

# 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:** January 29, 2025

TO: Mayor Andrew Dickens, City of Atlanta
ATTN TO: Steven Aceto, Urban Planner, City of Atlanta
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: 680 Spring Street DRI 4321 Submitting Local Government: City of Atlanta

<u>Date Opened</u>: January 29, 2025 <u>Comments Due</u>: February 13, 2025

<u>Description</u>: A DRI review of a proposal to construct a mixed-use tower with 626 units and 8,616 SF of retail space on a previously developed 2-acre site at 680 Spring Street in Midtown Atlanta in Fulton County.

# **PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:**

# **Key Comments**

The project is highly aligned with applicable Region Core policy recommendations which note: "The Region Core can handle the most intense development due to the amount of infrastructure already in place...this center needs to maintain easy accessibility by expanding multi-modal transportation options and housing options."

The project's height and density are appropriate to its location within easy walking distance of the North Avenue MARTA station, multiple MARTA bus route stops, Georgia Tech, and dozens of retail destinations that residents are likely to patronize.

The project will provide a substantial number of new households to support existing and new businesses.

The project's reuse of a previously developed site currently used for surface parking is strongly supportive of regional development goals.

The project is expect to generate a total of 1,127 vehicular trips with most other trips being allocated to transit and multi-modal alternatives.

EV charging spaces and bike parking spaces will be provided according to City of Atlanta requirements.

Consideration should be given to accommodating a future connection from the Varsity property to the south to the southern most driveway running from Spring Street to the western edge of the project so that the pedestrian experience from the project south to North Avenue can be dramatically improved.

# **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 Region Core; associated policy recommendations are provided at the end of these comments.

# Transportation and Mobility Comments

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

Consideration should be given to accommodating a future connection from the Varsity property to the south to the southern most driveway running from Spring Street to the western edge of the project so that the pedestrian experience from the project south to North Avenue can be dramatically improved.

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 Natural Resource Group will be provided in the Final Report.

# **Other Environmental Comments**

The reuse of a previously developed site currently used for surface parking is strongly supportive of regional environmental policies.

The project can further support The Atlanta Region's Plan by incorporating other aspects of regional environmental 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 Atlanta Region's Plan Growth Policy Considerations: Region Core

This DRI site falls under the Region Core area designation which, is the major economic, cultural, and transportation hub of the entire Atlanta metro region. This area is the densest in terms of employment, residential, and cultural offerings throughout the region, with the most developed transit service in the region.

The Region Core can handle the most intense development due to the amount of infrastructure already in place; however, this infrastructure may need improvements and enhancements due to its age and our region's changing lifestyle conditions. The lack of accessible public greenspace within the Region Core affects the area's aesthetics and overall quality of life for residents and workers. The Region Core competes with other central city areas in the southeast. The region must work together to keep this area as competitive as possible to lure additional high paying jobs and residents. With a growing regional population and growing congestion, this center needs to maintain easy accessibility by expanding multi-modal transportation options and housing options.

The intensity and land use of this project strongly aligns with The Atlanta Region's Plan's recommendations for the Region Core. The project utilizes previously developed land for new higher-density housing and retail space within walking distance of a MARTA stations, MARTA bus stops, Georgia Tech and other likely resident destinations. City of Atlanta leadership and staff, along with the applicant team, should collaborate closely to ensure optimal sensitivity to the needs and concerns 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
MIDTOWN ALLIANCE

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY

MARTA

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**

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# **DRI #4321 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: Atlanta Individual completing form: Steven Aceto Telephone: 4042050638 E-mail: saceto@atlantaga.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: 680 Spring Street Location (Street Address, 680 Spring Street, Atlanta, GA 30308 GPS Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description): Brief Description of Project: Mixed use high-rise building with 627 units and 8,616 SF ground level retail/restaurant. **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 OIntermodal Terminals Hospitals and Health Care Facilities Post-Secondary Schools Truck Stops Waste Handling Facilities Housing Any other development types Industrial Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants If other development type, describe: Project Size (# of units, floor Developer: LCD Acquisitions, LLC Mailing Address: 315 Oconee Street Address 2: City:Athens State: GA Zip:30601 Telephone: 706-543-1910 Email: Hamilton.Reynolds@LandmarkProperties.com Is property owner different (not selected) Yes No from developer/applicant? If yes, property owner: VRC ATLANTA RE LLC and FLP Atlanta RE, LLC 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	Project Name:		
	information:	Project ID:		
	The initial action being requested of the local government for this project:	Rezoning Variance Sewer Water Permit Other Special Administrative Permit		
	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?	100%		
		This project/phase: June 2028 Overall project: June 2028		
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# **DRI #4321**

#### **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 Atlanta Government:

Individual completing form: Steven Aceto

Telephone: 4042050638

Email: saceto@atlantaga.gov

#### **Project Information**

Name of Proposed Project: 680 Spring Street

DRI ID Number: 4321

Developer/Applicant: LCD Acquisitions, LLC

Telephone: 706-543-1910

Email(s): Hamilton.Reynolds@LandmarkProperties.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.)

applicable, GRTA?

If yes, has that additional information been provided to your RDC and, if (not selected) Yes No

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

## **Economic Development**

Estimated Value at Build-

\$219.000.000

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

\$4,000,000

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:	City of Atlanta				
What is the estimated water					
supply demand to be	to be determined by MED as plans progress				
generated by the project, measured in Millions of	to be determined by MEP as plans progress				
Gallons Per Day (MGD)?					
Is sufficient water supply capacity available to serve	(not selected) Yes No				
the proposed project?	(not solicated) = 103 = 110				
If no describe any plans to a	expand the existing water supply capacity:				
Capacity will be confirmed during City LDP plan review, however it is assumed capacity will be sufficient due to 10" main					
in Spring St adjacent to site					
Is a water line extension					
required to serve this	(not selected) Yes No				
project?  If yes, how much additional.	line (in miles) will be required?				
	ill be determined during City LDP review				
	Wastewater Disposal				
Name of wastewater					
treatment provider for this site:	City of Atlanta				
What is the estimated					
sewage flow to be					
generated by the project, measured in Millions of	to be determined by MEP as plans progress				
Gallons Per Day (MGD)?					
Is sufficient wastewater					
treatment capacity available to serve this proposed	(not selected) Yes No				
project?					
If no, describe any plans to e	expand existing wastewater treatment capacity: Capacity will be confirmed during City LDP				
	d capacity will be sufficient due to 15" main in Spring St adjacent to site				
le a cower line outi					
Is a sewer line extension required to serve this	(not selected) Yes No				
project?					
	ine (in miles) will be required?need for additional sewer line will be determined during City				
If yes, how much additional I LDP review	ine (in miles) will be required?need for additional sewer line will be determined during City				
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LDP review					
LDP review  How much traffic volume is expected to be generated by the proposed	Land Transportation				
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Stormwater Management		
What percentage of the site is projected to be impervious surface once the proposed development has been constructed?	87%	
Describe any measures proposed (such as buffers, detention or retention ponds, pervious parking areas) to mitigate the project's impacts on stormwater management:Underground detention and stormwater BMPs located in amenity areas  Environmental Quality		
1. 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 q	uestion above, describe how the identified resource(s) may be affected:	
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