

4493 Flakes Mill Road, Ellenwood, Ga 30394

- Child Day Care
- DeKalb County Health Regulations prohibit use of on-site sewage disposal systems for
 child or adult day care facilities with more than six clients.

N8-2025-1627

SLUP-26-1247841

4493 Flakes Mill Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294

- Child Day Care
- DeKalb County Health Regulations prohibit use of on-site sewage disposal systems for
 child or adult day care facilities with more than six clients.



DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION FORM

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN ALL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS TO JOHN REID jreid@dekalbcountyga.gov AND/OR LASONDRA HILL lahill@dekalbcountyga.gov

Γhe f	ollowing areas below may warrant comments from the Development Division. Please respond accordingly as the issues relate to the
orop	osed request and the site plan enclosed as it relates to Chapter 14. You may address applicable disciplines.
	LOPMENT ANALYSIS:
,	ransportation/Access/Row
•	Storm Water Management
	Flood Hazard Area/Wetlands
•	-lood Hazard Area/wetlands
	andscaping/Tree Preservation
	Lanuscaping/Tree Freservation
•	ributary Buffer

Fire Safety			



DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION FORM

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REZONE COMMENTS FORM:

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD AND DRAINAGE

Case No.:		Parcel I.D. #:	
Drainage Basin:			
Upstream Drainage Area:			
Percent of Property in 100-Ye	ear Floodplain:		
Impact on property (flood, ero	osion, sedimentation) unde	r existing zoning:	
Required detention facility	(s):		
COMMENTS:			
	Signature:	Akin Akinsola	



DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION FORM

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN ALL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS TO JOHN REID <u>ireid@dekalbcountyga.gov</u> AND/OR LASONDRA HILL <u>lahill@dekalbcountyga.gov</u>

COMMENTS FORM: PUBLIC WORKS TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

Case No.: Z-26-1247784	Parcel I.D. #s: 15 066 01 001
Address: 5488 Flat Shoals Parkway,	Decatur 30034
	Adjacent Roadway (s):
	(classification) (classification)
Capacity (TPD) Latest Count (TPD) Hourly Capacity (VPH) Peak Hour. Volume (VPH) Existing number of traffic lanes Existing right of way width Proposed number of traffic lanes Proposed right of way width	Capacity (TPD) Latest Count (TPD) Hourly Capacity (VPH) Peak Hour. Volume (VPH) Existing number of traffic lanes Existing right of way width Proposed number of traffic lanes Proposed right of way width
average of fifteen (15) vehicle trip end (VTE) per 1, 000	fic Engineers (ITE) 6/7th Edition (whichever is applicable), churches generate an square feet of floor area, with an eight (8%) percent peak hour factor. Based on the worship building would generate vehicle trip ends, with approximately
factor. Based on the above referenced formula, the	rate ten (10) VTE's per day per dwelling unit, with a ten (10%) percent peak hour (Single Family Residential) District designation which allows a maximum of the sapproximately acres in land area, daily vehicle trip end, and a residential development of the parcel.
	traffic engineering concerns
	Signatura (Parry) (1) Lit.



DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION FORM

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COMMENTS FORM: PUBLIC WORKS WATER AND SEWER

Case No.:	Parcel I.D. #:		
Address:			
WATER:			
Size of existing water main:		(adequate/inadequate)	
Distance from property to nearest main:	Size of lin	required, if inadequate:	
SEWER:			
Outfall Servicing Project:			
Is sewer adjacent to property: Yes	No If no, distance to nearest line:	:	
Water Treatment Facility:	adequate inadequ	uate	
Sewage Capacity:	(MGPD) Current Flow:	(MGPD)	
COMMENTS:			

Signature:

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Rezoning Application to Amend the Official Zoning Map of DeKalb County, Georgia

Applicant Name: Leopold Ewing
Applicant Email Address: Thespot4975@gmail.com
Applicant Mailing Address: 3945 Elmscourt Dr Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Applicant Phone Number: 8183552390
Owner Name: Leopold Ewing (If more than one owner, attach list of owners.)
Owner Email Address: Thespot4975@gmail.com
Owner Mailing Address: 3945 Elmscourt Dr Stone Mountain, Ga 30083
Owner Phone Number: 8183552390
Subject Property Address: 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy Decatur Ga 30034
Parcel ID Number(s): 15 066 01 001
Acreage:8 Commission District(s): Super District:
Existing Zoning District(s): Ol Proposed Zoning District(s): C-1
Existing Land Use Designation(s): 101-Res Proposed Land Use Designation(s): Commercial (if applicable)
I hereby authorize the staff of the Planning and Sustainable Department to inspect the property that is the subject of this application.
Owner: X Agent: Signature of Applicant:

Rezoning Application Letter

The Spot Caribbean Cuisine 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy Decatur, Ga 30034 404.981.9973 thespot4975@gmail.com August 04, 2025

Planning & Zoning Department
Dekalb County Planning & Sustainability
178 Sam St
Decatur. Ga 30030

Re: Rezoning Application – Request to Rezone Property from OI (Office Institutional) to C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial)

Dear Members of the Planning and Zoning Board:

On behalf of Leopold Ewing/The Spot Caribbean Cuisine, I respectfully submit this request to rezone the property located at [Property Address] from **OI** (**Office Institutional**) to **C-1** (**Neighborhood Commercial**). The property is currently improved with a single-story structure, approximately 20 feet in height, that was previously used as an office accessory for a church. We are seeking approval to repurpose the building into a **daytime breakfast restaurant** operating under the name *The Spot Caribbean Cuisine*.

Proposed Use and Operations

The restaurant will operate with hours of **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**, serving the community during breakfast and lunch hours only. The establishment will have a **maximum capacity of fewer than 50 people, including staff**, ensuring a neighborhood-scale business consistent with the intent of the C-1 zoning classification. The limited size and daytime-only hours will help maintain compatibility with nearby uses and avoid burdensome impacts on traffic, schools, or utilities.

Justification for Rezoning Request

- **Economic Viability:** The property, under its current OI zoning, offers limited opportunities for economic growth. Transitioning to C-1 zoning will unlock the property's potential by fostering job creation, increasing local tax contributions, and stimulating nearby businesses through greater foot traffic and neighborhood activity.
- **Compatibility with Surrounding Uses:** The proposed use will not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties. Instead, it is expected to enhance the area by increasing vibrancy and attracting additional investment, consistent with neighborhood-serving commercial activity.

- Changing Conditions and Community Needs: The existing structure is in need of revitalization. Community input has highlighted a desire for a local breakfast spot that serves as both an amenity and a gathering place. This proposal directly addresses those needs, aligning with broader planning

objectives for reinvestment and walkability.

- Historic Preservation: The property is not located within a historic district and does not contain any

historic or archaeological resources. Redevelopment of this non-historic site ensures that preservation

goals are maintained while allowing growth in appropriate areas.

- Infrastructure and Public Services: The project will not create excessive demand on streets,

utilities, or schools. The limited hours of operation and modest occupancy will result in minimal traffic and noise impacts, while avoiding conflict with nearby school schedules.

- Environmental Impact: As an already developed site, the proposed use will not adversely affect

natural resources or the environment. Redevelopment offers opportunities for site enhancements,

including improved landscaping, sustainability measures, and stormwater management within the

existing footprint.

Conclusion

Rezoning this property from OI to C-1 will enable a sustainable, neighborhood-oriented business that contributes positively to the community's economy, character, and quality of life. The proposed

breakfast restaurant represents a compatible and beneficial use of the property, ensuring long-term

vitality while respecting the surrounding context.

We respectfully request your approval of this rezoning application. Thank you for your consideration,

and I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this request further at the upcoming hearing.

Sincerely,

Leopold Ewing

Owner

The Spot Caribbean Cuisine

Impact Analysis

A. Is the zoning proposal in conformity with the policy and intent of the Comprehensive Plan?

Yes, the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of DeKalb County's most recent Comprehensive Plan. The proposed rezoning aligns with the Plan's overarching goals of promoting sustainable growth, supporting economic development, and advancing community-oriented objectives. Our application supports the strategic direction outlined in the Comprehensive Plan by encouraging responsible land use, enhancing neighborhood vitality, and contributing to the long-term vision for balanced and inclusive development within the county.

B. Will the zoning proposal permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby properties?

Yes. The proposed zoning is suitable given the current use and development of adjacent and nearby properties. The site is surrounded primarily by residential neighborhoods and includes an unoccupied former church, which creates an opportunity for thoughtful redevelopment. The proposed use is designed to complement the existing community by providing a welcoming, accessible space that meets local needs. Our project will enhance the area by promoting daytime activity, offering convenient services to nearby residents, and contributing to the neighborhood's vibrancy through quality offerings and warm, community-focused service. The property has strong potential for reasonable economic use under its current zoning. A restaurant such as *The Spot Caribbean Cuisine* represents an economically viable and community-oriented use of the space. Restaurants often serve as catalysts for neighborhood revitalization by drawing consistent foot traffic, encouraging ancillary businesses, and enhancing the vibrancy of the surrounding area.

Economically, the establishment will generate direct benefits through job creation for local residents and the stimulation of workforce participation. Indirectly, it will support the growth of nearby businesses as increased visitors frequent retail shops, service providers, and other dining options. Furthermore, the restaurant will contribute to the local tax base, supporting municipal services and infrastructure improvements.

Beyond economics, the project fosters social value by offering a welcoming space for cultural exchange and community engagement. The restaurant can partner with local organizations, host events, and contribute to charitable initiatives, reinforcing a sense of belonging and civic pride. By combining economic viability with social contribution, the property clearly has a sustainable and beneficial use under its current zoning.

C. Does the property to be affected by the zoning proposal have a reasonable economic use as currently zoned?

No. The property, as currently zoned, offers only limited use, restricting its potential to contribute to the community's economic vitality. Under the existing designation, opportunities for job creation, business development, and community engagement are minimal, leaving the site underutilized.

This lack of flexibility prevents the property from supporting meaningful economic growth or generating consistent revenue for the local tax base. Without the ability to adapt to modern commercial needs, the property cannot attract new investment, stimulate surrounding businesses, or provide sustainable employment opportunities. In effect, its current zoning limits the site's value to both the community and the broader local economy.

By contrast, a rezoning that allows for a more dynamic use—such as a restaurant or other community-oriented business—would unlock the property's potential, making it a hub for economic activity, cultural engagement, and neighborhood revitalization.

D. Will the zoning proposal adversely affect the existing use of usability of adjacent or nearby properties?

No, the proposed zoning change will not negatively affect the use or usability of surrounding properties. On the contrary, it is expected to complement and enhance the area by increasing foot traffic, fostering a more vibrant streetscape, and encouraging additional investment.

The proposed use is compatible with nearby properties and will not create nuisances such as excessive noise, traffic congestion, or safety concerns. Instead, it will provide amenities that benefit both residents and neighboring businesses, improving the overall attractiveness and functionality of the area.

In many cases, developments of this type strengthen property values by creating a more active and desirable environment, which can lead to long-term stability and growth for the neighborhood. Therefore, the proposal is not only non-disruptive but also potentially beneficial to adjacent and nearby properties.

E. Are there other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal?

Yes. The property's existing structure is in need of significant revitalization, and its current condition does not maximize its potential contribution to the neighborhood. Leaving the site underutilized not only diminishes the economic value of the property but also limits opportunities for the community to benefit from its redevelopment.

Approval of the zoning proposal would allow for a use that directly aligns with community desires—specifically, the establishment of a local breakfast spot. This type of neighborhood-serving business enhances the character of the community by creating a welcoming gathering place, supporting small business development, and providing an accessible amenity for nearby residents.

Furthermore, the proposal is consistent with broader planning objectives, as it encourages reinvestment in aging properties, promotes walkability by attracting local foot traffic, and strengthens the local tax base. By improving the site and meeting a demonstrated community need, the zoning change advances public welfare, enhances neighborhood vitality, and is in harmony with both existing and future land-use goals.

F. Will the zoning proposal adversely affect historic building, sites, districts, or archaeological resources?

No. The property does not contain any historically significant structures, sites, or archaeological resources, nor is it located within a designated historic district. Therefore, the proposed zoning change will not result in any adverse impacts to historic or cultural resources.

In fact, approving reinvestment in a non-historic property can help direct growth and redevelopment away from areas with historic or archaeological significance. By channeling investment toward sites without preservation value, the proposal indirectly supports broader preservation goals by protecting truly historic assets from unnecessary pressure or alteration.

This ensures that the zoning change is fully compatible with preservation policies while still promoting community revitalization and economic growth.

G. Will the zoning proposal result in a use which would or could cause excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools?

No. The proposed use will not place an excessive or burdensome demand on existing infrastructure or community resources. The size of the establishment and its limited hours of operation (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM) ensure that impacts on traffic, parking, and noise will remain minimal.

Importantly, the hours of operation avoid peak school traffic times, reducing any potential conflicts with nearby school zones. In addition, the nature of the proposed use does not create demand on local schools or significantly increase the need for public services. Utilities required for the business are well within the capacity of existing infrastructure, and no upgrades or expansions will be necessary to support the project.

Overall, the proposal is compatible with existing transportation facilities, utilities, and community services, and will integrate smoothly into the surrounding area without creating undue strain.

H. Will the zoning proposal adversely impact the environment or surrounding natural resources?

No. The property is an already developed site, and the proposed zoning change will not result in any adverse impact on the environment or surrounding natural resources. Since the project involves revitalizing and enhancing the existing structure, rather than disturbing undeveloped land, it avoids potential concerns such as habitat disruption, soil erosion, or harm to protected environmental features.

On the contrary, redevelopment of the site presents an opportunity to make improvements that could benefit the local environment, such as upgrading landscaping, implementing energy-efficient systems, or improving stormwater management within the existing footprint. These enhancements will not only maintain environmental stability but also contribute to a more sustainable and visually appealing property.

DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Conflict of Interest in Zoning Act, OCGA Chapter 36-67A, the following questions must be answered.

Have you, the applicant, made \$250.00 or more in campaign contribution to a local government official within two years immediately preceding the filling of this application?

If the answer is yes, you must file a disclosure report with the governing authority of DeKalb County showing:

- 1. The name and official position of the local government official to whom the campaign contribution was made.
- The dollar amount and description of each campaign contribution made during the two years immediately preceding the filing of this application and the date of each such contribution.

The disclosure must be filed within 10 days after the application is first filed and must be submitted to the C.E.O. and to the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur, GA 30030.

Notary

Notary

Signature of Applicant /Date

Check one: Owner Agent

COUNTY

Check one: Owner Agent

Expiration Date/ Seal

^{*}Notary seal not needed if answer is "No".

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Notary

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Country

Coun

Expiration Date/ Seal

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THE SPOT CARIBBEAN CUSINE 5488 FLAT SHOALS PKWY DECATUR, GA 30034 818.355.2390

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

I hope this message finds you well. We would like for you to attend our in-person community meeting Monday, June 2nd, 2025 at 6PM-7:30PM to discuss the rezoning of 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy. We will host the meeting at our primary business location, The Spot Sports Bar & Grill - 4975 Flat Shoals Pkwy. We are seeking approval from Dekalb County to rezone said location to propose a family-oriented daytime restaurant.

Find out more about our proposal, ask questions, and voice your opinion at this meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!

BEST REGARDS,

Leo Ewing

Owner

THE SPOT CARIBBEAN CUISINE THE SPOT SPORTS BAR & GRILL

5488 FLAT SHOALS PKWY/4975 FLAT SHOALS PKWY 818.355.2390/JENNINGS.MICHELE24@GMAIL.COM

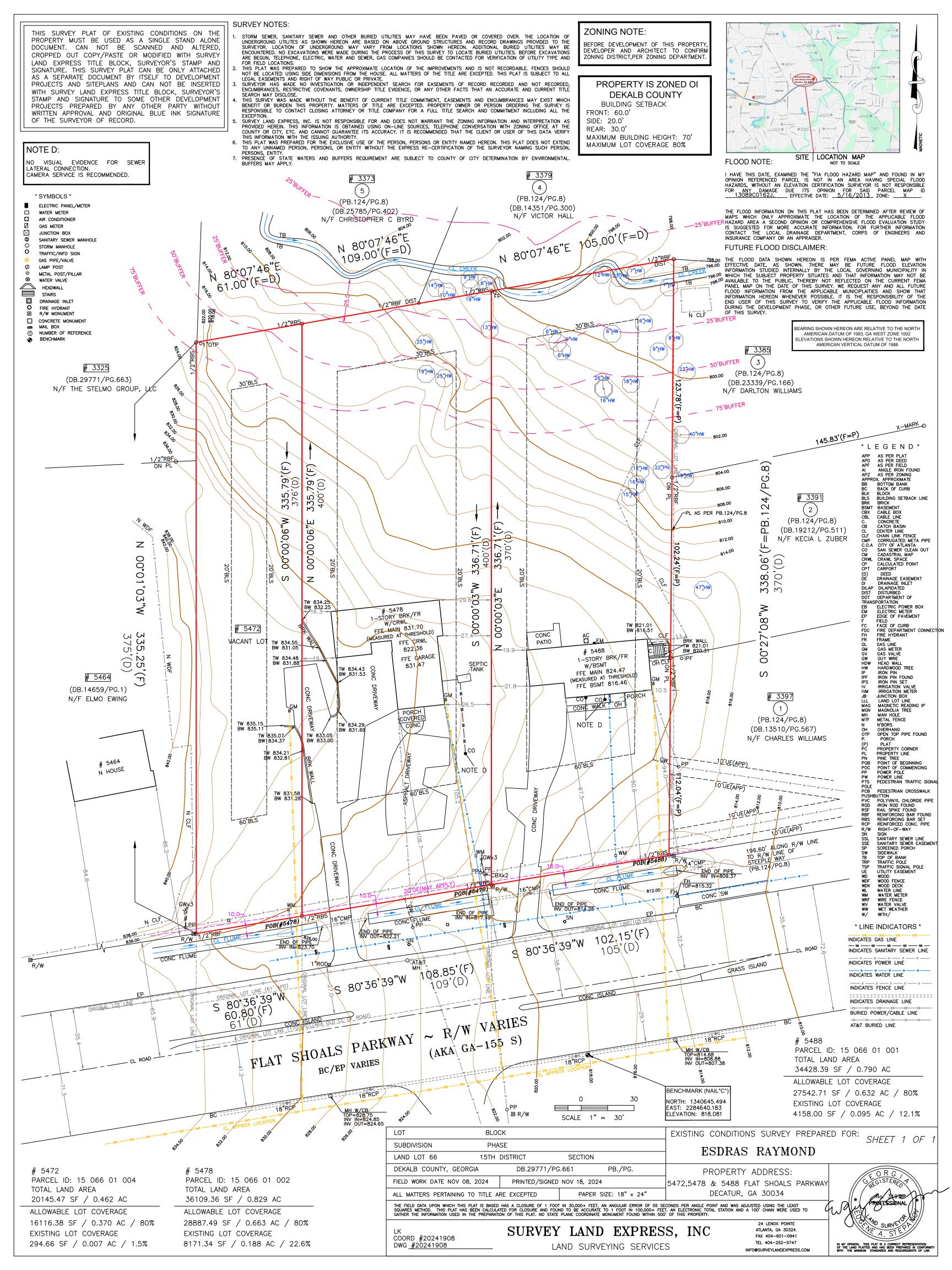
6/2/25 Preliminary Meeting Community Rezoning 5488 Flat Shouls Parkery First Name MASON 4356 Lisambar, De GRE 1/241-0016 gmason 43569 yahoo.or B:11:195 5965 Old Wellson 404-484-0774 monetous servis billings 84 (2) gran Nichola 5967 Old Wellson 678-770-0347 Uch nich 111@gmail.ca VALENZE PHILPPS JEWEY 3134 SHERWOOD OAKS KAR 678.592-8453 PHIPPS JEWY // B, YAHOO. COM Darby 3373 Steeple Way 770-835-2198 Tomiky-darby@halmail.ocom Tomike 3373 Steeple Way Chris Byrd 4-207-8964 cbyrd404@ hotmail.com Susan Freeman 2979 Pinnacle Ct, Dec, GA (628)237-5355 Sysan-freeman CMSN. Com Cotten Taylor 4195 Pepperdine Dr Die Gd 404 7865464 Cottentaylorrealty 29 mg.l. com Stefanie Zuber 3391 Steeple Way 4.964.7966 oncofgods vessel that have Janae gones Bet 1276 Vanity Dr. 4.371 6729 jones 1276 @yahro. com Carolys Jones 3793 Seton Hall Dr 30034 404960164 Candyne Jones Sild Kakus 4116 Marquette C+ Decator, GA xxxx Kennetu Banks @ 3876372 1<1776 USa@ jeuno com Carter 3700 Selmentally Dr. 4/210 3180 6- centrellattites Beddy 2427 Rock End Dove Conky Go 4/309-6323 indcompeting bellsouthing hickie Malcon 4/243-4459 vonethooges@att. Not 3114 Panthers Trace V. (todas 7/3102943 wgriertorownebell south net Portion 3227 Wyndhamfark Way 30034 Wagueta. 4/229/5456 Idonuell@bellsonth.net Linging 3053 Thre Apple Dr U Donnie 4) 831-71/3 mblurple oad com 4318 Dogwood Trail Marcia Johes PO Box 360323 Decature GA 240-429-2013 Book That Singe & grail con 3564 Wester Chapel RA E-214 Decelor, 64 6745256500 Lajacksonji agmalican Jackson

Preliminary Meeting Community 6/2/15 Resummy

First NAM LAST Name Address
Prodecate Thomas 30109 Branchest Dr 300384 404734-5032 recommond@gnail.com

Jones Baker 3340 Pinchurst Volley Dr. 404-4225806 Toxysballer Bylanos.com







Government Services Center 178 Sams Street Decatur, GA 30030 www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning 404-371-2155 (o); 404-371-4556 (f)

Chief Executive Officer

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Interim Director

Lorraine Cochran-Johnson Cedric G. Hudson, MCRP

PRE-APPLICATION FORM REZONE, SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT, MODIFICATION, AND LAND USE

(Required prior to filing application: signed copy of this form must be submitted at filing)

Applicant Name: Leo Ewing Phon	404-981-9973 kingleoent2016@gmail.com
Property Address: 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur 3	30034
Tax Parcel ID: Comm. Distric	t(s): Acreage:
Existing Use: Pro	posed Use:
Supplemental Regs: Overlay Distric	
Rezoning: Yes No	
Existing Zoning: O-I Proposed Zoning: C-1?	? Square Footage/Number of Units:
Rezoning Request: Rezone to allow a restaurant with	n no drive-through.
applicant wants to use existing building.	
Land Use Plan Amendment: Yes No	
Existing Land Use: Proposed Land Use:	ConsistentInconsistent
Special Land Use Permit: Yes No Article Num	ber(s) 27
Special Land Use Request(s):	
Major Modification:	
Existing Case Number(s): CZ-87177	
Condition(s) to be modified:	
CZ-87177	



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU FILE YOUR APPLICATION

Pre-submittal Community Meeting: Review Calendar Dates:	PC:BOC:
Letter of Intent:Impact Analysis: Owner Authorization(s):	_ Campaign Disclosure:
Zoning Conditions: Community Council Meeting: 06/11/2 Pub	olic Notice, Signs:
Tree Survey, Conservation: Land Disturbance Permit (LDP):	Sketch Plat:
Bldg. Permits: Fire Inspection: Business License:	State License:
Lighting Plan: Tent Permit: Submittal Format: NO STAPL	ES, NO BINDERS PLEASE
Review of Site Plan	
Density: Density Bonuses: Mix of Uses:	Open Space:
Enhanced Open Space: Setbacks: front sides side	e corner rear
Lot Size: Frontage: Street Widths: Landsca	ape Strips:
Buffers: Parking Lot Landscaping: Parking - Auto:	Parking - Bicycle:
Screening: Streetscapes: Sidewalks:Fencing/V	Walls:
Bldg. Height: Bldg. Orientation: Bldg. Separation: Bldg	. Materials:
Roofs: Fenestration: Façade Design: Garages:	Pedestrian Plan:
Perimeter Landscape Strip:	
Possible Variances: 50 foot transitional undisturbed buffer required along north and east property line, this would consume half of the existing building so a ZBA variance wo	uld be required
Comments: Applicant to clairfy if the other two O-I zoned parcels to west are also	part of application
Applicant to show how proposed rezoning is consistent with SUBURBAN character area and compatible with adjacent	
Show compliance with C-1 zoning requirements including but not limited to minimum parking spaces, max building height, 50-foot wide transitional buffers, building se	
Chow compliance that of 1 20ming requirements including but not immed to imminish parking spaces, may building require to that building building se	iouns.
Planner: John Reid, Sr. Planner Date: 01/30/2025	
FILING FEES	
REZONING: RE, RLG, R-100, R-85, R-75, R-60, MHP, RSM, MR-1	\$500.00
RNC, MR-2, HR-1, HR-2, HR-3, MU-1, MU-2, MU-3, MU-4, MU-5 OI, OD, OIT, NS, C1, C2, M, M2	\$750.00 \$750.00
O1, OD, O11, N3, C1, C2, IVI, IVI2	\$750.00
LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT	\$500.00
SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT	\$400.00



Lorraine Cochran-Johnson

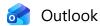
Government Services Center 178 Sams Street Decatur, GA 30030 www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning 404-371-2155 (o); 404-371-4556 (f)

Chief Executive Officer DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Interim Director Cedric G. Hudson

PRE-APP FORM ADDITIONAL COMMENT PAGE, IF NEEDED

APPLICANT: Leo Ewing: kingleoent2016@gmail.com or thespot4975@gmail.com
ADDRESS/PARCEL: 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur 30034 / 15 066 01 001
COMMENTS: last day to hold community meeting with 15 days notice to make the July agenda cycle is April 14, 2025. Filing deadline
is April 21 2025. Review are preliminary only; final reviews shall occur once a complete
application has been submitted and deemed complete by the Planning Department.
Variances will be required including variance to 50-foot undisturbed buffer along east property
line abutting R-100 residential zoning district.
John Reid, Sr. Planner



- Z-26-1247784 - 5488 Flat Shoals Pkwy Inbox

From Michele Lisette Jennings aka Mello Yello <jennings.michele24@gmail.com>

Date Thu 12/4/2025 1:57 PM

To Reid, John < jreid@dekalbcountyga.gov>; Leopold ewing < leoewing73@yahoo.com>

Greetings, Mr. Reid,

We would like to change our application filing from C1 to NS.

Thank you Michele



Michele Lisette Jennings Actor, Producer, Narrator, Project Manager

M: 818-355-2390 O: 202-940-6500

E: jennings.michele24@gmail.com



Site photo

From: john reid (dakiner1@yahoo.com)

To: dakiner1@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:32 PM EST



Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Site photo

From: john reid (dakiner1@yahoo.com)

To: dakiner1@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:38 PM EST



Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Site photo

From: john reid (dakiner1@yahoo.com)

To: dakiner1@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:32 PM EST



Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Fw: Site photo

From: john reid (dakiner1@yahoo.com)

To: dakiner1@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:44 PM EST

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: "john reid" <dakiner1@yahoo.com>

To: "dakiner1@yahoo.com" <dakiner1@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wed, Dec 10, 2025 at 12:43 PM

Subject: Site photo



about:blank 1/2

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

about:blank 2/2

