GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Rezoning Case REZ-2025-15 Regular Meeting (x)

Work Session (x)

DATE OF MEETING: September 29, 2025 Recommendation (x)

Policy/Discussion ()

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A Report ()

FUNDING SOURCE: () Annual () SPLOST () Capital (X) N/A

ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2025-15 Stewart Circle

~13.6ac, 3923, 4025 & 4051 Stewart Circle

C-C & R-1 to C-H, County Utilities

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from C-C (Crossroads Commercial) & R-1 (Low Density Residential) to C-H (Highway Commercial) zoning, in order to unify the zoning for the property to be developed with a mixture of commercial uses.

In 2004, a 3acre portion was rezoned to R-1 for development of a single-family dwelling, while the remainder of the property remained Agriculture Use (A-U) and Neighborhood Commercial (C-N), before changing to R-1 and C-C in 2006 with the adoption of the ULDC. Code Enforcement has had issues with previous owners regarding junk vehicles, illegal dumping, property maintenance, and tree removal permitting, however, the current property owners are aware and have mitigated the issues while working through the proper development processes.

The subject property is within the Urban Service Area and US 41 Corridor Overlay, and Community Activity Center and Institutional Activity Center Character Areas, which recommend C-H zoning. Primary access is off Stewart Circle, and there are existing drives and proposed easements connecting to the Val North Commercial complex. There is a large, ~5.6ac wetland area centrally located on the property, which will require additional engineering design and environmental assessment once development begins.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of the ULDC, and factors most relevant to this application, including the neighboring land uses and lot sizes, the availability of County Utilities, the potential environmental impacts, and the ability to properly apply the standards of the ULDC, and therefore recommends approval of the request for C-H zoning.

Additionally, although the TRC does not believe that conditions of approval are necessary for the following information, it should be noted for future reference: the minimum buffer area between Commercial and Residential zonings is 30 feet, which may be decreased by 50% and the buffer landscaping decreased by 25% with the installation of a 6' to 8' opaque fence.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve	2. Appro	ove with Conditions	3. Table	4. Deny	
RECOMMENDATION: Op	tion 1	DIVISION: Plan	ning	STAFF: JD Dillar	d

Recommendation by the Commission:

Letter of Intent for Rezoning Application

I respectfully request the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners to rezone the subject property located on **Stewart Circle** from **C-C** (**Community-Commercial**) and **R-1** (**Residential Single-Family**) to **C-H** (**Highway Commercial**).

The purpose of this request is to allow the property to be developed for **highway-oriented commercial uses such as retail, office, and service businesses**. The C-H district, as defined in the Lowndes County Unified Land Development Code (ULDC), is intended for commercial activities that serve both local residents and the traveling public, which makes it a more appropriate zoning classification for this site than the existing combination of C-C and R-1.

The subject property is well-suited for this rezoning for the following reasons:

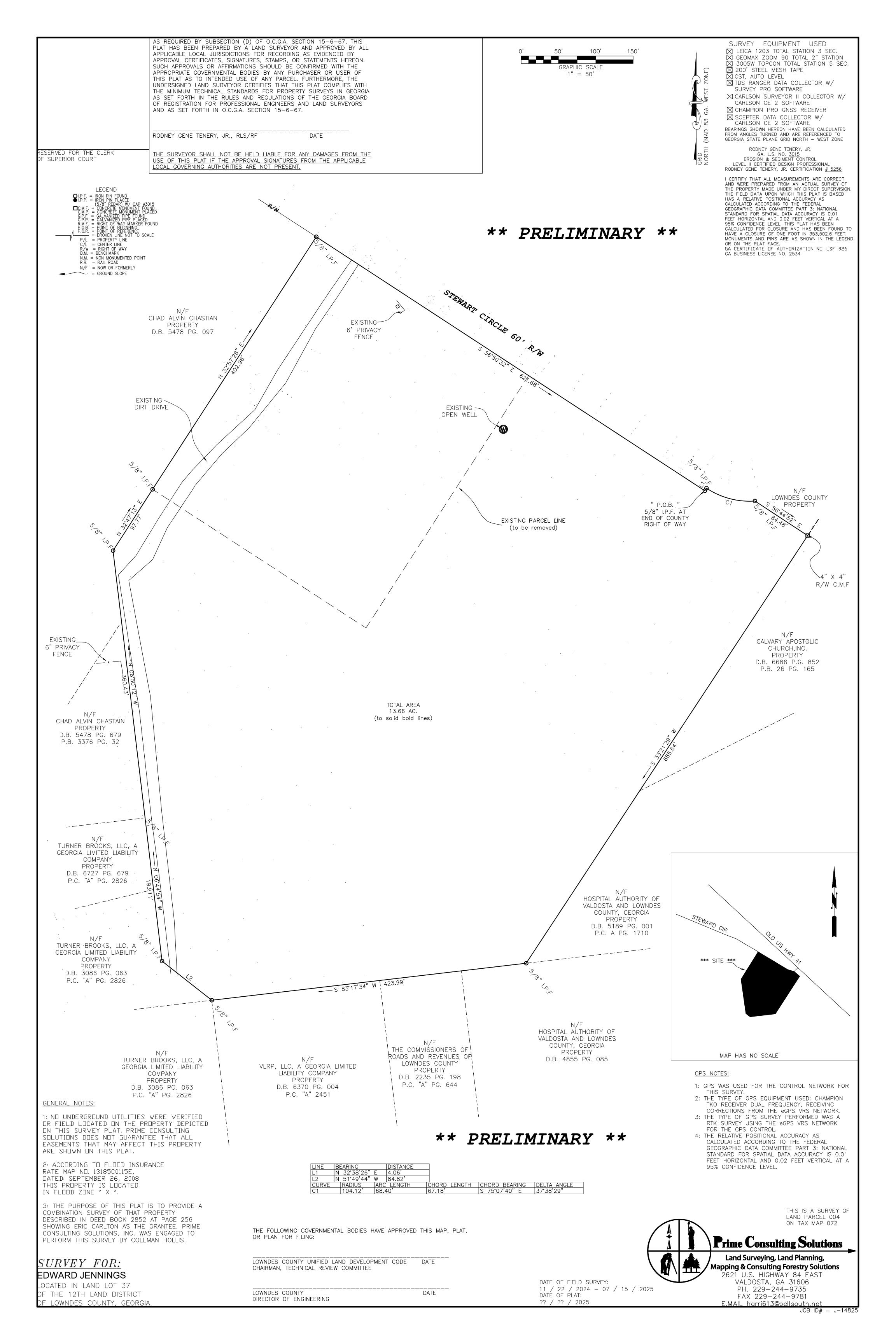
- Location & Access The property is located on Stewart Circle with convenient access to major corridors including [HWY 41/I-75], making it ideal for highway commercial uses.
- **Surrounding Development** Nearby parcels include both commercial and residential uses. Rezoning to C-H will provide a logical transition between these development types while encouraging investment in the area.
- **Utilities & Infrastructure** Lowndes County water and sewer service is available or nearby with adequate capacity. Other utilities and infrastructure are either in place or can be extended to support development.
- Future Development Alignment: The Stewart Circle property is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan and appears to lie within a Community Activity Center (CAC), supporting its use for highway-oriented commercial development.
- Community & Economic Benefit The proposed rezoning will support additional commercial opportunities in the County, create jobs, expand the local tax base, and provide convenient services to residents and highway travelers.

For these reasons, I respectfully request approval of this rezoning application from **C-C** and **R-1** to **CH**.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to working with Lowndes County to ensure the property is developed in a manner consistent with the ULDC and the County's growth objectives.

Respectfully submitted,

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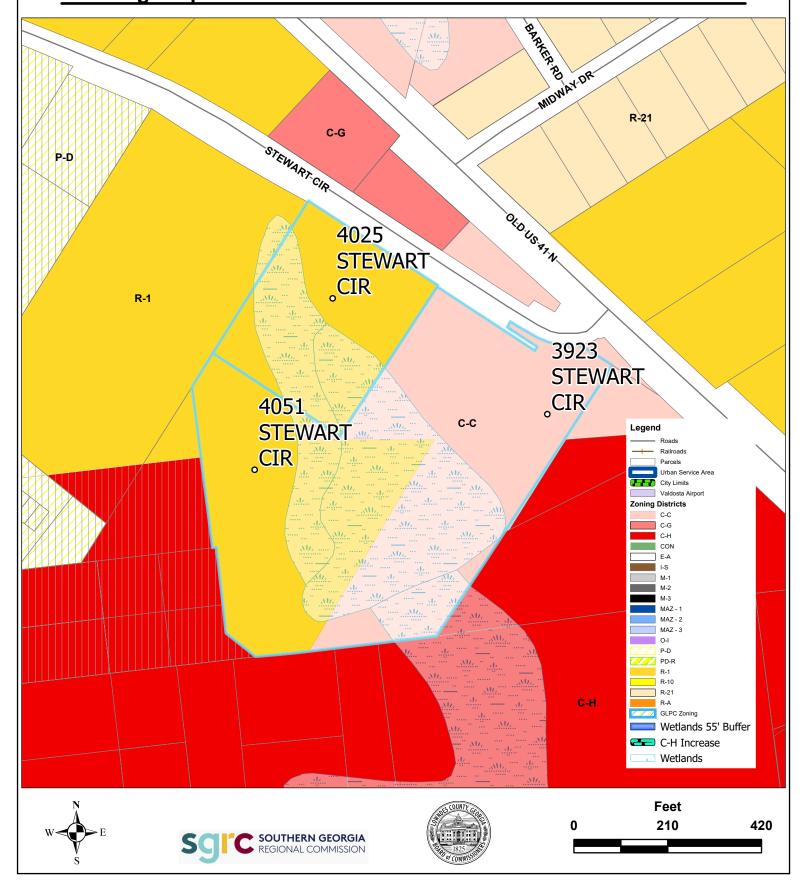


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Zoning Location Map

3923, 4025, 4051 Stewart Circle Rezoning Request

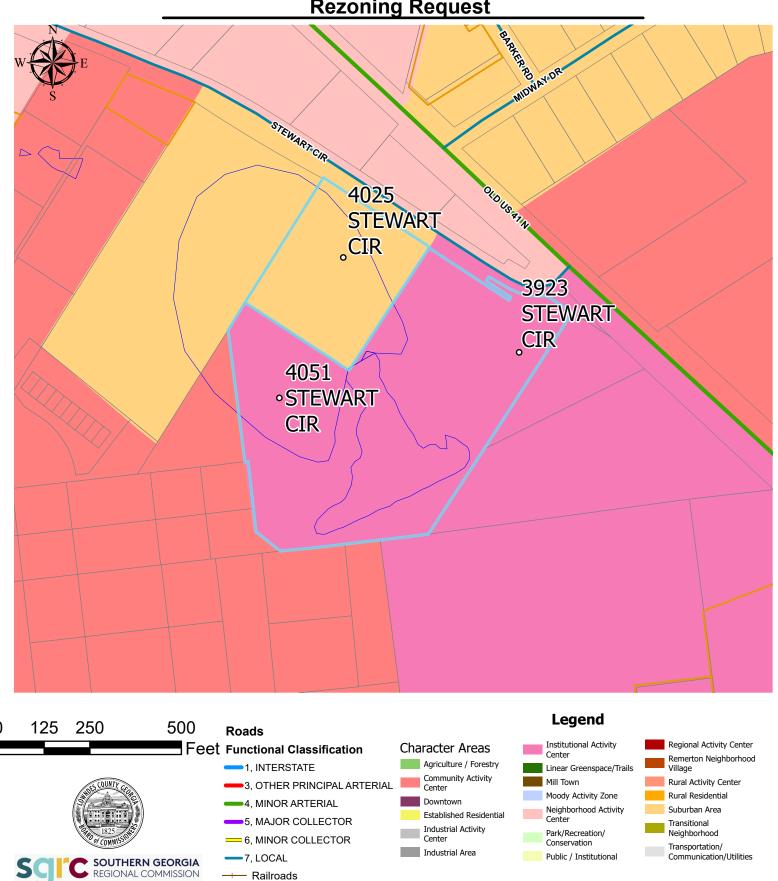
CURRENT ZONING: R - 1 and C - C PROPOSED ZONING: C - H



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Future Development Map

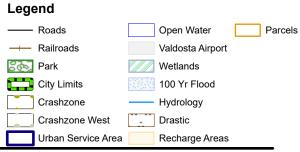
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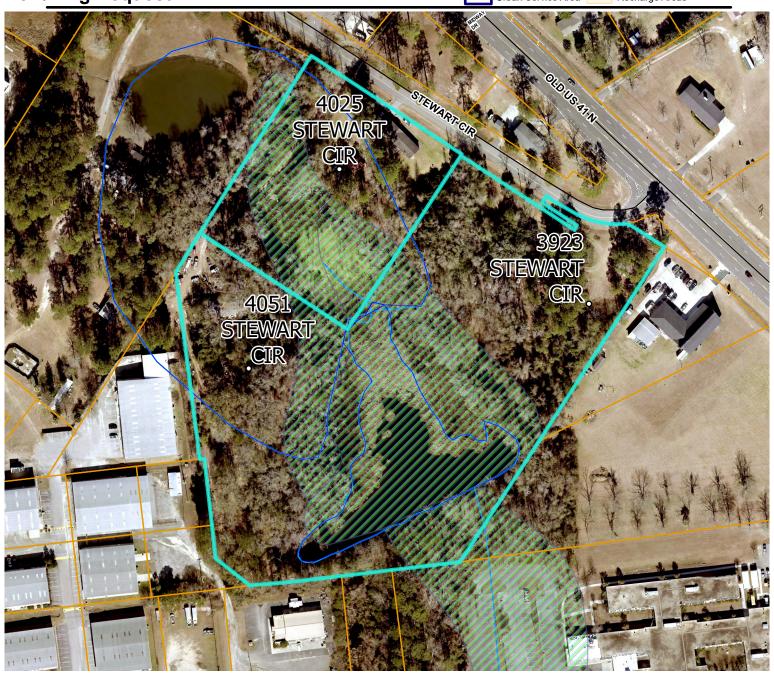


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WRPDO Site Map

3923, 4025, 4051 Stewart Circle Rezoning Request











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