

# REGIONAL REVIEW NOTIFICATION

Atlanta Regional Commission • 229 Peachtree Street NE | Suite 100 | Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • ph: 404.463.3100 fax: 404.463.3205 • atlantaregional.org

**DATE**: October 26, 2022

TO: Chairman Romona Jackson Jones, Douglas County
ATTN TO: Phil Shafer, Zoning Administrator, Douglas County

**RE:** Development of Regional Impact Review

FROM: Mike Alexander, Director, ARC Center for Livable Communities

ARC has completed a preliminary regional review of the following DRI. ARC reviewed the DRI's relationship to regional plans, goals and policies – and impacts it may have on the activities, plans, goals and policies of other local jurisdictions as well as state, federal and other agencies. This Preliminary Report does not address whether the DRI is or is not in the best interest of the local government.

Name of Proposal: T5 - ATL III Data Center DRI 3747 Submitting Local Government: Douglas County

<u>Date Opened</u>: October 26, 2022 <u>Deadline for Comments</u>: November 10, 2022

<u>Description</u>: A DRI review of a proposal to construct four two-story data center buildings totaling 1.6 million square feet with supporting access and utility infrastructure on an 80 acre site bordered by Douglas Hill Road and Factory Shoals Road in Douglas County.

# **PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:**

# **Key Comments**

The Atlanta Region's Plan assigns the Developing Suburbs growth management designation to the project site. The project is not aligned with Developing Suburbs policy recommendations which state "There is a need in these areas for additional preservation of critical environmental locations and resources, as well as agricultural and forest uses." It could be better aligned through retention of additional undisturbed wooded areas.

The project is expected to generate approximately 1,584 daily new vehicular trips; several improvements to mitigate project generated vehicular traffic are identified in the TIS.

No EV charging spaces appear to be included; provision of adequate EV charging spaces would be supportive of regional EV infrastructure policies.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for the approximately 203 surface car parking spaces proposed would be supportive of regional environmental policies.

# **General Comments**

The Atlanta Region's Plan, developed by ARC in close coordination with partner local governments, is intended to broadly guide regional development in the 12-county metro region to ensure that required infrastructure and resources are in place to support continued economic development and prosperity. The Plan assigns a relevant growth management category designation with accompanying policy recommendations to all areas in the region. This DRI site is designated Developing Suburbs; associated policy recommendations are provided at the end of these comments.

# **Transportation and Mobility Comments**

ARC's Transportation Access and Mobility Group comments will be provided in the Final Report.

The project is expected to generate approximately 1,584 daily new vehicular trips; several improvements to mitigate project generated vehicular traffic are identified in the TIS.

A total of 203 surface parking spaces are proposed. No EV charging spaces appear to be included; provision of adequate EV charging spaces would be supportive of regional EV infrastructure policies.

Sidewalks will be provided along the project's frontage along Douglas Hill Road and Factory Shoals Road.

Care should be taken to ensure that the constructed development provides an interconnected, functional, clearly marked and comfortable pedestrian experience on all driveways, paths, entrances, and parking areas. To the maximum extent possible, new driveways and intersection corners where pedestrians will cross should be constructed with minimal curb radii to reduce speeds of turning vehicles and decrease crossing distances for pedestrians.

# **ARC Natural Resources Comments**

ARC's Natural Resources Group comments will be provided in the Final Report.

# **Other Environmental Comments**

The project site is currently almost entirely undisturbed wooded area. Additional retention of existing undisturbed wooded area on the site would be desirable and in keeping with regional goals regarding carbon sequestration and climate change/heat island effect mitigation. There may be potential opportunities for linking these fragmented undeveloped areas with adjacent undeveloped or protected areas to ensure their maintenance and potential use for recreation or habitat preservation.

The project can support The Atlanta Region's Plan in general by incorporating other aspects of regional policy, including green infrastructure and/or low-impact design, e.g., pervious pavers, rain gardens, vegetated swales, etc., in parking areas and site driveways, and as part of any improvements to site frontages.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for the approximately 203 surface car parking spaces proposed would be supportive of regional environmental policies.

# Atlanta Region's Plan Growth Policy Considerations: Developing Suburbs

The Atlanta Region's Plan identifies Developing Suburbs as areas in the region where suburban development has occurred, and the conventional development pattern is present but not set. These areas are characterized by residential development with pockets of commercial and industrial development. These areas represent the extent of the urban service area. There is a need in these areas for additional preservation of critical environmental locations and resources, as well as agricultural and forest uses. Limited existing infrastructure in these areas will constrain the amount of additional growth that is possible. Transportation improvements are needed within these Developing Suburbs, but care should be taken not to spur unwanted growth.

The Atlanta Region's Plan assigns the Developing Suburbs growth management designation to the project site. The project is not aligned with Developing Suburbs policy recommendations which state "There is a need in these areas for additional preservation of critical environmental locations and resources, as well as agricultural and forest uses." It could be better aligned through the retention of additional undisturbed wooded areas and utilization of green infrastructure in surface parking areas. Douglas County leadership and staff, along with the applicant team, should collaborate closely to ensure optimal sensitivity to the needs of nearby local governments, neighborhoods, and natural systems.

# THE FOLLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES RECEIVED NOTICE OF THIS REVIEW:

Atlanta Regional Commission
Georgia Department of Transportation

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE
GEORGIA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY
CITY OF ATLANTA

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY
CITY OF SOUTH FULTON

CITY OF DOUGLASVILLE

For questions, please contact Donald Shockey at (470) 378–1531 or <a href="mailto:dshockey@atlantaregional.org">dshockey@atlantaregional.org</a>. This finding will be published to the ARC review website located at <a href="http://atlantaregional.org/plan-reviews">http://atlantaregional.org/plan-reviews</a>.





# **Developments of Regional Impact**

**DRI Home** Tier Map **View Submissions** <u>Login</u> **Apply** 

### **DRI #3747**

### **DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT Initial DRI Information**

This form is to be completed by the city or county government to provide basic project information that will allow the RDC to determine if the project appears to meet or exceed applicable DRI thresholds. Refer to both the Rules for the DRI Process and the DRI Tiers and Thresholds for more information.

#### **Local Government Information**

Submitting Local Government: Douglas Individual completing form: Phil Shafer

Telephone: 770-920-7313 E-mail: pshafer@douglascountyga.gov

\*Note: The local government representative completing this form is responsible for the accuracy of the information contained herein. If a project is to be located in more than one jurisdiction and, in total, the project meets or exceeds a DRI threshold, the local government in which the largest portion of the project is to be located is responsible for initiating the DRI review process.

# **Proposed Project Information**

Name of Proposed Project: T5 - ATL III Data Center

Location (Street Address, GPS Lat 33 degree45'38.87"N, Long 84 degrees36'17.11"W. An 80 acre tract bounded by

Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description):	Douglas Hill Rd to	
Brief Description of Project:	Proposing four 2-sory data center buildings infrastructure comprising 1.6 million square	
Development Type:		
(not selected)	Hotels	Wastewater Treatment Facilities
Office	Mixed Use	Petroleum Storage Facilities
Commercial	Airports	Water Supply Intakes/Reservoirs
Wholesale & Distribution	OAttractions & Recreational Facilities	Intermodal Terminals
OHospitals and Health Care Facili	ties Post-Secondary Schools	Truck Stops
Housing	Waste Handling Facilities	Any other development types
Olndustrial	Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants	
If other development type, describe	<b>:</b> :	
Project Size (# of units, floor area, etc.):	Four 2-story data center buildings comprising	ng 1.6 million square feet
Developer:	T5 Data Centers	
Mailing Address:	3344 Peachtree Rd., NE	
Address 2:	Suite 2550	
	City:Atlanta State: GA Zip:30326	
Telephone:	404-239-7145	
Email:	rsovie@T5datacenters.com	
Is property owner different from developer/applicant?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, property owner:		
Is the proposed project entirely		

(not selected) Yes No

located within your local

If no, in what additional jurisdictions is the project located?	
Is the current proposal a continuation or expansion of a previous DRI?	(not selected) Yes No
If yes, provide the following information:	Project Name:
	Project ID:
The initial action being requested of the local government for this project:	Sewer
Is this project a phase or part of a larger overall project?	
If yes, what percent of the overall project does this project/phase represent?	Phase 1 is 22% of the overall project. Phase 2 will include the remaining 76% of the
	This project/phase: April 2024 Overall project: October 2025
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# **Developments of Regional Impact**

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Tier Map

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### **DRI #3747**

### **DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT Additional DRI Information**

This form is to be completed by the city or county government to provide information needed by the RDC for its review of the proposed DRI. Refer to both the Rules for the DRI Process and the DRI Tiers and Thresholds for more information.

#### **Local Government Information**

Submitting Local Government: Douglas

Individual completing form: Phil Shafer

Telephone: 770-920-7313

Email: pshafer@douglascountyga.gov

### **Project Information**

Name of Proposed Project: T5 - ATL III Data Center

DRI ID Number: 3747

Developer/Applicant: T5 Data Centers

Telephone: 404-239-7145

Email(s): rsovie@T5datacenters.com

# **Additional Information Requested**

Has the RDC identified any additional information

required in order to proceed with the official regional

(not selected) Yes No

review process? (If no, proceed to Economic

Impacts.)

If ves, has that additional information been provided

(not selected) Yes No

to your RDC and, if applicable, GRTA?

If no, the official review process can not start until this additional information is provided.

# **Economic Development**

Estimated Value at Build-Out:

\$200,000,000.00

Estimated annual local tax

revenues (i.e., property tax, sales tax) likely to be

\$2.000.000 generated by the proposed

Is the regional work force sufficient to fill the demand created by the proposed project?

(not selected) Yes No

Will this development displace any existing uses?

(not selected) Yes No

If yes, please describe (including number of units, square feet, etc):

### Water Supply

Name of water supply provider for this site:

Douglasville Douglas County Water Sewer Authority (DDCWSA)

What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?  Is sufficient water supply	0.042 MGD	
capacity available to serve the proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If no, describe any plans to expand the existing water supply capacity:		
Is a water line extension required to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, how much additional line (in miles) will be required?  Water is available. Project will upsize the existing line from 2" to 12" for approx 1,035 linear feet to serve the project at the request of DDCWSA and the County.		
Wastewater Disposal		
Name of wastewater		
treatment provider for this site:	Douglasville Douglas County Water Sewer Authority (DDCWSA)	
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.035 MGD	
Is sufficient wastewater treatment capacity available to serve this proposed project?	○(not selected)  Yes  No	
If no, describe any plans to e	xpand existing wastewater treatment capacity:	
Is a sewer line extension required to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, how much additional li	ne (in miles) will be required?	
	Land Transportation	
How much traffic volume is expected to be generated by the proposed development, in peak hour vehicle trips per day? (If only an alternative measure of volume is available, please provide.)	1,584 daily trips, 202 AM peak hour trips, 170 PM peak hour trips	
Has a traffic study been		
performed to determine whether or not transportation or access improvements will be needed to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
Are transportation improvements needed to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, please describe below:Please refer to traffic study prepared by Kimley-Horn and Assoc.		
Calid Wasta Dianagal		
	Solid Waste Disposal	
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	2,928 TPY	
Is sufficient landfill capacity available to serve this proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If no, describe any plans to expand existing landfill capacity:		
Will any hazardous waste be generated by the development?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, please explain:		
Stormwater Management		
What percentage of the site		

What percentage of the site 62% is projected to be impervious surface once the

proposed development has been constructed?		
Describe any measures proposed (such as buffers, detention or retention ponds, pervious parking areas) to mitigate the project's impacts on stormwater management: The site will utilize buffers, green infrastructure including grass swales, vegetated filter strips, and bio-infiltration measures where feasible to provide runoff reduction and TSS removal. Stormwater ponds will be utilized to provide water quality, channel protection and detention in accordance with Douglas County's Ordinances and the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.		
Environmental Quality		
Is the development located within, or likely to affect any of the following:		
Water supply watersheds?	(not selected) Yes No	
2. Significant groundwater recharge areas?	(not selected) Yes No	
3. Wetlands?	(not selected) Yes No	
4. Protected mountains?	(not selected) Yes No	
5. Protected river corridors?	(not selected) Yes No	
6. Floodplains?	(not selected) Yes No	
7. Historic resources?	(not selected) Yes No	
8. Other environmentally sensitive resources?	○(not selected)○Yes◎No	
If you answered yes to any question above, describe how the identified resource(s) may be affected: A private road will be constructed across a small creek that divides the property. The crossing will be perpendicular to the stream. USACE approval will be required for the creek crossing.		
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