

### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT 4751 BEST ROAD, SUITE 140 COLLEGE PARK, GEORGIA 30337-5600

July 26, 2022

Regulatory Division SAS-2022-00687

# 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:

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit application will close 30 days from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit, and must be submitted so as to be received on or before the last day of the comment period. Written comments concerning the Department of the Army Permit application must reference the Applicant's name and the Permit Application Number and be forwarded to the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at the above address.

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.

Application Number: SAS-2022-00687

Applicant: Mr. David Burch

Commerce Exchange Land Propco, LLC

820 A1A N. Suite E-21

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Agent: Ms. Pamela Tutten

Contour Environmental, LLC 4462 Bretton Court, Suite 14 Acworth, Georgia 30101

Location of Proposed Work: The approximately 128-acre proposed project site is located north-northwest of Interstate-85 and Steven B Tanger Boulevard and south of E Ridgeway Road in Commerce, Jackson and Banks County, Georgia. The central coordinates of the site are latitude 34.253899 north and longitude -83.476453 west. The on-site aquatic resources flow toward Crooked Creek, located along the northern boundary of the review area.

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the Corps: The project involves the development of an industrial park including: the construction of one 150,000 square foot warehouse, one 143,200 square foot warehouse facility, one 1,224,000 square foot warehouse facility, and associated infrastructure. Associated infrastructure within the facility complex includes access roads, stormwater controls, lighting, signage, and pavement markings. The Applicant's preferred site plan would result in the loss of 2,799-linear feet of intermittent stream channel, 275-linear feet of perennial stream channel, and 0.385-acre of wetland in conjunction with associated site mass grading, including building pads, parking, and stormwater management facilities.

The Applicant proposes to off-set project impacts to aquatic resources through the purchase of 2.32 legacy wetland credits and 17,590 legacy stream credits from Washington Branch Mitigation Bank (servicing the project site within its primary service area). The project is hydrologically connected to the Hudson River watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03060104).

#### 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. The applicant has requested a Water Quality Certification from the State of Georgia. Prior to issuance of a Department of the Army Permit for a project located in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia, review for Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act 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.

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

## **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.

<u>Cultural Resources Assessment</u>: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and the Georgia Natural, Archeological and Historic Resources GIS database, indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located on the project site. The Applicant completed a Phase I

Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the proposed project site, in order to assess if potential archaeological sites, historic structures, or cultural resources may be present within the general vicinity of the proposed work area. The survey's findings, as prepared by Greenhouse Consultants, Incorporated, documents one newly documented, post-contact artifact scatter located within the project area, which was recommended as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and further makes recommendation no additional archaeological investigation within the project's Area of Potential Effect. The Corps is presently reviewing the accompanying report in conjunction with the current application submittal.

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. Based on the *IPaC Trust Resource Report*, no Federally-designated critical habitats are located onsite. However, this report does list the following Federally protected species that may potentially be affected at this location: candidate Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). The Applicant did not conduct a habitat assessment for the project site.

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, floodplain 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, including an evaluation of practicable alternatives. The Applicant's current proposal reviewed three (3) onsite alternatives and six (6) off-site alternatives for construction of the entire development (as completed and as currently proposed). One off-site alternative was considered to be potentially practicable and two onsite alternatives, including the Applicant's preferred alternative, was considered to be potentially practicable. All alternatives will be further evaluated in conjunction with the application.

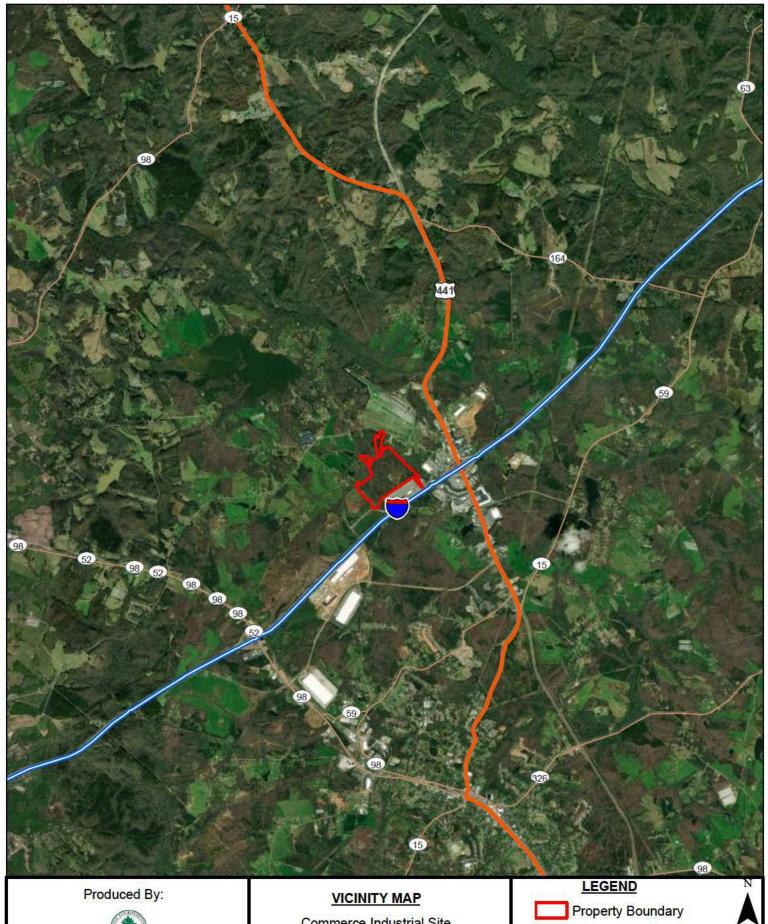
<u>Public Hearing</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public 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.

<u>Comment Period</u>: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to: Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Oya Money-Worthy, 4751 Best Road, Suite 140, College Park, Georgia 30337-5600, no later than **30 days** from the date of this notice. Submittal of comments via email, to the address listed below, is also acceptable. Please refer to the Applicant's name (Commerce Exchange Land Propco, LLC) and the assigned Regulatory file number (SAS-2022-00687) in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this public notice, please contact Oya Money-Worthy, Regulatory Specialist, Piedmont Branch at 678-422-2728, or Oya.M.Money-Worthy@usace.army.mil.

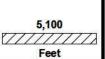
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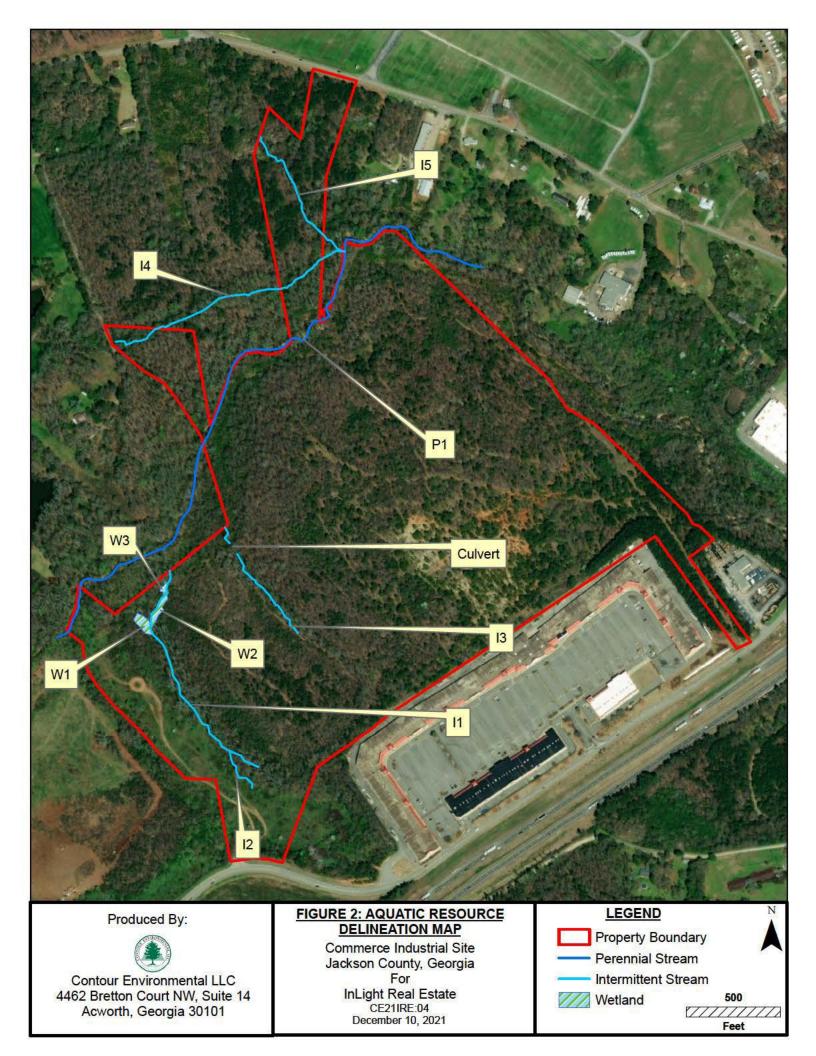
- 1. Project Boundary Map
- 2. Aquatic Resource Delineation Exhibit
- 3. Site Location/Topographic Map
- 4. National Wetlands Inventory Map
- 5. USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey
- 6. Preferred Site Concept Plan
- 7. On-site Alternative Site-1 Concept Plan
- 8. On-site Alternative Site-2 Concept Plan
- 9. Off-Site Alternatives: Alternative Sites 1-5
- 10. Off-Site Alternative Site 4
- 11. Alternative Site 4: Site Alternative Exhibit

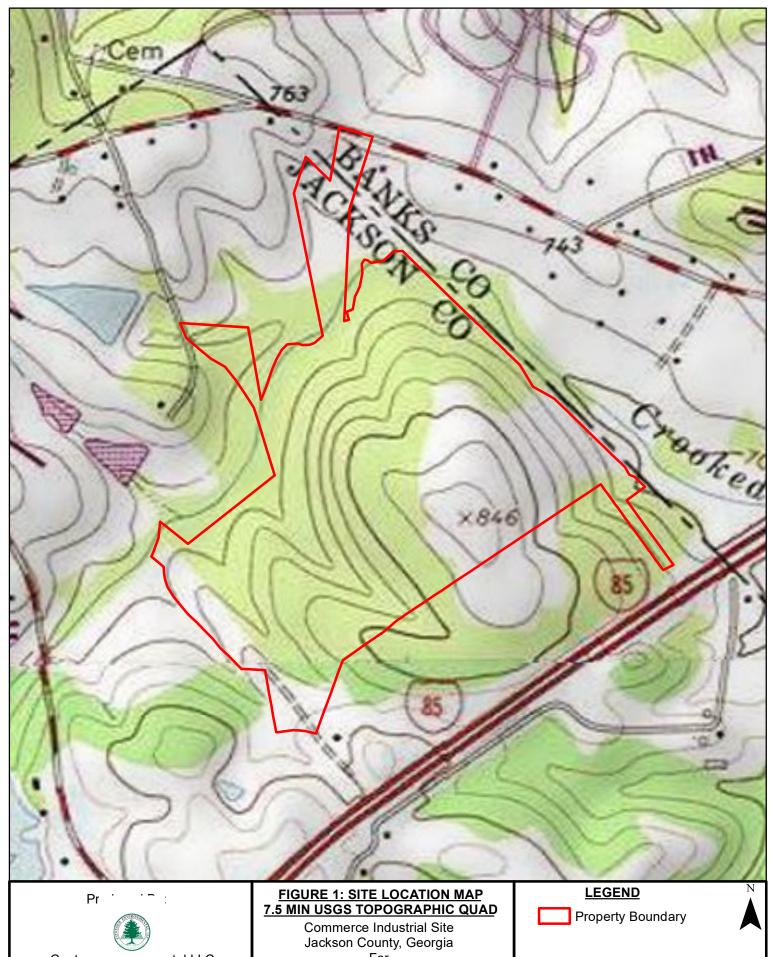




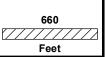
Contour Environmental LLC 4462 Bretton Court NW, Suite 14 Acworth, Georgia 30101 Commerce Industrial Site Jackson County, Georgia For InLight Real Estate CE21IRE:04 December 10, 2021







Contour ntal LLC 4462 Bretto W, Suite 14 Acworth, Georgia 30101 Commerce Industrial Site
Jackson County, Georgia
For
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December 10, 2021



# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# National Wetlands Inventory

# Wetlands



December 9, 2021

#### Wetlands

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

Freshwater Emergent Wetland

Lake Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

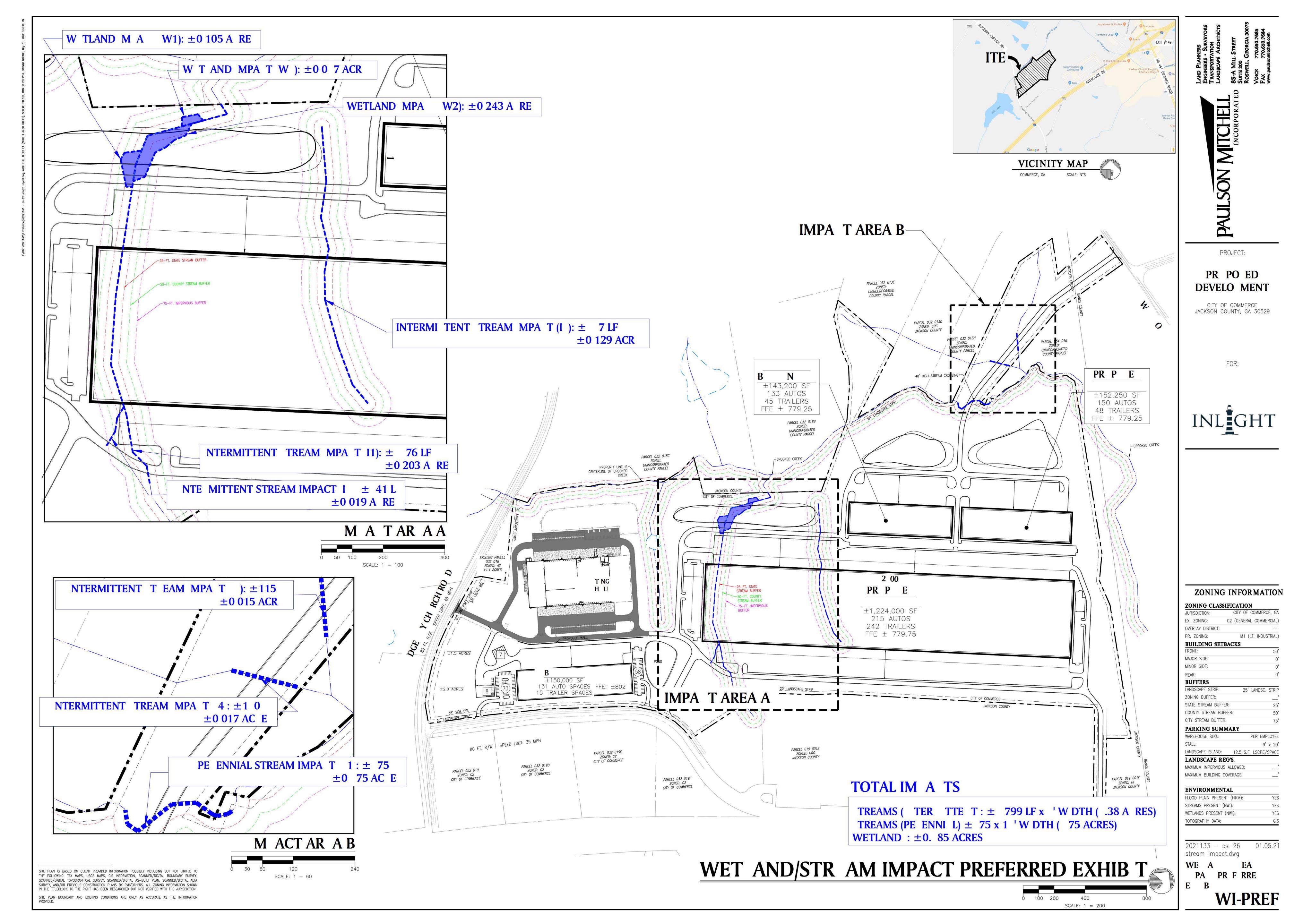
Freshwater Pond

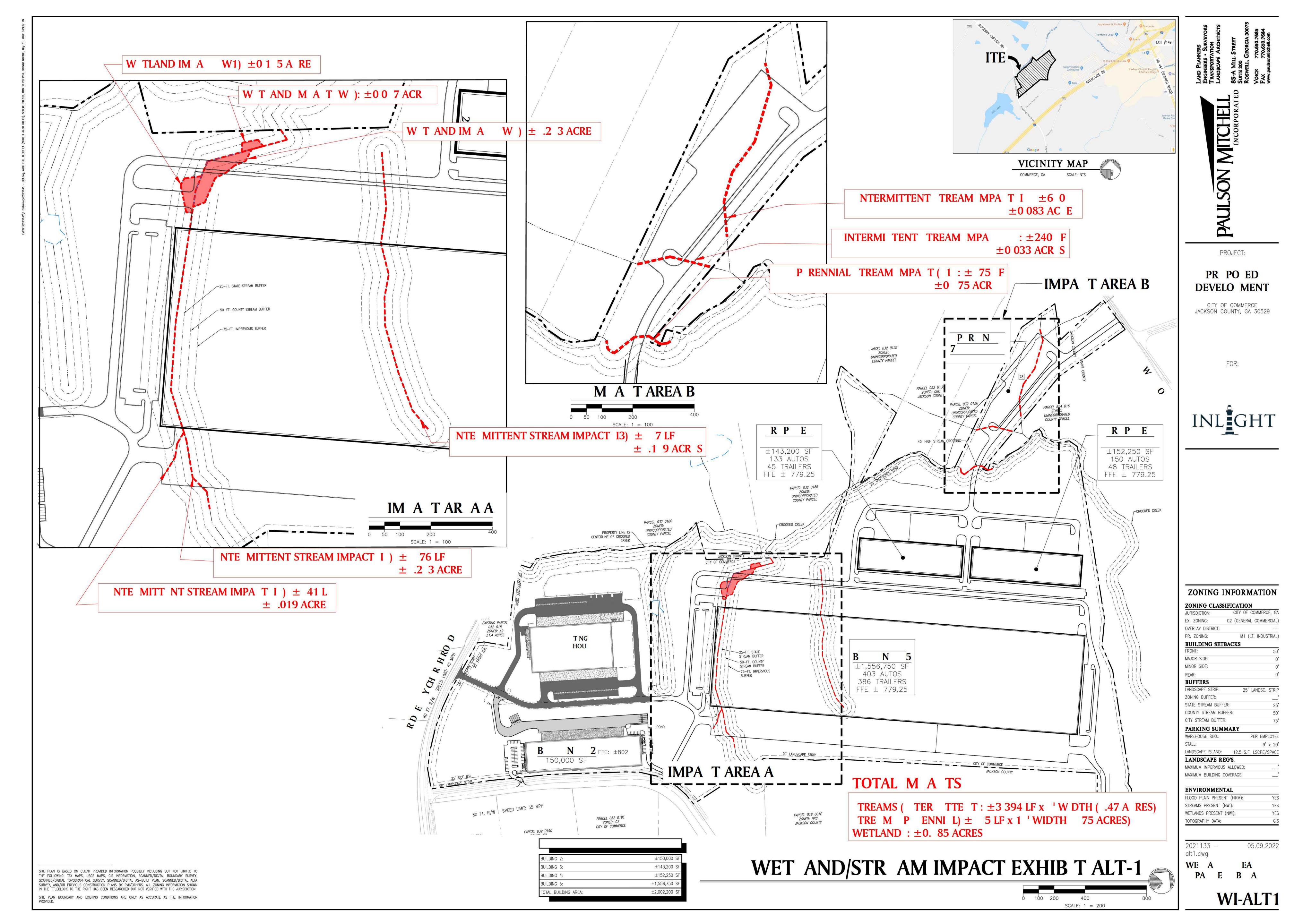
Other

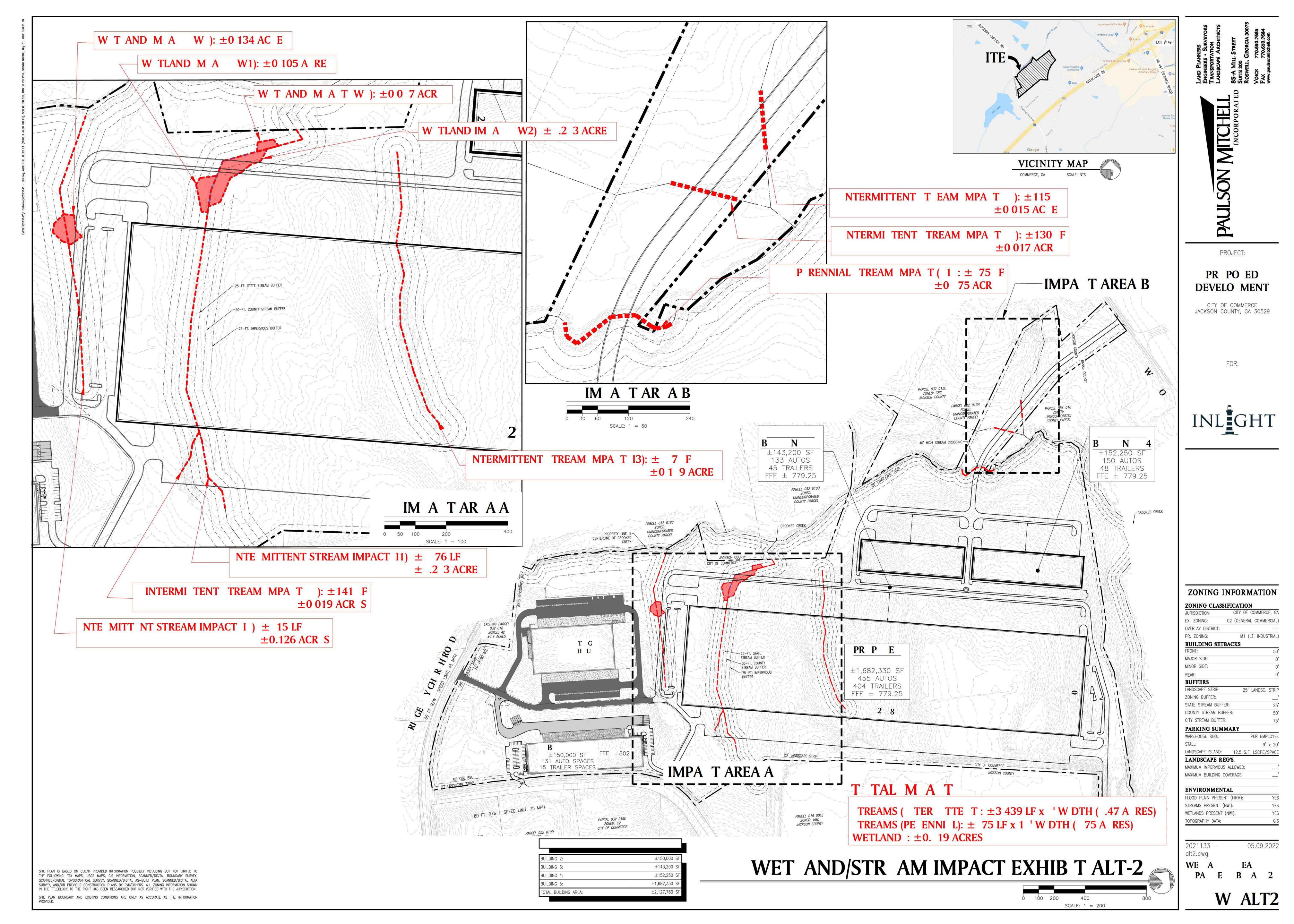
Riverine

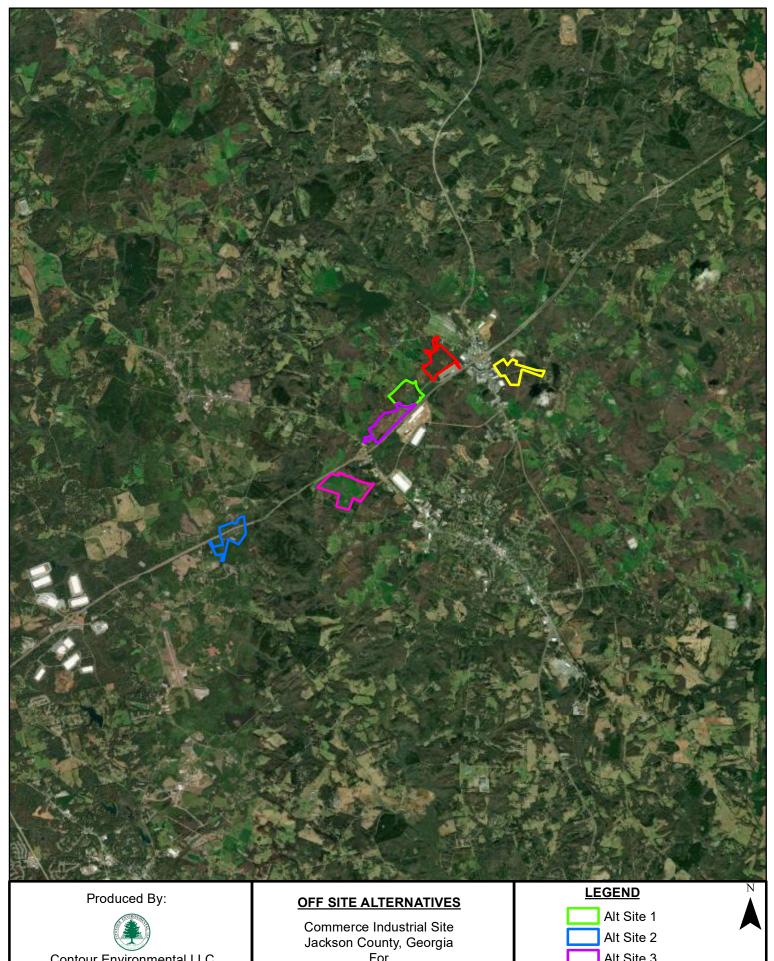
This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.







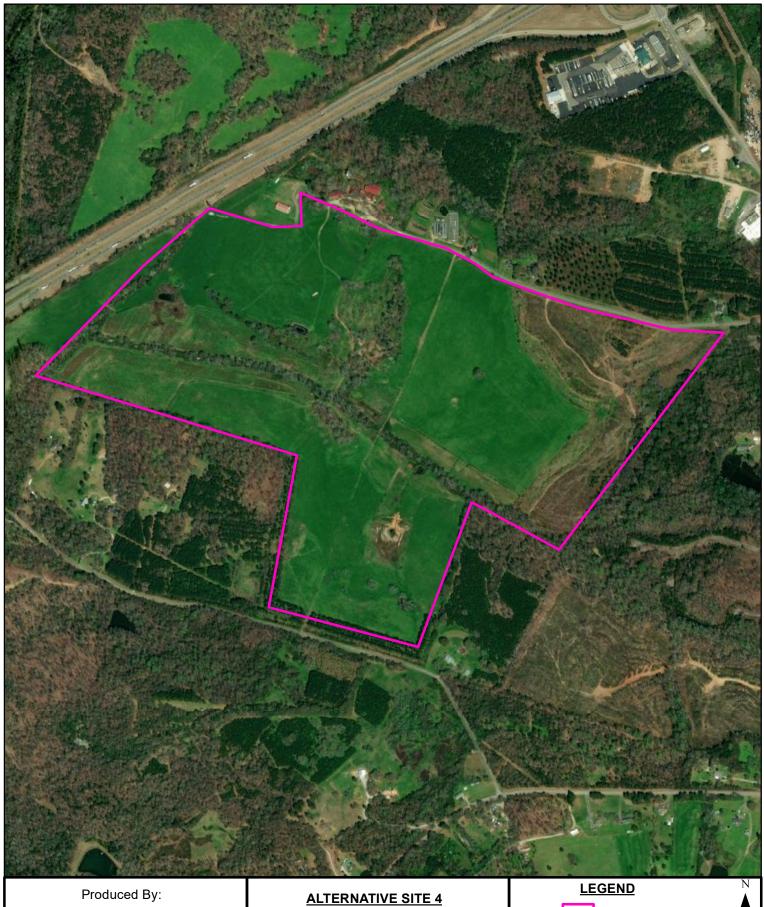




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# Alt Site 3 Alt Site 4 9,100 Alt Site 5 Feet





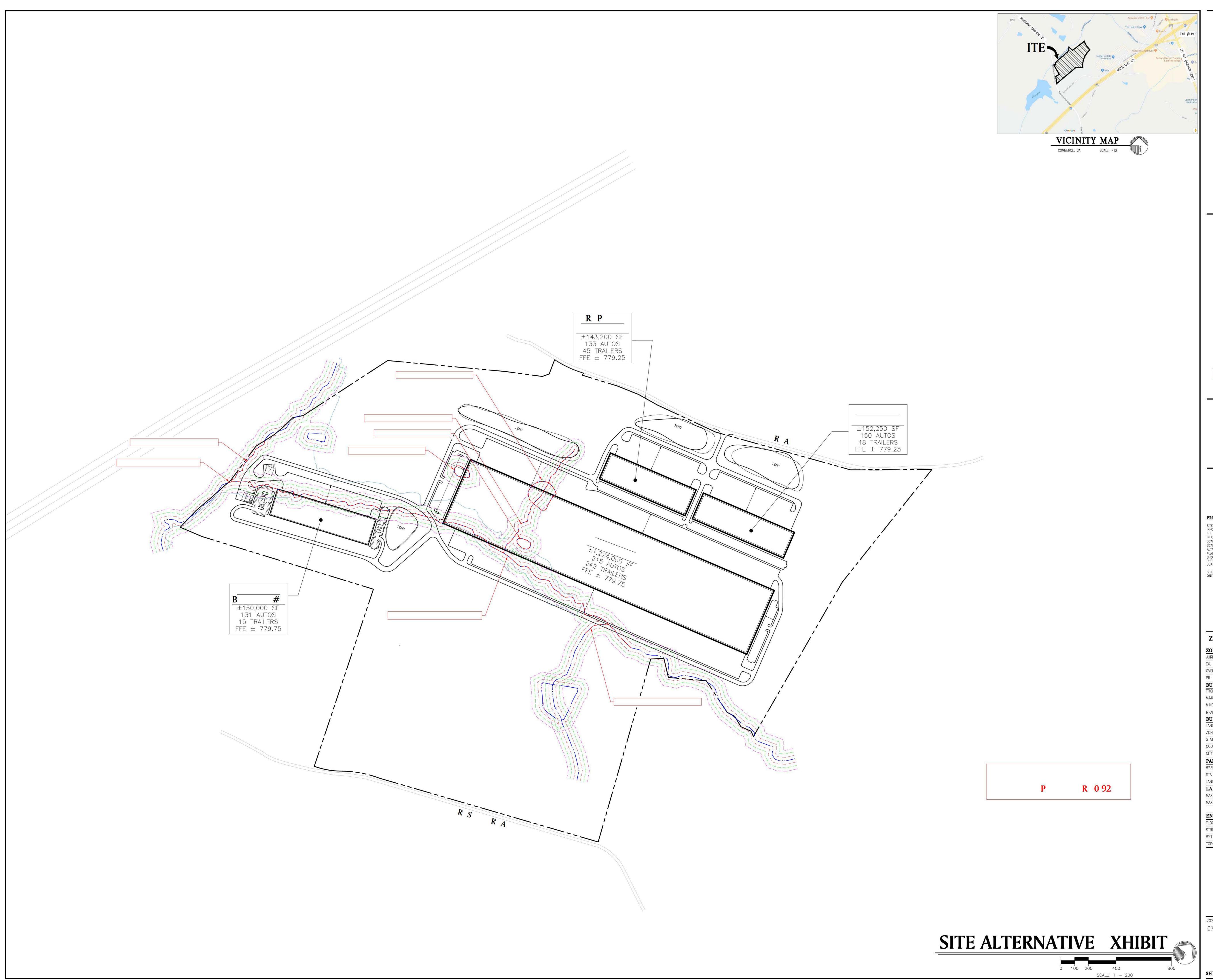
Contour Environmental LLC 4462 Bretton Court NW, Suite 14 Acworth, Georgia 30101 Commerce Industrial Site Jackson County, Georgia For InLight Real Estate CE21IRE:04 December 10, 2021

Alt Site 4



750

Feet



CITY OF COMMERCE JACKSON COUNTY, GA 30529

PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN DISCLAIMER:

SITE PLAN IS BASED ON CLIENT PROVIDED INFORMATION POSSIBLY INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING: TAX MAPS, USGS MAPS, GIS INFORMATION, SCANNED/DIGITAL BOUNDARY SURVEY, SCANNED/DIGITAL TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY, SCANNED/DIGITAL AS—BUILT PLAN, SCANNED/DIGITAL ALTA SURVEY, AND/OR PREVIOUS CONSTRUCTION PLANS BY PMI/OTHERS. ALL ZONING INFORMATION SHOWN IN THE TITLEBLOCK TO THE RIGHT HAS BEEN RESEARCHED BUT NOT VERIFIED WITH THE JURISDICTION.

SITE PLAN BOUNDARY AND EXISTING CONDITIONS ARE ONLY AS ACCURATE AS THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.

ZONING INFORMATION

ZONING CLASSIFICATION CITY OF COMMERCE, GA JURISDICTION: EX. ZONING: C2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) OVERLAY DISTRICT: PR. ZONING: M1 (LT. INDUSTRIAL) BUILDING SETBACKS MAJOR SIDE: BUFFERS
LANDSCAPE STRIP: 25' LANDSC. STRIP

ZONING BUFFER: STATE STREAM BUFFER: COUNTY STREAM BUFFER: CITY STREAM BUFFER:

PARKING SUMMARY WAREHOUSE REQ.: PER EMPLOYEE

9' x 20' LANDSCAPE ISLAND: 12.5 S.F. LSCPE/SPACE LANDSCAPE REG'S. MAXIMUM IMPERVIOUS ALLOWED: MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE:

**ENVIRONMENTAL** FLOOD PLAIN PRESENT (FIRM):

STREAMS PRESENT (NWI): WETLANDS PRESENT (NWI): TOPOGRAPHY DATA:

2021133 - SITE 6 ALTERNATIVE EXH.dwg 07.01.2021

NT

**EXH**