

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of Wetland Mitigation Credit Purchases – Goshen Road Widening Project

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Department: Procurement, Engineering

Meeting Date: May 5, 2026

Item Description: Consideration to approve the purchase of required wetland and stream mitigation credits associated with the Goshen Road Widening Project.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the required mitigation credit purchases to satisfy U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permitting requirements for the Goshen Road Widening Project.

Executive Summary / Background:

Efingham County is advancing the Goshen Road Widening Project, which requires compliance with federal permitting regulations through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). As part of the permitting process, the County must purchase mitigation credits to offset environmental impacts to wetlands and streams.

Two (2) Statements of Credit Availability have been secured from approved mitigation banks:

- Vallambrosa Mitigation Bank (NWP Permit):
 - Wetland Credits Required: 0.10 (Depressional/Flat)
- Yam Grandy Wetland & Stream Mitigation Bank (RGP Permit):
 - Stream Credits Required: 1,017 (Stream 2004 classification)
 - Wetland Credits: Not applicable

Both documents confirm that the required mitigation credits are currently available for purchase, as indicated by the signed certifications from the respective mitigation bank representatives.

These mitigation credits are necessary to offset impacts within the project area and are a mandatory condition for permit approval and project progression. Failure to secure these credits could result in delays, permit suspension, or regulatory enforcement actions.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the mitigation credit purchases
2. Do not approve
3. Provide staff with direction

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2, 3

Department Review: Procurement, Engineering

Funding Source: Goshen Road Widening Project, CIP

Attachments: Statement of Credit Availability – Vallambrosa Mitigation Bank, Statement of Credit Availability – Yam Grandy Mitigation Bank