# County Planning & Zoning Officials of Iowa



Brian McDonough
Land Use Planning Coordinator
Polk County

CoZo President

**ISAC New Officers School 2023** 

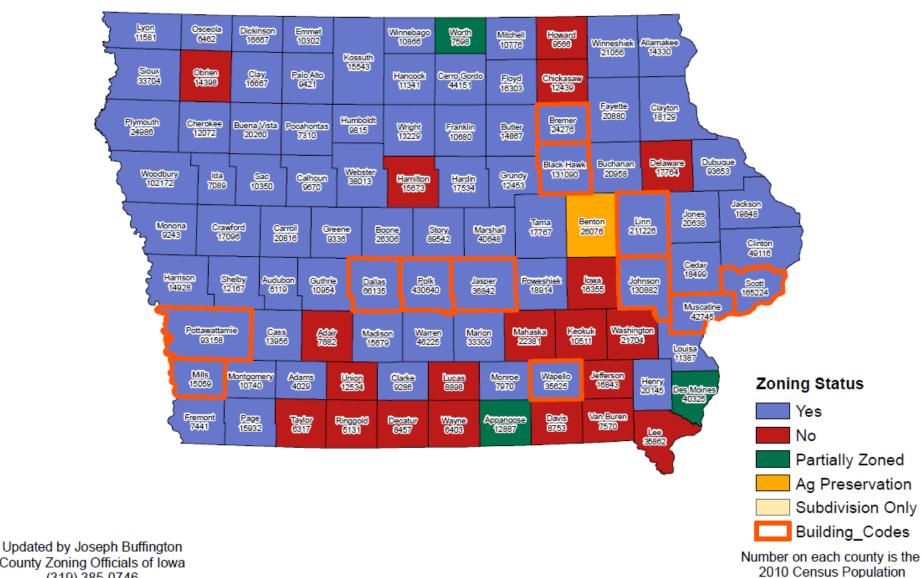
# County Zoning Officials Who are we? What are our responsibilities?

**Zoning Administrator** – many of our members also wear other "hats" (assessor, environmental health, etc.)

#### Enforcement of . . .

- Zoning Ordinance
- Subdivision Ordinance
- Building Codes
- > Floodplain Regulations

#### STATUS OF ZONING IN IOWA COUNTIES 2019



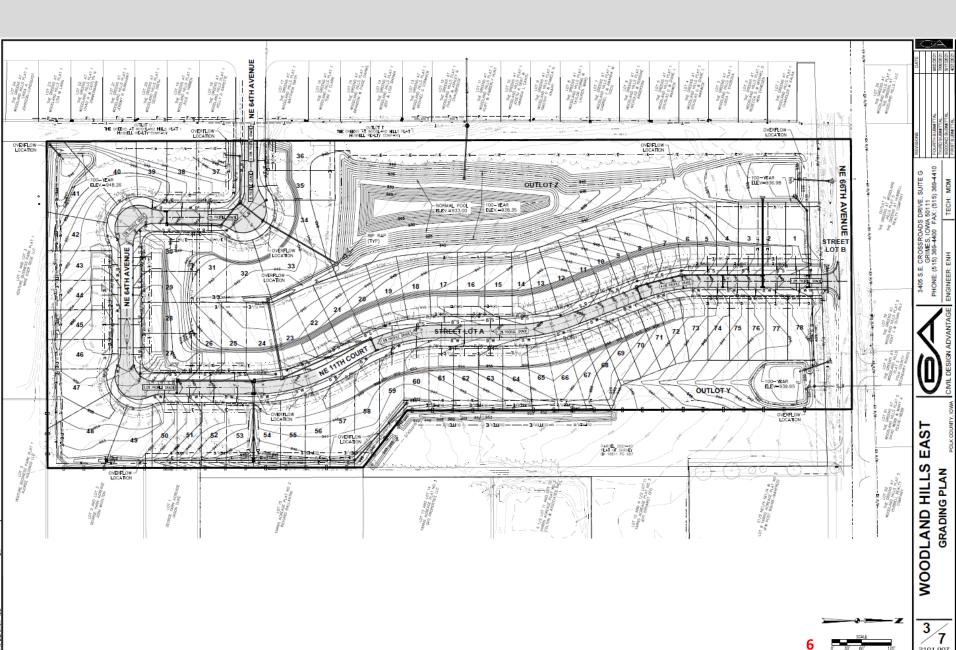
County Zoning Officials of Iowa (319) 385-0746 jbuffington@henrycountyjowa.us

### 5 Things You Need To Know About Zoning

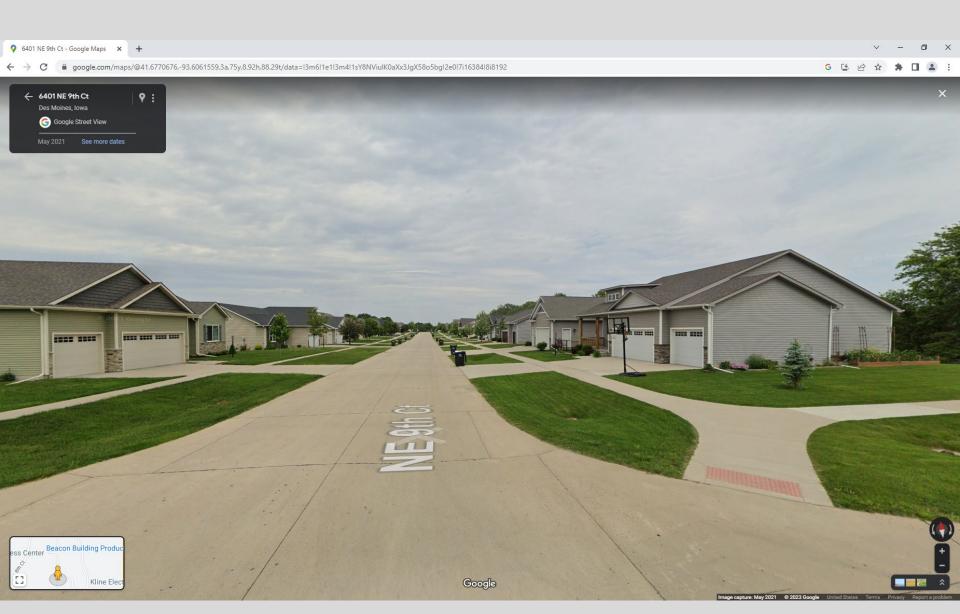
- 1. What is it?
- 2. Zoning is fundamental to good governance
- 3. Zoning preserves property rights
- 4. Zoning can do as little or as much as you want
- 5. Zoning doesn't matter . . . until it does

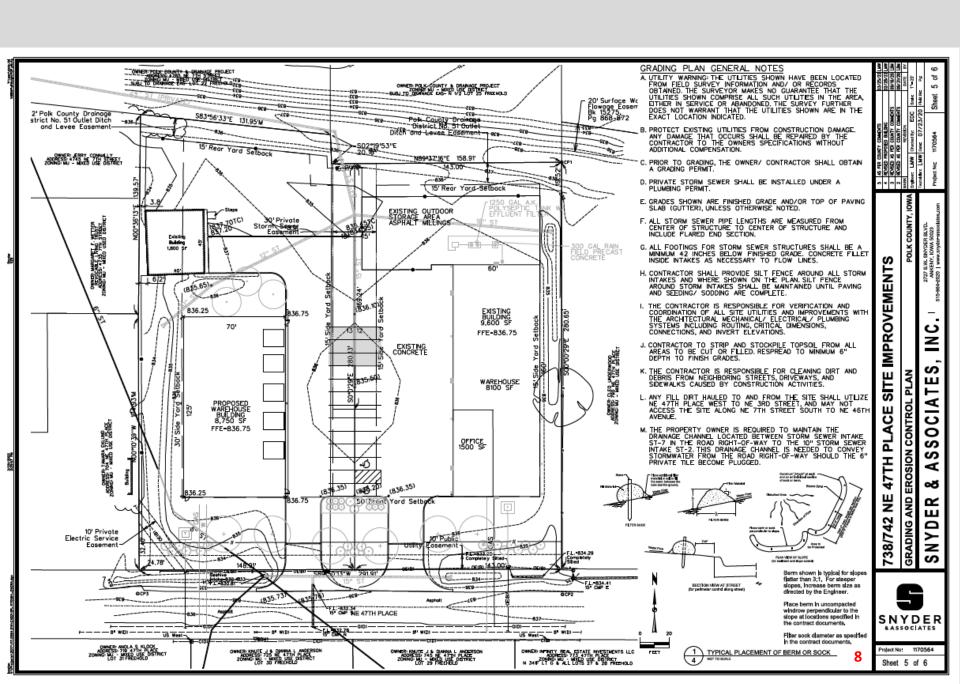
### What is Zoning?

- Creation of districts & separation of uses
- Bulk and use Standards
- Home-based business standards
- Natural Resource Protection
- Zoning Commission
- Board of Adjustment



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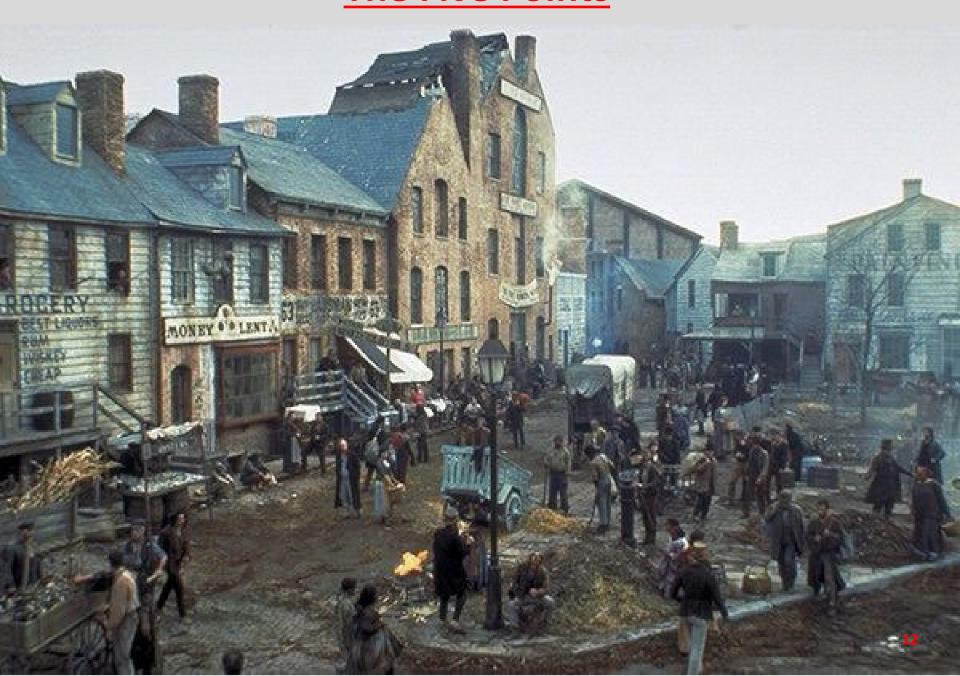




### Zoning is fundamental to good governance

- 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment Police Powers promotion of public life, health, safety and general welfare
- Zoning & public health
  - Ensure adequate light, air, privacy and convenience of access to property
  - Emergency access
  - Prevent overcrowding and disease
  - Allow adequate provision of public services

#### **The Five Points**



### **Zoning Preserves Property Rights**

- Continuity of the built environment
- Separation of incompatible uses
- Market predictability
- Protection for neighbors
- Equal & fair enforcement is paramount

### Zoning can do as little or as much as you want

#### What are your community needs?

- Development pressure
- Preservation of agriculture / natural resources
- Hazard mitigation planning
- Cleanup of neglected properties / code enforcement

Provides a public input process for decision making

### Zoning doesn't matter, until it does





## County Planning & Zoning Officials of Iowa - CoZo



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