

More effective methods of public zoning notice ARE needed in Dunwoody to maximize community awareness of land use and development changes. This fact speaks directly to why many people voted in favor of a City, that is, the mandate of more local control development.

I will suggest four typical methods governing authorities use to help maximize public awareness of zoning changes. Implementing these methods may require text amendments to our current Ordinances.

Currently, Dunwoody is following the letter of the law, but in my opinion, the spirit of the law is being violated.

The intent behind of public zoning notifications are to alert the public to material changes in land use closest to their homes. These changes are usually permanent and may change the entire nature of the affected area over time. Thus, changes should not be made lightly, especially without a Comprehensive Land Use Plan in place.

Dunwoody currently provides zoning change notification with a small ad in the legal organ, in this case The Dunwoody Crier and a small sign on the location to be affected by the zoning changes.

Specifically on the Winters Chapel Shell project, Dunwoody followed the letter of the law, yet the residents of FOUR neighborhoods closest to the project were unaware of it until last weeks' Zoning Board of Appeals hearing. UNACCEPTABLE!

Granted, some folks knew about the project, but not those closest to it. Thus, the spirit of the law, TO INFORM, was unsuccessful. These facts run contrary to the mandate of better local control of development.

Neighbors in the four communities are encouraged that Councilman Heneghan recognizes meeting the letter of the law for zoning notification **INADEQUATELY** fulfills the INTENTIONS of the ordinances. I encourage all City Council members to change these ineffective ordinances. Here are four easy resolves:

- Online legal notices in The Crier. Notices would be in addition to the printed Legal Notice and a history should be kept. All citizens can easily check this online Legal Notice to see what is coming up.
- Community Council findings and recommendations ought to be regularly published in The Crier and online.
- In Lawrenceville, those residents within 1,000 feet of the proposed change in zoning are usually notified, in writing.
- Larger ZONING Change signs readable from 15 feet showing the proposed change from one use to another, hearing date, case number, etc on them.

This is the de-jure standard currently used in DeKalb County, why should we have less?