

floating zone (See also spot zoning)

An unmapped zoning district where all the zone requirements are contained in the ordinance and the zone is fixed on the map only when the application for development meeting the zone requirements is approved. (Iowa State University Extension Service)

A zoning district that is described in the text of the zoning ordinance but not mapped as a specific district in a specific location. When a project of sufficient size anywhere within unrestricted areas can meet certain other requirements, however, the floating zone can be anchored and the area designated on the zoning map. (Handbook for Planning Commissioners in Missouri)

An unmapped zoning district that is established on the zoning map only when an application for development, meeting the zoning requirements, is approved. (Newport, R.I.)

A Planners Dictionary, PAS 521/522, Planners Advisory Service, APA, page 184, April 2004