



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 24, 2025

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City of Zeeland Current Statement on Potential Mead Johnson Expansion

The Zeeland City Council understands the community's desire for more details on Mead Johnson's potential plans to invest in the Zeeland Facility. We feel we are a better community when community members are engaged in City matters. While discussions between the City and Mead Johnson have occurred regarding Mead Johnson's potential desire to invest in our community, no site plans have been filed with the City. The lack of plans is the result of Mead Johnson not yet deciding on if they will invest in their Zeeland site or some other site in the U.S. as they continue to perform their due diligence. This due diligence does include Mead Johnson's evaluation of property needs in Zeeland. City Council has made known its desire to maintain Mead Johnson's presence in our community, which has now been 100+ years. We however also want to be attentive to the concerns of the residential neighborhood adjacent to Mead Johnson. While trying to reach a balance of our community's needs, the City has conveyed:

1. We are not in support of any development occurring south of Main Avenue – Mead Johnson has confirmed they have no desire for any development south of Main and they are no longer pursuing any property south of Main.
2. We are supportive of Mead Johnson's construction efforts focused on the interior portions of Mead Johnson's property currently zoned industrial.
3. Until the City knows the full scope of the plans and their possible impacts (positive or negative), the City cannot issue a firm position for or against potential expansion (north of Main) on property that is not currently zoned for industrial use.

Ultimately, maintaining the balance between viable residential, commercial, industrial, schools, churches, parks, etc. will keep Zeeland such a unique community. At this time, we feel these potential transactions are private property matters and until we have more information, we will remain open-minded so that decisions can ultimately be made for the betterment of the community. Which, through our discussions with all parties, seems to be what everyone desires. Similarly, should rezoning need to occur for Mead Johnson's possible use, we will use available information to make decisions that best meet the long-term needs of the community. And finally, any possible review of site plans will also keep the best interests of the entire community at the forefront. As applications, plans, etc. may be submitted, those will be publicly made available, and they will go through all the required public hearings and rigorous review processes for approval/denial considerations.

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