

Community Development Department

P. O. Box 900 Locust Grove, Georgia 30248

> Phone: (770) 957-5043 Facsimile (770) 954-1223

Item Coversheet

Item:

A variance request to allow encroachment into the city's buffer and impervious setback requirements for an 8,600 +/- square foot government office building located on 619 Tanger Blvd.

Action Item:		Yes	X	No
Public Hearing Item:	X	Yes		No
Executive Session Item:		Yes	X	No
Advertised Date:	May 1, 2024			
Budget Item:	N/A			
Date Received:	March 14, 2024			
Workshop Date:	May 20, 2024			
Regular Meeting Date:	June 3, 2024			

Discussion:

Henry County Government of McDonough, GA requests a variance to allow encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer requirement and into the city's twenty-five-foot impervious setback requirement to construct an 8,600 square foot one-story government office building on 9.3 +/- acres in land lots 168 of the 2nd District, located on 619 Tanger Blvd.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends APPROVAL of the applicant's request.

ORDINANCE NO.	
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A VARIANCE REQUEST TO ALLOW ENCROACHMENT INTO THE CITY'S FIFTY-FOOT UNDISTURBED STREAM BUFFER REQUIREMENT, AND INTO THE CITY'S TWENTY-FIVE-FOOT IMPERVIOUS SETBACK REQUIREMENT FOR A 8,600 +/- SQUARE FOOT GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING ON 9.3 +/- ACRES IN LAND LOTS 168 OF THE 2ND DISTRCT, LOCATED ON 619 TANGER BLVD

WHEREAS, the City of Locust Grove ("City") is a municipal corporation, duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, Henry County Government of McDonough, GA requests a variance to allow encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer requirement and into the city's twenty-five-foot impervious setback requirement to construct an 8,600 square foot one-story government office building. (the "Property"), attached hereto as Exhibit A; and,

WHEREAS, the Applicant filed a request for variance on March 14, 2024 as shown in the application attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit B; and,

WHEREAS, the Applicant's request has been reviewed by the Mayor and City Council at a Public Hearing held on May 20, 2024, as well as by the City Community Development Director; and,

WHEREAS, notice of this matter (as attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit C) has been provided in accordance with applicable state law and local ordinances; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have reviewed and considered the Applicant's request and both the recommendations of the public hearing and City staff as presented in the Staff Report.

THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOCUST GROVE HEREBY
ORDAINS:
1.
(X) That the request for variance is hereby APPROVED .
() That the request for variance is hereby DENIED .
2.
That the use of the Property is subject to:
() The condition(s) set forth on Exhibit D attached hereto and incorporated herein by
reference.
() The terms of the Development Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit D and
incorporated herein by reference.
(X) If no Exhibit D is attached hereto, then the property is zoned without conditions.
If granted, this Ordinance shall become effective immediately subject to the corresponding annexation ordinance under consideration.
SO ORDAINED by the Council of this City this 3 rd of June 2024.
Vincent Williams, Mayor Pro Tem
ATTEST:
MISTY SPURLING, City Clerk
(Seal) APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

EXHIBIT A



VARIANCE EVALUATION REPORT

May 20, 2024

FILE: VR-24-03-01

VARIANCE

Property Information

Tax ID	129-01046003
Location/address	Land Lots 168 and 169 of the 2 nd District 619 Tanger Blvd., Locust Grove, GA 30294
Parcel Size	2.022 +/- acres
Current Zoning	RA (Residential Agricultural)
Request	A variance request to allow encroachment into the city's undisturbed stream buffer and impervious setback requirements.
Proposed Use	Government Office Building
Existing Land Use	Vacant/undeveloped
Future Land Use	Parks, Recreations, and Conservation and Professional/Institutional
Recommendation	Approval

Summary

Henry County Government of McDonough, GA requests a variance to allow encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer requirement, and into the city's twenty-five-foot impervious setback requirement for an 8,600 +/- square foot government office building on 9.3 +/- acres in land lots 168 of the 2nd District, located on 619 Tanger Blvd.

Current Zoning

The subject property is currently zoned for RA (Residential Agricultural).



VARIANCE EVALUATION REPORT

May 20, 2024

FILE: VR-24-03-01

VARIANCE



Future Land Use

The subject property is contained within an area identified on the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) as Parks, Recreations, and Conservation and Professional/Institutional. Parks, Recreations, and Conservation which this FLUM designation includes public parks, recreation areas, and open spaces, as well as regions containing sensitive environmental areas such as floodplains, wetlands, and riparian corridors along with areas to be preserved for greenways or land conservation. Also, the subject property identified as Professional/Institutional which this FLUM designation includes public and professional uses such as schools, colleges, hospitals, municipal community centers, places of worship, public cemeteries, municipal buildings, and post offices. Typical zoning district(s) under the current ordinance would be OI (office and institutional) and/or Conditional Uses as appropriate for churches, schools, and other facilities.

Development of Regional Impact (DRI)

The proposed variance does not meet the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) threshold for a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). The Applicant is requesting a variance to accommodate an 8,600+/- square foot government building on the subject property.

Service Delivery / Infrastructure

Water and Sewer: After speaking with the City of Locust Grove Public Works Department, the subject property will be provided water service through the City of Locust Grove. However, sewer services will need to be arranged between the



VARIANCE

May 20, 2024

owner/developer, Henry County Water and Sewer Services, and the City of Locust Grove, as there exists a conflict with the subject property, sewer, sewer line location, and the existing frontage.

Police Services: The subject property is in the existing city limits and will remain on a regular patrol route.

Fire: Henry County will perform fire and emergency services as is the case in other areas of the city.

Transportation Impacts: The proposed development is unlikely to cause any significant traffic increase on nearby streets. According to the Institute of Transportation Engineers Trip Generation Manual, 7th Edition, Volume 3 of 3, Page 1173, a single tenant office building contains offices, meeting rooms and space for file storage and data processing for a single business or company should generate fewer than one thousand trips per average weekday typically.

Criteria for Evaluation of Variance Request

Section 17.04.273 of the City Municipal Code allows variances to be granted upon the following principles:

- 1. There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions on the piece of property in question because of its size, shape, or topography that do not apply to other lands or structures in the same district.

 Site selection of the subject property is limited by topographical and other location-related constraints. The conceptual plan appears to serve as the foundation for the intended development of 619 Tanger Blvd. It delineates the boundaries and controls encroachment for the required stream buffers on the property.
- 2. A literal interpretation of the provisions of this Chapter would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties within the City or a similar zoning or overlay district.

All lots are subject to the provisions of the City Code. A literal interpretation of the provisions would prevent the Applicant from building the proposed structure

Preserving the Past... Planning the Future



VARIANCE EVALUATION REPORT

May 20, 2024

FILE: VR-24-03-01

VARIANCE

on the subject property due to the constraints listed above, as well as prevent the proposed development on 619 Tanger Blvd. A literal interpretation of the code may also cause an undue hardship by effectively limiting the structure size beyond what is reasonable for the intended use, which is permitted by right under the current zoning for government buildings.

- 3. Granting the variance requested will not confer upon the property of the applicant any special privileges that are denied to other properties within the City or a similar zoning or overlay district.

 Any property owner or developer may ask the City Council to consider a similar request.
- 4. The requested variance will be in harmony with the purpose and intent of this Article, the specific zoning of the property, and the land use plan and will not be injurious to the general welfare of the community.

 Issuance of the proposed variance for this project presents no conflict with current or future land use planning. Government buildings are not subject to zoning or fees. The land use plan is in line with the future land use map, and the proposed government office building is allowed under the property's present as RA (Residential Agricultural) zoning. The applicant has produced a comprehensive mitigation plan with reasonable evidence that demonstrates how state and municipal erosion control regulations have minimized damage to the stream buffers.
- 5. The special circumstances or justifications for the variance are not the result or cause of the self-imposed actions or misfortunes of the applicant.

 The exceptional conditions related to the topography and location of the site are not the result of any action or misfortune on the part of the applicant.
- 6. The variance requested is the minimum reasonable variance that will make possible the legal use of the land, building, or structure. The requested variance is the minimum needed by the applicant to develop the site for a one-story government office building and for an encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer. For the intended uses of the property, the sought deviation is necessary and suitable.



VARIANCE EVALUATION REPORT

May 20, 2024

FILE: VR-24-03-01

VARIANCE

7. The variance is not requested to permit the use of land, buildings or structures which is not permitted by right in the overlaying zoning district or scheme of the land use plan.

The requested variance supports the proposed development as permitted by right in the RA (Residential Agricultural) zoning district for government buildings.

Recommendation

Based on the seven criteria points required for issuance of a variance being met, Staff recommends APPROVAL of the applicant's variance request.

EXHIBIT B

Request for Zoning Map Amendment

Name of Applicant	Henry County Governm	ent	Phone:	770-288-7332	Date: 2/14/24	
Address Applicant:	140 Henry Parkway			Cell #	678-414-4603	
City: McDonough	State:	GA Zip:	30253	E-mail: Iplanch	on@co.henry.ga.us	
Name of Agent_Ro	ger Wells		Pho	one: 770-483-11	73 Date: 2/14/24	
Address Agent: _15	Simpson St.			Cell #	404-917-0206	
	State:	GA Zip:	30308	E-mail: _rwells@	Plandplanning.net	
					DF THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW TION LEGIBLY AND COMPLETELY).	ANE
Concept Plan Review	☐ Conditional Use ☐	Conditional Exc	eption [Modifications to 2	oning Conditions	
Variance Rezo	ning DRI Review/C	oncurrent 🗌 A	mendme	nt to the Future La	nd Use Plan	
encr	oachment into City 50 ft	. undisturbed bu	iffer and a			
Request from	(Current Zoning)	The second secon	. 10	(Requested Z	oning)	+
Request from			to			
request nom	(Current Land Use Designat	ion)	_ to	(Requested	Land Use Designation)	
For the Purpose of	government office buil	ding				
(Type of Development) Address of Property	040 T DI		0294			
Nearest intersection	to the property: Palm	etto St. & Tange	r Blvd.			
Size of Tract: 9.13	acre(s), Land Lo	ot Number(s):	168, 169	, Distri	ct(s):2nd	
Gross Density:	units per acre	:	Net Der	sity:	units per acre	
Property Tax Parcel	Number: 129-010460		(Req	J Born	was	-
Ashley Larrow Printed Name of Witnes	1 0		Cheri Ma			
N				1/19		
Notary Notary	Muchon	Si	ignature of Ag	ent		
(For Office Use Only)						
Total Amount Paid \$	CashCl	neck #	Received	by:(FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE)	
Application checked	l by:Da	nte:	Map N	lumber(s):		
Pre-application mee	ting:			Date:		
Public Hearing Date						
Council Decision:			Ordinance	2:		
Data Managed in CIS				Date		

Applicant Campaign Disclosure Form

	250 or more or made gifts hav	the filing of this application for rezoning, ving in the aggregate a value of \$250 or no will consider the application?
If <u>Yes</u> , the applicant and the attorney rep Grove City Clerk within ten (10) days aft that will be considered as the required of	er this application is first filed.	t file a disclosure report with the Locust Please supply the following information
Council/Planning Commission Member Name	Dollar amount of Campaign Contribution	Description of Gift \$250 or greater given to Council/Planning Commission Member
We certify that the foregoing information Cheri Matthews Applicant's Name - Printed	on is true and correct, this 14th	Botal-Moss
Applicant's Attorney, if applicable - Print	ed Signature o	f Applicant's Attorney, if applicable
Sworn to and subscribed before me this	14thday ofF	ebruary 20 24 .
	<u> </u>	Notary Public

1 Applicant means any individual or business entity (corporation, partnership, limited partnership, firm enterprise, franchise, association, or trust) applying for rezoning or other action.



February 14, 2024

City of Locust Grove 3644 Hwy. 42 Locust Grove, GA 30248

RE: Variance Request

To Whom It May Concern:

Cheri Hobson-Matthews
County Manager

Henry County, owner of property located at 619 Tanger Blvd. Locust Grove, GA 30248, is nearing completion of the design of a tax and tag office.

We are pursuing a variance for development to encroach into the city's fiftyfoot undisturbed stream buffer, and an additional twenty-five-foot impervious setback.

We respectfully request that the City of Locust Grove grant this variance request.

Sincerely,

Cheri Hobson-Matthews



February 14th, 2024

Daunte Gibbs
Director
Community Development Department
City of Locust Grove
P.O. Box 900
Locust Grove, GA 30248

Re: Henry County Government Offices Project Stream Buffer and Setback Encroachment Variance Request

To Whom it may Concern:

Breedlove Land Planning, on behalf of Henry County Government, is applying for the City's consideration to grant a variance for development to encroach into the City's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer and additional twenty-five-foot impervious setback. The development proposes to construct a one-story approximately 8,600 square foot office building intended for government services. The project plans for fifty-three parking spaces, drive-through teller lanes, driveways, a dumpster pad, a retaining wall, landscaping, stormwater management facilities and all associated site utilities. Please refer to the site plan accompanying this application.

The project site is located on the lower half of the property at 619 Tanger Blvd. That section of the property contains a stream that bisects the site from the southeastern corner, diagonally to an existing culvert along the western property line, conveying water offsite under Tanger Blvd. The main development of the project will be located on the east side of that stream, requiring a driveway crossing. Due to spatial and topographic constraints, the east side is the only feasible location for the building and parking areas. Additionally, to fit all necessary program components within the project's scope, the area to the east side of the property is maximized, and thus requiring encroachment into the City's fifty-foot buffer and additional twenty-five-foot impervious setback. Disturbance is planned up to, but will not encroach upon, the twenty-five-foot state waters buffer.

Please note that many design iterations we considered for this project. Originally, the project scope necessitated the building to be placed in such a way that would have required piping or re-routing of the stream. That design was deemed too invasive to the stream for the project team. Then, a design was considered to have two isolated stream crossings with intensive encroachment to buffers on both sides of the stream. This too was deemed too invasive. So finally, a site design was decided upon that only has one stream crossing and greatly reduced impact to the stream buffers. That final design was altered once more to reduce parking, reduce retaining walls, and reduce the overall area of disturbance. Overall, the project team has taken extensive measures to alter the design and minimize disturbance to the stream and its buffers while maintaining the minimum program elements for the project.

Breedlove Land Planning has also implemented the necessary stormwater management and erosion control measures, as required by the City, into the construction documents to further minimize impacts to the stream and maintain clean water to best extent possible.

Sincerely,

Roger Wells, PLA LEED AP BD+C

Project Executive



LEGAL DESCRIPTION - HENRY CO SATELLITE GOVERNMENT OFFICE

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND lying and being in Land Lots 168 and 169, 2nd Land District of Henry County, Georgia, said tract being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the southerly right-of-way of Palmetto Street and the easterly right-of-way of Stanley Tanger Boulevard (80' right-of-way); Thence, along said easterly right-of-way of Stanley Tanger Boulevard for a distance of 1,105 feet more or less to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946), said point also being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Thence leaving said right-of-way, North 89 degrees 37 minutes 32 seconds East a distance of 14.14 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946);

Thence, North 88 degrees 52 minutes 11 seconds East a distance of 421.01 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946);

Thence, South 01 degrees 08 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 401.09 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946);

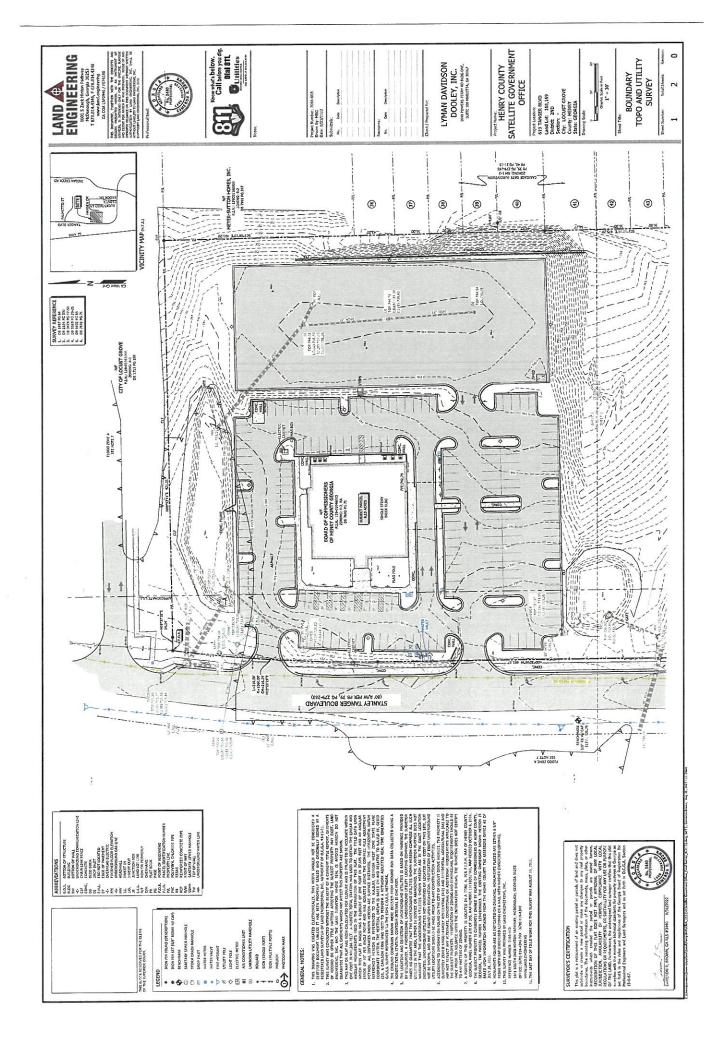
Thence, South 01 degrees 10 minutes 16 seconds East a distance of 475.20 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946);

Thence, South 88 degrees 49 minutes 34 seconds West a distance of 460.14 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946) on the easterly right-of-way of Stanely Tanger Boulevard;

Thence along said right-of-way, North 00 degrees 30 minutes 09 seconds West a distance of 661.17 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946);

Thence with a curve to the right with an arc length of 216.56 minutes, having a radius of 1560.00 feet, with a chord bearing of North 03 degrees 28 minutes 28 seconds East, a distance of 216.39 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar set (LSF0946), which is the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING

Said tract or parcel having an area of 9.13 acres more or less.



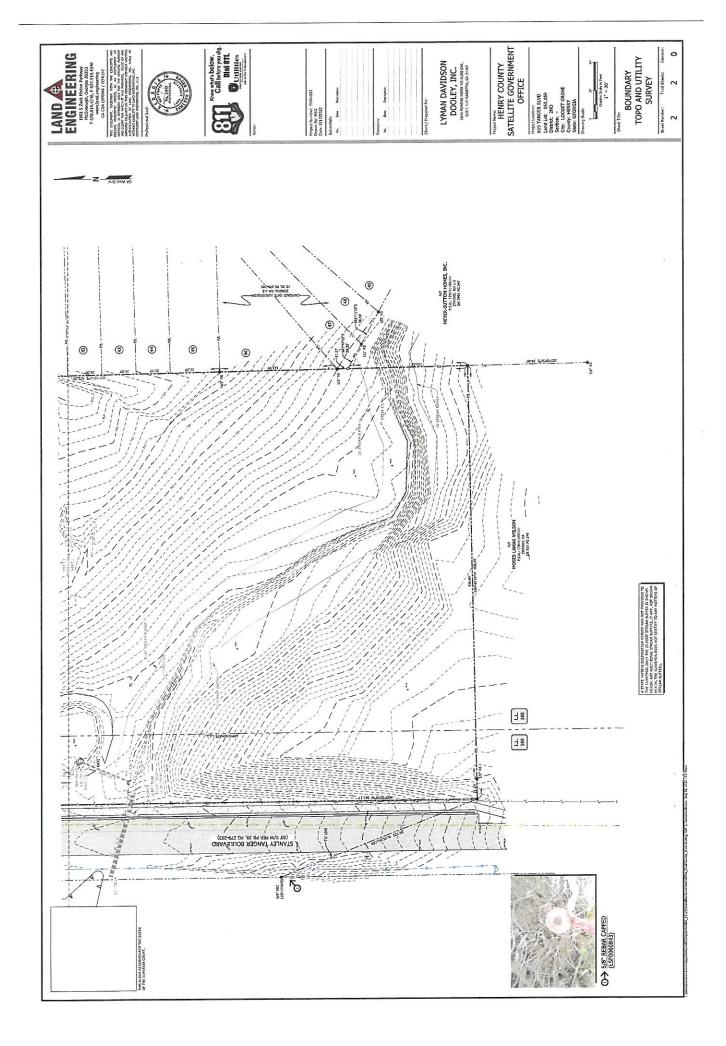


EXHIBIT C

Henry Herald

38 Sloan Street McDonough, Georgia 30253 Phone (770) 951-9161 Fax (770) 339-5869

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF HENRY

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a notary public within and for said county and state, Douglas W. Crow, Vice President of Operations, Times Journal Inc., which published the Henry Herald, Published at McDonough, County of Henry, State of Georgia, and being the official organ for the publication of legal advertisements for said county, who being duly sworn, states on oath that the report of

Ad No.: 407446

Name and File No.: PUBLIC HEARING 5/20/24 a true copy of which is hereto attached, was published in said newspaper on the following date(s): 05/01/2024

Douglas W. Crow, Vice President of Operations, Times Journal Inc.

Sworn and subscribed to before me 1st day of May, 2024

WN WA A STARL AS STAR

Down Word

Notary Public

My commission expires 03/03/2026

Ad text: Hdh4277 gpn16

Public Hearing Notice City of Locust Grove May 20, 2024, 6:00 PM Locust Grove Public Safety Building 3640 Highway 42 South Locust Grove, GA 30248

Notice is hereby given as required by Chapter 66 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated ("Zoning Procedures Law") and Section 17.04 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Locust Grove, Georgia, that the Locust Grove City Council, on Monday, May 20, 2024, at 6:00 PM, will conduct public hearings for the purpose of the following:

ANNEXATION

AX-RZ-24-04-01 GA SB 937, now Act 369 signed by GA Governor Kemp on 3/19/2024, annexed multiple tracts into the city of Locust Grove requiring the city to complete the annexation rezoning process per the GA zoning procedures law.

VARIANCE

VR-24-03-01 Henry County Government of McDonough, GA requests a variance to allow encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer requirement and into the city's twenty-five-foot impervious setback requirement to construct a one-story government office building.

The public hearing will be held in the Locust Grove Public Safety Building, located at 3640 Highway 42 South.

Daunt? Gibbs Community Development Director - City of Locust Grove 5:1, 2024

AFFIDAVIT OF SIGN POSTING

Personally appeared, before the undersigned officer duly authorized to administer oaths, Brian Fornal, who, after being duly sworn, testifies as follows:

1.

My name is Brian Fornal. I am over twenty-one years of age and competent to give this, my affidavit, based upon my personal knowledge.

2.

Henry County Government of McDonough, GA requests a variance to allow encroachment into the city's fifty-foot undisturbed stream buffer requirement and into the city's twenty-five-foot impervious setback requirement to construct a one-story government office building.

3.

GA SB 937, now Act 369 signed by GA Governor Kemp on 3/19/2024, annexed multiple tracts into the city of Locust Grove requiring the city to complete the annexation rezoning process per the GA zoning procedures law.

4.

On the 1st day of May 2024, I, Brian Fornal, posted one double-sided sign and nine double-sided notifications on the property advertising a public hearing on the above requests to be heard by the Locust Grove City Council on the 20th day of May 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Locust Grove Public Safety Building, 3640 Highway 42, Locust Grove, Georgia 30248. Photographs of same are attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference. The public hearing signs were posted at the following locations:

- 1. The variance sign was placed at 9:20 a.m. on May 1, 2024. It is located on the property of 619 Tanger Blvd. It faces both north and southbound traffic.
- 2. One annexation sign was placed at 9:35 a.m. on May 1, 2024. It is located on the south side of Bethlehem Road between Academic Drive and Lester Mill Road. The sign is visible to both east and west traffic.
- 3. The second annexation sign was posted at 9:42 a.m. hours on May 1, 2024. It was posted on the east side of Lester Mill Road just south of Bethlehem Road. The sign is visible to both north and southbound traffic.

- 4. The third annexation sign was posted at 9:42 a.m. on May 1, 2024. It was posted on the east side of Lester Mill Road just south of Bethlehem Road. The sign is visible to both north and southbound traffic.
- 5. The fourth annexation sign was posted at 9:50 a.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is on the south side of Bill Gardner Parkway just east of Lester Mill Road. The sign is visible to east and westbound traffic.
- 6. The fifth annexation sign was posted at 9:57 a.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is on the east side of Lester Mill Road south of Frog Road. The sign is visible to both north and southbound traffic.
- 7. The sixth annexation was posted at 1:20 p.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is on the north side of Indian Creek Road just east of Lester Mill Road. The sign is visible to all east and westbound.
- 8. The seventh sign was posted at 10:57 a.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is posted on the southbound side of Hosannah Road. The sign is between the county line and Locust Grove Griffin Road. It is visible to all east and westbound traffic.
- 9. The eighth sign was posted at 10:40 a.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is posted on the north side of Hosannah Road east of Locust Grove Griffin Road. It is visible to all east and westbound traffic.
- 10. The ninth sign was posted at 11:37a.m. on May 1, 2024. The sign is posted on the west side of Canup Road just south of Hwy. 42. It is visible to north and southbound traffic.
- 11. The sign was posted at 11:43 a.m. on May 1, 2024. The site is on the east side of Canup Road. It is between Hwy. 42 and the county line. It is visible to all east and westbound traffic.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

This is the 1st day of May 2024.

Affiant

Sworn and subscribed before me this day of _____

, 2024

, 2024

EXPIRES

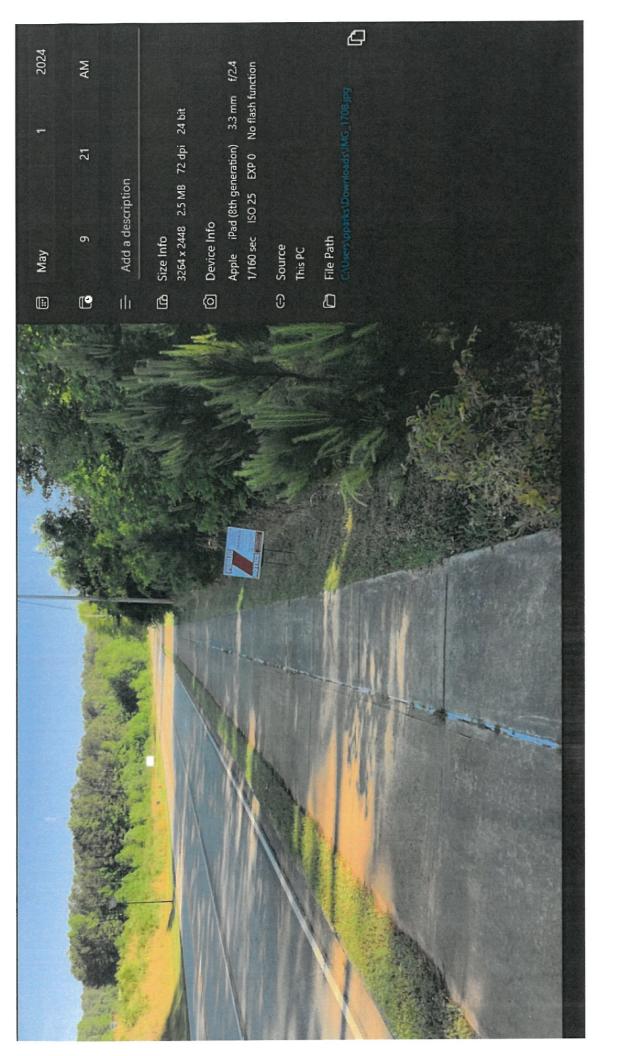
GEORGIA

January 2, 2027

PUBLIC

WRY COU

Exhibit "A"



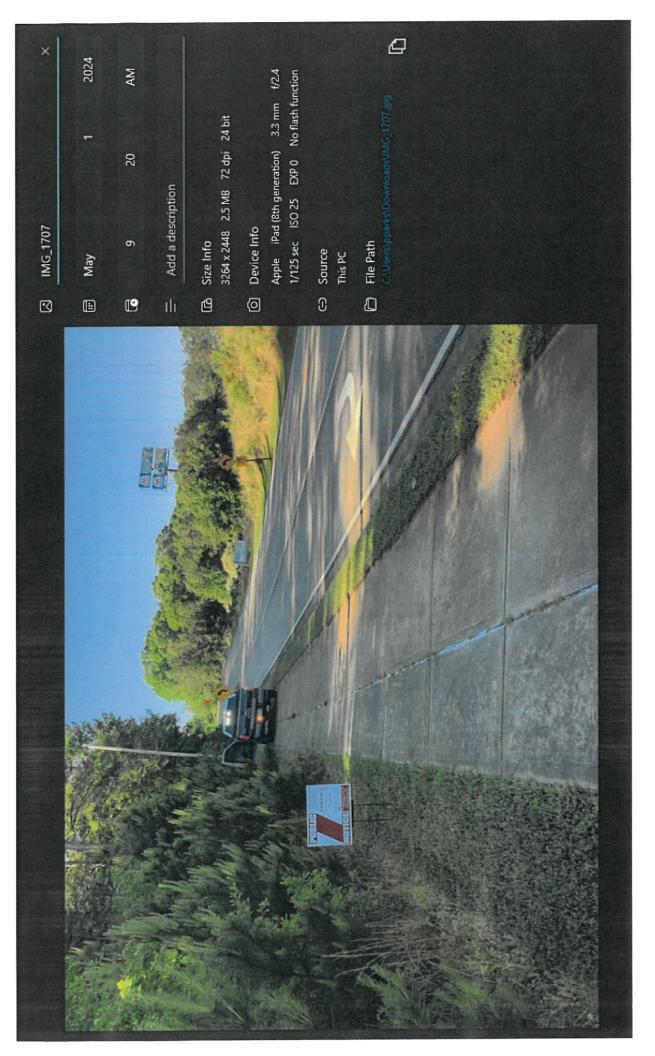


EXHIBIT D