### Rezone Z22010006 **Staff Analysis**

Commission District: 1 - Warren

Planning Commission Hearing Date: 02-03-2022 - Tabled to 03-03-2022

Board of Commissioners Hearing Date: 03-01-2022 - moved to 04-05-2022

Parcel ID: Map C0580027 Acreage: 146.13

Applicant:

**LGI Homes LLC** 

2700 Cumberland Parkway, Suite 100

Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Owner:

**Alcovy River LLC** 

c/o Jim Williams, Jr.

1300 Grayson Parkway

Grayson, Georgia 30017

Property Location:

7059 Highway 81 & Double Springs Road

Current Character Area: Suburban

**Current Zoning: A1** 

Reguest: Rezone 146.13 acres from A1 to R1OSC for a residential subdivision

with 104 lots.

### **Staff Comments/Concerns:**

**Site Analysis:** The 146.13 acre tract is located on 7059 Highway 81. The surrounding properties are zoned A1 and R1.

**Zoning History:** No History

**Character Area:** The character area for this property is Suburban.

### **Comments and Recommendations from various Agencies:**

<u>Public Works:</u> Public Works recommends a Centerturn Lane and Decell Lane and that the ENTRANCE be relocated to the most easterly property line. To allow for safe Ingress and Egress due to traffic concerns near a major intersection.

2/16/2022 Comment – Public Works recommends that the Entrance on Double Springs Road be relocated to the most easterly side of the development to allow for a proper De-cell due to intersection safety and set back requirements and that a Center turn lane be installed on Double Springs Road for Safety and to Reduce Traffic Back up approaching State Route Hwy 81.

<u>Sheriffs' Department:</u> The estimated population of Walton County is 94594. The estimated number of House Holds is 333350. The Walton County Sheriff's Office answered 49336 calls for service in 2021. This is approximately 1.5 calls for service per household. The average number of people per household is 2.8. The population increase would be about 291.2 people.

<u>Water Authority:</u> This area is currently served by a 10" water main along Highway 81 and 8" water main along Double Springs Road. (static pressure: 50 psi, Estimated fire flow available: 1,600 gpm @ 20 psi). A new water main will be required to distribute water within the development. Please coordinate with WCWD.

E-mail from Rob Goss 2/23/2022: This area is currently served by a 10" water main along Highway 81 and 8" water main along Double Springs Road. (static pressure: 50 psi, Estimated fire flow available: 1,600 gpm @ 20 psi). A new water main will be required to distribute water within the development. Please coordinate with WCWD.

2/24/2022 E-mail from Morris Jordan with Walton County Water Authority: Ref: Z22010006 -- LGI Homes, LLC -- R1 OSC

Pressure is 50 psi with a fire flow of 1600 gpm. While fire flow is sufficient the pressure is not ideal and could lead to complaints but does exceed minimum regulatory requirements. Sprinkler systems may need a booster pump to work properly. Due to the elevation of the property dropping 50' from the road where the readings were taken to the back of the property pressure should not drop inside the development. I would anticipate that a loop with a tie-in on Hwy 81 and a tie-in on Double Springs Road will be required.

Approval for rezone does not constitute approval for water allocation or plan approval for water in the developments.

<u>Fire Department:</u> Any new residential construction will have a direct effect on the number of emergency calls handled by the Walton County Fire Department. An increase in the population that comes from residential development also increases the need for emergency services.

<u>Fire Code Specialist</u>: Fire Department access roads shall have a minimum unobstructed width of 26'

Cul-De-Sacs shall be a minimum of 96' diameter

Fire Hydrants shall be spaced no further than 500' driving distance

Fire hydrants shall have a clear width of 36" from obstructions

Development shall meet International Fire Code(2018), Life Safety Code(2018) and the Georgia Accessibility Code

The Code compliance shall be subject to a plan review

<u>Board of Education:</u> Will have an impact on the Walton County School District creating a need for more classrooms, teachers, etc.

<u>Development Inspector:</u> No comment received

**DOT Comments:** Will require GDOT coordination

Archaeological Information: No comment received

### PC Action 2/3/2022:

 Rezone – Z22010006 – Rezone 146.13 acres from A1 to R1OSC for a residential subdivision – Applicant: LGI Homes LLC/Owner: Alcovy River LLC/Jim Williams, Jr. – Property located on 7059 Hwy 81/Double Springs Road - Map/Parcel C0580027 – District 1.

<u>Presentation:</u> Steve Waldrin represented the case. He did the site plan for 146 acres. Mr. Waldrin stated that the property owner wanted to sell it because they are getting on up in age. Mr. Waldrin stated that LIGI wants to develop 104 lots as of now.

Speaking: Elizabeth Harris who is an architect/planner spoke and stated that she lives 3 properties down. She is not against the Rezone but she would just like 3 conditions placed on the Rezone:

- 1. Install fence and provide a 25' natural buffer along Highway 81 and abutting A-1 zoned properties. Fence to be minimum 4', dark chain link. Buffer to be existing trees and shrubs or planted trees and shrubs. Buffer may include walking trail but may not be included in lots.
- 2. The 100' undisturbed creek/stream buffer should not be included in any lot.
- 3. Minimum of 25' landscaped buffer (not in lots) along Double Springs Road and at any other entrances to property.

Candance Donoghue would lives on 3059 Snows Mill Road spoke and asked were these homes going to be for sale or rental. She asked about the water re-charge in this area and wanted to know the size of the lots.

Jeremy Seifried spoke and stated he lives in Alcovy Bluff and that the traffic is a big concern and adding 2 entrances will congest that area. He stated that the intersection is a mess and the subdivision will congest it worse even more. He also wanted to know the size of the homes.

Jason Wright spoke and stated that he lives in Twin Oaks Estates and stated that sometimes the traffic is backed up 1,500 ft. waiting to turn on Highway 81 and he has seen in the afternoon that the traffic is past 81 the turn on to Double Springs Road with the school traffic. He asked if it would be rental homes because the website states that they do rental homes. He knows that there has been 30 accidents there or within 1,000 ft.

with 40 injuries and 2 serious injuries and he thinks there may have been a fatality.

Frank Masiello who lives on Double Springs Church Road spoke and stated that the city has allowed 2 subdivisions close to Highway 81 and there will beadded traffic with another 500 homes.

Mr. Steve Waldrin came back for rebuttal and stated that this will be an R1 OSC Overlay. It will be 100 ft. along Highway 81 and on Double Springs it will be 50 ft. abutting A1 zonings. The lots will be 25,500 square feet. There will be septic and it will be well outside the buffers for the perennial streams. The homes will be for sale, not rental and they will be approximate 2,000 square feet. As far as the ground water recharge system he can check into that.

Josh Ferguson stated that before they vote that he wanted to clear up something and let everyone know that Highway 81 is a State Route and the Board has no control over State Routes.

Recommendation: Tim Hinton recused himself from voting. Josh Ferguson made a motion to table the case until the next Planning Commission so that everything can be addressed and for the Applicant and the opposition to meet to work out any issues with a second by John Pringle. The motion carried unanimously.

#### PC ACTION 3/3/2022:

 Rezone – Z22010006 – Rezone 146.13 acres from A1 to R1OSC for a residential subdivision – Applicant: LGI Homes LLC/Owner: Alcovy River LLC/Jim Williams, Jr. – Property located on 7059 Hwy 81/Double Springs Road - Map/Parcel C0580027 – District 1.

<u>Presentation:</u> Joshua Scoggins, Attorney At Law, represented the case for the Applicant. He showed a power point presentation. They would like to rezone from A1 to R1 OSC on this 146 acres. This case was presented last month but was tabled in order to work with the neighbors. He stated that Steve Waldrin has worked diligently with the neighbors at the last meeting. Several neighbors have raised concerns and Mr. Waldrin and the neighbors

have worked together. The zoning is consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This proposal is almost identical with lot sizes, overlays and acreage as to the subdivisions around. As for any Environmental Impacts, they will comply with all state regulatory requirements for the subdivision and all residences will be on septic. Minimum house sizes are 1,800 as per zoning regulations and in A1 they can have 1,400 sq. ft. They will build a minimum 2,000 sq. ft. for ranch product which will be comparable to other houses in other subdivisions. \$300,000,00 will be starting point for the houses and this subdivision will not be de-valuing any properties. There will be a 100' non-buildable buffer along Highway 81 and along Double Springs Road. They are not a build to rent community. All the houses will be for sale. As far as impact on Public Services - no service providers have expressed concerns. There will be 104 lots. The water pressure will be 1,600 gallons per minute as required by the fire code. Mr. Scoggins stated that he drove by this property and there will need to be a center turn lane on Double Springs and Highway 81. The Applicant is willing to pay \$150,000 toward any improvements on Double Springs Road. The county ordinance states 2 entrances are required for 101 lots or more.

He received an e-mail from Steve Waldron about the 2 entrances and they are willing to reduce the lots by 3 in order to eliminate the entrance on Double Springs Road. They will revise the site plan prior to the Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Speaking: Jason Wright who lives at 2309 Twin Oaks Place. He represents the Homeowners Association. He stated that he would have to dispute that Mr. Waldron has been engaged with the neighbors. He has concerns regarding Double Springs Road and their suggestions on Highway 81. Whether GDOT will approve this or not, it is a dangerous area. He is not opposed to this rezone but is concerned about the safety and traffic conditions. He would like to Table the case for a revised plan so that the community can see it.

Jeremy Sikert who lives in Alcovy Bluffs Subdivision and is over the Homeowner's Association states it is a terrible place for a subdivision. They can't get entrance on Double Springs Road with a 100' buffer with natural trees, a fence is not practical and there are gas lines there and it is too close to the Highway. He stated this will be adding 2 or more people per home with lots of kids and pets. He stated that a fence wasn't practical and he thinks that a vinyl or aluminum fence can be put up. He also stated that Developer wasn't interested in larger lots or larger house sizes. He would like to see a traffic study done.

Jason Gauthier who lives on Twin Oaks Drive stated that he said the houses will start in the \$300,000 range which is not comparable to the houses around there and it will devalue the property along with safety issues.

Tim Hinton verified that both applicants and neighbors will be able to speak at the Board of Commissioner's Meeting.

Joshua Scoggins came back for rebuttal and stated 1<sup>st</sup> the plan was 2 entrances on Highway 81 but GDOT said no and that they would require an a-cell and de-cell along Highway 81 and they will comply with any improvements that will need to be made. He is asking for 1 entrance on Highway 81. He also stated that the houses will start at \$300,000.00 and there are subdivisions around Walton County that are the same size as the ones he spoke about tonight. He stated that overall the plan is fair and consistent.

Recommendation: Tim Hinton recused himself. Josh Ferguson first stated that he does not want to table the case again and he stated that it does comply with the future land use plan and that the project is compatible. He made a recommendation to approve with the below conditions with a second by Wesley Sisk. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Conditions:**

- 1. The property shall be limited to single-family detached dwellings and accessory uses and structures not to exceed 104 lots.
- 2. The minimum heated floor area per dwelling unit shall be 2,000 square feet for single-story homes and 2,200 square feet for two-story homes.
- 3. Homes shall be constructed primarily of brick or stacked stone on the front façade. The balance of the home may be the same or of fiber-cement siding, shake or board and batten, with a minimum three-foot high brick or stacked stone water table.

- 4. All dwellings shall have at least an enclosed double-car garage.
- 5. By plat covenant, a maximum of 5 percent of the homes may be leased or rented.
- 6. A 100-foot wide undisturbed buffer shall be provided along the frontage of Highway 81 and Double Springs Road. The first 50 feet of the buffer shall be located outside of all proposed lots and shall be maintained by the Homeowner's Association.
- 7. Natural vegetation shall remain on the property until the issuance of a Development Permit.
- 8. All grassed areas on front and sides of dwelling lots shall be sodded.
- 9. Provide underground utilities throughout the development.
- 10. Detention pond(s) shall be fenced with a black vinyl-coated chain link fence a minimum of five feet in height, and shall be fully screened from view of adjacent residences with a double staggered row of evergreens.
- 11. Project ingress and egress onto Double Springs Road shall be prohibited.

  Access shall only be provided onto Highway 81.
- 12. Project entrance shall be landscaped by the developer and maintained by the Homeowners Association. The entrance(s) shall include a decorative masonry entrance feature. Landscape plans and entrance feature design shall be subject to review and approval by the Director of Planning and Development.

# Rezone Application # Z 220 | DDD 6 Application to Amend the Official Zoning Map of Walton County, Georgia

Planning Comm. Meeting Date 2-3-2022 at 6:00	PM held at WC Board of Comm. Meeting Room			
Board of Comm Meeting Date 3-1-2022 at 6:00				
You or your agent must l	pe present at both meetings III 5. Broad			
Map/Parcel 60582007 60580027				
Applicant Name/Address/Phone #	Property Owner Name/Address/Phone			
LGI Homes, LLC	Jim Williams Jr.			
2700 Cumberland Pkwy, Suite 100	1300 Grayson Parkway			
Atlanta, GA 30339	Grayson, GA 30017			
E-mail address: tony.pourhassan@lgi.com	(If more than one owner, attach Exhibit "A")			
Phone #_ (678)584-3464	Phone #_(770)757-1590			
Location: 60582007 Requested	Zoning R103C Acreage 146.13			
Existing Use of Property: Agricultural				
Existing Structures: Two single family homes				
The purpose of this rezone isto prepare for a	residential subdivision.			
Property is serviced by the following:				
Public Water: Yes Provider: Walton Co	unty Water Department Walls			
Public Sewer: No Provider:				
The above statements and accompanying materials are complete and accurate. Applicant hereby grants permission for planning and zoning personnel to enter upon and inspect the property for all purposes allowed and required by the Comprehensive Land Development Comprehensive Land				
Signature 12/30/21	\$ 650 • <b>9</b> 0 Fee Paid			
	and and removed by PSD Office			
Public Notice sign will be placed and removed by P&D Office  Signs will not be removed until after Board of Commissioners meeting				
Office Use Only:  Existing Zoning A   Surrounding Zoning	ng: North AI/RI South AI East AI/RI West AI			
Comprehensive Land Use:	DRI Required? YN			
Commission District: 1- Warren Water	rshed: Alcovy River_TMP			
	ω-P1			

Date

I hereby withdraw the above application

### AUTHORIZATION BY PROPERTY OWNER

I swear that I am the property owner of the property which is the subject matter of the attached Petition for Rezoning/Conditional Use Application, as is shown in the records of Walton County, Georgia.

I authorize the named below to act as Applicant in the pursuit of a Petition for Rezoning/Conditional Use Application.

Name of Applicant:	LGI Homes, LL	С	
Address:	2700 Cumberlan	nd Pkwy, Suite 100 Atlanta,	GA 30339
Telephone:	(678)584-3464	The production of the producti	
Location of Property:	7059 HWY 81	ar viit. 2	
Map/Parcel Number:	C0580027		
Current Zoning:	A1	Requested Zoning:	R1
Property Owner Signa	ture	Property Owner Signature	
Print Name: J. M. L	Villiams Jr,	Print Name:	
Address: 1300 Grayson,	YSON Parkway	Address:	
Phone #: 770- 1	157-1590	Phone #:	
Personally appeared be that the information co is true and correct to the Notary Public	ntained in this autho	rization	GLAZE MANIE OTARIA MANIE

### Article 4, Part 4, Section 160 Standard Review Questions:

## Provide written documentation addressing each of the standards listed below:

Existing	uses and zoning of nearby property;
Nearby	property uses and zoning are agricultural and residential,
A1 and	R1, respectively.
<u> </u>	
	tent to which property values are diminished by the parestrictions;
Nearby	property values would increase as a result of the rezoning
reques	ted in this application.
promote	
promote	
N/A  The ref	es the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the public
N/A  The relupon th	ent to which the destruction of property values of the ples the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the public ative gain to the public, as compared to the hardship ime individual property owner;
The relupon th	es the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the public ative gain to the public, as compared to the hardship ime individual property owner;
The relupon the will be	es the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the public ative gain to the public, as compared to the hardship ime individual property owner; roperty owner is willingly selling this property. No hardship

The length of time the property has been vacant as zoned, considered the context of land development in the area in the vicinity of the property.
This property is not currently vacant.

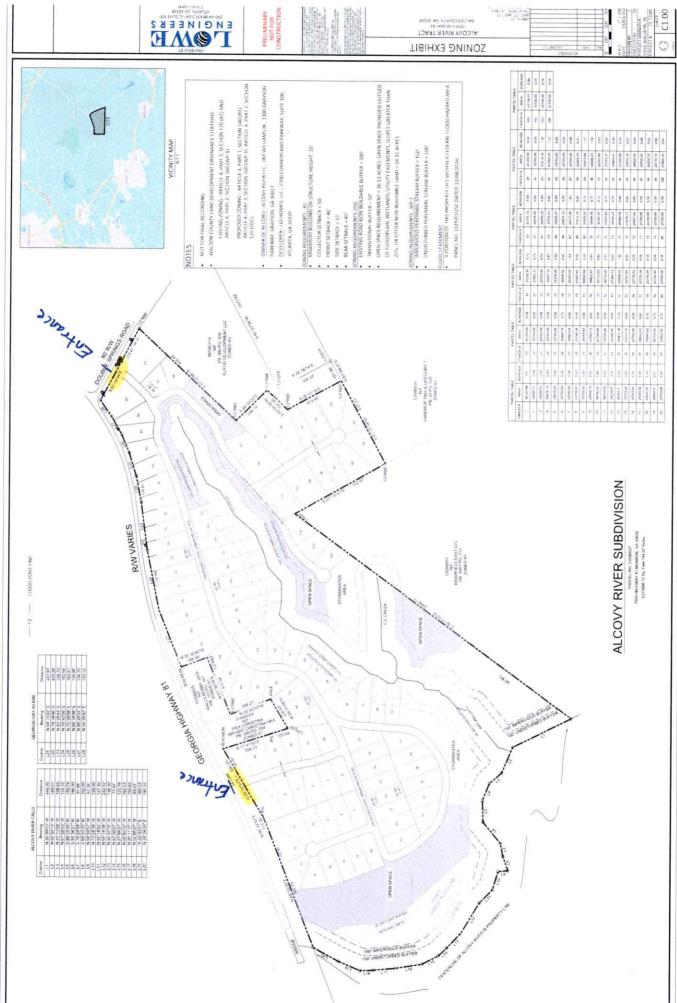
## **Letter of Intent**

**Effective Date: January 2022** 

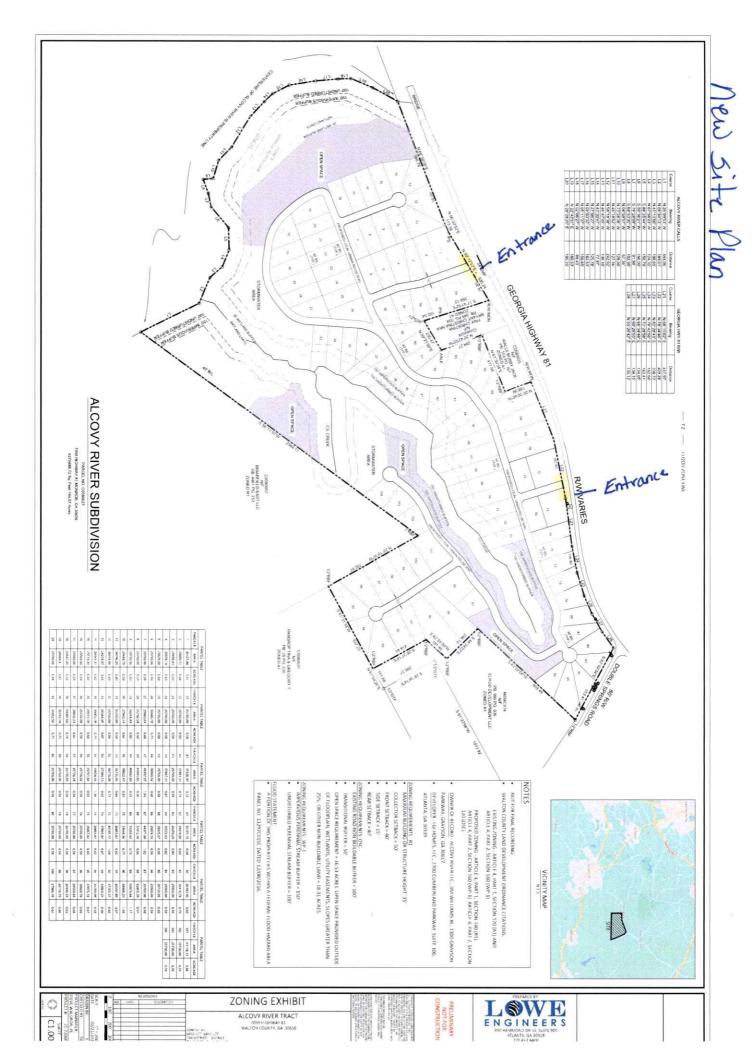
To Whom it May Concern,

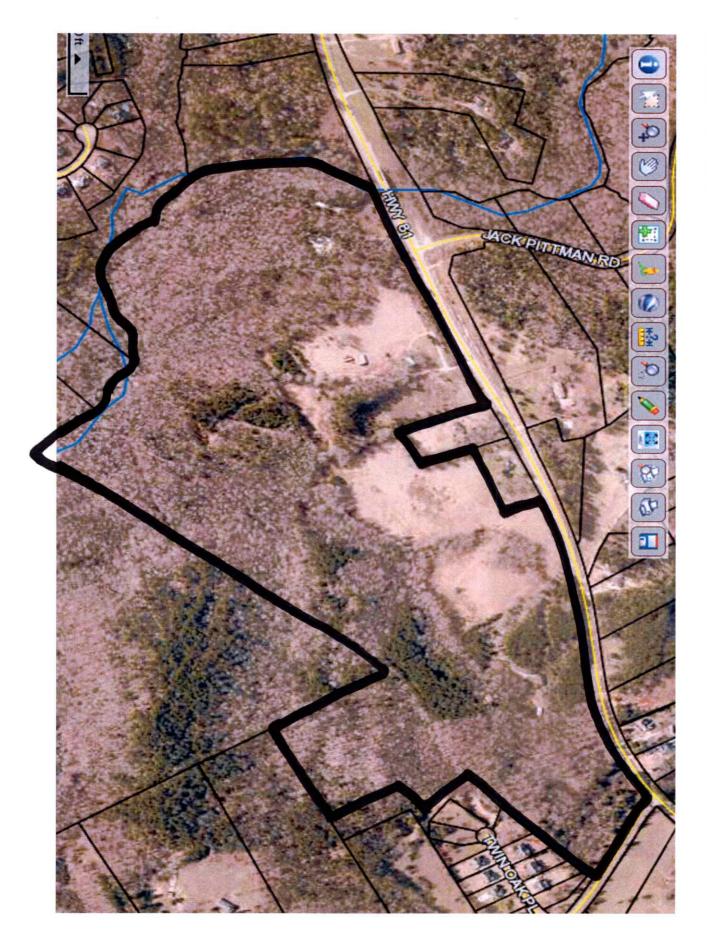
Let it be known that LGI Homes, LLC., upon purchase of the 146.13-acre parcel number C0580027, intends to rezone the parcel from A1 to R1OSC for the purpose of developing a 104-lot residential subdivision.

old site Plan



ALCOVY RIVER TRACT
7059 HIGHWAY BI
A220E AB LYTHUD HOTLAW





Z22010006 - 7059 Hwy 81

202 Tribble Gap Road | Suite 200 | Cumming, Georgia 30040

178 S Main Street | Suite 310 | Alpharetta, Georgia 30009

770-781-4100 | www.mhtlegal.com

FEB 2 1 2022

Joshua A. Scoggins jscoggins@mhtlegal.com

### RESERVATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS

Applicant: LGI Homes Georgia, LLC

Subject Property: 146.13 Acres +/- Designated as Tax Parcel C0580027

Current Zoning: A1 – Rural Estate District

Proposed Zoning: R1OSC - Single Family Residential Open Space

**Conservation District** 

Proposed Use: Single-Family Residential Neighborhood

Application: Rezoning Application #Z22010006

ROW Access: Georgia Highway 81 and Double Springs Road

Governing Jurisdiction: Walton County, Georgia

This Reservation of Constitutional and Other Legal Rights ("the Reservation") is intended to supplement and form a part of the land use application (including any request for zoning, conditional use permit, site plan approval, and variances) (collectively, the "Application") of the Applicant and the owners of the Subject Property and to put the Governing Jurisdiction on notice of the Applicant's assertion of its constitutional and legal rights.

The Applicant has filed a timely application, has provided all required information and has submitted the appropriate application fees. The Application meets all judicial and statutory requirements for approval.

The Applicant objects to the standing of any opponents who are not owners of land adjoining the Subject Property and to the consideration by the Governing Jurisdiction of testimony or evidence presented by any party without standing in making its decision regarding the Application. The Applicant also objects to the consideration of testimony or evidence that is hearsay, violates any applicable rules of procedure or evidence, or that is presented by any party who fails to comply with notice and campaign disclosure requirements.

The Current Zoning (and/or zoning conditions) of the Subject Property is unconstitutional and deprives the Subject Property and all viable economic use thereof. The Proposed Use is the only viable economic use of the Subject Property, and the Governing Jurisdiction has deemed this Application necessary to allow the Proposed Use. As such, the Applicant and Owners file this Application for the purpose of changing the Current Zoning (and/or zoning conditions) to facilitate the Proposed Use, and to exhaust administrative remedies in the event the Application is denied. The Applicant and Owners reserve the right to challenge the Current Zoning and any zoning conditions and other restrictions affecting the Subject Property.

Denial of the Application or approval of the Application in any form that is different than as requested by the Applicant will impose a disproportionate hardship on the Applicant and Owners of the Subject Property without benefiting any surrounding property owners. There is no



reasonable use of the Subject Property other than as proposed by the Application and no resulting benefit to the public from denial of or modification to the Application.

Any provisions in the applicable land use, subdivision, and /or zoning ordinances (collectively the "Zoning Ordinance") that classify, or may classify, the Subject Property into any of the non-requested zoning or use classifications, including the Proposed Zoning District and Proposed Use at a density or intensity less than that requested by the Applicant, are unconstitutional in that they constitute a taking of the Applicant's and Owner's property rights without first paying fair, adequate, and just compensation for such rights in violation of Article I, Section III, Paragraph I of the Georgia Constitution of 1983, as amended and the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

The Subject Property is suitable for development as proposed in the Application and it is not suitable for development under any other zoning classification, use, or at a density or intensity less than that requested by the Applicant. Failure to approve the Application as requested by the Applicant would be an unreasonable application of local land use authority, which bears no relationship to the public health, safety, morality or general welfare of the public and would constitute an arbitrary and capricious abuse of discretion in violation of Article I, Section I, Paragraph I of the Georgia Constitution of 1983, as amended and the Due Process Clause of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

A refusal by the Governing Jurisdiction to approve the Application as requested by the Applicant will prohibit the only viable economic use of the Subject Property, will be unconstitutional and will discriminate in an arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable manner between the Applicant and Owner and the owners of similarly situated properties in violation of Article I, Section I, Paragraph II of the Georgia Constitution of 1983, as amended, and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Furthermore, the Board of Commissioners cannot lawfully impose more restrictive standards on the Subject Property's development than are presently set forth in the Zoning Ordinance. To do so not only will constitute a taking of the Subject Property as set forth above, but it will also amount to an unlawful delegation of the Board's authority in response to neighborhood opposition, in violation of Article IX, Section II, Paragraph IV of the Georgia Constitution of 1983, as amended. Any conditions or other restrictions imposed on the Subject Property without the consent of the Applicant and Owner that do not serve to reasonably ameliorate the negative impacts of the development are invalid and void. As such, the Applicant and Owner reserve the right to challenge any such conditions or restrictions.

Finally, the Applicant and Owner assert that the Zoning Ordinance, Character Area Map, Future Land Use Map and Comprehensive Plan were not adopted in compliance with the laws or constitutions of the State of Georgia or of the United States, and a denial of the Applicant's request based upon provisions illegally adopted will deprive the Applicant and Owner of due process under the law.



This Reservation constitutes an Ante Litem Notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-33-5, which places the Governing Jurisdiction and all other agents of the Governing Jurisdiction, in their official and individual capacities, on notice of the Applicant's and owners' intent to seek monetary damages and attorney's fees against the Governing Jurisdiction for any rezoning action, zoning condition, illegal impact fee and any other unlawful restrictions and exactions that are imposed upon the Subject Property, the Applicant, or the Owner.

By filing this Reservation, the Applicant reserves all rights and remedies available to it under the United States Constitution, the Georgia Constitution, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances, and in equity.

The Applicant and Owner respectfully request that the Application be approved as requested by the Applicant and in the manner shown on the Application, which is incorporated herein by reference. This Reservation forms an integral part of the Application, and we ask that this Reservation be included with the Applicant's other Application materials. The Applicant and Owner reserve the right to amend and supplement this Reservation at any time.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Scoggins

Attorney for Applicant