# CONDITIONAL USES In Residential Zones



#### **Should We Allow More Conditional Uses in Residential Zones?**

- Some non-residential uses in residential zones can already be approved by the Planning Commission.
- Offices are already allowed as conditional uses in medium and high density residential zones.
   Government offices would be allowed as a community service use.
- Expanding the list of possible conditional uses allowed in low density and zones and medium and high density zones might make sense.

### **Problems to Solve**

- The areas adjacent to Milwaukie's arterial streets are generally zoned for residential uses rather than mixed-use or commercial uses as in other cities.
- Many of the City's arterials are lined with legal and illegal nonconforming office uses, and established home offices.

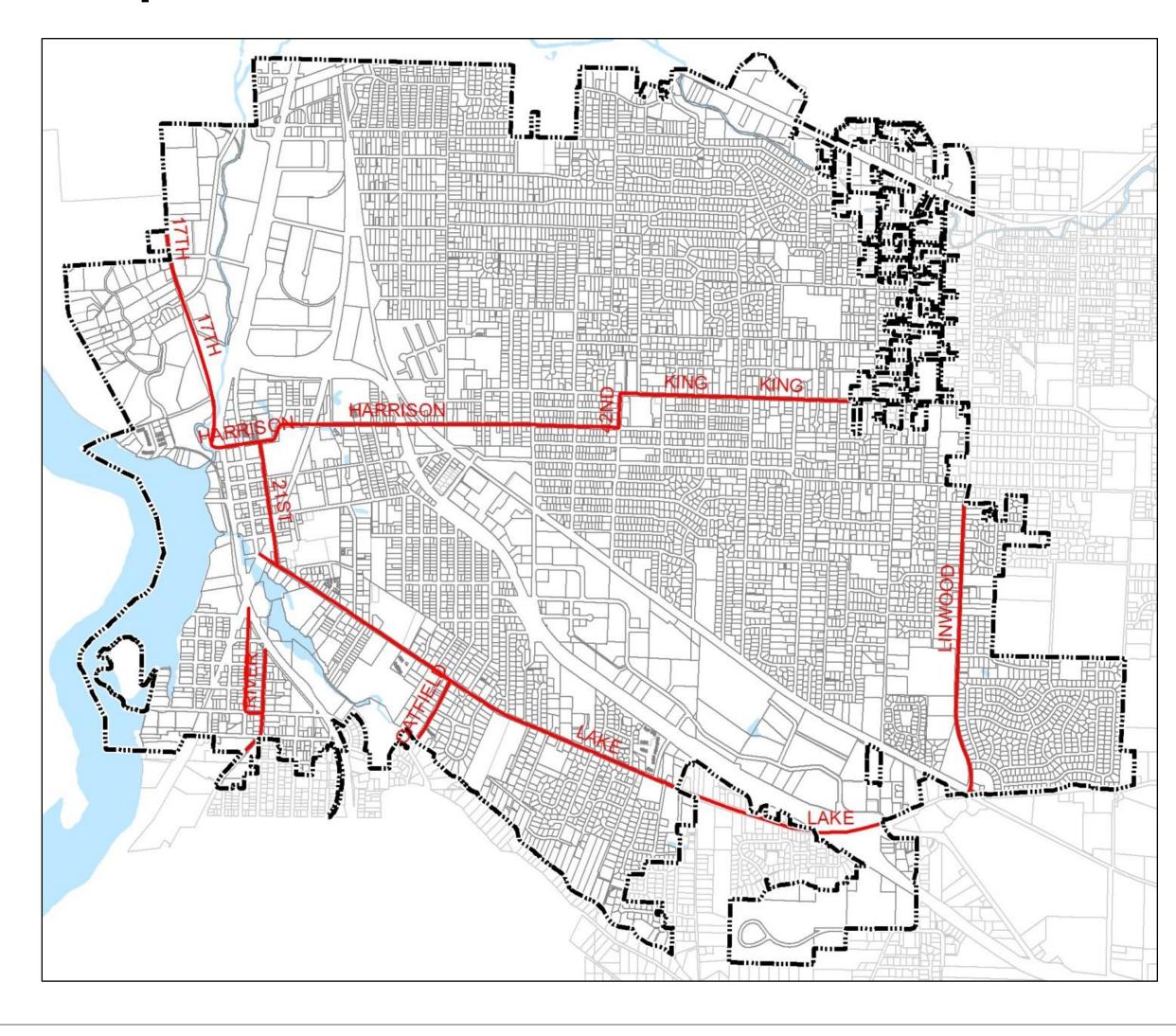


**Existing home office on King Rd.** 

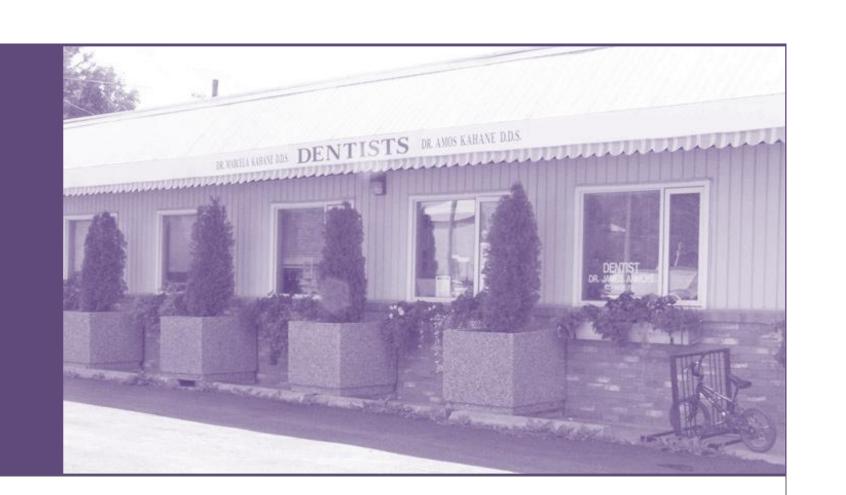
### Tools We Can Use

- **Discretionary land use review**. Conditional uses must be approved by the Planning Commission at a public hearing, and must meet the following criteria:
  - The site is suitable for the use.
  - The use will be reasonably compatible with, and have minimal impact on, nearby uses.
  - All identified impacts will be mitigated to the extent practicable.
  - The use will not have impacts greater than a residential use.
- Restrictions on location. Offices in low density residential zones would only be allowed along streets designated as "arterial."
- **Restrictions on size.** Offices in low density residential zones would be limited in size.

Arterial streets are shown below. Arterial streets in residential zones include: Harrison St; King Rd; Lake Rd; Linwood Ave; Oatfield Rd; portions of River Rd; and portions of 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave.



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## Key Recommendations

- Low density zones. Allow offices as conditional uses, subject to the following limitations:
  - Must be located on an arterial street as identified in the Transportation System Plan (TSP)
  - Maximum total floor area of 2,000 square feet, unless the Planning Commission approves a larger space in an existing building.
- Medium and high density zones. Allow personal service businesses as conditional uses.

#### Left to right: Dentist office; hair salon; home office







# **Anticipated Results**

- Provide a path for formalizing existing office uses that may not meet the strict definition of "home occupations."
- More signage associated with conditional use businesses.
- More neighborhood amenities such as salons, dentists, insurance offices, and similar uses in residential areas.
- Conversion of some houses to office or personal service business use.