

# 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: November 29, 2023

TO: Chairwoman Carlotta Harrell, Henry County
ATTN TO: Yaritza Nieves, Planner III, Henry County
RE: Development of Regional Impact Review

FROM: Mike Alexander, COO, Atlanta Regional Commission

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.

<u>Name of Proposal</u>: Project Frasier DRI 4070 <u>Submitting Local Government</u>: Henry County

Date Opened: November 29, 2023 Comments Due: December 15, 2023

<u>Description:</u> A DRI review of a proposal to construct 820,913 SF of warehouse and cold storage space on a 46-acre site off of Highway 42 in Henry 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."

The project is expected to generate approximately 1,936 net new daily vehicular trips; minor roadway improvements are proposed in the TIS to mitigate generated vehicular traffic.

Incorporation of green stormwater and heat island mitigation designs for project hardscape would be supportive of regional environmental policies.

Use of permeable pavement and green infrastructure could substantially reduce the stormwater generated by the site and the corresponding size of the stormwater pond allowing for the trees in that area to be

retained. The stormwater pond should be designed using an approach that provides habitat for native plants and animals.

# **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.

Given the focused cold storage use of the project and limited number of employees, there are no real opportunities for utilizing or enhancing multi-modal transportation elements.

The project is expected to generate approximately 1,936 net new daily vehicular trips; minor roadway improvements are proposed in the TIS to mitigate generated vehicular traffic.

Care should be taken to ensure that the constructed development provides an interconnected, functional, clearly marked and comfortable pedestrian route 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**

Although located in an industrial area, the project is currently greenfield space with trees on about half of the site and grass on the other half. As the limited remaining forested and natural areas of the Atlanta region continue to be developed at a rapid pace while climate change creates warmer temperatures and more extreme weather events, there is a need to retain forested areas wherever possible. Use of permeable pavement and green infrastructure could substantially reduce the stormwater generated by the site and the corresponding size of the stormwater pond allowing for the trees in that area to be retained. The stormwater pond should be designed using an approach that provides habitat for native plants and animals.

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.

## 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 aligned with Developing Suburbs policy recommendations. It could be somewhat better aligned through retention of some undisturbed area, utilization of green infrastructure in hardscape areas, and utilization of green design for the stormwater pond. Henry 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 LOCUST GROVE
SPALDING COUNTY

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY
CITY OF HAMPTON

CITY OF McDonough HENRY COUNTY

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**

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

# **DRI #4070 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: Henry Individual completing form: Yaritza Nieves Telephone: 770-288-6415 E-mail: ynieves@co.henry.ga.us \*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: Project Frasier Location (Street Address, 1842 Highway 42 South, McDonough, GA 30252 (parcel 110-01019000) GPS Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description): Brief Description of Project: New cold storage facility **Development Type:** Hotels Wastewater Treatment Facilities (not selected) Office Mixed Use Petroleum Storage Facilities Airports Commercial Water Supply Intakes/Reservoirs Wholesale & Distribution OAttractions & Recreational Facilities OIntermodal Terminals Hospitals and Health Care Facilities Post-Secondary Schools Truck Stops Housing Waste Handling Facilities Any other development types Industrial Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants If other development type, describe: Project Size (# of units, floor area, etc.): 820,913 sq. ft.(total) Developer: NewCold Atlanta, LLC Mailing Address: 500 W Madison Street Address 2: Suite 3105 City:Chicago State: IL Zip:60661 Telephone: 620-640-3263 Email: zach.cash@newcold.com Is property owner different (not selected) Yes No from developer/applicant? If yes, property owner: Henry County Development Authority

Is the proposed project (not selected) Yes No

entirely located within your

local government's jurisdiction?		
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?	○(not selected)◎Yes○No	
If yes, what percent of the overall project does this project/phase represent?	58.6 (Phase II 420,843 sq. ft.)	
	This project/phase: 2025 Overall project: 2025	
Back to Top		

GRTA DRI Page | ARC DRI Page | RC Links | DCA DRI Page

DRI Site Map | Contact

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# **Developments of Regional Impact**

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## **DRI #4070**

#### **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

#### **Local Government Information**

Submitting Local Government: Henry

Individual completing form: Yaritza Nieves

Telephone: 770-288-6415

Email: ynieves@co.henry.ga.us

#### **Project Information**

Name of Proposed Project: Project Frasier

DRI ID Number: 4070

Developer/Applicant: NewCold Atlanta, LLC

Telephone: 620-640-3263

Email(s): zach.cash@newcold.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-

\$28,000,000

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

Approximately \$3,600,000

generated by the proposed development:

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

Henry County Water Authority

What is the estimated water supply demand to be		
generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	Approximately 0.0017 MGD (1,726 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	
	line (in miles) will be required?	
	Wastewater Disposal	
Name of wastewater treatment provider for this site:	Henry County Water Authority	
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	Approximately 0.0017 MGD (1,726 GPD)	
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	
	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.)	1,936 daily 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) ②Yes ○No	
Are transportation improvements needed to serve this project?	○(not selected) ○Yes ○No	
If yes, please describe below	:Please see the traffic study for further details.	
Solid Waste Disposal		
How much solid waste is the	·	
project expected to generate annually (in tons)? Is sufficient landfill capacity	Approximately 2,000 tons per year	
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 parameters 500 "	otominato. managomont	
What percentage of the site is projected to be impervious surface once the proposed development has been constructed?	Not to exceed 75%	

Describe any measures proposed (such as buffers, detention or retention ponds, pervious parking areas) to mitigate the project's impacts on stormwater management:Stormwater management facilities in accordance with Henry County Unified Land Development Code requirements.		
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: The property would appear to be located in close proximity to probable areas of thick soil (may be significant recharge areas). Compliance with the Henry County Watershed Protection Areas ordinance is required. The existing wetlands and stream buffer on the property have been mitigated per GA EPD Permit dated January 14, 2022.		
Back to Top		

GRTA DRI Page | ARC DRI Page | RC Links | DCA DRI Page

DRI Site Map | Contact





