



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

September 30, 2020

SAS-2020-00691

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-2020-00691

Applicant: The Chatham County Dept. of Engineering
Attn: Mr. Kevin Hayes
PO Box 8161
Savannah, Georgia 31412

Agent: Mr. Brandon W. Wall
Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc.
41 Park of Commerce Way, Suite 101
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located east of Harry S. Truman Parkway, north of E. Montgomery Cross Rd, and south of Eisenhower Drive in Chatham County, Georgia. The coordinates of the site are latitude 31.994436° N and longitude 81.081811 ° W.

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: The Chatham County Department of Engineering is proposing to construct an overflow parking area and additional stormwater treatment facilities at Memorial Stadium on a 2.98-acre tract impacting 0.671 acres of freshwater wetlands.

The applicant's stated compensatory mitigation plan proposal is as follows: The project is necessary to accommodate the need for parking and stormwater treatment at Memorial Stadium. As mitigation for the project related impacts, the applicant has proposed to withdraw 4.0 wetland credits from the Chatham County Mitigation Bank.

BACKGROUND

Memorial Stadium is a multi-purpose stadium primarily used for high school football and soccer events. The stadium was renovated in 2018, its first major renovation since being built in 1957. The updated facility is outfitted with synthetic turf lined for both football and soccer, locker rooms, public restrooms, concessions, field lighting, a

scoreboard, and a press box. The facility will hold up to 5,000 spectators. Memorial Stadium is where most of the local high school sporting events take place in Chatham County. The facility has also served as the location for several Savannah State University homecoming events. The site also welcomes community awareness and fund raising programs. The events held at Memorial Stadium will continue to benefit the public in Chatham County and provide facilities for both local high schools and the public.

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 will review the proposed project for water quality certification, in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Prior to issuance of a Department of the Army permit for a project location in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia, review for Water Quality Certification is required. A reasonable period of time, which shall not exceed one year, is established under the Clean Water Act for the State to act on a request for Water Quality Certification, after which, issuance of such a Department of the Army permit may proceed. The applicant did not request a pre-certification meeting with Georgia EPD prior to submitting their application for a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant must still request a meeting with EPD at least 30 days prior to any request they make for 401 Water Quality Certification.

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 CFR Part 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: Previous cultural resource investigations at this location did not result in the finding of historic properties. In addition, the landscape retained a heavy amount of post-depositional modification due to construction of Truman Parkway to the west, Memorial Stadium to the east, Paulson Sports Complex to the north, and a Georgia Power Substation to the south. This construction has resulted in extensive modification and disturbance by previous work, thus historic properties that may have at one time existed within the permit area are presumed to be lost.

The Corps was able to determine that based upon the information that the applicant has provided in addition to the background review, the nature, scope, and magnitude of the work, and/or structures to be permitted, the permit area can be considered to have been extensively modified by previous work, such that there is little likelihood that a historic property exists or may be affected. The Corps has determined that this action has no potential to cause effects to historic properties, and it has fulfilled its Section 106 responsibilities in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1) and 33 CFR 325 Appendix C, paragraph 3.b

Endangered Species: A preliminary review of the endangered and threatened species list generated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website indicates the following listed species may occur in the project area: wood stork (*Mycteria americana*), Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) and the frosted flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*).

Per the Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered and Threatened Species (EDGES), the Corps has determined that the proposed work will Not Likely Adversely Affect the wood stork and Eastern indigo snake and have No Effect on the red-cockaded woodpecker and Frosted Flatwoods Salamander.

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 by email to Ms. Allison Murphy at allison.c.murphy@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Ms. Allison Murphy, 100 West Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31401-3604, no later than 30 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 Ms. Allison Murphy, Project Manager, Coastal Branch via email at allison.c.murphy@usace.army.mil or via phone at (912) 652-5133.

Enclosure:

1. Location Map and Permit Drawings (4 pages)



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

 Project Limits (+/- 2.98 acres)

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 phone (912) 232-0451
 fax (912) 232-0453
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Aerial Photograph
 Memorial Stadium Parking Enhancement Lot
 Chatham County, Georgia

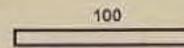
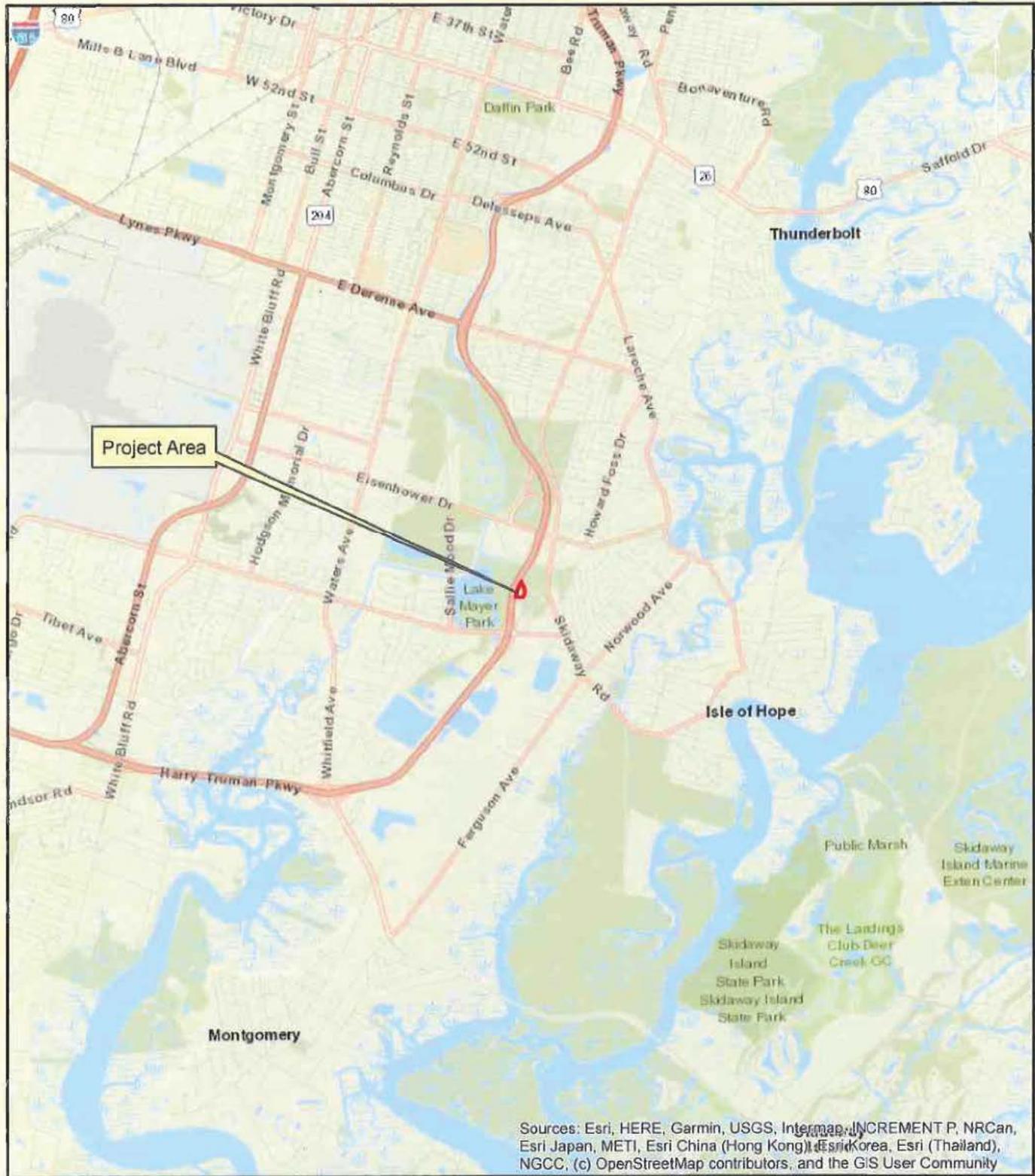
 100 Feet

Exhibit Date: August 6, 2020

Drawn By: TCT

Reviewed By: BWW

Job Number: 01-19-138



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

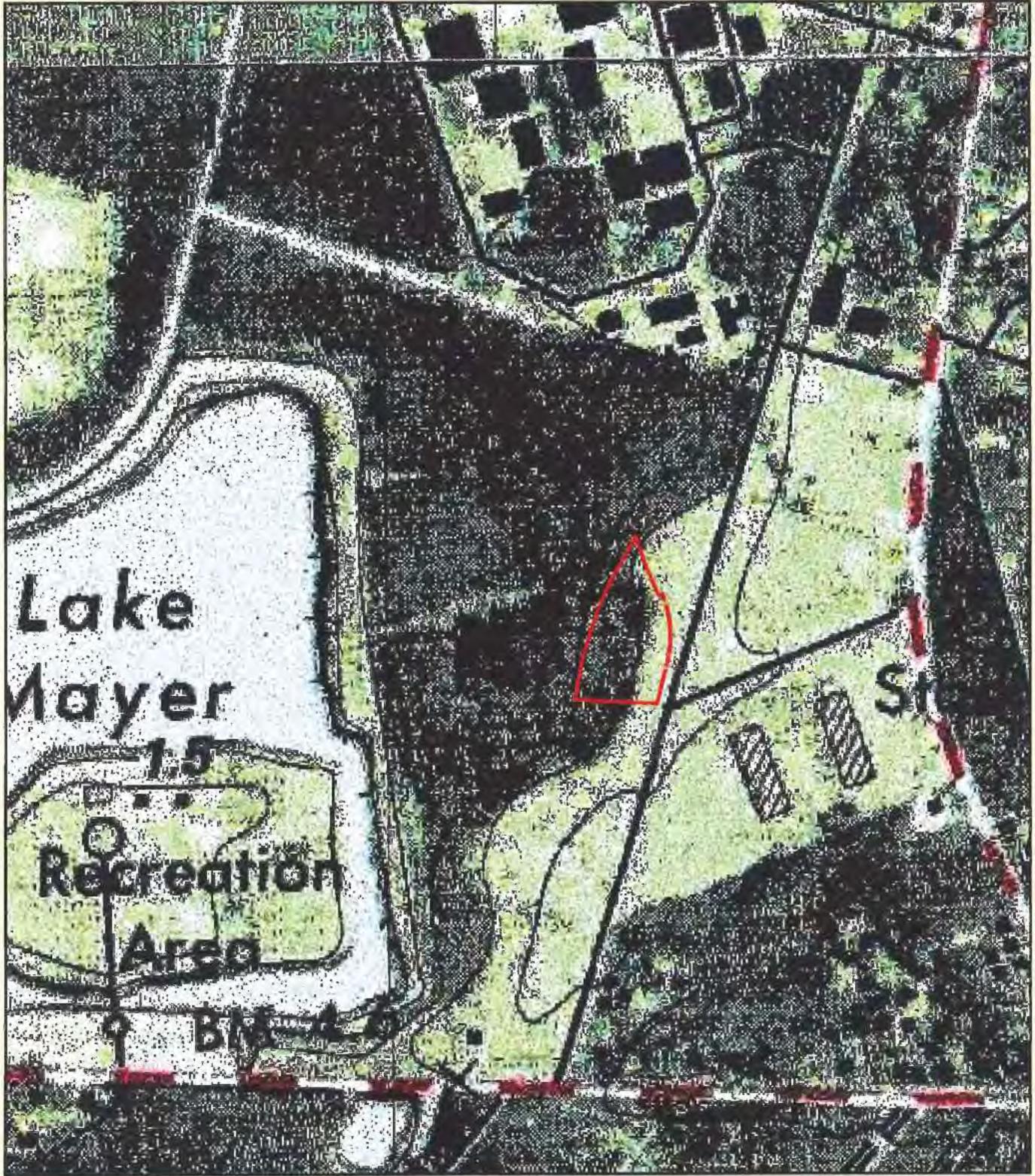
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Location Map
 Memorial Stadium Parking Enhancement Lot
 Chatham County, Georgia

1
 Miles

Exhibit Date: August 8, 2020
Drawn By: TCT
Reviewed By: BWW
Job Number : 01-19-138



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USGS Map
 Memorial Stadium Parking Enhancement Lot
 Chatham County, Georgia

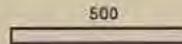
 500 Feet

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NWI Map
 Memorial Stadium Parking Enhancement Lot
 Chatham County, Georgia

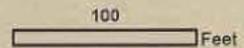
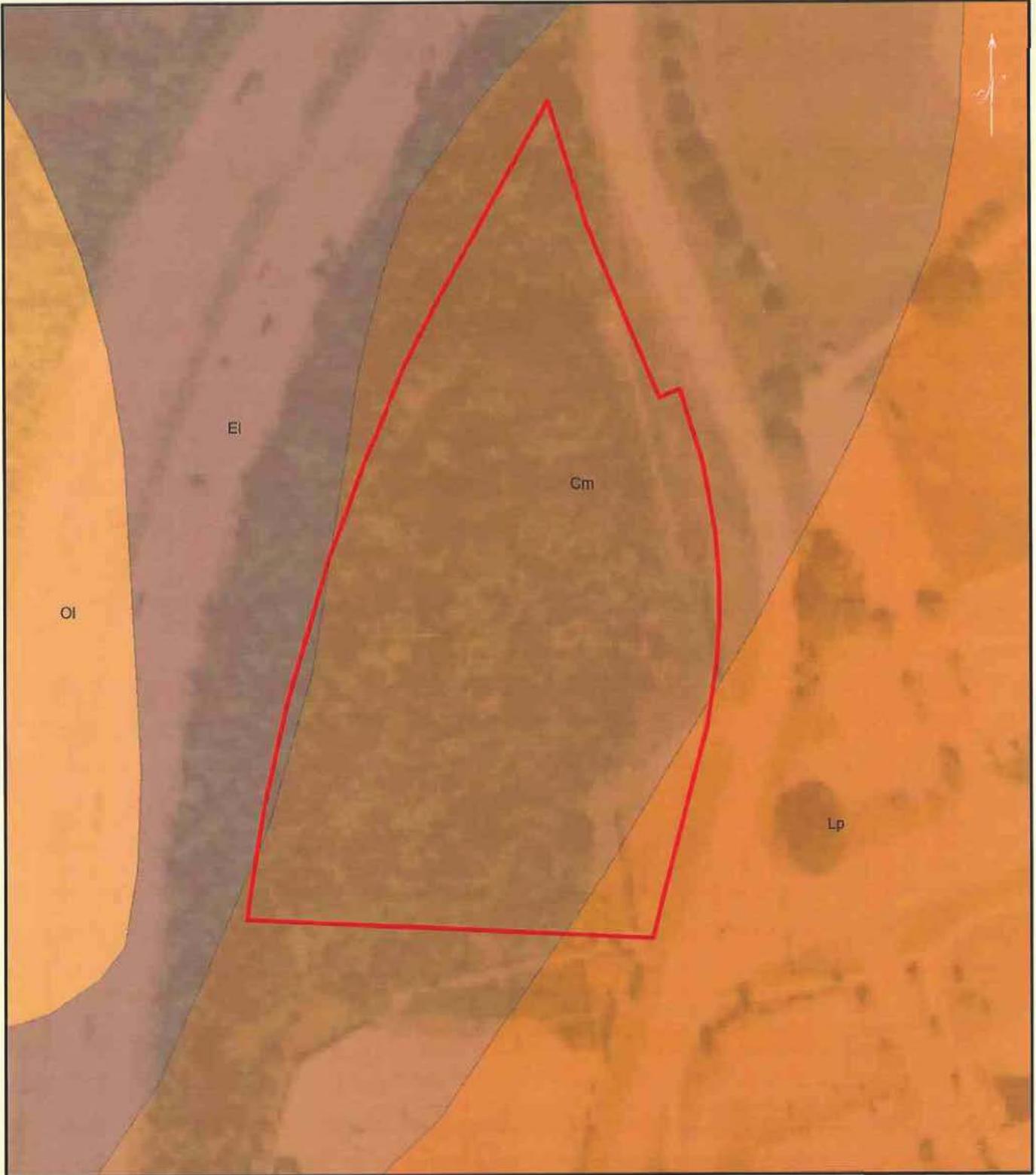
 100 Feet

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Soil Map
 Memorial Stadium Parking Enhancement Lot
 Chatham County, Georgia

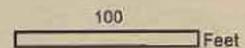
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