

# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

86-00021



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ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING  
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Honorable Jack K. Courson, Mayor  
The City of Leeds  
P. O. Box 126  
Leeds, AL 35094

Municipalities - Voting - Maps -  
Ordinances

Although publication of zoning  
map not required by statute, it  
is recommended as a matter of  
public policy.

Dear Mayor Courson:

The opinion request of the City of Leeds has been received  
in the Office of the Attorney General. Your resolution  
presents the following information and question:

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Leeds  
occasionally amends the master zoning plan and map  
for the City of Leeds, and

WHEREAS, it will now be more difficult to pub-  
lish the zoning map since the city limits have been  
extended in several directions and since the zoning  
map is being put on separate section maps,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and  
City Council of the City of Leeds that the Attorney  
General of the State of Alabama be asked for an  
opinion as to whether or not a zoning map must be  
published with the notice and ordinance when a com-  
prehensive rezoning of the entire city or a large  
area is being done.

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A review of the applicable statutes reveals no statutory requirement that a zoning map must be published with the notice and zoning ordinance. However, in many instances a zoning map is a part of the ordinance and would, under the circumstances, have to be published in order for the ordinance to be "published in full" in compliance with Code of Alabama 1975, § 11-52-77.

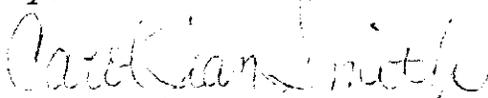
Even though there is no statutory mandate, this office is aware that the Alabama League of Municipalities in its publication, Selected Readings for the Municipal Official, takes the position that the municipal zoning ordinance should be accompanied by a map. Because comprehensive zoning ordinances can be very intricate, it appears that as a matter of public policy a map should be made available to the public when such an important decision is being made. Therefore, this office urges municipal officials to publish such a map when involved in the process of adopting a comprehensive rezoning of the entire city or a large area.

If we may be of assistance to you in this or any other matter in the future, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK  
Attorney General

By:



CAROL JEAN SMITH  
Assistant Attorney General

CAG/CJS/pd