

Gautier Planning Commission

Regular Meeting Agenda

December 6, 2018

GPC #18-22-VAR

2100 Soundview Drive Variance Request

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2100 SOUNDVIEW DRIVE – REQUEST FOR A VARIANCE ALLOWING A DECREASE IN THE FRONT PROPERTY SETBACK FROM THE REQUIRED TWENTY-FIVE (25) FEET TO TWELVE (12) FEET IN AN R-1 LOW DENSITY SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT (GPC CASE #18-22-VAR)

GAUTIER PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS (PLANNING COMMISSION)

Planning Commission Chairman to follow procedure below. All questions/comments to be directed to the Council and not to applicant, staff, or other attendees of the meeting.

1. Chairman announces the case.
2. Chairman makes statement, "This is a Public Hearing and all statements to be made need to be true and accurate for the record."
3. Staff gives brief overview of case.
4. Applicant presents their case.
5. Anyone to speak in support of the Request? Please state your name and address for the record.
6. Anyone to speak in opposition of the Request? Please state your name and address for the record.
7. Any final comments from the applicant?
8. Questions from Commission?
9. Chairman closes public hearing – "This closes the Public Hearing portion of this case" bang of gavel
10. Motion/Deliberation/Vote

CITY OF GAUTIER STAFF REPORT

To: Chairman and Members, Planning Commission

From: Scott Ankerson, Planning Director

Date: December 6, 2018

Subject: 2100 Soundview Drive – Request for a variance allowing a decrease in front property set back requirements from the minimum requirement of twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet in an R-1 zoning district. (GPC Case No. 18-22-VAR)

REQUEST:

The Planning Department has received a request from Don Gautier for a Variance allowing the decrease in front property set back requirements from the minimum front setback requirement of twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet in an R-1 Low Density Single Family Residential Zoning District at 2100 Soundview Drive, PID #87100016.000. The application fee of \$175 was paid on October 16, 2018. All public notice requirements have been met.

BACKGROUND:

The request property is zoned R-1 Low Density Single Family Residential District. The property had previously had a home located on it before Katrina. That house was destroyed by the storm and the house and slab have been cleared away for the purpose of the proposed new house on the property. The property is peculiar in that the property elevation drops drastically toward the south. The proposed decrease in minimum property setbacks from twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet would allow the house to be more protected from flood waters, high tides, and wind driven waters.

DISCUSSION:

The property owner would like to be granted a variance for a decrease of minimum property setbacks of twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet for a principle structure in an R-1 Low Density Single Family Residential District. The proposed new structure is located in AE and VE Flood Zones. The property is also peculiar in that the elevation drops drastically toward the south. By granting the property owner this variance the structure will be more protected from flood waters, high tides, and wind driven waters.

DETERMINATION OF APPLICABLE LAW:

The Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) defines **Variances** as:

A Variance is a relaxation of the terms of the Unified Development Ordinance where

such Variance will not be contrary to the public interest and where, owing to conditions peculiar to the property, a literal enforcement of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary or undue hardship. As used in this Ordinance, a Variance is authorized only for height, area and size of structure, or size of yards, separation of uses, open spaces, off-street parking spaces and some subdivision of property. The establishment or expansion of a use not permitted shall not be allowed by Variance.

The UDO defines **Hardship** as:

Hardship means the exceptional hardship that would result from a failure to grant the requested variance. The City requires that the variance is exceptional, unusual, and peculiar to the property involved. Mere economic or financial hardship alone is not exceptional. Inconvenience, aesthetic considerations, physical handicaps, personal preferences, or the disapproval of one's neighbors likewise cannot, as a rule, qualify as an exceptional hardship. All of these problems can be resolved through other means without granting a variance, even if the alternative is more expensive, or requires the property owner to build elsewhere or put the parcel to a different use than originally intended.

The UDO defines **Setback** as:

SETBACK: (SEE YARD) The minimum horizontal distance between the lot or property line and the nearest front, side or rear line of the building as measured to the outside face at the enclosing wall or in structures lacking walls (as in the case of a carport) to the face of the supporting columns and beams. Setback does not include roof overhangs, except that they shall not encroach on more than fifty (50) percent of the required setback.

- A. **SETBACK, FRONT:** The yard area extending along the full width of a front lot line between side lot lines and from the front lot line to the front building line in depth.
- B. **SETBACK, REAR:** The yard area extending across the full width of the lot and lying between the rear lot line and the nearest line of the building. Rear-yard depth shall be measured at right angles to the rear line of the lot.
- C. **SETBACK, SIDE:** The yard area lying between the side line of the lot and the nearest line of the building and extending from the front yard to the rear yard, or in the absence of a front yard or a rear yard, to the front or rear lot lines. Side-yard width shall be measured at right angles to side lines of the lot.

UDO SECTION 4.18: Variance

In certain circumstances, a Variance from the dimensional requirements (i.e. height, setbacks, square footage) of this ordinance may be granted if the applicant can prove that because of physical constraints of the property involved, he is not able to build the same type of structure that other persons with the same zoning classification can build. Variances for uses permitted will not be considered in as much as “use Variances” are not legal in the State of Mississippi.

Most Variances must be granted by the City Council; however, certain minor Variances may be granted by the Economic Development Director in accordance with *Section 4.18.3* below.

4.18.1 Who May Initiate

A request for a Variance may be initiated by the property owner or agent of the owner provided that said property has not been denied a previous request for a Variance for the same property or portion of property within the past twelve (12) months.

4.18.2 Application for Variance

Applications for a Variance (from dimensional requirements) may be filed on the appropriate application available from the Economic Development/Planning Department and shall include all requested information, attachments and submittals:

4.18.3 Administrative Variances

The following dimensional variances may be granted by the Economic Development Director at his/her discretion (Note: Within the COR, Corridor Overlay District, applicants shall be required to mitigate a requested dimensional variance in accordance with the Tier Land Use Provisions in Section 5.11):

- A. 30% of required off-street parking spaces and/or
- B. 30% of required setbacks from property lines

4.18.4 Criteria for Approval

The Variance application shall demonstrate the following:

- A. That special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to this particular site (lot or parcel), structure or building involved and which are not applicable to other sites (lots or parcels) or structures or buildings in the same district;
- B. That literal interpretation of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same district under the provisions of this Ordinance;
- C. That the special conditions and circumstances do not result from actions of the applicant; and
- D. That granting the Variance requested will not confer upon the applicant any special privilege that is denied by this Ordinance to other similar sites (lots or parcels) structures or buildings in the same district.

RECOMMENDATION & CONCLUSION:

The Staff has no objection to the Variance requested, but the Planning Commission must record a Finding of Fact regarding the “Criteria for Approval” from the UDO as listed above.

The Planning Commission may:

1. Recommend that City Council approve variance request as presented;

2. Recommend that City Council approve the variance requests with changes; or
3. Recommend that City Council variance request.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Applicant's Exhibit 1 – Application
2. City's Exhibit A – Location Map
3. City's Exhibit B – Existing Zoning Map
4. City's Exhibit C – Existing Land Use Map
5. City's Exhibit D – Future Land Use Map

GAUTIER, MISSISSIPPI
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION

Public Hearing Number

18-22-VAR

TO BE HEARD BY GAUTIER PLANNING COMMISSION:

FEE:

Zoning Change	_____	\$300.00
Major Development	_____	\$100.00
Variance	<u>X</u>	\$175.00
Appeal to Staff Decision	_____	\$100.00

Name of Applicant : Don Gautier

Name of Business: _____ Phone: _____

Property Address: 2100 Snuff Creek Mailing Address (if Different): _____

E-Mail Address: labhartergautier@yahoo.com

Reason for request, location and intended use of Property: _____

ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED AS APPLICABLE:

- X 1. Diagram of intended use, showing dimensions and distances of property, building with setbacks, parking spaces, entrances and exits.
- _____ 2. A detailed project narrative.
- N/A 3. Copy of protective covenants or deed restrictions, if any.
- _____ 4. Copies of approvals, or requests for approval, from other agencies, such as, but not limited to, the Mississippi State Department of Health, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Marine Resources.
- N/A 5. Any other information requested by the Economic Development/Planning Director and/or members of the Technical Review Committee.

Signature of Applicant: [Signature] Date of Application: 10-17-18

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received 10/18/18 Verify as Complete (12m)

Fee Amount Received 1750x Initials of Employee Receiving Application CH2416 (PM)

I am requesting a Variance to move my proposed house toward the front property line an additional thirteen (13) feet further than the twenty-five (25) foot front property setback requirement. This would place my proposed house twelve (12) feet from my front property line.

My property contains both AE and VE Flood Zones. By allowing me this Variance I would be able to place my house at a much higher elevation on my property. My property is peculiar in that the elevation drops drastically toward the south.

Allowing me this Variance would keep my house more protected from flood waters, high tides, and wind driven waters.

 10-18-18

Thomas

Exhibit A Location Map

City Of Gautier
Planning Department



Prepared by the
City of Gautier
Planning Department

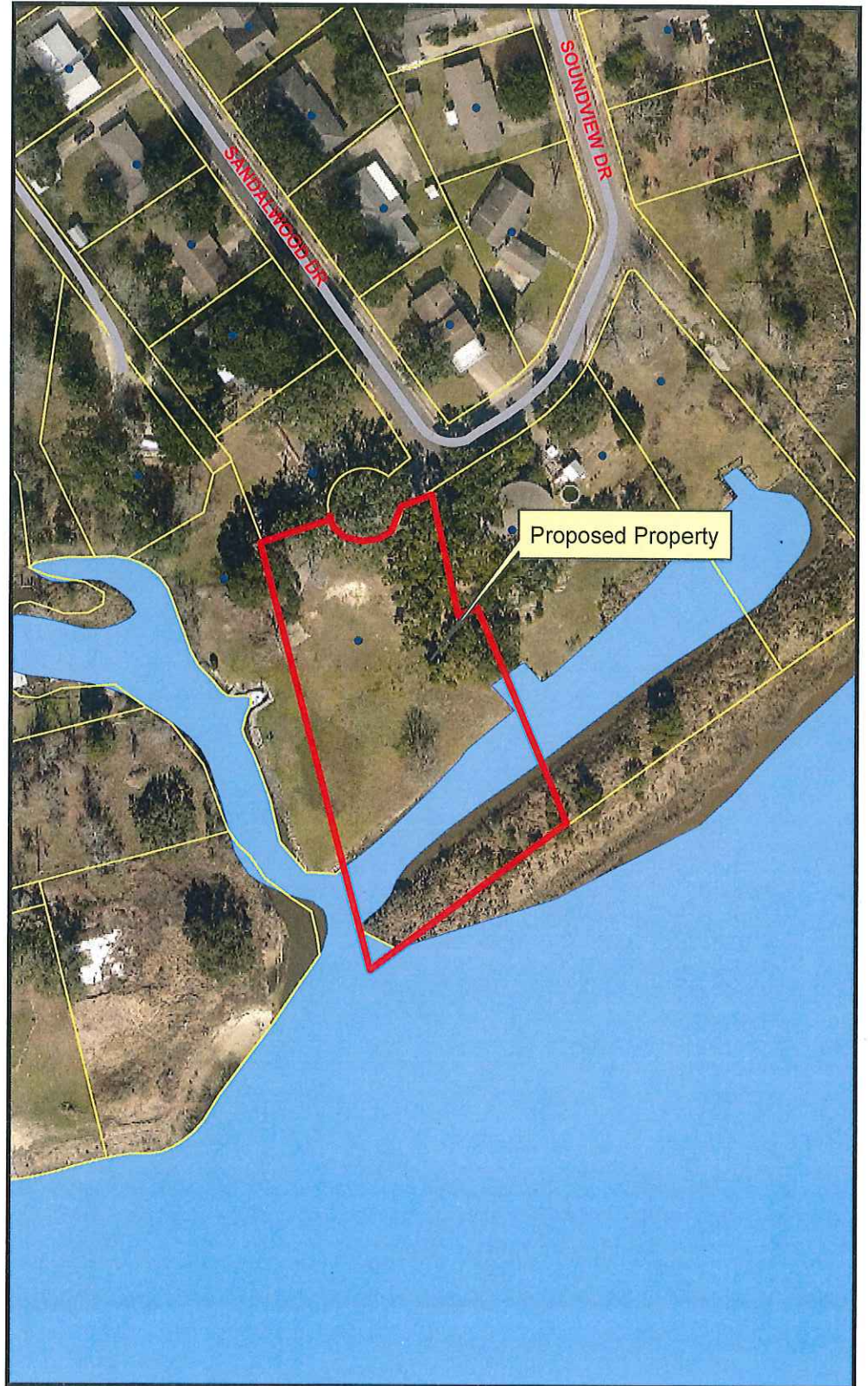


Exhibit B Existing Zoning Map

City Of Gautier
Planning Department



Prepared by the
City of Gautier
Planning Department

Legend

<all other values>

ZONECODE

- AG
- C-1
- C-2
- C-3
- I-2
- MURC-1
- MURC-2
- MURC-MW
- PL
- PUD
- R-1
- R-2
- R-3
- RE
- TC

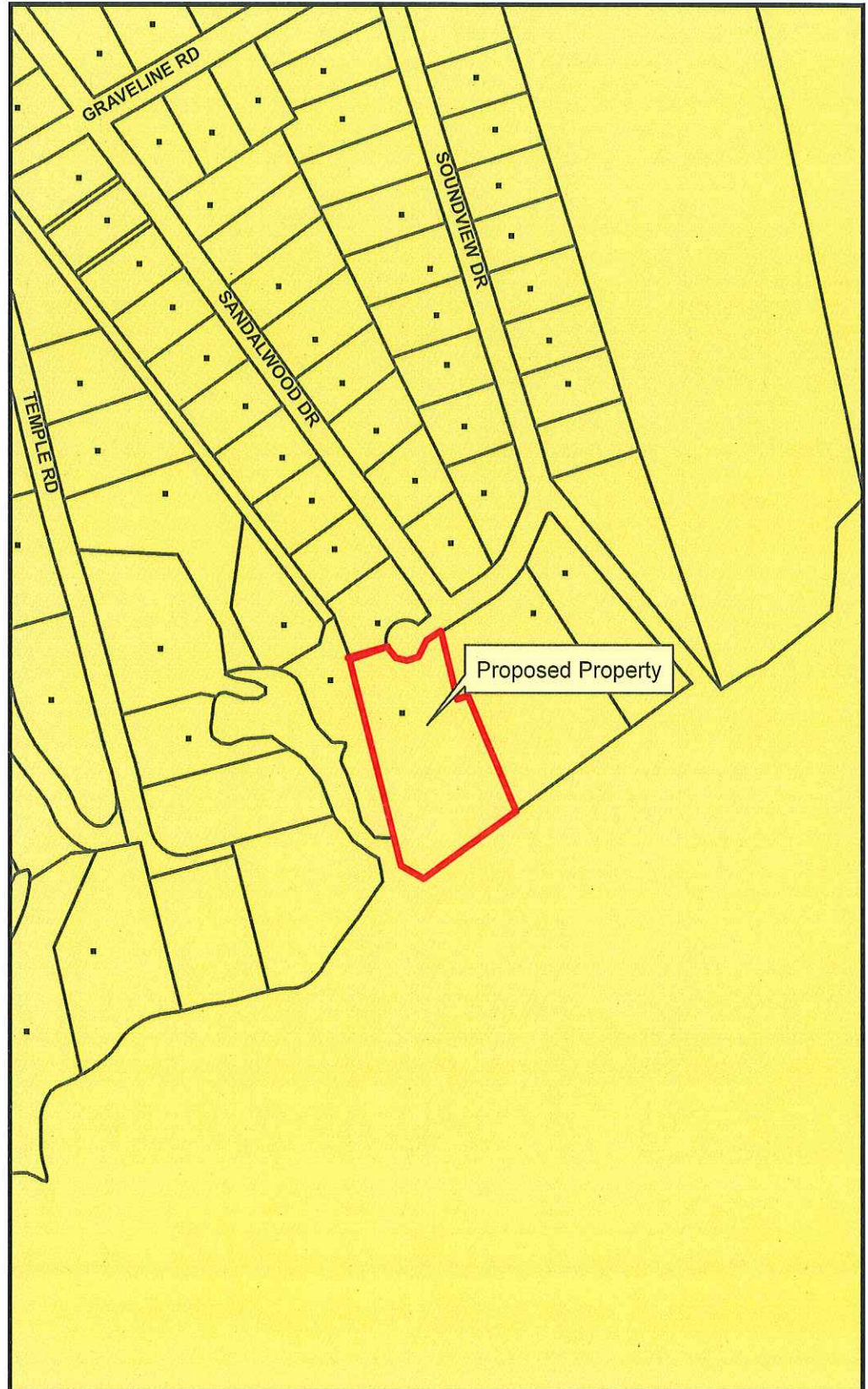


Exhibit C Existing Land Use Map

City Of Gautier
Planning Department



Prepared by the
City of Gautier
Planning Department

Legend

- Gautier_Parcels_Trimmed_0617
- City_Limits
- CorOverlay

EXISTING LAND USE

- Commercial-Retail
- Conservation
- Civic
- Industrial
- Marina/Fish Camps
- High Density Residential
- Mobile Home
- Mobile Home Park
- Medium Density Residential
- Office
- Recreation
- Very Low to Low Density Residential
- Utility
- Vacant

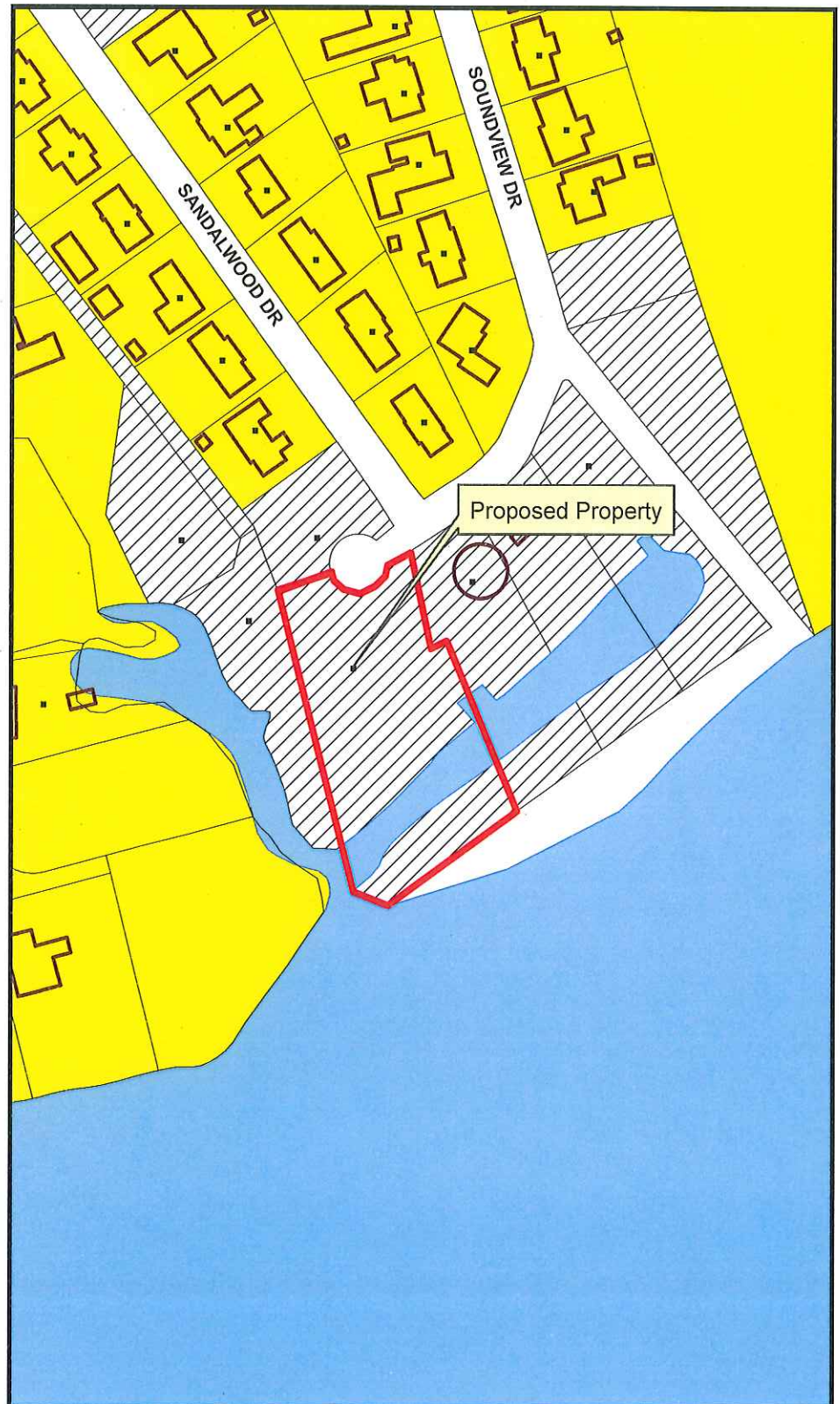


Exhibit D Future Land Use Map

City Of Gautier
Planning Department



Prepared by the
City of Gautier
Planning Department

Legend

FUTURE LAND USE

FLU_Class

-  Civic
-  high impact commercial
-  Conservation
-  High Density Residential
-  Industrial
-  Low Density Residential
-  Medium Density Residential
-  Mobile Home Residential
-  low impact Commercial
-  Recreational
-  recreational commercial
-  Regional Scale Commercial
-  mixed use residential
-  Town Center
-  Very Low Density Residential

