

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 19, 2022

TO: Mayor Trey King, City of Dacula

ATTN TO: Brittni Nix, Director of Planning and Economic Development, City of Dacula

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: Harbin 2 DRI 3700

Submitting Local Government: City of Dacula

<u>Date Opened</u>: October 19, 2022 <u>Comments Deadline</u>: November 3, 2022 <u>Date to Close</u>: November 4, 2022

<u>Description</u>: A DRI review of a proposal to construct a mixed-use development with 137,300 SF of commercial space, 304 multi-family units, and 53 townhouses on a 54-acre site on Harbins Road south of University Parkway in the city of Dacula.

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:

Key Comments

The Atlanta Region's Plan assigns the Developing Suburbs growth management designation to the project site. The project is partially 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 areas around Palm Creek and through the management of the substantial amount of proposed open wetlands/preservation area for conservation purposes.

The mixed-use aspect of the project is supportive of regional multi-modal transportation and placemaking policies.

The project is expected to generate approximately 3,913 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.

The proposed walking trail adjacent to preserved natural areas is supportive of regional multi-modal transportation and environmental policies.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for the approximately 1,056 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 3,516 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.

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

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 along Palm Creek 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.

The proposed walking trail adjacent to preserved natural areas is supportive of regional multi-modal transportation and environmental policies.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for the approximately 1,056 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 project is partially 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 areas around Palm Creek, the provision of a management mechanism for the substantial amount of proposed open space/wetlands preservation area, and utilization of green infrastructure in surface parking areas. City of Dacula 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 LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY
CITY OF AUBURN

GWINNETT COUNTY
BARROW COUNTY

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





Developments of Regional Impact

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

DRI #3700

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: Dacula Individual completing form: Brittni Nix

Telephone: 7709637451

E-mail: brittni.nix@daculaga.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: Harbin 2

Location (Street Address, GPS R5278 002, R5278 002B, and R5278 006

Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description):

Is the proposed project entirely located within your local

government's jurisdiction?

Brief Description of Project: A Planned Mixed-Use Development comprised of five (5) office/commercial/retail out

parcels (15.67 acres), 304 multi-family units and 53 townhouses (22.02 acres), and

	open space (13.39 acres).	
Development Type:		
(not selected)	Hotels	Wastewater Treatment Facilities
Office	Mixed Use	Petroleum Storage Facilities
Commercial	Airports	Water Supply Intakes/Reservoirs
Wholesale & Distribution	Attractions & Recreational Facilities	Intermodal Terminals
Hospitals and Health Care Facilit	ies Post-Secondary Schools	Truck Stops
Housing	Waste Handling Facilities	Any other development types
Olndustrial	Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants	
If other development type, describe:		
Project Size (# of units, floor area, etc.):	357 residential units (22.02 acres); 5 out pa	rcels (15.67 acres)
Developer:	WWP Acquisition, LLC	
Mailing Address:	1960 Satellite Blvd, Suite 4000	
Address 2:		
	City:Duluth State: GA Zip:30097	
Telephone:	770-339-0475	
Email:	mglouton@atclawfirm.com	
Is property owner different from developer/applicant?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, property owner:	David E. McMillan; Jerry C.Johnson	

(not selected) Yes No

Is the current proposal a continuation or expansion of a previous DRI? If yes, provide the following Project Name:	
If was provide the following Project Name:	
information: Project ID:	
The initial action being requested of the local government for this project: Water Permit Other Annexation	
Is this project a phase or part of a larger overall project? (not selected) Yes No	
If yes, what percent of the overall project does this project/phase represent?	
Estimated Project Completion This project/phase: 2027 Dates: Overall project: 2027	
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Developments of Regional Impact

DRI Home

Tier Map

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Thank you for submitting your application. The DRI Application Number is 3700. To view the application at any time, you can go to http://apps.dca.ga.gov/DRI/AppSummary.aspx?driid=3700. Please contact your RDC if you have any questions or need to change any of the information on this form.

DRI #3700

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: Dacula

Individual completing form: Brittni Nix
Telephone: 7709637451

Email: brittni.nix@daculaga.gov

Project Information

Name of Proposed Project: Harbin 2

DRI ID Number: 3700

 $\label{eq:condition} \mbox{Developer/Applicant: WWP Acquisition, LLC c/o Andersen, Tate \& Carr, P.C.}$

Telephone: 770-822-0900

Email(s): mglouton@atclawfirm.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 yes, has that additional information been provided to your RDC and, if

(not selected) Yes No

applicable, GRTA?

....,

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

Economic Development

Estimated Value at Build-

\$124,000,000

Out

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

\$1,000,000

generated by the proposed development:

Is the regional work force sufficient to fill the demand

(not selected) Yes No

created by the proposed project?

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	
What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	157,404 GPD	
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	
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	136,873 GPD	
Is sufficient wastewater treatment capacity available to serve this proposed project?	ℂ(not selected) ℂYes ℂNo	
If no, describe any plans to expand 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?New pump station with an estimated 4,500 LF forcemain	
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.)	422	
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	:Pending traffic study: turn lanes into the site, removes site's new trips from through traffic	
Solid Waste Disposal		
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	1231 tons	
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 52%

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 project will preserve a large open space area providing natural protection to the onsite streams and wetlands. Additionally, the project will construct an onsite water quality and stormwater management facility to mitigate the runoff from the project's developed areas per the guidelines of 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: The proposed uses are allowed with no restrictions within the Alcovy Watershed.			
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