1003.155 "M-3" Planned Industrial District.


This section contains the district regulations of the "M-3" Planned Industrial District. The regulations are supplemented and qualified by additional general regulations appearing elsewhere in this Chapter which are incorporated as part of this section by reference. The Planned Industrial District may be described in the manner outlined below:

2. Purpose.

The "M-3" Planned Industrial District of St. Louis County encompasses areas wherein may be located developments and uses permitted in any of the other "M" Industrial Districts and such development and use designated in the "C" Commercial Districts as may be specifically related to a particular industrial activity or complex. It is the purpose of these regulations to facilitate the establishment of combinations of developments and uses not provided for in other "M" Industrial Districts, or the establishment of developments and uses in locations appropriate under approved site plans and conditions. Such approved plans and conditions shall be consistent with good planning practice and compatible with permitted developments and uses in adjoining districts, so as to protect the general welfare.

3. Establishment.

(1) A Planned Industrial District may be established on a tract of land in single ownership or management control provided that (a) the preliminary development plan and the application for change of zoning are approved by the County Council; (b) a site development plan is approved by the Planning Commission and recorded in compliance with requirements of this section; and (c) that the schedule of construction is complied with in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(2) A Planned Industrial District may be established by ordinance of the St. Louis County Council in the same manner that other mapped districts are established where the County Council determines that any particular tracts or areas should be developed for industrial use, but because of possible conflicts with adjoining uses, more development control is necessary to protect the general welfare than is possible under the regulations of the other "M" Industrial Districts.

4. Permitted Land Uses and Developments.

The following land uses and developments are permitted in this District:

(1) Subject only to approval of a site development plan by the Planning Commission:
   (a) Police, fire, and postal stations.
   (b) Local public utility facilities.
   (c) Correctional institutions.
   (d) Accessory uses incident to the above uses.

(2) Permitted land uses and developments shall be established in the conditions of the ordinance governing the particular Planned Industrial District; specific uses may include uses designated as Permitted, Accessory, or Conditional Uses in any of the "M" Industrial Districts and those uses in the "C" Commercial Districts which are specifically related to a particular industrial activity or complex. A telecommunications tower is permitted only if the conditions name such a use as permitted. (O. No. 18420 - Adopted 3/20/97).
5. **Performance Standards.**

All uses established in a Planned Industrial District shall operate in accord with performance standards contained in Section 1003.163 Zoning Performance Standard Regulations. These performance standards are minimum requirements and may be made more restrictive in the conditions of the ordinance governing the particular Planned Industrial District.

6. **Height Limitations for Structures.**

Unless otherwise restricted by application of regulations in Section 1003.161 Air Navigation Space Regulations of this Chapter, the total height of any structure shall be limited by the conditions in the ordinance governing the particular Planned Industrial District.

7. **Lot Area and Yard Requirements.**

The lot area and minimum yard requirements for land uses in this District shall be as follows:

1. **Minimum Lot Area.**
   The minimum lot area requirements for any use or building in a Planned Industrial District shall be as established in the conditions contained in the ordinance authorizing the establishment of the particular Planned Industrial District.

2. **Minimum Yard Requirements: General.**
   Setbacks for parking areas, internal drives, loading spaces, and structures shall be established in the conditions of the ordinance governing the particular Planned Industrial District.

3. **Minimum Yard Area: Specific Regulations.**
   - **a)** No parking area, internal drive, loading space, or structure shall be permitted within ten (10) feet of a property line adjoining property in the "NU" Non-Urban, "PS" Park and Scenic, or any "R" Residence District. In addition to the minimum ten (10) feet, any structure exceeding thirty (30) feet in height which adjoins property in the "NU" Non-Urban, "PS" Park and Scenic, or any "R" Residence District shall be set back an additional one (1) foot for every two (2) feet in height above thirty (30) feet. Greater setbacks may be required by condition if necessary to ensure compatibility with adjoining developments or uses.
   - **b)** Boundary walls or fences, six (6) feet in height or less, are permitted within the minimum yard requirements, unless otherwise restricted in the conditions of the ordinance governing the particular Planned Industrial District.
   - **c)** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Chapter, telecommunication towers shall not be closer to a "PS" Park and Scenic District, "NU" Non-Urban District or "R" Residence District property than a distance equivalent to the height of the proposed telecommunication tower. A greater setback may be required by the conditions of a particular Planned Industrial District. (O. No. 18420 - Adopted 3/20/97).

8. **Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements.**

The minimum off-street parking and loading requirements for any use or building in a Planned Industrial District shall not be reduced below that required for the same use in any other "M" Industrial or "C" Commercial District as set forth in Section 1003.165 Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements. These requirements may exceed minimum standards as required by condition where determined necessary. However, where the Planned Industrial District includes two or more uses, the Planning Commission may recommend, and the County Council may approve, a total reduction of not more than twenty (20) percent, or thirty (30) percent for developments greater than 500,000 square feet of gross floor area under single ownership or management control, of the required off-street...
parking and loading spaces, where it has been demonstrated by study of the combined uses and customary operation of the uses that adequate parking would be provided. The Planning Commission may recommend a further parking reduction beyond thirty (30) percent for developments greater than 750,000 square feet of gross floor area under single ownership or management control based on a similar approved study as above.


Specific sign regulations shall be established in the conditions of the ordinance governing the Planned Industrial District in accord with the provisions of Section 1003.168 Sign Regulations. However, in no instance shall they be less restrictive than sign regulations for any of the other "M" Industrial Districts.

10. Procedure for Establishment of District or Approval of Site Plan in Existing "M-3".

In order to establish a Planned Industrial District through a change of zoning, or to obtain approval of a site development plan for a Planned Industrial District in order to utilize land in an established Planned Industrial District, the procedure shall be as follows:

(1) Application.

The owner or owners under contract of a lot or tract of land, or his authorized representative, shall petition the St. Louis County Council on forms prescribed for this purpose by the Planning Commission. These forms shall be submitted to the Department of Planning, accompanied by the following:

(a) Filing fee per requirements of Section 1003.210.
(b) Legal description of the property.
(c) Outboundary plat of the property.
(d) Preliminary Development Plan, depicting but not limited to the following:
   (i) Proposed uses. In single lot developments approximate location of buildings and other structures, as well as parking areas, shall be indicated. In multiple-lot developments, conceptual location and configuration of buildings, approximate location of common ground areas, major utility easements, and storm water retention areas shall be indicated.
   (ii) Existing and proposed contours at intervals of not more than five (5) feet referred to sea level datum. Flood plain areas shall be delineated.
   (iii) Approximate location of all isolated trees having a trunk diameter of six (6) inches or more, all tree masses, and proposed landscaping.
   (iv) Two (2) section profiles through the site showing preliminary building form, existing natural grade, and proposed final grade.
   (v) Proposed ingress and egress to the site, including adjacent streets, and approximate alignments of internal roadway systems.
   (vi) Preliminary plan for sanitation and drainage facilities.
   (vii) Preliminary plan for stormwater quality control measures. (O. No. 23553 – Adopted 3/31/08).
   (viii) Stream buffer areas. (O. No. 23553 - Adopted 3/31/08).

(2) Public Hearing.

A public hearing on the petition shall be held by the Planning Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 1003.300 Procedures for Amending the Zoning Ordinance, provided, however, that a public hearing shall be set within forty-five (45) days of acceptance of the petition, fee, and related plans and documents by the Department of Planning.
(3) Planning Commission Recommendation.
No action shall be taken by the County Council with respect to the petition until it has received the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Said recommendation shall address general planning considerations, including consistency with good planning practice, and compatibility with adjoining permitted developments and uses. A recommendation of approval shall include recommended conditions to be included in the ordinance authorizing the establishment of the Planned Industrial District or approval of the site development plan in a Planned Industrial District. Such conditions shall include but not be limited to the following:
(a) Permitted uses, including maximum floor area.
(b) Performance standards.
(c) Height limitations.
(d) Minimum yard requirements.
(e) Off-street parking and loading requirements.
(f) Sign regulations.
(g) Minimum requirements for site development plans.
(h) Time limitations for commencement of construction.

(4) Site Development Plans.
(a) After passage by the County Council of an ordinance authorizing the establishment of a Planned Industrial District and requiring submission of a site development plan or site development concept plan, said plans shall be submitted in accord with the following provisions. No building permits or authorization for improvement or development for any use requested under provisions of this Ordinance shall be issued prior to approval of such plans.
(b) Plans shall be submitted to the Planning Commission for review and approval. Said plans shall contain the minimum requirements established in the conditions of the specific ordinance governing the Planned Industrial District, and further, shall comply with provisions of the Subdivision Ordinance and other applicable County Ordinances.
(c) Within sixty (60) days of approval, the site development plan or site development concept plan shall be recorded with the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds, and thereby authorize development as depicted thereon.
(d) In the case of single lot/multiple building development or multiple-lot developments where a site development concept plan is required, site development section plans shall be submitted to the Department of Planning for review and approval per individual building, lot, phase, or plat representing a portion of the site development concept plan. The approved section plans shall be retained on file by the Department of Planning.

11. Procedure for Amendment of Conditions or Plans.
(1) To Amend the "M-3" District Ordinance:
(a) The property owner or authorized representative shall submit a written request to amend ordinance conditions to the Department of Planning for review. The Department shall then evaluate the request for consistency in purpose and content with the nature of the proposal as originally advertised for public hearing.
(b) If the Department of Planning determines that the requested amendment is consistent in purpose and content with the nature of the original proposal as advertised, the Department shall so report to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall review the request and the report of the Department, then forward a recommendation to the County Council. A recommendation of approval shall include conditions to be included in the amended ordinance.
(c) If the Department of Planning determines that the requested amendment is not consistent in purpose and content with the nature of the proposal as originally advertised for public hearing, the Department shall so report to the applicant and the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall then review the proposed ordinance amendment and forward a recommendation to the County Council. The Planning Commission may, if deemed necessary, forward a resolution of intent to the County Council for the purpose of a new public hearing on the matter in accord with the proceedings specified in Section 1003.300 Procedure for Amending the Zoning Ordinance.

(d) Amendment of an M-3 ordinance to permit a single telecommunications tower up to one hundred (100) feet in height or a telecommunication tower co-used or disguised support structure of one hundred twenty (120) feet in height does not require a public hearing. (O. No. 18420 - Adopted 3/20/97).

(2) To Amend the Recorded Site Development Plan or Site Development Concept Plan Approved for the Planned Industrial District.

(a) The property owner or authorized representative shall submit an amended site development (concept) plan to the Department of Planning for review. The Department shall evaluate the request for consistency in purpose and content with the nature of the proposal as originally advertised for public hearing, and the preliminary development plan approved by the County Council.

(b) If the Department of Planning determines that the proposed amendment to the site development plan is major in nature and is not in conflict with the original proposal as advertised and the approved preliminary development plan, and meets all conditions of the Planned Industrial District Ordinance, said plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission. Said amended plan shall be recorded with the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds within 60 days of Commission approval.

(c) If the Department of Planning determines that the proposed amendment to the site development plan is minor in nature and is not in conflict with the original proposal as advertised and the preliminary development plan, and meets all conditions of the Planned Industrial District Ordinance, the Department may approve said amended plan. Said plan shall be retained on file by the Department of Planning. However, when conditions of a particular Planned Industrial District Ordinance are amended which necessitate an amended site development plan, the Commission shall review and approve said amended plans and they shall be recorded with the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds within sixty (60) days of Commission approval.

(d) If the Department of Planning determines that the amendment to the site development plan is not consistent in purpose and content with the nature of the proposal as originally advertised for public hearing, or with the preliminary development plan approved by the County Council, the Department shall so report to the applicant and the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall review the proposed site plan amendment and make a final determination. The Planning Commission may, if deemed necessary, forward a resolution of intent to the County Council for the purpose of a new public hearing on the matter in accord with proceedings specified in Section 1003.300 Procedure for Amending the Zoning Ordinance.

(e) All amendments to site development concept plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission and shall be recorded with the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds within sixty (60) days of Commission approval.

(f) The Planning Commission may approve partial amended site development plans, site development concept plans, and site development section plans for developments approved prior to enactment of this Ordinance when the conditions of the ordinance governing such particular "M-3" Planned Industrial Districts do not permit review of development plans in accord with the provisions of this section. Such partial amended plans shall be recorded with the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds within sixty (60) day of Commission approval.
(3) To Amend a Site Development Section Plan Approved for a Planned Industrial District:

If the Department of Planning determines that the proposed amendment to the site development section plan is not in conflict with the approved site development concept plan and meets all conditions of the Planned Industrial District Ordinance, the Department may approve said amended plan. Said plan shall be retained on file by the Department of Planning.

(4) Appeal to Commission of a Decision by the Department in Reviewing Development Plans.

The petitioner/developer may appeal a decision of the Department of Planning, in cases where the Department of Planning is authorized to review development plans, to the Planning Commission. The petitioner shall have a fifteen (15) day period in which to file a written appeal and plan with the Commission. The written appeal, stating the reasons for the appeal, shall be submitted to the Department. The Commission will make the final determination of the matter. No exceptions will be granted that are in violation of the particular ordinance governing the development plan.


Unless otherwise provided for in the conditions of a particular Planned Industrial District, no building permits, or permits authorizing the occupancy or use of a building, facility, industrial, or commercial establishment or service concern may be issued until required related off-site improvements are constructed or a performance bond, escrow, or other acceptable instrument is posted covering their estimated cost, as determined by the Department of Planning. This requirement shall not apply to foundation permits or permits necessary for the installation of required related off-site improvements. Required related off-site improvements shall include, but not be limited to, streets, sidewalks, sanitary and storm sewers, street lights, and street trees. If a Planned Industrial District is developed in sections, the requirement shall also apply to all major improvements necessary to the proper operation and function of the section in question, even though such improvements may be located outside of the section in question.

13. Failure to Commence Construction.

Substantial construction shall commence within the time period specified in the conditions of the ordinance governing the Planned Industrial District, unless such time period is extended by the Planning Commission. If substantial construction or development does not begin within the time period specified in the conditions of the ordinance governing the district, or extensions authorized therein, the Planning Commission shall within forty-five (45) days initiate a resolution of intent for the purpose of a new public hearing to revert the property to its prior zoning classification in accord with the proceedings specified in Section 1003.300 Procedure for Amending the Zoning Ordinance. No building or occupancy permit shall be issued for the development or use of the property until completion of action by the County Council on the proceedings to rezone the property in accord with the provisions of the above noted section.