

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 14, 2022

TO: Mayor Tommy Allegood, City of Acworth

ATTN TO: Alex Almodovar, Development Director, City of Acworth

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: The Logan DRI 3775

Submitting Local Government: City of Acworth

<u>Date Opened</u>: September 14, 2022 <u>Deadline for Comments</u>: September 30, 2022

<u>Description</u>: A DRI review of a proposal to construct a mixed-use development on a previously developed 16 acre site at 5200 Cherokee Street in the city of Acworth in Cobb County. The project includes 208,980 SF of medical office space, a 180 room hotel, 500 multi-family units, 15,188 SF of restaurant space, and 11,132 SF of retail space.

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:

Key Comments

The Atlanta Region's Plan assigns the Established Suburbs growth management designation to the project site. The project is well aligned with Established Suburbs policy recommendations which emphasize the importance of preserving single-family neighborhoods with appropriate infill development.

The redevelopment of a site previously developed with one-story buildings and surface parking lots as a much higher-density project with a diverse mix of uses is highly supportive of regional walkability, multi-modal transportation, and environmental policies.

The project's urban design falls well short of regional placemaking goals and misses the rare opportunity to create a welcoming and memorable gateway from I-75 to historic downtown Acworth in a way that extends some of the downtown character to the north. Ideally the design could be revisited to create appealing

architecture along the whole Cherokee Street frontage with active ground floor uses or jewel box retail/café uses fronting a very wide sidewalk with outdoor café space and a pocket park.

The project is expected to generate approximately 13,828 daily new vehicular trips; several improvements to mitigate project generated vehicular traffic are identified in the TIS.

Additional attention should be given to substantially strengthening the fairly weak existing area pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure especially in regard to creating a walkable/bikeable link to the historic downtown.

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 to all areas in the region- Established Suburbs for this project – and provides accompanying growth policy recommendations which are detailed at the end of these comments.

Urban Design Comments

The project's urban design falls well short of regional placemaking goals and misses the rare opportunity to create a welcoming and memorable gateway from I-75 to historic downtown Acworth about a mile away in a manner that extends some of the character of the historic downtown. The proposed parking deck fronting Cherokee and the mid-block driveway needed to access it is a particular concern. This driveway splits what should be a continuous walkable segment fronting Cherokee Street. Ideally the design could be revisited, as discussed at the Pre-Review meeting, to create appealing architecture along the whole Cherokee Street frontage with active ground floor or jewel box retail/café uses fronting a very wide sidewalk with outdoor café space and a pocket park. The City's Comprehensive Plan strongly embraces this concept and provides numerous images of design examples that would work well.

<u>Transportation and Mobility Comments</u>

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

The project is projected to generate 13,328 daily new vehicular trips; a number of roadway improvements to mitigate the traffic impact are proposed.

The surrounding pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure is very limited and should be substantially strengthened to provide a safe and inviting pedestrian and bicycle linkage to downtown. Guests at the 180 room hotel and residents of the 500 apartments hotel could easily bike or even walk the one mile to downtown if an appropriate route is provided. This would lessen vehicular trips and provide customers for downtown businesses. Appropriate routes and crosswalks are also needed at the Logan Place/Cherokee Street intersection so that the many residents and hotel guests can cross Cherokee Street to access the

grocery store. A signalized intersection with safe wide crosswalks is the appropriate solution at this location; the roundabout which appears to be shown is not recommended as it prioritizes continuous vehicular movement over pedestrian comfort and ease of access.

Care should be taken to ensure that the development, as constructed, promotes 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 Group Comments

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

Environmental Comments

The project's reuse of a previously developed site is strongly supportive of regional environmental goals. The project can further 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.

Atlanta Region's Plan Growth Policy Considerations: Established Suburbs

According to the Atlanta Region's Plan, Established Suburbs are areas where suburban development has occurred and are characterized by single-family subdivisions, commercial development, and office, industrial and multi-family development. These areas represent the part of the region that has recently reached "build-out." With few remaining large parcels for additional development, these are the areas in which the region may see the least amount of land-use change outside of retail and commercial areas. While there is still room for limited infill development, these areas will begin to focus more on redevelopment over the next 30 years.

Preservation of existing single-family neighborhoods is important, and wholesale change will most likely not occur in the single-family subdivisions that make up a majority of these areas. However, infill and redevelopment will occur in areas of retail/commercial concentrations, especially commercial corridors. With its reuse of a previously developed site to create much higher density with a walkable diverse mix of uses, the project strongly aligns with The Atlanta Region's Plan's recommendations for Established Suburbs. However, the urban design of the project misses a unique opportunity to create a gateway development that could help extend the character of the historic downtown to the interstate. City of Acworth leadership and staff, along with the applicant team, should collaborate closely to ensure maximum sensitivity to nearby local governments, neighborhoods, land uses 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
COBB COUNTY

PAULDING COUNTY

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY
BARTOW COUNTY

CITY OF KENNESAW FORSYTH COUNTY

If you have any questions regarding this review, 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 #3775

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: City of Acworth Individual completing form: Alex Almodovar

Telephone: 770-974-2032

E-mail: aalmodovar@acworth.org

*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: The Logan

Location (Street Address, GPS 5200 Allatoona Gateway (PKA Cherokee Street)

Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description):

located within your local

	ixed use development consisting of multif tail, restaurant and a hotel.	amily apartments, medical office building
Development Type:		
(not selected)	Hotels	Wastewater Treatment Facilities
Office	Mixed Use	Petroleum Storage Facilities
Commercial	Airports	OWater Supply Intakes/Reservoirs
Wholesale & Distribution	OAttractions & Recreational Facilities	Ontermodal Terminals
Hospitals and Health Care Facilitie	s Post-Secondary Schools	Truck Stops
Housing	Waste Handling Facilities	Any other development types
Olndustrial	Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants	
If other development type, describe:		
	10,000 sf of Medical, 500 multifamily units stail, 150 h	, 15,200 sf of restaurant and 11,312 sf of
Developer: 27	78 Partners, LLC	
Mailing Address: 48	380 Lower Roswell Road	
Address 2: S	uite 165, #524	
С	ity:Marietta State: GA Zip:30068	
Telephone: 40	04-993-3343	
Email: fre	ed@lynwoodgrp.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



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DRI Site Map | Contact





Developments of Regional Impact

DRI Home

Tier Map

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DRI #3775

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 City of Acworth

Government:

Individual completing form: Alex Almodovar

Telephone: 770-974-2032

Email: aalmodovar@acworth.org

Project Information

Name of Proposed Project: The Logan

DRI ID Number: 3775

Developer/Applicant: 278 Partners, LLC / 5200 Allatoona Gateway (PKA Cherokee St.)

Telephone: 404-993-3343 Email(s): fred@lynwoodgrp.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

(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:

\$87,800,000

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

\$3,450,540.00 annual property tax revenue

generated by the proposed development: Is the regional work force sufficient to fill the demand

(not selected) Yes No

created by the proposed project?

(not selected) Yes No

Will this development displace any existing uses?

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

Water Supply

Name of water supply provider for this site:

Cobb County Water System

What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	.135 MGD		
Is sufficient water supply 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 I	ine (in miles) will be required?		
Wastewater Disposal			
Name of wastewater treatment provider for this site:	Cobb County Water System		
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	.339 MGD - peak flow		
Is sufficient wastewater treatment capacity available to serve this proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No		
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?		
	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 Trips: 13,418 AM Peak Hour Trips: 523 entering, 338 exiting PM Peak Hour Trips: 473 entering, 744 exiting		
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 detailed traffic study for more information.			
Calid Wests Disposal			
	Solid Waste Disposal		
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	2,350 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	Site was previously developed as a Shopping Center with approximately 80% of site impervious.		

What percentage of the site 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:Redevelopment of the site will incorporate BMP's to improve upon existing impervious nature of site.		
	Environmental Quality	
Is the development located within, or likely to affect any of the following:		
Water supply watersheds?	(not selected) Yes No	
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: Project located within Lake Acworth Watershed. No effect anticipated.		
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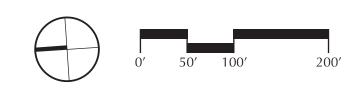
DRI Site Map | Contact



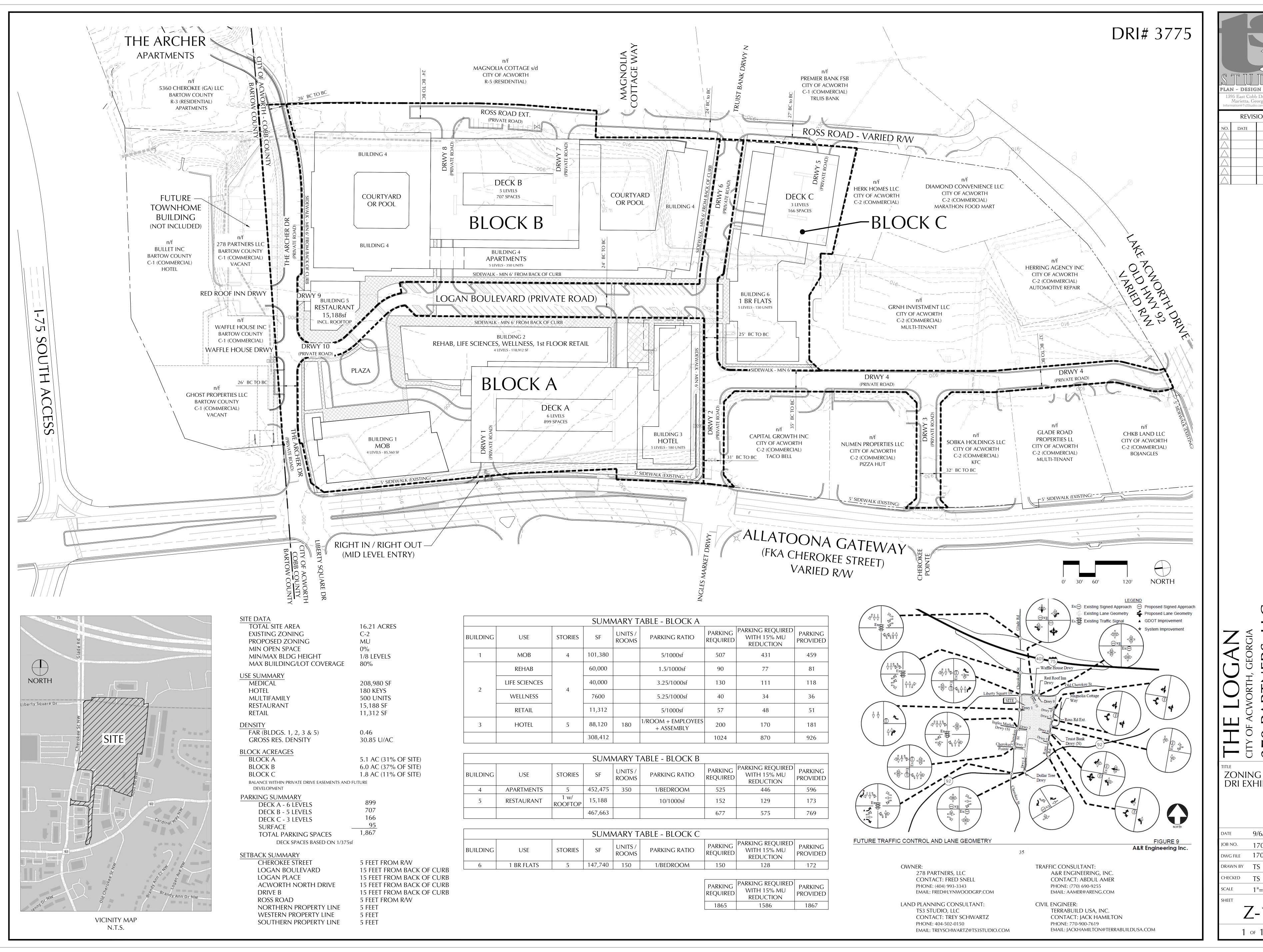
EXIT 278 BUILDING USE LEVELS SF UNITS PARKING MOB (MEDICAL) 101,380 **459** REHAB 60,000 LIFE SCIENCES 40,000 118 WELLNESS 7,600 **36** RETAIL 11,312 **51** HOTEL 88,120 180 181 **APARTMENTS** 452,475 350 **596 RESTAURANT** 15,188 173 1 BR FLATS 147,740 150 **172 PARKING** LEVELS SPACES **DECK A DECK B 707 DECK C** 166 MAGNOLIA COTTAGE WAY **SURFACE 95 TOTAL** 1,867 ROSS ROAD B **75** I-75 NORTH LOGAN BOULEVARD OUT PARCEL .63 AC ALLATOONA GATEWAY ALLATOONA GATEWAY RIGHT IN — RIGHT OUT **EXIT** 278











PLAN - DESIGN - ACHIE

REVISIONS DATE

ZONING & DRI EXHIBIT

9/6/22 17005 17005zw1 DRAWN BY TS 1"=60"