



Jackson County Planning Commission

Staffed by the Region 2 Planning Commission (R2PC)
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2018 JCPC Annual Report

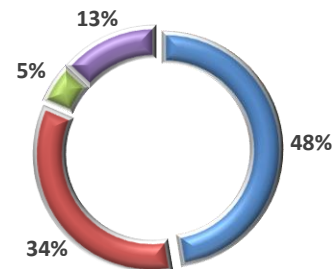
Section 19(2) of the *Michigan Planning Enabling Act* (PA 33 of 2008, MCL 125.3819(2)) states that “[a] planning commission shall make an annual written report to the legislative body concerning its operations and the status of planning activities, including recommendations regarding actions by the legislative body related to planning and development. Section 103(B) of the *Jackson County Planning Commission Bylaws* also includes the preparation of an annual report to the County Board as a duty of the Commission. Accordingly, the report for 2018 follows:

- 2018 JCPC Membership & Officers.** The Jackson County Planning Commission (JCPC) is comprised of nine (9) members. Mr. Timothy Burns, Ms. Nancy Hawley, Mr. Russ Jennings, and Ms. Jennifer Morris served as the Commission’s Members-at-Large during 2018. Commissioner Jonathan Williams represented the County Board and Ms. Amy (Torres) Guerriero represented the Industrial and Economic Interests of the County. Mr. Ted Hilleary, Mr. Roger Gaede, and Mr. Jim Videto served the County’s Educational, Environmental, and Agricultural Interests, respectively. Ms. Guerriero and Ms. Morris served as the Chair and Secretary of the JCPC, respectively.
- Immediate Responsibilities.** The Jackson County Planning Commission accomplished a lot during 2018 including the following responsibilities:
 - Coordinated Zoning.** A primary responsibility of the Planning Commission is to review and recommend action on proposed amendments to township zoning ordinances.

The JCPC made recommendations regarding thirty-one (31) proposed zoning amendments in 2018. Those requests came from the following townships: Parma (9), Grass Lake (4), Leoni (4), Spring Arbor (3), Summit (3), Blackman (2), Napoleon (2), Pulaski (2), Liberty (1), and Waterloo (1).

Rezoning accounted for 58% (18) of the zoning amendment requests. Text amendments accounted for 42% (13) of the zoning amendment requests which covered the following issues: medical marijuana (3), solar energy (3), wind energy (2), agricultural tourism (1), large gatherings (1), mixed uses (1), ordinance administration (1), and slaughterhouses (1).

**Total 2018
JCPC Cases**



- Rezoning (Map Amendments) (18)
- Text Amendments (13)
- Master Plans (2)
- PA 116 Agreements (5)

- b. **Coordinated Planning.** Another primary responsibility of the Commission is to review and provide feedback on municipal (i.e., city, village and township) master plans proposed within Jackson County as well as the master plans proposed by surrounding counties. The JCPC reviewed and commented upon two (2) proposed municipal master plans in 2018 for the following townships: Henrietta and Rives.
 - c. **Farmland Agreements.** A secondary responsibility of the Planning Commission is to review and make recommendations regarding Farmland and Open Space Preservation (i.e., PA 116) applications to pertinent Township Boards. The JCPC made a recommendation on five (5) applications regarding the preservation of farmland and open space in 2018 for the following townships: Pulaski (2), Columbia (1), Concord (1), and Henrietta (1).
3. **Ultimate Goal and Objectives.** In the long-term, the JCPC seeks to coordinate planning throughout Jackson County while respecting the planning and zoning authority of municipal governments (i.e., the city, villages, and townships). This will be accomplished over time by:
- a. **County Master Plan.** The Commission will develop a countywide master plan upon which it will base (in part) its recommendations regarding municipal master plans, township zoning amendments (i.e., rezonings and text amendments), and farmland and open space preservation applications. Towards that end, Commissioners commenced work on a new edition of the *Jackson County Master Plan* in late 2018.
 - b. **Education and Advocacy.** The Commission will continue to maintain a webpage—located on www.region2planning.com/jackson-county-planning-commission—regarding the County Planning Commission for the use of its members and the municipalities they serve.
4. **Meetings.** The County Planning Commission meets on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Commission Chambers on the 5th Floor of the County Tower Building.

*Submitted on the behalf of the Jackson County Planning Commission
Grant Bauman, JCPC Staff and Recording Secretary*