

Adopted: 5/5/1981
Revised: 6/17/2008
9/22/2026

Saint Paul Public Schools Policy

802.02

802.02 PETITIONS FOR CONSENT FOR REZONING

I. POLICY PURPOSE

The Board of Education recognizes that land-use decisions in the community directly impact the safety, environment, and operational integrity of school sites. The purpose of this policy is to guide the District's review of proposed changes in land use zoning adjacent to school sites.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. **Evaluation Criteria.** When notified of a proposed rezoning or land-use change, the District shall evaluate the proposal based on its potential impact on:

1. Student Safety: Changes in traffic patterns, pedestrian crossings, or increased high-density transit.
2. Environmental Health: Potential increases in noise, light pollution, air quality issues, or hazardous material usage.
3. Operational Integrity: Encroachment on school boundaries, privacy of playgrounds/classrooms, or interference with future expansion plans.

B. **Petitions for Consent.** If the School District is petitioned for Consent of Adjoining Property Owners to Rezoning, the Board or designee shall review the proposed rezoning to determine if the School District is adversely affected.

1. Petitioner Responsibility: The rezoning proposer, before submitting the petition for Consent of Adjoining Property Owners to Rezoning to the Board of Education, shall contact all affected property owners informing them about the proposed rezoning. The proposer shall also provide a detailed site plan and traffic impact study (if applicable).
2. Neutral Consent: If the Board or designee determines that the proposed rezoning will have no adverse effects on the School District, the Clerk of the Board shall sign the consent form. This signature shall include a mandatory disclaimer stating: "The Board of Education provides this consent for the purpose of the

application process only and neither supports nor disapproves the proposed rezoning”.

3. Declining: If the Board determines that the proposed rezoning will adversely affect the School District, the Clerk of the Board shall inform the proposer that the Board declines to sign the consent form. The Board or designee may contact the City of St. Paul or other entity to state the reasons.
- C. Proactive Participation Beyond formal "Consent" petitions, the District reserves the right to provide written or oral testimony at City Council or Planning Commission hearings regarding any land-use change that may affect the educational environment.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **“Adverse Impact”** Any action or decision that materially interferes with the District’s ability to provide a safe, quiet, and accessible educational environment, or any change that diminishes the value or intended use of District property.
- B. **“Consent of Adjoining Property”** The statutory or municipal requirement for a property owner to obtain the District's formal signature as a neighbor sharing a common boundary (including those separated by public rights-of-way) when seeking to alter the designated zoning classification of their land.
- C. **“Land Use Zoning”** The regulatory framework used by local municipalities to govern the density, type, and height of structures and the specific activities permitted on a land parcel.
- D. **“School Sites”** All land, buildings, athletic fields, and facilities owned or leased by the District for educational, administrative, or operational use.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

Minn. Stat. § 462.357, subd. 5 (Official Controls: Zoning Ordinance, (Amendment; certain cities of the first class))

Saint Paul Legislative Code § 61.801 (Zoning Application, Petitions, and Affidavits Packet)