

Pam Rule

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I am requesting that the rezoning for 3430 Zion Lane, Knoxville, TN from residential to OB be denied for the following reasons:

1. An application for rezoning of this same property from residential to OB (office, medical, and related services) was denied on 2/9/2017. The rezoning requested would be a spot rezoning of a single property within an established residential area.
2. The facility will not be a true licensed medical facility with trained and licensed medical professionals in the area of addiction and psychological disorders.
3. The property does not have access to public transportation. Zion Lane is a side street off of Ball Road which has heavy traffic with no sidewalks and no commercial work sites within walking distance. For successful rehabilitation and recovery, public transportation should be a requirement for all locations of facilities such as the one planned for this property.
4. For the 2017 hearing, the Steps House was listed as owners on the Rezoning Report. For this hearing, owners are listed as Mihai, Estera and Yeliuzavet Apreotesi. Since I'm unable to locate sales or transfer information from the Steps House to the Apreotesis. I have to assume this facility will be under the direction of the Steps House. The Steps House organization currently operates 38 other facilities in Knoxville. All 38 facilities are located where there are sidewalks and access to the KAT bus transportation system within a few blocks. Again, the property on Zion Lane has no access to public transportation. The people assigned to this facility will be without necessary transportation services needed for recovery and rehabilitation.

It is important for individuals to be given a second chance in life. However, to be successful the community where the facility is located should have the amenities that are needed such as public transportation and easy access to commercial businesses for jobs to support their recovery.

I have personal experience with a close family member trying to recover from addiction to opioids. Most recovery facilities are staffed with addicts in recovery with no medical training in the field and no licensed doctor assigned to the facility. The facility receives state and/or federal grant money for every bed they fill. So that is their main objective first and foremost, to keep all beds filled with no screening or consideration of the background of the men and how they might impact the neighborhood families and the surrounding community.

Addicts are famous for checking into these facilities to evade law enforcement knowing that due to HIPPA laws these facilities cannot share client information. This should be considered as a reason to not approve this facility within an established residential community that has families with children and four educational facilities within a two-mile radius of the property.

Again, I'm requesting that you deny the rezoning application for [3430 Zion Lane, Knoxville, TN](#). The justification for the rezoning is not apparent today anymore than it was apparent in 2017.

Thank you for any and all considerations of my request to deny the rezoning of 3430 Zion Lane.

Pamela B. Rule