



**LORAIN CITY COUNCIL**  
**200 WEST ERIE AVE, ROOM 103**  
**LORAIN OH 44052**  
CITYOFLORAIN.ORG

OFFICE (440)204-2050

FAX (440)204-2521

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Wednesday, August 20, 2025

To the Members of the Lorain Zoning Board:

I am writing with a deep sense of urgency to request an immediate moratorium on the development of additional storage units in the City of Lorain, particularly within the 3rd Ward. While storage units may generate limited property tax revenue and temporary construction jobs, they do not create lasting employment, essential services, or vibrant commercial activity. In fact, an overabundance of storage facilities threatens the vitality of our neighborhoods and limits opportunities for meaningful economic growth.

The impending closure of the Apples Grocery Store on Meister Road highlights the critical decisions we face. Potentially converting this key community space into another storage facility would be a devastating loss for our residents, who rely on accessible goods, services, and local jobs. The city cannot afford to allow these spaces to be used in ways that provide minimal benefit while stifling real economic opportunity.

We must take bold action to attract businesses that bring good-paying jobs, essential services, and sustainable growth to Lorain. I urge the Administration and Zoning Board to work proactively with property owners to explore alternatives that serve the long-term interests of our community. Additionally, establishing minimum distance requirements between storage units would help prevent oversaturation and ensure that our commercial corridors are used strategically to strengthen, not weaken, our neighborhoods.

The future of the 3rd Ward—and the city as a whole—depends on the decisions we make today. Our residents deserve investments that revitalize neighborhoods, support families, and foster economic opportunity. Every empty lot or vacated building is a chance to create real value, and storage units are not that solution.

I urge the Zoning Board to act decisively, placing the needs of Lorain's residents and its economic future above short-term convenience. The time to prioritize real economic development and neighborhood vitality is now.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Pamela Carter  
Councilwoman, 3rd Ward