



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

May 10, 2018

Regulatory Branch
SAS-2008-00733

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344), as follows:

Application Number: SAS-2008-00733

Applicant: Mr. Christopher Novack, P.E.
Georgia Ports Authority
Post Office Box 2406
Savannah, Georgia 31402

Agent: Mr. Brandon W. Wall
Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc.
31 park of Commerce Way, Suite 200B
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located within the Garden City Terminal (GTC) of the Georgia Ports Authority, in the southeast corner of the intersection of Grange Road and State Route 25, near Garden City, in Chatham County, Georgia (Latitude 32.1373, Longitude -81.1540).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
The applicant's stated project purpose is "to provide additional equipment storage area on the northern side of the Garden City Terminal". Specifically, as proposed, the project would consist of the fill of 3.53 acres of wetland in order to construct an additional jockey truck storage yard and a chassis lay down area that would service the GTC. Currently, there is only one jockey storage yard that services the entire 1,200 acre Terminal. According to the agent, additional space is needed to support 125 new jockey trucks as well as provide additional lay down area for chassis.

BACKGROUND

On October 19, 2009, the Corps issued an Individual Permit for construction of a new truck gate to access the northern part of the terminal. A five year extension was issued on December 1, 2014, and the permit is valid until December 31, 2019. In 2015, the Mason Yard Empty Container Depot project was created for the storage and processing of empty containers on the west side of State Route (SR) 25. With the increased activity at the Mason Yard, GPA determined that the optimum location for Gate 8 would be on the west side of SR 25. According to the agent, the location of Gate 8 was therefore changed to accommodate the need for additional access to the Mason Yard and to make overall port operations more efficient.

To mitigate for the above permitted impacts (i.e. 3.53 acres of wetland) the applicant purchased 28.32 mitigation credits from Phinizy Swamp Mitigation Bank, a Corps-approved mitigation bank that services the project area. The Corps has determined that these credits can be used to offset the functional loss associated with the proposed project.

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Georgia. The applicant's proposed work may also require local governmental approval.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, intends to certify this project at the end of 30 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required for a Federal Permit to conduct activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 10 cents per page. All coastal projects are filed at our Brunswick office and will need to be requested from Mr. Bradley Smith at Bradley.Smith@dnr.ga.gov. Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification

must do so within 30 days of the State's receipt of application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can be reviewed in the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Operations Division, Regulatory Branch, 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31401-3640.

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia, which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit or other appropriate instrument.

Georgia Coastal Management Program: Prior to the Savannah District Corps of Engineers making a final permit decision on this application, the project must be certified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division, to be consistent with applicable provisions of the State of Georgia Coastal Management Program (15 C.F.R. § 930). Anyone wishing to comment on Coastal Management Program certification of this project should submit comments in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Federal Consistency Coordinator, Ecological Services Section, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army Permit.

Cultural Resources Assessment: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located at the site or in the area affected by the proposed work. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data may be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.), we request information from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service; or, any other interested party, on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

Public Interest Review: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Consideration of Public Comments: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Scott Guinn, 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31401-3640, no later than 15 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the applicant's name and the application number in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Scott Guinn, Regulatory Specialist, Coastal Section at (912) 652-5022.

Enclosure

1. Project Drawings entitled, "Property Improvements PH2, Garden City Terminal," dated March 5, 2018. (Sheets 1-4).

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- SHEET 1 - SHEET INDEX
- SHEET 2 - VICINITY AND LOCATION MAP
- SHEET 3 - SITE PLAN
- SHEET 4 - WETLAND IMPACT

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PURPOSE: PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT
PAVEMENT EXTENSION

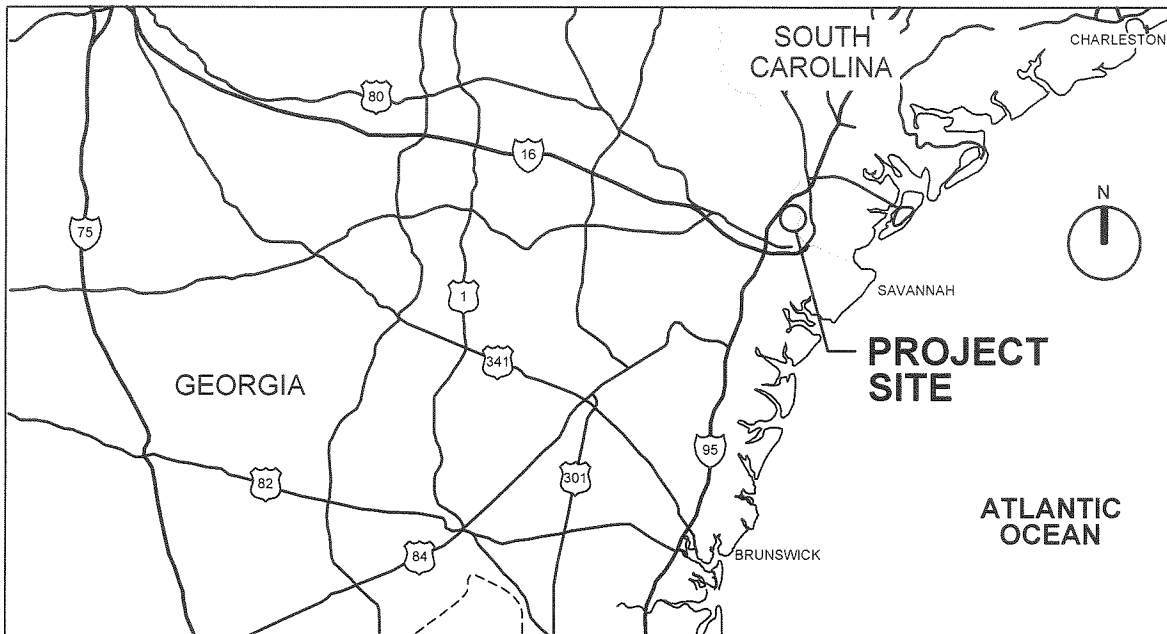
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ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
IMPERIAL-SAVANNAH-LP
GA DOT
TOWN OF PORT WENTWORTH

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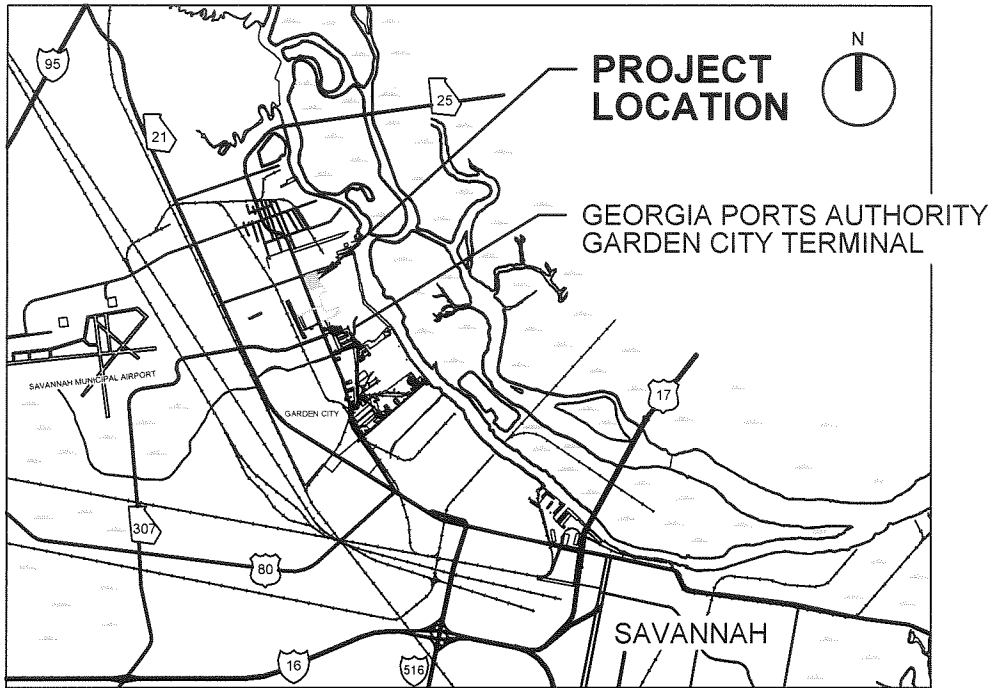
GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY
P O BOX 2406
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS PH 2
GARDEN CITY TERMINAL

COUNTY OF: CHATHAM STATE: GA
APPLICATION BY: GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY
SHEET 1 OF 4 DATE: 5-MAR-2018



VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE



LOCATION MAP
NOT TO SCALE

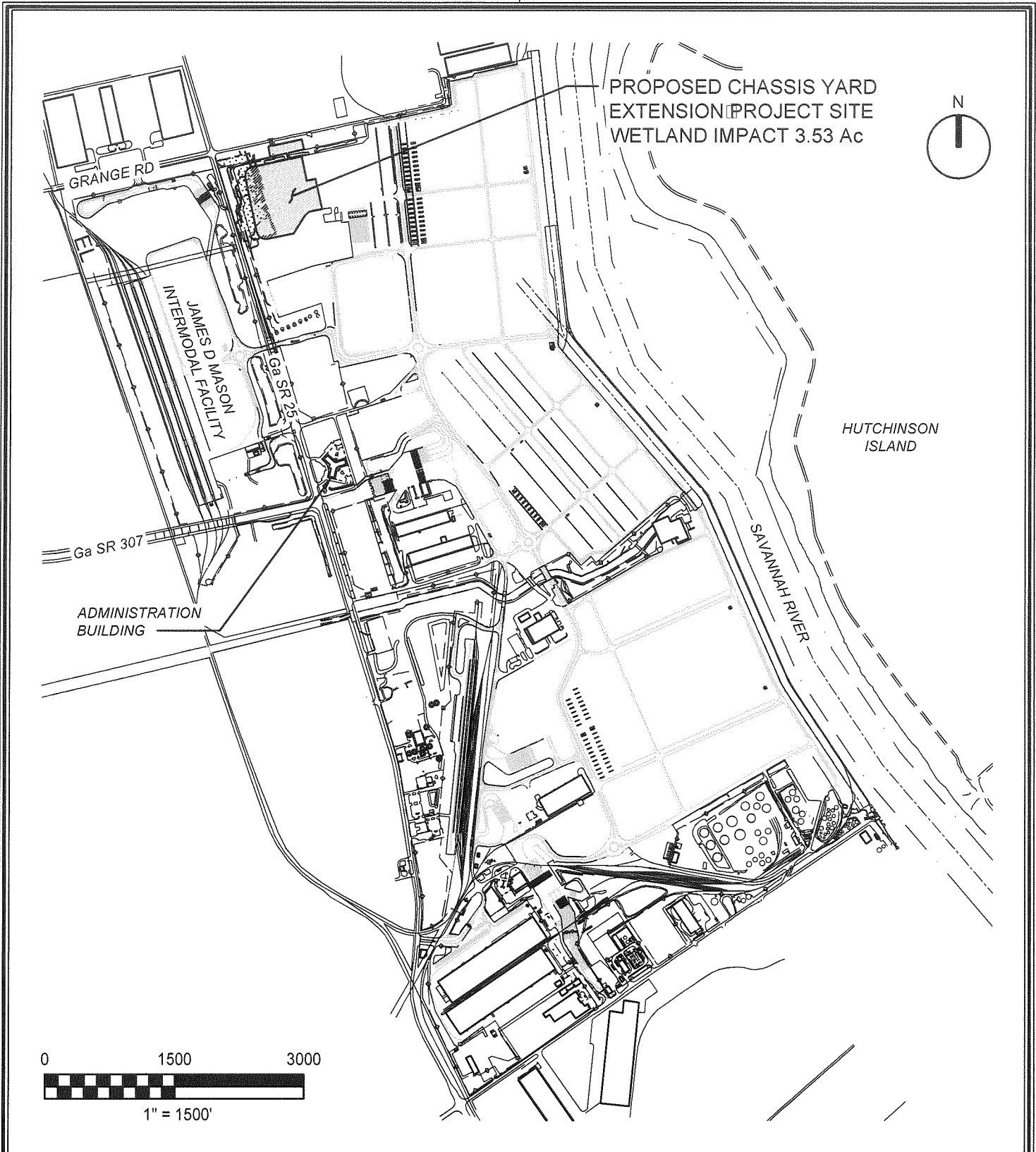
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**VICINITY MAP AND
LOCATION MAP**
GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY
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SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402

**PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS PH 2
GARDEN CITY TERMINAL**
COUNTY OF: CHATHAM STATE: GA
APPLICATION BY: GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY
SHEET 2 OF 4 DATE: 5-MAR-2018

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PURPOSE: PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT
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SITE PLAN

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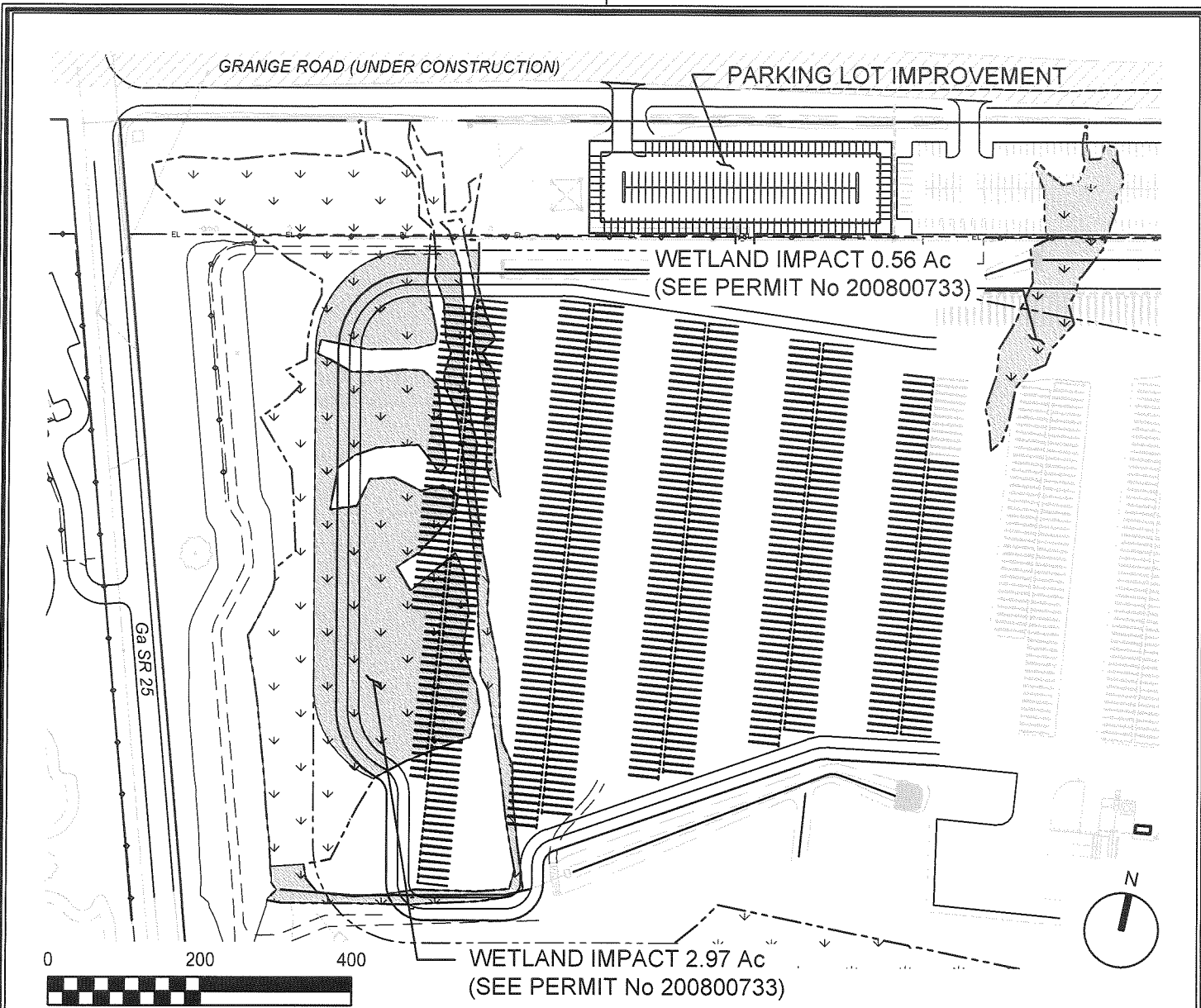
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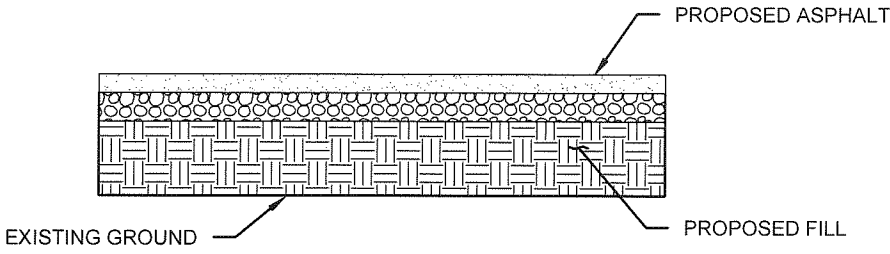
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PLAN VIEW



TYPICAL FILL SECTION

PURPOSE: PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT
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WETLAND IMPACTS
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PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS PH 2
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REV.