

# **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 4, 2024

TO:	Chairwoman Carlotta Harrell, Henry County Commission
ATTN TO:	Kenta Lanham, 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.

Name of Proposal:Pates Creek Subdivision DRI 4176Submitting Local Government:Henry CountyDate Opened:October 4, 2024Deadline for Comments:October 19, 2024October 19, 2024

**Description:** A DRI review of a proposal to add 217 single-family lots to the 333-lot Pates Creek Subdivision in development on a 108-acre site with extensive stream and flood zone areas off of Pates Creek Road in Henry County.

## PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:

#### **Key Comments**

The project is not aligned with applicable Rural Areas policy recommendations set forth in the Atlanta Region's Plan which stress the need to protect rural areas and their character and note: "There is a strong desire from residents and elected officials in these areas to keep them rural...The region is striving to protect these areas by limiting infrastructure investments to targeted areas and allowing no development or only low impact development."

The project could be better aligned with Rural Areas policy recommendations by preserving additional area in a natural state and avoiding stream buffers and flood zones.

Ideally, single-family lots sold for development are situated outside of adjacent stream buffers. This ensures that encroachments are not later added by homeowners. When lots extend into buffers, it is important to ensure that later construction remains outside of stream buffers. A number of the proposed lots appear to extend so far into the buffers that it is unclear if a house can be constructed outside of the buffer.

Numerous parcels appear to be located within high-risk flood areas as designated by FEMA. The site plan does not appear to indicate the extent of these identified flood areas. As flooding in the region becomes an increasing concern, every effort should be made to reduce flooding risks to lives and property.

The overall project will generate a total of 4,367 trips; some modifications of nearby roadways are proposed to help mitigate the traffic impact.

## 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- Rural Areas for this project – and provides accompanying growth policy recommendations which are detailed at the end of these comments.

## Transportation and Mobility Comments

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

The project will generate a total of 4,367 new vehicular trips; a range of roadway modifications are proposed to mitigate the traffic impact.

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 Resource Group Comments

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

# **Environmental Comments**

Ideally, single-family lots sold for development are situated outside of adjacent stream buffers. This ensures that encroachments are not later added by homeowners. When lots extend into buffers, it should be ensured that actual construction remains outside of stream buffers. A number of the proposed lots appear to extend so far into the buffers that it is unclear if a house can be constructed outside of the buffers. The project can support The Atlanta Region's Plan by incorporating other 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.

#### Natural Disaster Comments

Numerous parcels appear to be located within high-risk flood areas as designated by FEMA. The site plan does not appear to indicate the extent of these identified flood areas. As flooding in the region becomes an increasing concern, every effort should be made to reduce flooding risks to lives and property.

### **Unified Growth Policy: Rural Areas**

This DRI site falls under the UGPM Rural Areas category which are areas in the region where limited development has taken place or and where development pressure is low. These areas are characterized by sporadic, large single-family lots, agricultural uses, protected lands, and forests. These areas border more central developed and developing areas and represent the limits of the urban service area in the region. There is a strong desire from residents and elected officials in these areas to keep them rural. Increased development threatens existing rural economic uses, such as forestry, agriculture, and tourism.

To maintain economic viability without undesirable development, these areas may be appropriate as "sending" areas in potential Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) programs. The region is striving to protect these areas by limiting infrastructure investments to targeted areas and allowing no development or only low impact development. There will be a continued need to maintain existing transportation infrastructure, but care should be taken not to spur unwanted growth by inappropriate expansion of infrastructure capacity.

The project is not aligned with Rural Areas policies. It could be more aligned with Rural Areas policies by reducing the potential for stream buffer impacts and retaining more natural open space. The final design of the project could further the intent of the Rural Areas recommendations by utilizing rural character elements in the design of project roads, bridges, fences, and related components.

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 Conservancy Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission City of Stockbridge Clayton County
- GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE GEORGIA ENV. FACILITIES AUTHORITY GEORGIA EPD CITY OF LOVEJOY

Henry County Georgia Department of Community Affairs City of McDonough City of Jonesboro

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





#### **Developments of Regional Impact** DRI Home Tier Map View Submissions <u>Login</u> Apply DRI #4176 **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 County Individual completing form: Kenta Lanham Telephone: 770-288-7534 E-mail: klanham@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: Pates Creek Subdivision, Phase 3 Location (Street Address, 1061 Pates Creek Road, Parcel 034-02056000 GPS Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description): Brief Description of Project: Additional 217 single-family lots to the existing 333 lot subdivision known as Pates Creek. 108.09 +/- acres. Lots to be a minimum 10,000 square feet with a net density of 3.32 du/acre net (phase) for a total density of 2.57 du/acre net. **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 Facilities OPost-Secondary Schools Truck Stops Waste Handling Facilities Housing Any other development types Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants If other development type, describe: Project Size (# of units, floor 217 single-family lots Developer: Hybrass Proeprties, LLC Mailing Address: 6350 Lake Oconee Parkway Address 2: Suite 110 PMB 51 City:Greensboro State: GA Zip:30642 Telephone: 770-679-4262 Email: doug@havenwoodholdings.com Is property owner different (not selected) Yes No from developer/applicant? If ves, property owner: Is the proposed project (not selected) Yes No

entirely located within your

#### DRI Initial Information Form

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:	Rezoning Variance Sewer Water Permit Other	
Is this project a phase or part of a larger overall project?	◯(not selected) <sup>®</sup> Yes <sup>No</sup>	
If yes, what percent of the overall project does this project/phase represent?	40%	
Estimated Project Completion Dates:	This project/phase: 2032 Overall project:	
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https://apps.dca.ga.gov/DRI/AdditionalForm.aspx?driid=4176

What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.072 MGD			
Is sufficient water supply capacity available to serve the proposed project?	(not selected) <sup>®</sup> 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 <sup>®</sup> No			
If yes, how much additional I	ine (in miles) will be required?			
	Wastewater Disposal			
Name of wastewater treatment provider for this site:	HCWA			
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.052 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 <sup>®</sup> 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.)	2,170 Daily Trips; AM Peak/Hr: 52 Enter, 102 Exit; PM Peak/HR: 111 Enter, 85 Exit			
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 <sup>®</sup> No			
Are transportation improvements needed to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No			
If yes, please describe below	:			
	Solid Waste Disposal			
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	Approx 410 tons annually			
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:				
development?	(not selected) Yes No			

#### **Stormwater Management**

What percentage of the site is projected to be impervious surface once the 35% of the site 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. This project falls within a watershed protection area and is therefore limited to maximum impervious surface for the entire development. Runoff will be mitigated with multiple detention ponds and the remaining open space.

#### **Environmental Quality**

Is the development located within, or likely to affect any of the following:

1. Water supply watersheds?	◯(not selected) <sup>®</sup> Yes <sup>®</sup> No			
2. Significant groundwater recharge areas?	◯(not selected)◯Yes <sup>®</sup> 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 <sup>®</sup> No			
If you answered yes to any question above, describe how the identified resource(s) may be affected:				

The proposed development will not adversely affect the existing wetlands or watershed as this area will be left for open space. The floodplain will not contain any structures and the site will be engineered in accordance with all applicable standards to prevent adverse impact.

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