



March 31, 2025

Municipal Zoning Outside City Limits

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Reference Number: CTAS-615

A municipality has statutory authority to enact zoning regulations for territory adjacent to but outside of its boundaries if that area has no zoning already in force. T.C.A. § 13-7-302. In order to enact zoning outside its municipal boundaries, the municipal planning commission must also be designated as the regional planning commission (T.C.A. § 13-3-102), and the municipality must file notice of intent with the county mayor at least six (6) months before the final enactment of the ordinance. T.C.A. § 13-7-303. If the county subsequently adopts zoning covering that territory, the municipal zoning is automatically superseded and repealed. T.C.A. § 13-7-306. According to the comprehensive growth planning law, a city may not zone outside its urban growth boundary once this boundary is in place. T.C.A. § 6-58-106(d).

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