#### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROPOSED AGENDA

WORK SESSION, MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024, 8:30 a.m. REGULAR SESSION, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024, 5:30 p.m. 327 N. Ashley Street - 2nd Floor

- 1. Call To Order
- 2. Invocation
- 3. Pledge Of Allegiance To The Flag
- 4. Minutes For Approval
  - a. Work Session February 26, 2024 & Regular Session February 27, 2024
- 5. Public Hearing
  - a. REZ-2024-01 Gresham Event Venue, 8415 Old Valdosta Rd., E-A To PD-R, ~10.3 Acres, Well & Septic

Documents:

REZ-2024-01 GRESHAM EVENT VENUE, 8415 OLD VALDOSTA RD..PDF

 REZ-2024-02 Byrd Property, 3715 & 3725 Byrd Rd., E-A To R-1, ~7.5ac, Well & Septic

Documents:

REZ-2024-02 BYRD PROPERTY, 3715 AND 3725 BYRD RD.PDF

 REZ-2024-03 Southern Gardens, 4609 Bemiss Rd. 5ac, C-G To P-D, County Utilities

Documents:

REZ-2024-03 SOUTHERN GARDENS, 4609 BEMISS RD. 5AC, C-G TO P-D, COUNTY UTILITIES -.PDF

 d. REZ-2024-04 Clyattstone Rd Subdivision, ~62ac, R-1 To R-10, County Utilities

Documents:

REZ-2024-04 CLYATTSTONE RD SUBDIVISION.PDF

e. REZ-2024-05 Dasher Property, 1776 Old Clyattville Rd, ~115ac, E-A & CON To M-2 & CON, County Utilities

REZ-2024-05 DASHER PROPERTY, 1776 OLD CLYATTVILLE RD.PDF

#### 6. For Consideration

 a. Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application -Hall Road

Documents:

TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT (TIA) LOCAL PROJECT DELIVERY APPLICATION - HALL ROAD.PDF

 Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application -Orr Road Extension

Documents:

TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT (TIA) LOCAL PROJECT DELIVERY APPLICATION - ORR ROAD EXTENSION.PDF

c. Purchase Of Wetland Credits For Coleman Road NW Paving Project

Documents:

PURCHASE OF WETLAND CREDITS FOR COLEMAN ROAD NW PAVING PROJECT.PDF

d. Walker Avenue Quit-Claim

Documents:

WALKER AVENUE QUIT-CLAIM.PDF

e. Abandonment Of A Portion Of Race Track Road SE (CR #310)

Documents:

ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF RACE TRACK ROAD SE.PDF

- 7. Reports County Manager
- 8. Citizens Wishing To Be Heard-Please State Your Name And Address
- 9. Adjournment

SUBJECT: REZ-2024-01 Gresham Event Venue, 8415 Old Valdosta Rd., E-A to PD-R, ~10.3
acres, Well & Septic

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024

Work
Session/Regular
Session

FUNDING SOURCE:

( ) Annual
( ) Capital
(X) N/A
( ) SPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-01 Gresham Event Venue, 8415 Old Valdosta Rd., E-A to PD-R, ~10.3 acres, Well & Septic

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.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of the ULDC, and factors most relevant to this application, including: 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, and is therefore supportive of the following staff-recommended conditions:

1. Uses permitted in the Estate Agricultural (E-A) zoning district, and

( ) TSPLOST

- 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. 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 Lowndes County Board of Commissioners 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.

During the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission (GLPC) meeting, Mr. Holland noted the applicants' venue in neighboring Cook County as a comparable style and size to the proposed operation for this property, and stated that while the site plan shows future buildings allowing flexibility in growth, there was no definitive

timeline for their construction. Conversely, concerns were raised about the potential future growth of the venue and its maximum capacity, if the existing ingress/egress was sufficient to prevent traffic on Old Valdosta Road, and the ability to enforce the noise ordinance. A broader question was raised by the GLPC about how many venues were needed in the county, noting the four approved venues were already booked for the remainder of the year, while acknowledging that others were operating without proper authorization, one in particular in this same area. The GLPC motioned for approval with conditions initially, but the motion failed to pass (3-5); it was then motioned to table for six (6) months to allow a study committee to assess the need for more venues, again failing to pass (4-5). Ultimately, the GLPC made a motion to Deny which passed (5-3).

The following Occupant Loads and Square Footage of other rural event venues are listed below for reference:

Quail Branch – Occupant Load of 296; Total of 11,016 sf

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)

OPTIONS: 1) Approve

2) Approve with Conditions

3) Table4) Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Board's Pleasure

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Planning/Zoning <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: JD Dillard

SUBJECT: REZ-2024-02 Byrd Property, 3715 & 3725 Byrd Rd., E-A to R-1, ~7.5ac, Well & Septic	
DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024	Work Session/Regular Session
BUDGET IMPACT: N/A FUNDING SOURCE:	
( ) Annual ( ) Capital (X) N/A	

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-02 Byrd Property, 3715 &3725 Byrd Rd., E-A to R-1, ~7.5ac, Well & Septic

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HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from E-A (Estate Agricultural) zoning to R-1 (Low Density Residential) zoning. The general motivation in this case is for the applicant to subdivide the property into conforming lots for individual residences. The subject property possesses road frontage on Byrd Road, a locally maintained County Road, and is within the Rural Service Area and Agricultural/Forestry Character Area.

The subject property was created in 1969, and the two existing houses have historical construction dates of 1971, which predate the County's adoption of subdivision regulations in 1972, including the awareness of setbacks.

The neighboring properties along the northeast side of Byrd Road were rezoned in 1996 from A-U (Agricultural Use) to S-A (Suburban Agricultural), and then subdivided for the applicant's children; in essence, a precursor to Family Ties. These lots range in size from 1.86ac to 3.86ac in size.

Based on the survey, R-1 would allow for the creation of five (5) lots that meet County standards, including the separation of the existing homes onto individual lots. While not a condition for rezoning, it is worth noting that twelve and a half (12.5) feet should be reserved for future right-of-way for any widening/paving of Byrd Road, which might impact the overall lot sizes.

While R-1 is not recommended by the Comprehensive Plan in this area, it does state that "residential subdivisions should be severely limited and any minor exceptions should be required to follow a rural cluster zoning or conservation subdivision design." The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of the ULDC, noting that the unique shape of the property coupled with the requirements for individual well and septic systems naturally limits its overall development. Therefore, staff recommends approval of the request for R-1 zoning.

The GLPC heard the request at their regular meeting, along with comments from the applicant about his renovations to the existing houses and plans to sell the lots based on market demand, and having no

opposition to the request, recommend unanimous Approval (8-0).

Minimum Lot Width and Area with Individual Well Water for R-A is 150' on 2.5ac and for R-1 is 120' on 1.0ac Byrd Rd., Old State Rd., and Black Rd., traffic counts average ~45 Vehicles Per Day

OPTIONS: 1) Approve

2) Approve with Conditions

3) Table

4) Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Planning/Zoning <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: JD Dillard

	ECT: REZ-2024-03 Southern Gardens, 4609 Bemiss Rd. 5ac, C-G to P-D, ty Utilities	
DATE	OF MEETING: March 12, 2024	Work Session/Regular Session
	SET IMPACT: N/A DING SOURCE:	
( )	Annual	
( )	Capital	
(X)	N/A	
( )	SPLOST	
( )	TSPLOST	

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-03 Southern Gardens, 4609 Bemiss Rd. 5ac, C-G to P-D, County Utilities

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from C-G (General Commercial) zoning to P-D (Planned Development) zoning, in order to develop a 60-unit apartment complex with amenities. The subject property possesses road frontage on Bemiss Road, a state-owned Arterial Road, and is within the Corridor Overlay, Urban Service Area and Neighborhood Activity Center Character Area. Per Comprehensive Plan guidance, Neighborhood Activity Centers "should include a mix of retail, services, and offices to serve residents' day-to-day needs. Residential development should reinforce the center by locating higher density housing options adjacent to the center, targeted at a broad range of income levels, including multi-family town homes, apartments, and condominiums."

The neighboring properties along the east, northeast and northwest are zoned P-D, and are comprised of single family, two-family, and multifamily dwellings, with a portion fronting Bemiss Road zoned C-H. The properties to the west and south are vacant commercially zoned parcels, with development potential for high-density residential, office, commercial, or a combination of the three under a planned development approach.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of the ULDC, and factors most relevant to this application, noting the difference in parking proposed by the applicant of one and a half spaces, and the two spaces per dwelling unit of ULDC Table 6.01.03(A), which is allowed per 4.06.02(B). Staff offered alternative design considerations for the site's layout, aimed at providing greater separation and privacy to the existing 1-story dwellings abutting the property, including relocation of buildings and reductions in height. Staff found the request consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and surrounding land use pattern, and therefore recommended approval

At the GLPC meeting, the applicant spoke in favor, citing their 30 years of experience in developing similar projects in Lowndes County and other parts of the State, and stating that the reduction in parking is based on their experience and target markets, often being single vehicle family units. The opposition raised concerns about decreased property values and the adequacy of the buffering and setbacks on their privacy from the three-story buildings, in addition to a desire for the subject property to remain commercially zoned. The GLPC had a few followup questions for the applicant, before ultimately voting (5-1) to recommend approval of the

request as presented.

The applicants took note of the opposition's comments, and have revised the layout, relocating the 1-story community building along the western property line adjacent to the Glen Laurel subdivision, and increased the onsite parking to 2 spaces per unit per 6.01.03(A). The TRC reviewed the updated site plan and again found no technical objections.

Patriot's Place Apartments –112 units, 2 and 3-story buildings Patriot's Place Duplexes - 32 units Hamilton Green Townhomes - 80 units Glen Laurel Subdivision - 105 single family homes

OPTIONS: 1) Approve

2) Approve with Conditions

3) Table4) Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Board's Pleasure

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Planning/Zoning <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: JD Dillard

SUBJECT: REZ-2024-04 Clyattstone Rd Subdivision, ~62ac, R-1 to R-10, County Utilities

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024 Work Session/Regular Session

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A
FUNDING SOURCE:

( ) Annual
( ) Capital
(X) N/A
( ) SPLOST
( ) TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-04 Clyattstone Rd Subdivision, ~62ac, R-1 to R-10, County Utilities

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from R-1 (Low Density Residential) zoning to R-10 (Suburban Density) zoning, in order to develop a 110-lot subdivision. The subject property possesses road frontage on Clyattstone Road and Rocky Hill Church Road, a County owned Collector and local road respectively, and lies within the Urban Service Area and Suburban Character Area.

In 2020, the adjoining property to the east was rezoned to an R-10 site plan with conditions that included lots abutting Clyattstone Road be no less than 0.5 acres in size, lots fronting interior roads, the inclusion of sidewalks, and neighborhood amenities.

In keeping with the Comprehensive Plan's guidance, new development should be master-planned at a moderate density in these areas, with a greater focus on traditional neighborhood residential subdivisions, including compatible architecture styles to maintain the regional character of the area, and as a way to capitalize on the recent investment in water and sewer infrastructure.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of the ULDC, and finds the request consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and land use patterns, and therefore recommends approval with conditions that lots abutting Clyattstone Road shall be a minimum of 0.5 acres in size. At the GLPC meeting, the applicant and a representative from the neighboring Meadow Woods subdivision spoke in support of the request, noting that house sizes and materials would be addressed in covenant restrictions, after which time the GLPC voted unanimously to recommend approval of the staff condition (6-0).

OPTIONS: 1) Approve

- 2) Approve with Conditions
- 3) Table
- 4) Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 2

Board's Pleasure

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Planning/Zoning <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: JD Dillard

SUBJECT: REZ-2024-05 Dasher Property, 1776 Old Clyattville Rd, ~115ac, E-A & CON to M-2 & CON, County Utilities

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE:

( ) Annual
( ) Capital
( X) N/A
( ) SPLOST
( ) TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: REZ-2024-05 Dasher Property, 1776 Old Clyattville Rd, ~115ac, E-A & CON to M-2 & CON, County Utilities

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: This request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from E-A (Estate Agricultural) and CON (Conservation) zoning to M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing) and CON zoning. The subject property possesses road frontage on Old Clyattville Road, a Major Collector, and lies within the Urban Service Area, the Valdosta Airport and Old Clyattville Road Overlays, and is split between the Regional Activity and Conservation Character Areas. Additionally, portions of the property are within the VLD Approach and Horizontal Surface Zones, though primarily in the areas depicted as CON zoning.

Of the 115 acres total, ~16.45 are being requested to change from E-A to M-2, with ~18 acres requested to change from E-A to CON zoning, increasing the total Conservation zoning to ~98 acres.

While M-2 is not recommended within the Character area, the predominant zoning patterns and land uses to the north and east are M-2 within the Valdosta City limits, transitioning to larger tracts zoned for the operation of commercial and industrial activities towards the interstate, mixing M-1, M-2, and C-H.

- C-H, Highway Commercial. This district is intended to provide areas for commercial activities which provide products and services that generally require locations with the highest level of access to major collector roads, arterial highways, and regional transportation systems.
- M-1, Light Manufacturing. This district provides for light industrial uses which do not create excessive
  noise, odor, smoke, or dust and do not produce, store, or handle hazardous wastes. Permissible uses
  include activities involved in warehousing, assembly, storage, and commercial services.
- M-2, Heavy Manufacturing. This district provides for the manufacturing, assembling, storage, distribution, and sales activities that are generally high intensity. For those industries which may have negative impacts or nuisance factors associated with their use, supplemental standards shall apply within the district.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards governing the exercise of zoning power set forth in 10.01.05 of

the ULDC, its consistency with the land use patterns and goals of the Comprehensive Plan, and therefore recommends approval with conditions that section 10.02.05(C) must be completed and submitted to the County Manager, or their designee, by any and all future prospects for review prior to any development approval from the local issuing authorities; and, Correctional Facilities, Transitional Care Facilities, and Junk and Salvage Yards shall not be permitted.

The applicants representative spoke at the GLPC meeting, agreeing with Staff's recommended conditions, and hearing no one speak in opposition, the GLPC voted unanimously to recommend Approval with Conditions as stated by Staff (6-0).

Martin's Famous Pastry Shop consists of 40 acres zoned M-1 Second Harvest Headquarters consists of 20 acres zoned M-2

OPTIONS: 1) Approve

2) Approve with Conditions

3) Table4) Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

Option 2

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Planning/Zoning <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: JD Dillard

SUBJE Hall R	CT: Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application oad	-
DATE	OF MEETING: March 12, 2024	Work Session/Regular Session
BUDG	ET IMPACT: N/A	
FUND	DING SOURCE:	
( )	Annual	
( )	Capital	
(X)	N/A	
( )	SPLOST	

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Transporation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application - Hall Road

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: Hall Road is on the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Constrained List to start professional engineering in June 2024. The Local Project Delivery Application starts the process by allowing Lowndes County to manage the project and procurement process at the local government level. If approved, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) will send an approval letter and agreement to be approved by the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign the application.

2. Redirect.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Engineering DEPARTMENT HEAD: Chad McLeod

SUBJECT: Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application - Orr
Road Extension

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A

Work
Session/Regular
Session

FUNDING SOURCE:

( )	Annuai
( )	Capital
(X)	N/A
( )	SPLOST

() TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Project Delivery Application - Orr Road Extension

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: Orr Road is on the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Constrained List to start professional engineering in June 2024. The Local Project Delivery Application starts the process by allowing Lowndes County to manage the project and procurement process at the local government level. If approved, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) will send an approval letter and agreement to be approved by the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign the application.

2. Redirect.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Engineering DEPARTMENT HEAD: Chad McLeod

SUBJECT: Purchase of Wetland Credits for Coleman Road NW Paving Project

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024

Work Session/Regular Session

BUDGET IMPACT: \$39,600.00

**FUNDING SOURCE:** 

(	)	Annual
(	)	Capital
(	)	N/A

( ) SPLOST (X) TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Purchase Wetland and Stream Credits for Coleman Road NW Paving Project

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: As a part of the Coleman Road NW Paving Project, the construction will impact 0.439 acres of wetlands. As a result, Lowndes County will be required to purchase wetland credits from an approved Army Corp of Engineers wetland bank. Lowndes County will need a total of 2.64 wetland credits to finalize the wetland impact permit for this project. Wetland credits are available through Williams Investments, LLC at \$15,000.00 per credit.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve the purchase of 2.64 Wetland Credits from Williams Investments, LLC for \$39,600.00.

2. Redirect.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: Engineering DEPARTMENT HEAD: Chad McLeod

SORIF	:C1: Walker Avenue Quit-Claim	
DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024		Work Session/Regular Session
BUDG	ET IMPACT: N/A	
FUND	DING SOURCE:	
( )	Annual	
( )	Capital	
(X)	N/A	
( )	SPLOST	

#### COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Walker Avenue Quit-Claim

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: On May 8, 2012, the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners abandoned the unopened right of way of Walker Avenue off of US 41 South and Danieli Drive South. Light House Christian Fellowship Center has requested that their portion, which is 0.115 acres, of the abandoned right of way be Quit-Claimed to them. Lighthouse Christian Fellowship prepared the survey and plat while the County Attorney's office prepared the Quit-Claim deed.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve the Chairman to sign the Quit-Claim deed.

2. Redirect.

( ) TSPLOST

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Engineering <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: Chad McLeod

SUBJECT: Abandonment of a Portion of Race Track Road SE (CR #310)

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2024 Work Session/Regular Session

BUDGET IMPACT: N/A FUNDING SOURCE:

( ) A	nnua
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( ) Capital

(X) N/A

() SPLOST

() TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Request to Abandon Racetrack Road

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: The County has received a request to abandon a portion of Race Track Road SE. The portion of the road is approximately 1720.50' Linear feet and begins at the intersection of Madison Highway, then west to the dead end. Staff asked for any comments from stakeholder departments and Public Safety, but there were no comments. There are not any houses or structures that access this road.

The request came from Langdale Vallotton Attorney at Law representing Southern Gateway, LLC. Southern Gateway, LLC owns the property surrounding all sides of this portion of Race Track Road SE.

Georgia statute requires an initial determination either (a) "that the section of the county road system has for any reason ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial public purpose is served by it" or (b) "that its removal from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest," or both. If the Board makes either or both of these determinations, the statute provides for notice to adjoining property owners, notice to the public by newspaper publication, and a public hearing.

OPTIONS: 1. Determine either (a) that this section of the county road system has ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial public purpose is served by them or (b) that the removal from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest, or both.

2. Redirect.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: Engineering <u>DEPARTMENT HEAD</u>: Chad McLeod