

**City of Ridgeland
Community Affairs**

Post Office Box 217
304 Highway 51
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158
601.856.7113
www.ridgelandms.org



Gene F. McGee
Mayor

David W. Overby, CPA
Director of Finance &
Administration
City Clerk

Board of Aldermen

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PRESS RELEASE

**For more information, contact
Mayor Gene McGee, 601-856-7113**

Property Owner Participates in Northpark Shopping District

Ridgeland's Community Development Department is proposing a Northpark Shopping District for the area between I-55 and Pear Orchard Road, along County Line Road. They have been presenting the conceptual overlay district to property owners within the defined area. A meeting was held on April 19 with property owners, business leaders, elected officials, staff, and a consultant, Moore Planning Group, LLC.

As a result of the meeting and concept presentation, property owners showed positive support for an overlay district that would unify the area's appearance. Mayor Gene McGee said, "We are delighted with the very positive reaction from the business community in Ridgeland. The Northpark Shopping District, if actualized, has the potential to bring additional attention to the area for greater retail sales and economic growth."

The overlay district would establish consistent building colors, signage, landscaping, and site furnishings in order to develop a unified character for the area that includes retail businesses along County Line Road. Moore Planning Group, LLC recommends certain building colors be used for new buildings and renovations or maintenance to existing buildings within the Shopping District. Colors have been selected for roof and roof treatments, facades and accent/window frames.

The first property owner to volunteer participation in the proposed Northpark Shopping District is Gary Cress, owner of Townline Square. Tenants of Townline Square include CompUSA, Aaron's Rental, and Anna's Linen, the newest tenant who is yet to move in. "The City of Ridgeland applauds the effort of Gary Cress for painting his property according to the Northpark Shopping District selected colors. We appreciate his commitment to making Northpark Shopping District a reality, and we expect to see more property owners following suit," said Alan Hart, Director of Community Development for Ridgeland.

Participation in the District, if adopted by the Ridgeland Board of Aldermen, will be required; however, timing will be flexible to correspond with regular maintenance intervals, renovations, or new construction. Property owners will be required to use approved paint colors, signage, landscape, and site furnishing selections when it is time for exterior renovation, maintenance, or new construction. By choosing to use the District colors and other design

criteria, property in the area will be enhanced overall and result in increased revenues for the businesses. Although the concept is developed by the City of Ridgeland, City staff and officials are hopeful that the City of Jackson will also become involved by including businesses on the south side of County Line Road.

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