

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: September 12, 2022

TO: Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson, Gwinnett County
ATTN TO: Catherine Long, Planning Manager, Gwinnett 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: Aventon Park DRI 3734 Submitting Local Government: Gwinnett County

Date Opened: September 12, 2022 Deadline for Comments: September 27, 2022

Date to Close: September 29, 2022

<u>Description</u>: A DRI review of a proposal to construct a mixed-use development consisting of 662 multifamily units with a clubhouse and amenities, 5,400 square feet of restaurant space, and 16,700 square feet of office/retail space on an approximately 58 acre site on US Highway 78 east of Rosebud Road in Gwinnett County. The currently mostly wooded site includes several wetland areas and a segment of Brushy Fork Creek.

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:

Key Comments

The Atlanta Region's Plan assigns the Developing Suburbs growth management designation to the project site. The project is not well aligned with the portion of the 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 areas and through the management of the substantial amount of proposed open wetlands/preservation area around Brushy Fork Creek for conservation purposes.

The mixed use aspect of the project is supportive of regional multi-modal transportation and placemaking policies. However, the residential elements of the project could be better integrated with the retail, office,

and restaurant uses though closer placement and the possible provision of a multi-use trail or other enhanced pedestrian connection linking the residential and other uses.

The site plan does not appear to show a sidewalk along the US Highway 78 frontage or a crosswalk connection across the highway to provide pedestrian access to the grocery store on the south side of the street. Provision of these basic pedestrian accommodations would be at least minimally supportive of regional walkability and multi-modal transportation requirements and policies.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for the roughly 1,229 surface car parking spaces proposed would be supportive of regional environmental policies.

The project is expected to generate approximately 3,732 daily new vehicular trips; several improvements to mitigate project generated vehicular traffic are identified in the TIS.

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 3,732 daily new vehicular trips; several improvements to mitigate project generated vehicular traffic are identified in the TIS.

EV charging spaces will be provided in accordance with Gwinnett County standards.

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

Much of the existing site is wooded; additional retention of existing trees on the site would be desirable and in keeping with regional goals regarding carbon sequestration and climate change/heat island effect mitigation. A substantial portion of the site is shown as open space and water quality protection buffer areas. Designation of this area as managed open/conservation space could meaningfully reduce the overall impact of the project. 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 1,229 car and truck surface parking spaces 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 project is not well aligned with The Atlanta Region's Plan recommendations for Developing Suburbs which generally call for preserving environmentally sensitive, agricultural, and forested land. The project could be made more responsive to these goals and policies by retaining additional natural wooded area, dedicating undisturbed areas for conservation uses, and employing green infrastructure in the surface parking areas. Gwinnett 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 LOGANVILLE

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY CITY OF GRAYSON CITY OF SNELLVILLE WALTON COUNTY

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Developments of Regional Impact

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

DRI #3734

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: Gwinnett

Individual completing form: Catherine Long

Telephone: 678.518.6106

E-mail: catherine.long@gwinnettcounty.com

*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: Aventon Park

Location (Street Address, GPS US Highway 78 (Parcel ID R5125 005)

Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description):

Brief Description of Project: A mixed-use development on approximately 57.75 acres, consisting of 662 multifamily units with a clubhouse and amenities, plus approximately 5,400 square

feet of restaurant space and 16,700 square feet of office/retail space

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
Hospitals and Health Care Facilities	Post-Secondary Schools	Truck Stops
Housing	OWaste Handling Facilities	Any other development types
Industrial	Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants	
If other development type, describe:		
Project Size (# of units, floor area, etc.): 66	2 multifamily units	
Developer: Av	enton Companies	
Mailing Address: 12	01 Edwards Mill Road, Suite 120	
Address 2:		

Telephone: 919.451.2093

Email: rperera@aventoncompanies.com

City:Raleigh State: NC Zip:27607

Is property owner different from (not selected) Yes No

developer/applicant?

If yes, property owner: Abe Podber, et al.

Is the proposed project entirely located within your local

(not selected) Yes No government's jurisdiction?



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DRI Site Map | Contact





Developments of Regional Impact

DRI Home

Tier Map

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DRI #3734

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 Gwinnett

Government:

Individual completing form: Catherine Long

Telephone: 678.518.6106

Email: catherine.long@gwinnettcounty.com

Project Information

Name of Proposed Project: Aventon Park

DRI ID Number: 3734

Developer/Applicant: Aventon Companies

Telephone: 919.451.2093

Email(s): rperera@aventoncompanies.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:

\$250,332,431

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

\$3.549.077 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:

Gwinnett County DWR

What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.20 MGD
Is sufficient water supply capacity available to serve the proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No
If no, describe any plans to e	xpand 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?
	Wastewater Disposal
Name of wastewater treatment provider for this site:	Gwinnett County DWR
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.17 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.)	Daily: 3,732 trips; AM: 342 trips, PM: 285 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	:See traffic impact study
	Solid Waste Disposal
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	Approx. 540 tons
Is sufficient landfill capacity available to serve this proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No
If no, describe any plans to e	xpand 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 is projected to be	+/-38%
is projected to be	

What percentage of the site +/-38% is projected to be impervious surface once the proposed development has been constructed?

Environmental Quality				
s the development located w	the development located within, or likely to affect any of the following:			
l. Water supply vatersheds?	(not selected) Yes No			
2. Significant groundwater echarge areas?	(not selected) Yes No			
3. Wetlands?	(not selected) Yes No			
. Protected mountains?	(not selected) Yes No			
5. Protected river corridors?	(not selected) Yes No			
6. Floodplains?	(not selected) Yes No			
'. Historic resources?	(not selected) Yes No			
Other environmentally sensitive resources?	(not selected) Yes No			
The site contains 3.71 acres	uestion above, describe how the identified resource(s) may be affected: of wetlands along with a 1.11 acre existing pond. The majority of the wetland area is being eft in its natural condition, with limited wetland impacts of approximately 1/4 acre and			

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