#### GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Rezoning Case REZ-2024-01 Regular Meeting (x)

Work Session (x)

DATE OF MEETING: January 29, 2024 Recommendation (x)

Policy/Discussion ()

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A Report ( )

FUNDING SOURCE: ( ) Annual ( ) SPLOST ( ) Capital (X) N/A

ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-01 Gresham Event Venue

8415 Old Valdosta Road (0008 087)

E-A to PD-R, Well and Septic, ~10.3 acres

#### HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from E-A (Estate Agricultural) zoning to PD-R (Rural Planned Development) zoning. The general motivation in this case is for the applicant to utilize the property as a Club, Lodge, Meeting or Event Facility, primarily for weddings, family reunions, birthday parties, corporate events, community gatherings, etc., with the ability to accommodate overnight guests. The subject property possesses road frontage on Old Valdosta Road and Salem Church Road, a collector and local road respectively, and is within the Rural Service Area and Agricultural/Forestry Character Area.

Aspects of this case worthy of consideration include: 1) The nature of the request as it pertains to a rural setting, 2) Current trends of event venues in rural areas, 3) Surrounding agricultural and clustered residential use of lands.

The TRC considered the request and is supportive of the following Staff-recommended conditions:

- 1. Uses permitted in the Estate Agricultural (E-A) zoning district, and
- a. A club, lodge, meeting or event facility, with overnight accommodations, where the operation of the facility is limited to meetings, retreats, celebrations, and weddings for groups no larger than the fire code allows for the proposed buildings/area<sup>1</sup>. Outdoor performances by bands or ensembles that are accessory to a meeting, retreat, celebration, or wedding shall be allowed.
- 2. Unless otherwise noted on the LCBOC approved site plan, the use of the property shall be subject to all standards applicable to properties in the E-A zoning district.
- 3. The operation of the event facility shall adhere to the Lowndes County Noise Ordinance.
- 4. Exterior lighting shall be shielded to avoid direct illumination of adjacent properties.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve	2. Approve	with Conditions	3. Table	4. Deny
RECOMMENDATION: Op	tion 2	DIVISION: Plann	ing	STAFF: JD Dillard
Recommendation by the Commission:				

Hallabrook Hill – Occupant Load of 214; Total of 4,812 sf

Fox Hill Plantation - Occupant Load of 250; Total of 5,258 sf

Highgrove Farms - Occupant Load of 467; Total of 5,428 sf (among 4 buildings, highest Occupancy of 250)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The following Occupant Loads and Square Footages of other rural event venues are listed below for reference: Quail Branch – Occupant Load of 296; Total of 11,016 sf



18 December 2023

Lowndes County Board of Commissioners 327 North Ashley Street Valdosta GA 31601

Stan Folsom, GA RLS #2284 1309 Edgewood Drive Valdosta GA 31601 Office: (229) 244-2920 folsom22@bellsouth.net

Re: Re-zoning of 10.36 Acres – Old Valdosta Road, Lowndes Tax Parcel 0008 087 for Gresham Event Venue.

Dear Commissioners;

On behalf of Mr. Tony Gresham, Folsom Surveying LLC submits this Letter of Intent to rezone 10.36 Acres near Hahira to **PD-R (Rural Planned Development).** This district is intended for the development of a combination of residential, office, and limited commercial uses. This district is established to encourage creative and resourceful projects that include compatible, interrelated uses and related public facilities unified by a development plan and tailored to a rural setting. Mr. Gresham intends to establish an event venue, which is a permissible use subject to supplemental standards per ULDC Table of Land Uses 2.03.03.

It will be located off Old Valdosta Road, a collector road.

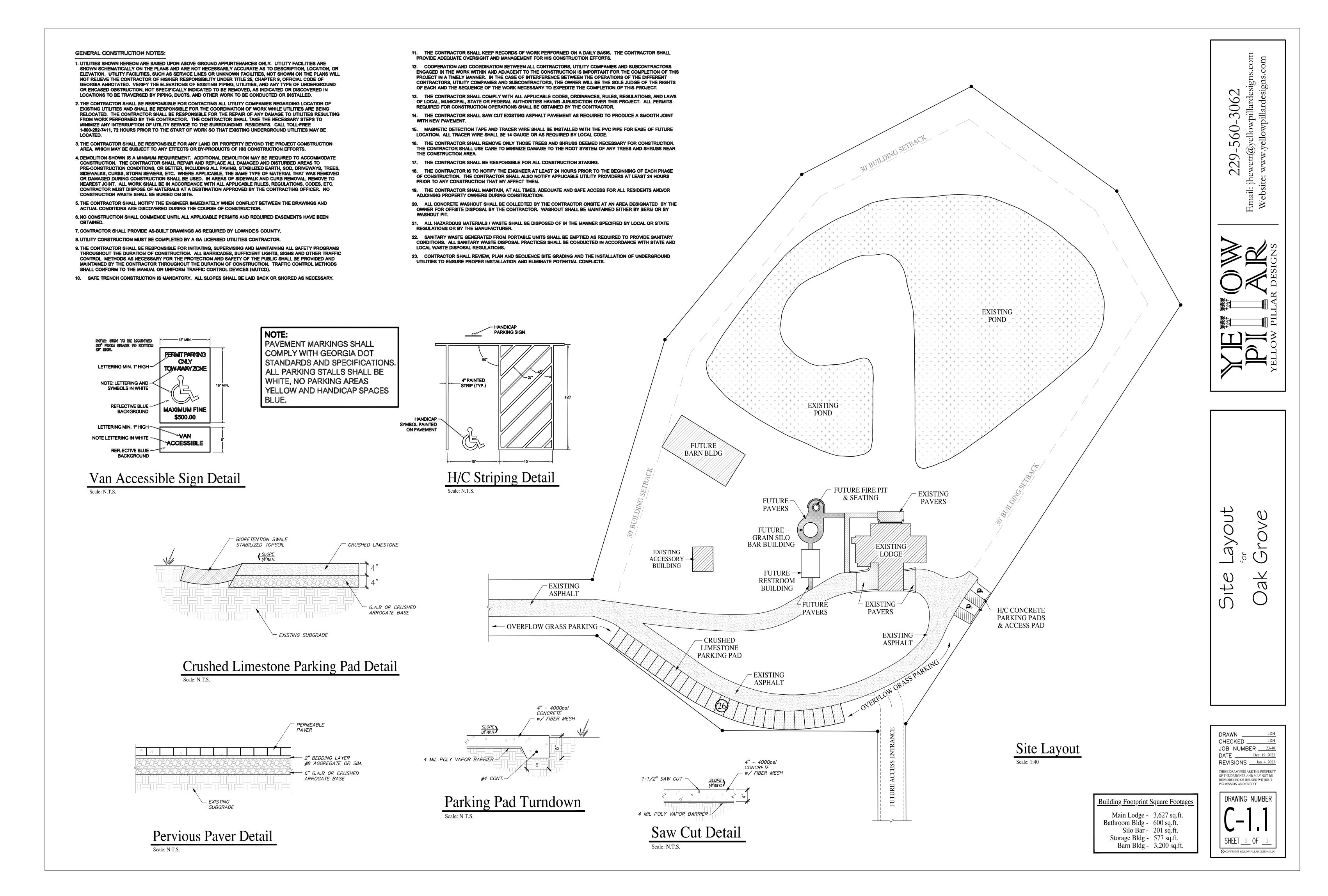
The site will provide a variety of benefits. It will fulfill a need in Hahira and Lowndes County for luxury accommodations for up to 16 guests (rented as one unit), act as meeting/gathering space for existing and prospective businesses based in the area, provide support space for existing event venues in the region, and attract guests from across the country to host their special events South Georgia.

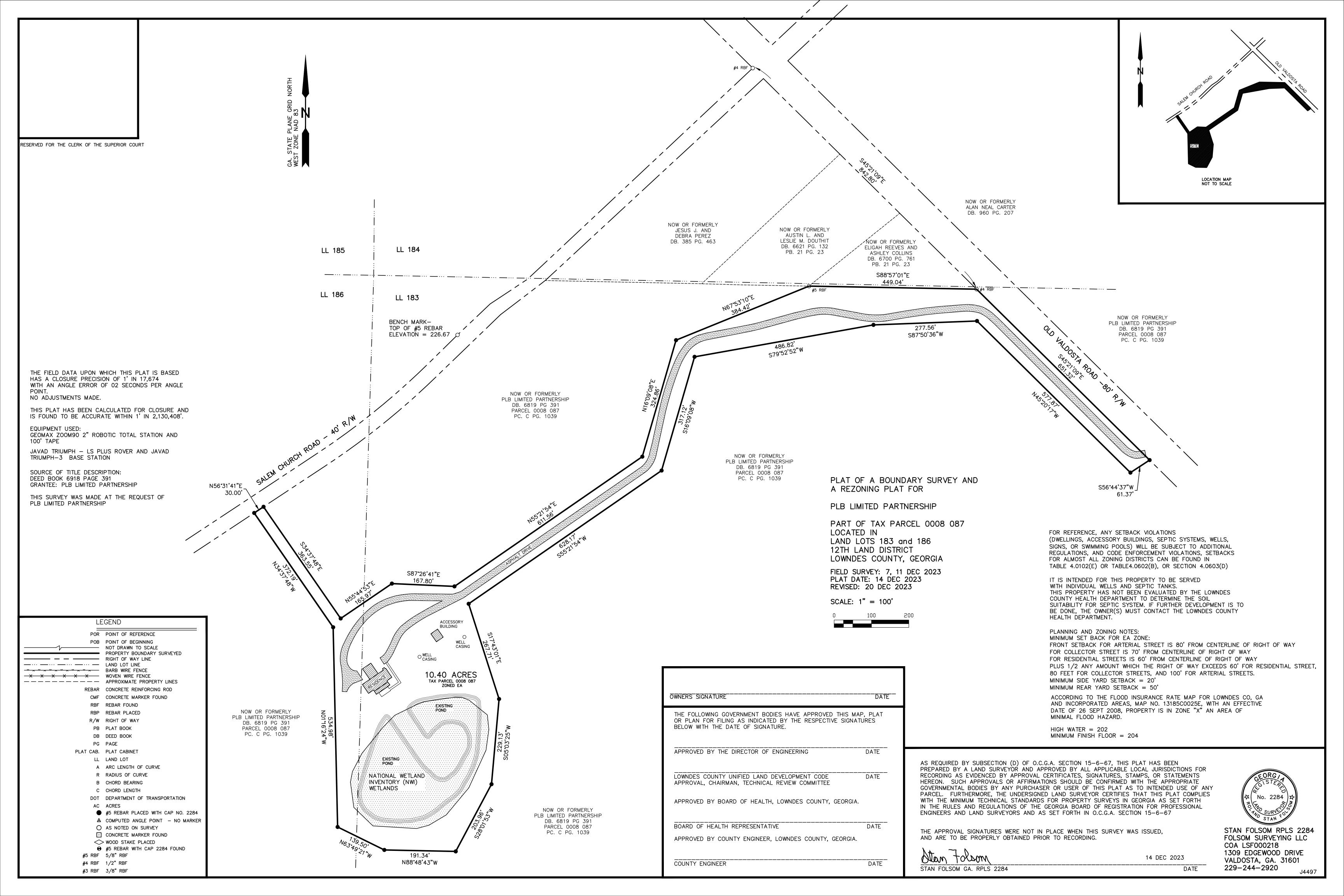
In summary, I feel that Mr. Gresham's proposed PD-R Zoning and planned Event Venue are compatible with the existing surrounding land use, and will benefit Hahira

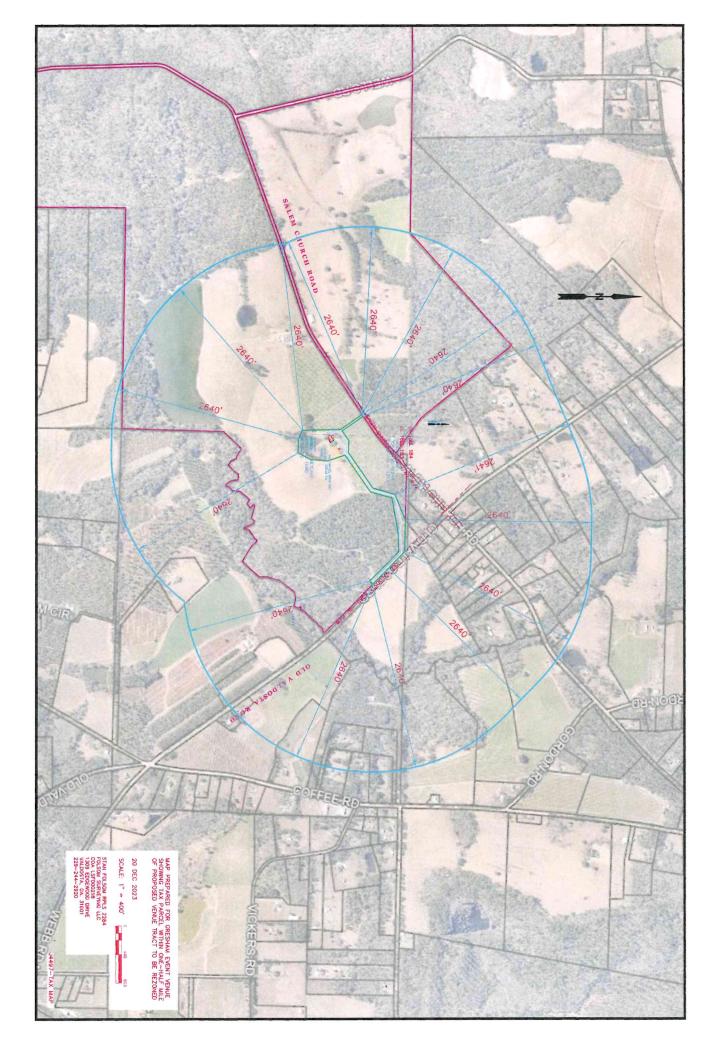
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely; Stan Folsom, GA RLS #2284

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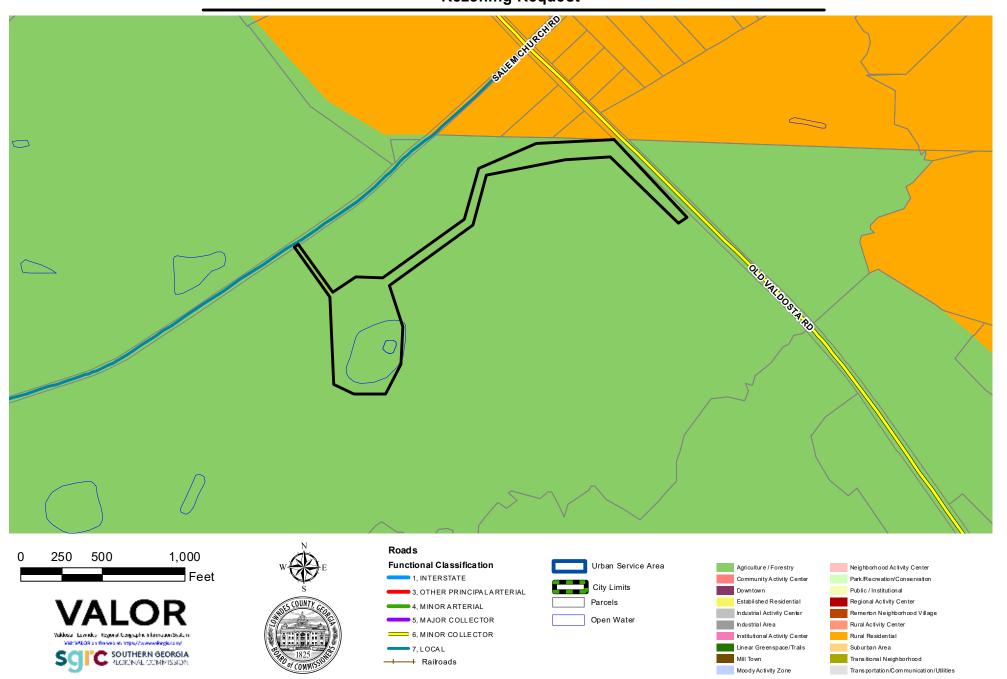




## **REZ-2024-01**

### **Future Development Map**





## **REZ-2024-01**

## **WRPDO Site Map**

#### Legend



# **Gresham Event Venue Rezoning Request**









■ Feet

## **REZ-2024-01**

### **Zoning Location Map**

**Gresham Event Venue Rezoning Request** 

CURRENT ZONING: E-A PROPOSED ZONING: PD-R

