AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Case Number: Z-23-43

Hearing Date: Monday, October 2, 2023

Applicant: The Gordon Group LLC

Property Owner: Applicant

Address of Property: 4200 Valencia Lane, Augusta, Georgia 30906

Tax Parcel #: 199-0-088-00-0

Present Zoning: R-1D (One-family Residential); R-3C (Multiple-family Residential)
Commission District: 8 (Brandon Garrett) Super District: 10 (Wayne Guilfoyle)

Fort Gordon Notification Required: No

Request	Proposed Use / Activity	Applicable Text
Rezoning from R-1D/R-3C to R-1E (One-family Residential)	Townhomes	Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Section 13

Summary of Request:

This request pertains to a 30.65-acre property in southern Richmond County, located around two-thirds of a mile down Goshen Road west from its intersection with Mike Padgett Highway. The property is adjacent to Village at Goshen, a development consisting of approximately 123 attached townhomes of varying sizes. The applicant is looking to build the next phase of this development consisting of an additional 77 units (52 two-bedroom units and 25 one-bedroom units) in attached structures of three-to-eight continuous units. To do so requires rezoning from R-1D and a portion in the middle of the property with R-3C zoning to R-1E. R-3C zoning does permit the proposed townhome expansion. However, rezoning the entire property to R-1E will remove the current split zoning and make it all consistent.

Comprehensive Plan Consistency:

The property is in the South Augusta Character Area. The 2018 Comprehensive Plan's vision for the South Augusta Character Area include the continued mix of housing types at low to medium density to preserve the suburban-style, single-family residential character that is predominant in the area. Recommended Development Patterns include maintaining low density single-family residential development in areas where it is already the predominant land use, infill residential development at densities compatible with the surrounding area.

Findings:

1. The property has access to public water and sanitary sewer.

- 2. Per the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Functional Classification Map, 2017, Goshen Road is considered a local road.
- 3. Augusta Transit does not serve the subject property.
- 4. In the conceptual site plan submitted with the application, the new phase connects to the current terminus of Tarragona Avenue and adding a second ingress-egress point to the development southwest of the main entrance on Goshen Road. A traffic impact worksheet was submitted with the application and is currently under review by Traffic Engineering. The traffic impact worksheet indicates that with the creation of an additional 447 automobile trips, the level of service (LOS) for Goshen Road will remain at level of service B.
- 5. Based on FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), a significant portion of the subject property is situated in some combination of floodplain and wetlands. Between 16 and 17 acres of the 30.65-acre property is in an AE flood zone (1% annual chance of flooding). The submitted conceptual site plan indicates that a portion of the proposed development will be located within the Shaded Zone X (0.2% annual chance of flooding).
- 6. According to the Augusta-Richmond County GIS Map Layer approximately 3.75 acres are freshwater forested/shrub wetlands. The submitted conceptual site plan indicates that no development will occur within the wetlands.
- 7. The following zones adjoin the subject property: R-1, R-1C, R-3B, and R-3C. A, B-2, and LI zones are also situated within 0.25 miles of the property.
- 8. There are several zoning actions at and in proximity to the subject property. Z-15-45 rezoned the property from an R-1/R-3C split to R-1D; Z-16-19 rezoned a portion of the property from R-1D back to R-3C. Z-17-15 rezoned land within prior phases of Village at Goshen, also from R-1D back to R-3C.
- 9. Unable to determine the proposed width of the lots from the submitted conceptual site plan.
- 10. Site topography is mostly flat, ranging approximately from 140 to 150 feet above sea level.
- 11. The proposed rezoning for the addition residential development is consistent with Comprehensive Plan as it would be an extension of current housing development at similar density.
- 12. At time of writing, staff have not received feedback from citizens pertaining to this rezoning request.

Recommendation: The Planning Commission recommends <u>Approval</u> to rezone the property to R-1E, contingent upon the following conditions:

- 1. Development of the property shall not exceed 77 townhome units with a minimum lot width of twenty-five (25) feet.
- 2. There shall be a twenty-five (25) foot buffer established from the delineated wetlands and no structures shall be located within the wetlands to avoid any negative impacts to this environmentally sensitive land.
- 3. The developer shall obtain any necessary permits required from Army Corps of Engineers for the development of the property.

- 4. The townhome units shall feature a minimum of four (4) substantively distinct front façade designs, to be approved by Planning & Development staff. No adjacent units shall use identical façades. The developer shall abstain from the use of vinyl siding along front façades.
- 5. Approval of the rezoning request shall not constitute approval of the conceptual subdivision plan submitted with the rezoning request. Subdivision Development Plan approval, in compliance with the Land Subdivision Regulations of Augusta-Richmond County, is required prior to commencement of any improvements to the property.
- 6. This development of the property shall comply with all development standards and regulations set forth by the City of Augusta-Richmond County Georgia, including the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance at the time of development.

Note: This staff report includes the information available approximately two weeks prior to the Planning Commission hearing. It represents an evaluation of the facts presented by the applicant, research done by the staff, and consideration of the relevant factors in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of Augusta, Georgia. New facts may emerge, and staff reserves the right to make a verbal recommendation at the hearing based on all the information available at that time.



August 7, 2023

City of Augusta 535 Telfair Street Augusta, GA 30901

RE: Letter of Intent Rezoning Application for The Villages at Goshen Parcel 199-0-088-00-0

We are representing the client that wants to apply for a change in zoning to allow for additional townhomes on a partially developed residential development. We are currently working with the owner that is interested in developing the property.

We are of the understanding that in order for the applicant to place townhomes in the currently zoned properties need to be rezoned from R-1D to R-1E. Additional information regarding the specifics of the application is given as an attachment to the application.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at imsmith@imsmithengineering.com.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Smith, P.E.

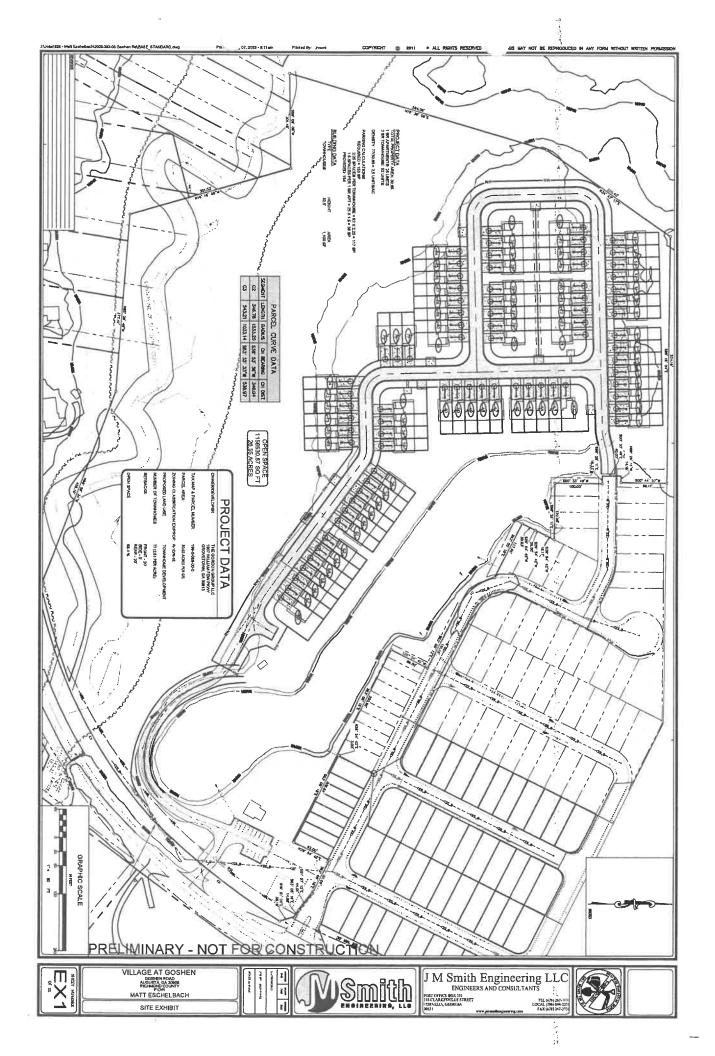
President

155 Clerković

155 Clarkesville Street Post Office Box 331 Cornelia, GA 30531 Main Line: 706-894-2331

Cell: 706-244-8180 Atlanta Area Phone: 678-267-3690

Fax: 678-267-3731 Email: jmsmith@jmsmithengineering.com



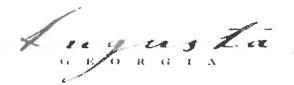
Photographs of Typical Townhomes



Figure 1 Typical Townhomes



Figure 2 Typical Townhomes



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Hameed Malik, PE, Ph. D., Director John Ussery, PE, Assistant Director of Traffic

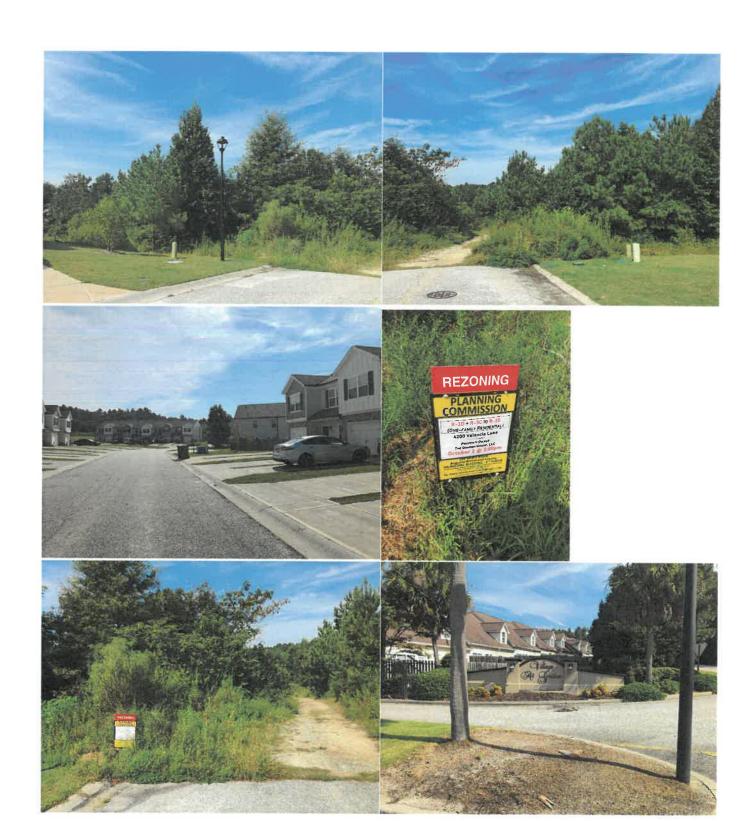
PRELIMINARY TRAFFIC IMPACT WORKSHEET

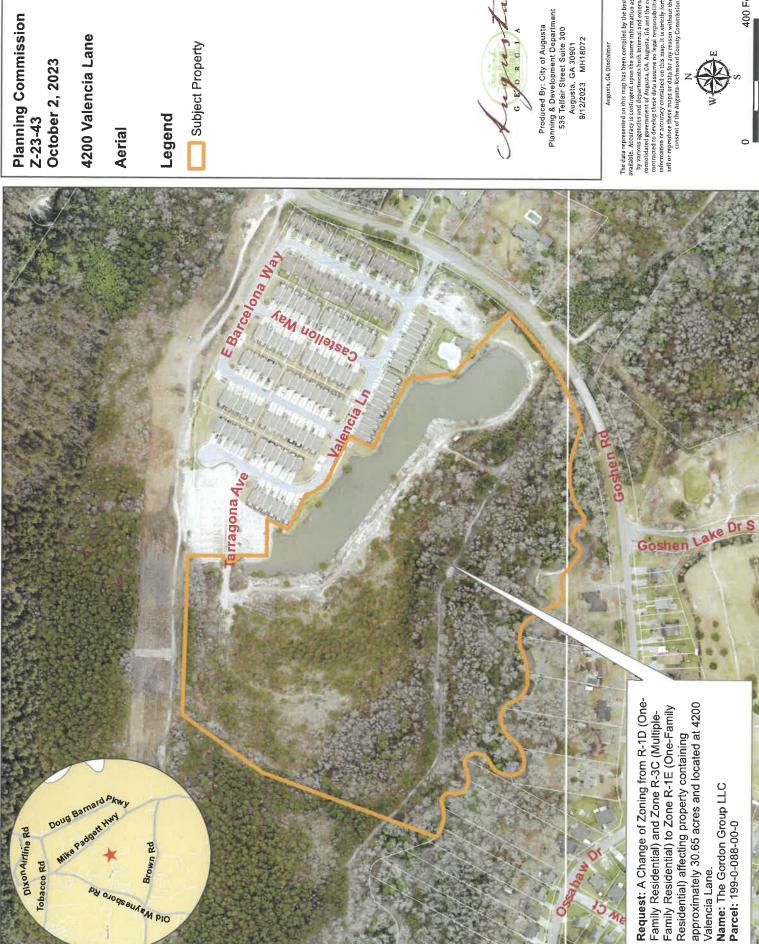
Address of property:	=							
Tax Parcel Number:	199-0-088-00-0							
Type of Development (Circle One): Commercial or Industrial of Residential or Other								
Any new public roadway Proposed Development I 706-821-1850 and ask to worksheet.	ess Than 20 Lots	Circle Or	e): Yes a No;	if "Yes", cont or Assistant Di	act Traffic Engineering at irector prior to completing			
Existing streets adjacent to property:		1) Goshen Road 2) Tarragona Ave			3) Valencia Lane 4)			
Volume on each existing	street (AADT):	1) 1870 2) 76 (calculated)			3) <u>720</u> 4)			
			1) B 2) B		3)B 4)			
Land Use Type / Code (I	TE Trip Generation	n):	Residential	Condo-Town	house/230			
Basis for Calculation (sq	ft, # units, etc.):		77 Units		:			
Trips Generated by Prop	osed Developme	nt:	447					
Adjusted street volumes 1)2317 2)523	3)	1167						
Projected Level of Service 1) B 2) B	3)	B	ed on trips gene	erated:				

- * If there are more than 4 streets affected by proposed zone change and development, include on separate sheet of paper or use a second form.
- ** Utilize the website https://gdottrafficdata.drakewell.com/publicmultinodemap.asp for current volume data.
- ***Utilize the website https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/pubs/pl18003/chap00.cfm for LOS calculations/tables.
- **** Use current edition of the ITE Trip Generation Manuals.

Official Use Only
Does this Rezoning Application require a full Traffic Impact Study/Analysis (TIS/TIA): Y or N
Date of Review:
Signature of Traffic Engineer or Designee:
Print Name:
Title:

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Planning Commission Z-23-43 October 2, 2023

4200 Valencia Lane

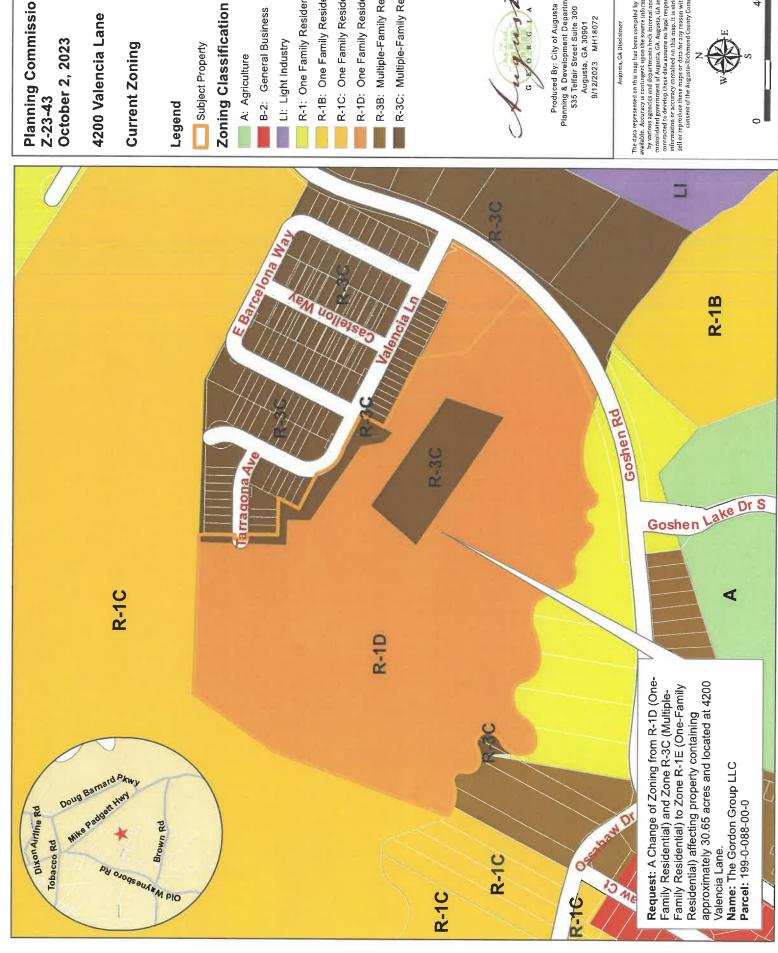
Legend

Subject Property

Augusta, GA Disclaimer

consolidated government of Augusta, GA Augusta, GA and the companies contracted to develop these data assume on legal regunsibilities for the information or accuracy contained on this map. It is satisfy introducen to sell or reproduce these maps or data for any reason without the written consent of the Augusts Richmond Country Commission. The data represented on this map has been compiled by the best metho available. Accuracy is contingent upon the source information as compil by various agencies and departments both internal and external to the





Planning Commission October 2, 2023 Z-23-43

Current Zoning

Subject Property

A: Agriculture

B-2: General Business

LI: Light Industry

R-1: One Family Residential

R-1B: One Family Residential

R-1C: One Family Residential

R-1D: One Family Residential

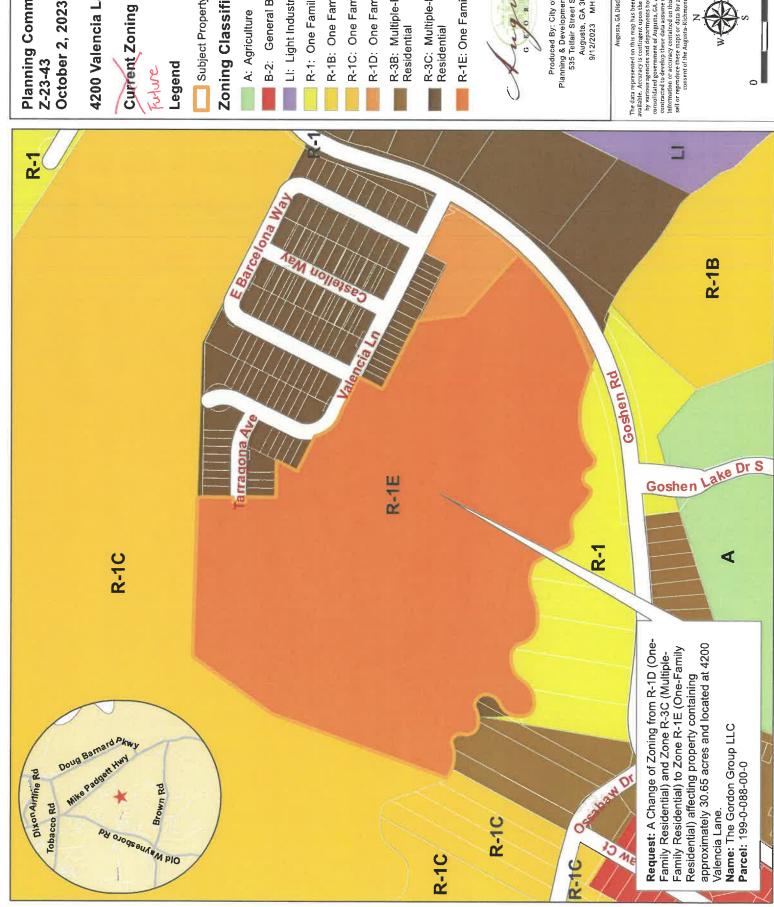
R-3B: Multiple-Family Residential

R-3C: Multiple-Family Residential

Produced By: City of Augusta Planning & Development Department 535 Telfair Street Suite 300 Augusta, GA 30901 9/12/2023 MH18072

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Planning Commission Z-23-43

4200 Valencia Lane

Current Zoning

Subject Property

Zoning Classification A: Agriculture

B-2: General Business LI: Light Industry

R-1: One Family Residential

R-1B: One Family Residential

R-1C: One Family Residential

R-1D: One Family Residential

R-3B: Multiple-Family Residential

R-3C: Multiple-Family Residential

R-1E: One Family Residential

Produced By: City of Augusta Planning & Development Department 535 Telfair Street Suite 300 Augusta, GA 30901 9/12/2023 MH18072

Augusta, GA Disclaimor

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