

Adopted by City of St. Louis Planning Commission January 5, 2005

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planning/adopted-plans/strategic-land-use-plan.cfm





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Introduction

In 1947, more than fifty years ago, the City of St. Louis adopted a land use plan. The City has been living with this outdated land use plan ever since.

Now, the City's Planning and Urban Design Agency is proposing a new land use plan. A plan prepared by professional land use planners based upon continuing consultation with the City's twenty-eight aldermen, who are closely connected with the aspirations and dreams of the people who live in each of the City's neighborhoods and the businesses that make up our city's economy.

Residential developers are knocking on our doors daily, as opportunities for suburban development within reasonable travel distances from the region's core dry up.

Historic rehabilitation is becoming popular throughout the City, as those in the market for housing increasingly demand unique spaces and the feeling of community that only living in our historic City can provide.

Businesses and commercial developers contact city development officials frequently, seeking sites for modern facilities, offices and shopping centers as more people realize the advantages of locating in the City. With easy access to the region's workforce and the variety and extensiveness of vehicular, rail, air and river transportation systems, St. Louis is connected to the region, the nation and beyond.

As developers and retailers wake up to the strong market for retail in City neighborhoods, increased demand exists for significant retail development sites. Developing new opportunities will provide neighborhood residents with places to purchase goods and services, while providing increased revenue for the City.

This new Strategic Land Use Plan is intended to improve the quality of life for those who live and work in St. Louis by encouraging appropriate types of development and preservation in clearly defined locations. Within this overall intent, this Plan has two main purposes.

- To provide direction for those who wish to make new investments in our City, and;
- To provide stability and opportunities for those who already live, work and build their businesses here.

This Plan clearly identifies the established neighborhoods, historic districts and business areas the City is committed to maintaining and enhancing. Residents and business people who work and live in these areas will now be assured that as they invest, the essential character of these areas will not change.

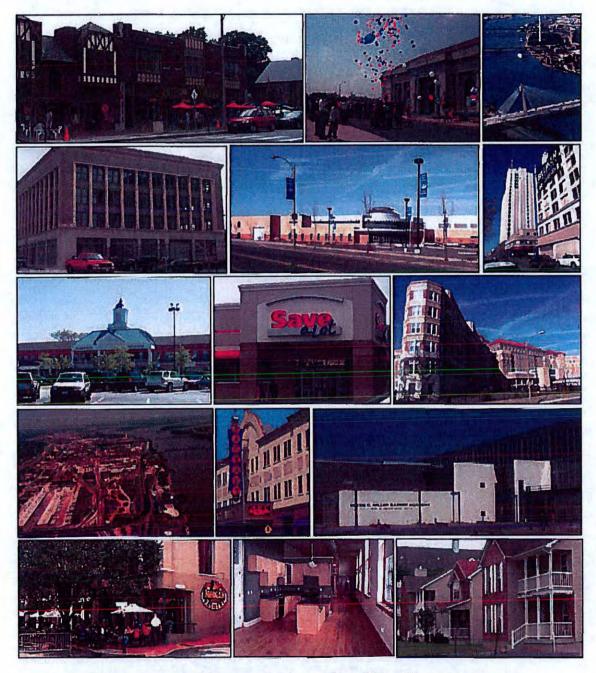
Equally important, this Plan identifies areas where new directions are possible and encouraged. These directions will allow portions of the City to offer amenities and lifestyles that are now found only in the suburbs. The Plan also sets the stage for City initiatives to raise development standards throughout the region with new and innovative development approaches.

This Plan, like the City itself, is not a static object. Rather, it is intended to provide a foundation and a roadmap for positive change. It is expected the Plan itself will continue to evolve as historic preservation and new development initiatives evolve. This Plan is the beginning of a more thoughtful and cohesive approach to a bright future for the City of St. Louis.

Adopted by the City's Planning Commission in January 2005, this straightforward Land Use Plan will become the basis for additional planning and development initiatives involving collaboration between elected officials, City departments, neighborhood residents and developers, to overlay more fine-grained visions of the broader framework presented by this Plan. These suture initiatives are expected to include public improvement plans, detailed neighborhood level plans, and tailored rezonings.

The Planning Commission and the Planning and Urban Design Agency look forward to working with everyone to use this Plan in a way that advances the quality of life in the City of St. Louis and builds upon the spirit of adventure and accomplishment that has characterized our City throughout its history. With respect for our past and entrepreneurialism, self-confidence, energy, and teamwork, we can forge a bright and proud future for our City.





"Connecting the City"

The Strategic Land Use Plan provides a roadmap for preservation and/or new development for every block in the City and is an interactive tool for collaboration among City officials, neighborhood residents, businesses and developers to ensure the following activities in each part of the City are conducted with a clear and well-considered vision for a secure future.

ELIMINATING PROBLEMS

Problem and Nuisance Property Targeting
Targeted Demolitions
Debris Cleanup

SOLIDIFYING DISTRICT IDENTITY

Regulations/Guidelines Reflecting Specific Vision/Efficiency
Promotion of Signature Community Design Projects
Historic District Designation where Appropriate
District Marketing
Signage/Banners

PROMOTING DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT

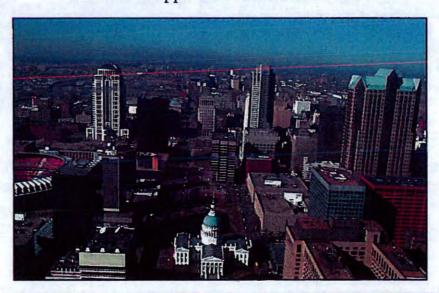
New Construction that Complements the Historic Fabric
New Development—Innovative and Conventional
Historic Rehabilitation and New Construction
Streetscape Improvements
Facade Improvement
Park Enhancement

ASSEMBLING LAND/BUILDINGS

Identify/Assemble Sites for Development

BUILDING OUR TOOLBOX

Enhancing the Current Development Tools Innovative Application of New Resources





LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

The Strategic Land Use Map assigns land use designations to each block in the City. The pattern of colors represents the essential components of a strong and vibrant urban landscape, a landscape with both variety and cohesiveness.

These Land Use Designations are "strategic" in that they respect both the current conditions and the opportunities that exist in each area. The colors communicate what future development focus is intended for that block.

Residential neighborhoods are the foundation of our City. This Plan includes two types of residential neighborhoods:

"Neighborhood Preservation" areas that already exist and will be improved and augmented in a manner that preserves the existing character. "Neighborhood Development" areas are where new types of residential character are both permitted and encouraged. New developments of scale can create their own character while complementing adjoining neighborhoods and blocks.

These existing, emerging and future neighborhoods are connected and served by the "Neighborhood Commercial" areas. Many of these corridors continue to provide services to the community and attract outside visitors, while others have deteriorated. The Plan is intended to encourage investment in these corridors that provide the essential services to the surrounding community.

At strategic locations within the City, areas are designated as sites for "Regional Commercial" activity. These nodes, existing and proposed, are promoted as opportunities for the City to capitalize on the emerging trend among established retailers to locate in urban markets. By identifying new sites and moving forward to make them attractive to businesses, the City can respond aggressively and move forward to these retailers and the jobs, tax revenues and quality of life enhancement that they offer into the City.

The City is blessed with numerous parks and "green spaces." Additional "open space" will develop as ongoing recreational initiatives become reality. These "Recreational/Open Space" areas are becoming increasingly important to the City's development and economy as people seek healthy lifestyles that involve outdoor recreation.



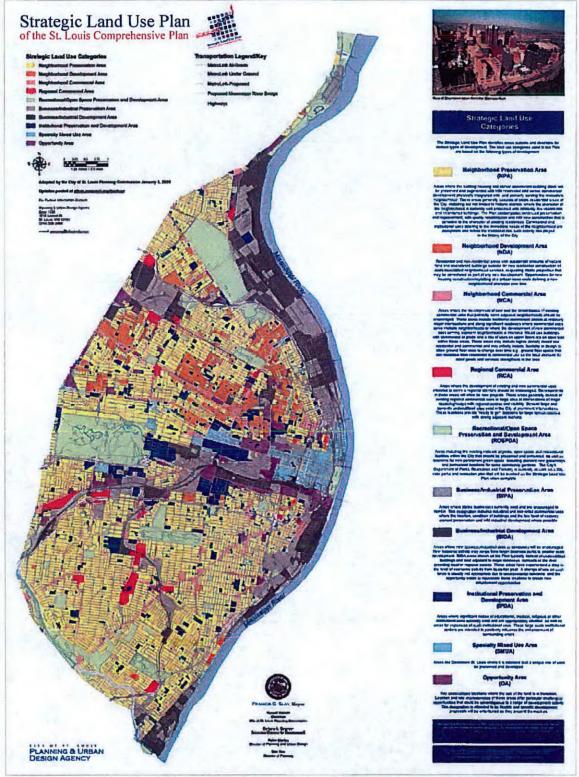
St. Louis is home to a number of strong and established businesses. These businesses have supported the City's economy for many years. The locations of these businesses are designated as "Business/Industrial Preservation" areas so that they can plan their futures in the City with confidence. Other areas that formerly were home to thriving businesses are now derelict and underutilized. These areas are shown in this Plan as "Business/Industrial Development" areas, where those in the market for new business locations can seek development opportunities with City encouragement.

Similarly, St. Louis is home to a number of strong and established institutions, universities, hospitals, schools and churches, that contribute to the City's economy and provide essential services. These areas are designated "Institutional" in the Plan.

What makes the City's landscape unique is the existence of a number of areas where business, residents, arts, and other entertainment coexist and thrive together. These areas are identified in this Plan as "Specialty Mixed Use" areas and include places like Downtown, Grand Center and the Central West End.

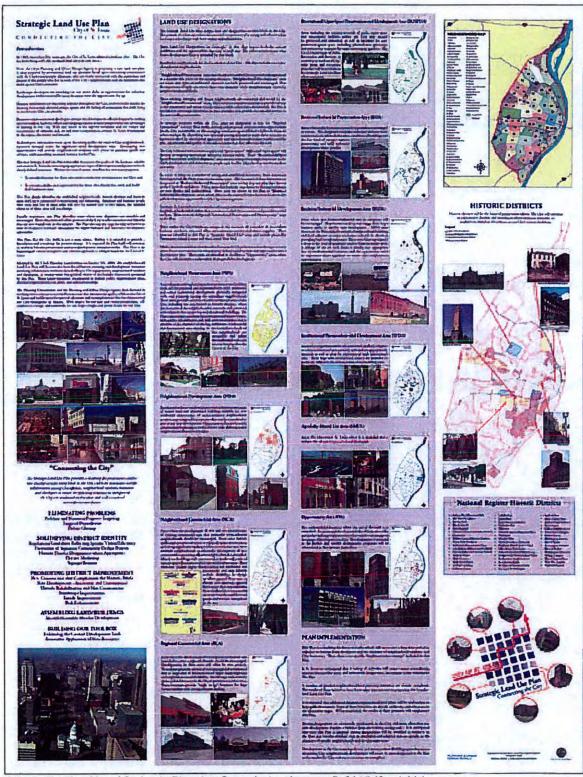
Finally, there are a number of underutilized areas in the City where it is clear that opportunity exists, but it is not yet known what activity is best suited to turn that opportunity into a development plan. These areas are identified in the Plan as "Opportunity Areas", where the City will entertain a wide variety of proposals for development.





Adopted by the City of St. Louis Planning Commission January 5, 2005 (backside)

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Adopted by the City of St. Louis Planning Commission January 5, 2005 (frontside)
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National Register Historic Districts

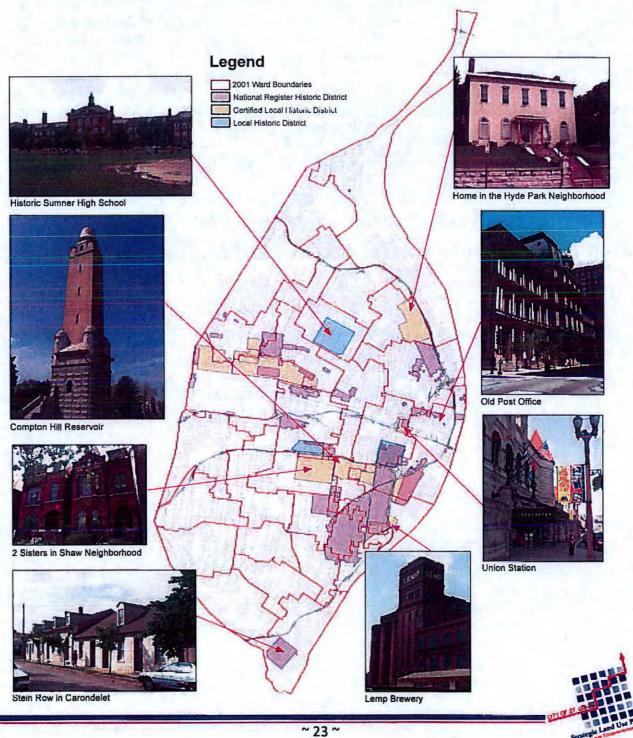
- · Aubert Place/Fountain Park
- · Barr Branch Library
- Benton Park
- Block Unit #1
- City Hospital
- Clemons House/Columbia Brewery
- Crittenden
- · Delmar Loop-Parkview Gardens
- · Forest Park Southeast
- Fullerton's Westminister Place
- · Goodfellow-Julian Concrete Block
- · Gravois/Jefferson Steet Car Suburb
- Hickory Street
- Holy Corners
- · Holy Cross Parish
- · Laclede's Landing
- Lafayette Square

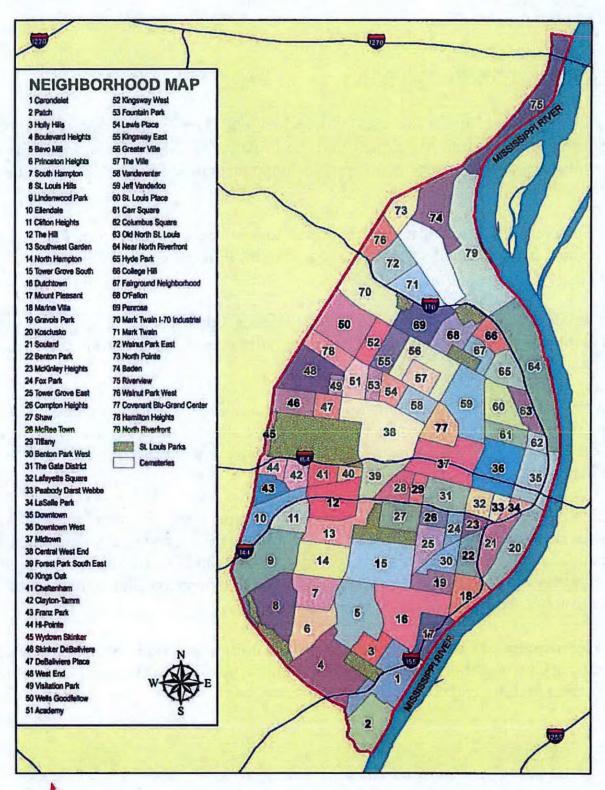
- · LaSalle Park
- · Lewis Place
- Lucas Avenue Industrial
- McKinley-Fox
- Midtown
- Mount Cabanne-Raymond Place
- Mullanphy
- Murphy-Blair
- North Riverfront Industrial
- Oakherst Place Concrete Block
- Olive Street Terra Cotta
- Parkview-Gardens/Delmar Loop
- · Portland and Westmoreland Places
- St. Boniface Neighborhood
- St. Liborius Parish
- St. Mary of Victories Parish
- Sts. Cyril & Methodius

- · Sanford Ave.
- Shaw Avenue Place
- Soulard Neighborhood
- Steins Street
- Tiffany Neighborhood
- Tower Grove Heights
- Union Station
- Washington Avenue-East of Tucker
- Washington Avenue-West of Tucker
- Washington University Hilltop Campus
- West Cabanne Place
- West Pine-Laclede
- Wydown-Forsyth

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Historic districts will be the focus of preservation efforts. The City will continue to explore new districts and coordinate efforts to ensure resources are available to stimulate investment in our City's historic buildings.





PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This Plan is a roadmap for future activities which will occur over a long time period in response to interest from developers and the initiative of neighborhood residents and City businesses. Thus, there is no specific "implementation strategy" included in this Plan.

It is, however, anticipated that a variety of activities will occur—some immediately, some in the next few years, and some in the longer term, in response to the existence of this Plan.

A number of detailed neighborhood-level planning initiatives are already completed. The results of these initiatives have been taken into account in preparing this broader-level Land Use Plan.

It is expected that additional detailed neighborhood-level plans will be undertaken to help guide investment. Some of these initiatives are already underway, and others are in the discussion stages. When concluded, the results of these processes will supplement this Plan.

Zoning designations are continually problematic in the City, and more often than not new development requires a variance from the existing zoning code. It is anticipated that once this Plan is adopted, zoning designations will be modified to conform to the Plan and "overlay districts" may be developed and adopted that are specific to the character of specific neighborhoods and development areas.

Development in the City is market-driven, as it is everywhere. Building upon the success of existing City neighborhoods development will occur in areas designated in the Plan as the market for City real estate continues to strengthen.

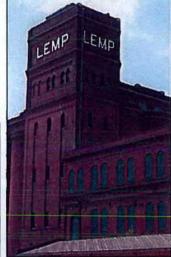


Opportunity Area (OA)

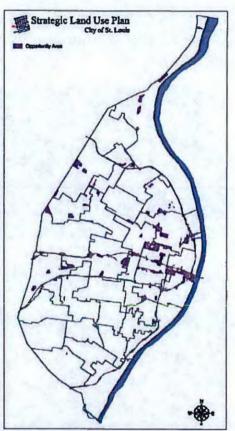
Key underutilized locations where the use of the land is in transition. Location and site characteristics of these areas offer particular challenges/opportunities that could

be advantageous to a range of development activity. This designation is intended to be flexibleandspecificdevelopment proposals will be entertained as they present themselves.











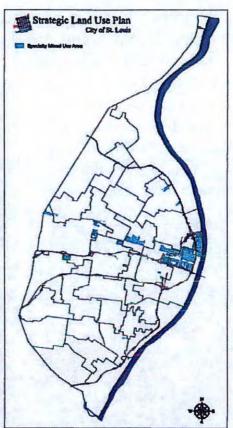


Specialty Mixed Use Area (SMUA)

Areas like Downtown St. Louis where it is intended that a unique mix of uses be preserved and developed.











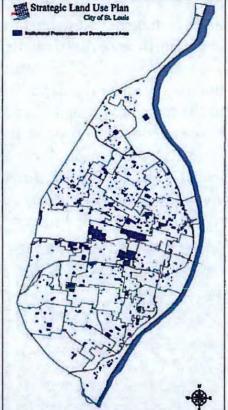


Institutional Preservation & Development Area (IPDA)

Areas where significant nodes of educational, medical, religious or other institutional uses currently exist and are appropriately situated, as well as areas for expansion

of such institutional uses. These large scale institutional centers are intended to positively influence the enhancement of surrounding areas.















Business/Industrial Development Area (BIDA)

Areas where new business/industrial uses or campuses will be encouraged. New business activity may range from larger business parks to smaller scale development. BIDA areas shown on the Plan typically consist of underutilized buildings and land adjacent to major roadways, railroads or the river, providing local or regional access. These areas have experienced a drop in the level of economic activity from its earlier peak. A change of use on such lands is usually not appropriate due to environmental concerns, and the opportunity exists to rejuvenate these locations to create new employment opportunities.













Business/Industrial Preservation Area (BIPA)

Areas where stable businesses currently exist and are encouraged to remain. This designation includes industrial and non-retail commercial uses where the location,

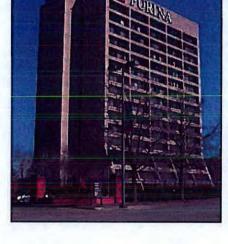
condition of buildings and the low level of vacancy warrant preservation and infill industrial development where possible.













Recreational/Open Space Preservation/Development Area (ROSPDA)

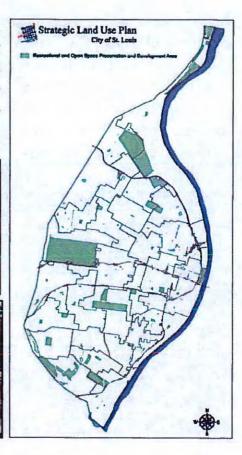
Areas including the existing network of parks, open space and recreational facilities within the City that should be preserved and enhanced, as well as locations for new permanent green space, including planned new greenways and permanent locations for some community gardens. The City's Department of Parks, Recreation

and Forestry is currently at work on a city-wide parks and recreation plan that will be overlaid on the Strategic Land Use Plan when complete.









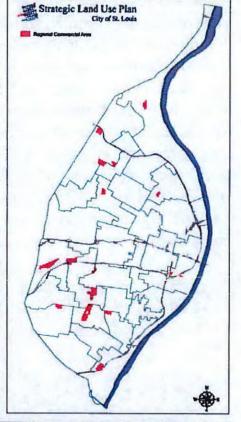


Regional Commercial Area (RCA)

Areas where the development of existing and commercial uses intended to serve a regional clientele should be encouraged. Developments in these areas will often be new projects. These areas generally consist of existing regional commercial uses or large sites at intersections of major roads/highways with regional access and visibility. Several large and currently underutilized sites exist in the City at prominent intersections. These locations provide "ready to go" locations for large format retailers with strong adjacent markets.













Neighborhood Commercial Area (NCA)

Areas where the development of new and the rehabilitation of existing commercial uses that primarily serve adjacent neighborhoods should be encouraged. These areas include traditional commercial streets at relatively major intersections and along significant roadways where commercial uses serve multiple neighborhoods or where the development of new commercial uses serving adjacent neighborhoods is intended. Mixed use buildings with commercial at grade and a mix of uses on upper floors are an ideal type within these areas. These areas may include higher density mixed use residential and commercial and may initially include flexibility in design

SHAW BLVD

BROADWAY

EUCLID AV

CHEROKEE ST

ANNIE MALONE DR

S, GRAND BLVD

S, HAMPTON AVE

BROADWAY

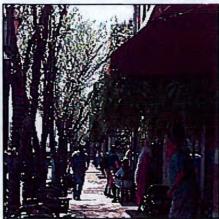
KINGSHIGHWAY BLVD.

BROADWAY

to allow ground floor uses to change over time e.g., ground floor space that can transition from residential to commercial use as the local demand for retail goods and services strengthens in the area.









Neighborhood Development Area (NDA)

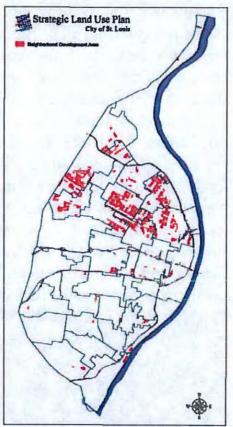
Residential and non-residential areas with substantial amounts of vacant land and abandoned buildings suitable for new residential construction of scale/associated neighborhood services, respecting stable properties that may be considered as part of any new development. Opportunities for new housing construction/replatting at critical mass scale defining a new neighborhood character over time.













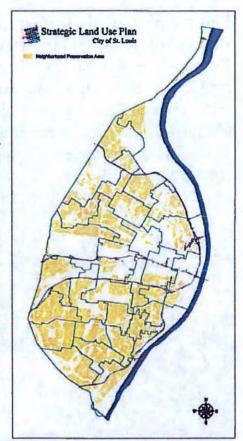


Neighborhood Preservation Area (NPA)

Areas where the existing housing and corner commercial building stock will be preserved and augmented with new infill residential and corner commercial development physically integrated with, and primarily serving the immediate neighborhood. These areas generally consist of stable residential areas of the City, including but not limited to historic districts, where the character of the neighborhood is currently well preserved with relatively few vacant lots and abandoned buildings. The Plan contemplates continued preservation and improvement, with quality rehabilitation and infill new construction that is sensitive to the character of existing residences. Commercial and institutional uses catering to the immediate needs of the neighborhood are acceptable and re-



flect the traditional role such activity has played in the history of the City.

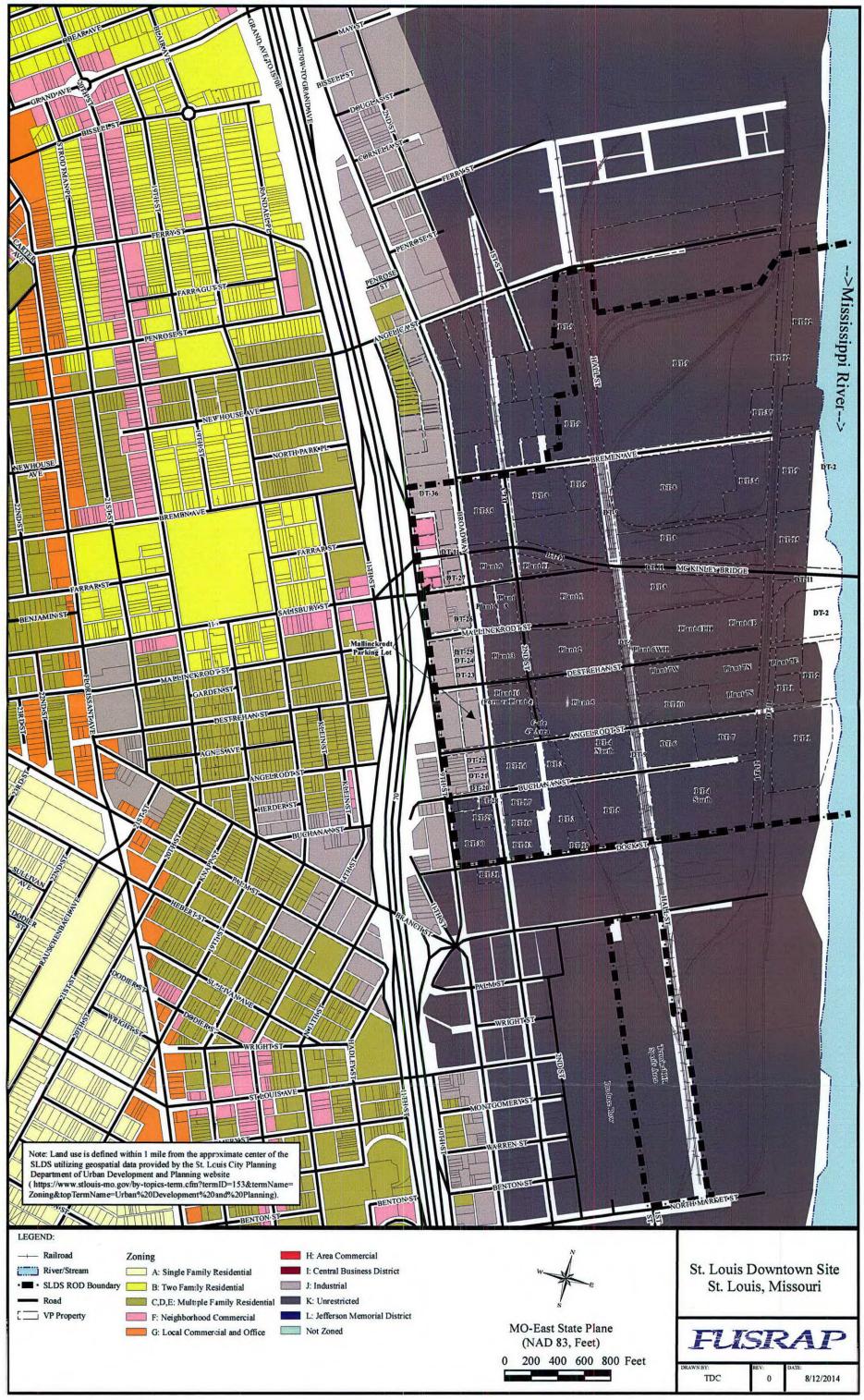












AR-136