# DeKalb County

#### **DeKalb County Department of Planning & Sustainability**

## 330 Ponce De Leon Avenue, Suite 300 Decatur, GA 30030

(404) 371-2155 / plandev@dekalbcountyga.gov

Planning Commission Hearing Date: September 6, 2018, 6:30 P.M. Board of Commissioners Hearing Date: September 25, 2018, 6:30 P.M.

#### **STAFF ANALYSIS**

Case No.:	LP-18-1235089	Agenda #: N.7					
Location/Address:	1473 Columbia Drive	Commission District:3 Super District:7					
Parcel IDs:	15 186 01 004						
Request:	To amend the Land Use Plan Map from Suburban (SUB) to Town Center (TC)						
Property Owner(s):	Aaron & Laura Pettiford						
Applicant/Agent:	Battle Law, PC						
Acreage:	2.366 acres.						
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Suburban (SUB)						
<b>Surrounding Properties:</b>	Suburban (SUB) & Town Center (TC)						
Adjacent Zoning:	North: R-75 (SUB) South: R-75 (SUB) East: R-75 (SUB) West: R-75 (SUB) Northeast: R-75						
	(SUB) Northwest: MR-2 (TC) Southeast: R-75 (SUB) Southwest: R-75 (SUB)						
Comprehensive Plan:	X Consistent Inconsistent						
Proposed Density: 10.	5 units/acre	Existing Density: 1 dwelling unit					
Proposed Units/Square Ft.: 25 units/1,000 sq.ft.		Existing Units/Square Feet: 4 du/acre					
Proposed Lot Coverage: N/A		Existing Lot Coverage: N/A					

#### **Companion Application:**

The applicant has filed a companion application (Z-18-22313) to amend the zoning of the subject property from R-75 (Single-family residential) to MR-2 (Medium Density Residential - 2).

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The intent of the Town Center Character Area is to promote the concentration of residential and commercial structures, which serve many communities in order to reduce automobile travel, promote walkability and increased transit usage. The areas consist of a focal point for several neighborhoods with a variety of activities such as general retail, commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses that are easily accessible by pedestrians. This character area is similar to neighborhood center, but at a larger scale. The preferred density for areas of this type is up to 60 dwelling units per acre.

The subject property abuts an existing Town Center, is on a transit route, and is in walking distance to commercial uses. Therefore, staff's recommendation is 'APPROVAL'.

#### SUBJECT PROPERTY AND SURROUNDING AREA

The subject property is currently a 2.633 acre single-family lot that abuts single-family residential on the North, South, and Southwest. The Northwest corner of the lot abuts an existing Townhome Development (Lauren Parc). The subject property is located approximately 360 feet South of the intersection of Columbia Drive and Bobolink Drive and approximately 360 feet North of the intersection of Columbia Drive and Santa Monica Drive.

#### PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project is to construct a 25-unit Townhouse development with proposed enhanced open space on a 2.366 acre parcel.

#### LAND USE ANALYSIS

#### **Land Use Policies**

Land Use Compatibility - Development intensity shall transition from the most dense toward the edge/periphery of the activity center. Smaller scale professional services and residential developments may serve as transitions to existing neighborhoods. Staggered heights, greater setbacks, increased screening/buffers can help mitigate compatibility issues. The "preferred intensity" listed in the DeKalb County 2035 Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 7, Land Use) that applies to this site is up to 12 dwelling units per acre (outer ring). The proposed project site is 10 dwelling units per acres.

**Neighborhood Compatibility** - Commercial and office uses that would have a negative or blighting influence on adjacent residential neighborhoods or individual residence shall not be permitted.

(See attached Supplemental Land Use Report)

#### Attachments:

- 1. Department and Division Comments
- 2. Supplemental Land Use Report
- 3. Application
- 4. Site Plan
- 5. Zoning Map
- 6. Land Use Plan Map
- 7. Aerial Photograph
- 8. Site Photographs

#### **DeKalb County Long Range Planning Division**

**Supplemental Land Use Report** (for developments proposed in Activity Centers)

Case No. Existing FLU: Suburban (SUB) BOC Hearing Date Proposed FLU: Town Center Name: Staff Recommendation: Approval Approval

LP-18-1235089

**Town Center Premise** - These policies are primarily applicable to activity centers that do not have adopted studies. Studies that are adopted for Town Centers are referred to as Small Area Plans (SAP), and they provide more detailed guidelines and recommendations for land use, zoning, development, transportation, housing, economic development, and green space. If there are conflicts between SAP and Town Center policies, SAP policies shall take precedence.

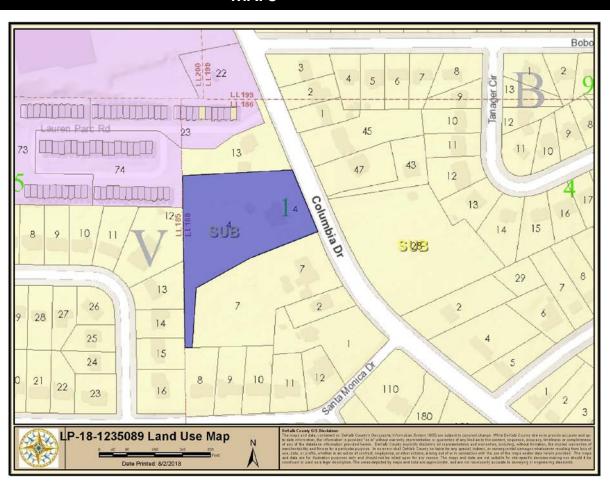
**Town Center Intent** - The intent of the Town Center Character Area is to promote the concentration of residential and commercial structures, which serve many communities in order to reduce automobile travel, promote walkability and increased transit usage. The areas consist of a focal point for several neighborhoods with a variety of activities such as general retail, commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses that are easily accessible by pedestrians. This character area is similar to neighborhood center, but at a larger scale. The preferred density for areas of this type is up to 60 dwelling units per acre.

#### **MAPS**

Land Use Town Center 60 dwelling units per acre

#### **Primary Uses**

- Townhomes
- Condominiums
- Apartments
- Health Care Facilities
- Retail and
- Commercial
   Office
- Institutional
- Entertainment and Cultural Facilities
- Park and Recreational Facilities
- Public and Civic Facilities



#### **Project Description**

**Location:** This proposed development is in unincorporated DeKalb County on West side of Columbia Drive at 1473

Columbia Drive.

**Developer/Owner:** Grandview Residential, LLC/Aaron and Laura Pettiford

**Estimated Completion:** N/A

Project Size (Acres, Square Footage, etc.) Acres: 2.366 Acres

Residential SF: N/A Units: 25 (Townhomes)

Total SF: N/A (41% Enhanced Open Space)

Land Use Policy Analysis							
(Based on Chapter 7 Land				2035 Comprehensive Plan)			
Town Center Policies			ant with	Additional comments that justify staff			
		nprehe	nsive Plan	recommendation			
		NO	Not Applicable				
Protect Single Family Neighborhoods -			принами	This project adds more dense single family			
Preserve and enhance the integrity and quality of existing residential neighborhoods.				development to the existing single family			
				neighborhood.			
2. <b>Maximum Density</b> — Encourage the maximum density of residential in mixed use projects not to exceed 60 dwelling units per acre, with the most intense development located towards the commercial and/or office core of the Town Center. Properties located along the outer edges of the Town Center shall be sensitive to the building height and density of adjacent single family residential. (Refer to Figure 7.3, page 60 of the comprehensive plan)				neighborhood.			
3. <b>Retrofitting</b> - Foster retrofitting for conformity	$\boxtimes$			See elevations and renderings.			
with traditional neighborhood principles.							
4. <b>Pedestrian Scale Development</b> - Create pedestrian scale communities that focus on the relationship between the street, buildings, streetscaping and people.	$\boxtimes$						
5. Mixed Use Development - Create compact		_					
mixed use districts and reduce automobile		$\boxtimes$					
dependency and travel to obtain basic services.  6. <b>Transitional Buffers</b> - Require greater setbacks							
and/or transitional buffers for developments when	$\boxtimes$						
located adjacent to lower density residential uses.							
7. Enhanced Buffers - Require the incorporation of	$\boxtimes$						
enhanced buffers in efforts to protect single family neighborhoods.		Ш					
8. <b>Staggered Heights</b> - Require the consideration							
of staggered height implementation when developments are adjacent to single family	$\boxtimes$						
residential neighborhoods.							
Streetscaping - Improve street character with consistent signage, lighting, landscaping and other	$\boxtimes$	П					
design features.							
10. <b>Pocket Parks</b> - Create focal points through the				Dog park and common areas are shown on the			
use of existing pocket parks and squares for	$\boxtimes$			site plan.			
community activities.							
11. Cultural Diversity - Promote activities to highlight historic and cultural assets in the		_	_				
community and provide opportunities for community			$\boxtimes$				
interaction.							
12. Infill Development - Utilize vacant properties in	$\boxtimes$	_					
the neighborhood as an opportunity for infill							
development of compatible structures.				La de de a consultar a subject for estate			
13. <b>Parking</b> - Clearly define road edges by locating buildings near the roadside with parking in the rear.				Includes rear alley parking for units.			
14. <b>Open Space and linkages</b> - Encourage that all							
development and redevelopment in activity centers	$\boxtimes$						
provide open space and/or contribute to the public							
realm with wider public sidewalks, pedestrian							
linkages and other design features.  15. <b>Healthy Neighborhoods</b> - Promote healthy							
living in neighborhoods by incorporating a	$\boxtimes$						

pedestrian environment that encourages socialization, walking, biking and connectivity. Implement the recommendations of the Master Active Living Plans (MALPs).							
16. <b>High Density Residential -</b> Residential development shall reinforce the center by locating higher density housing options adjacent to the center. Housing in Town Center shall be targeted to a broad range of income levels.				$\boxtimes$			
17. <b>Pedestrian Enhancements</b> - Create a pedestrian-friendly environment by adding sidewalks that link neighborhood amenities.							
18. <b>Traffic Calming</b> - Organize circulation patterns through traffic calming techniques and access management. Add traffic calming improvements, sidewalks, and increased street interconnections to increase safety and improve walkability.				$\boxtimes$			
9. <b>Pedestrian Oriented Design</b> - Design shall be edestrian-oriented with walkable connections etween different uses.							
20. <b>VMT</b> - Promote new and redevelopment at or near activity centers as a means of reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).						umbia Drive has transit access and is within alf mile of a retail center.	
21. <b>High Density Development</b> - Each Town Center shall include a very high-density mix of retail, office, services, and employment opportunities to serve several neighborhoods.				$\boxtimes$	Re	entage of mixed use: esidential Office RetailOpen Space Creation Numbers: onstruction Permanent Jobs Wages	
22. Small Area Plans (SAPs) -Implement appropriate sub-policies (pages 85-114 in the comprehensive plan) and development guidelines in Town Centers that have Small Area Plans, which provide more guidance to the development of mixed use and transition down to single family residential.				$\boxtimes$	□M □W □Ca □Ra □Ta	□ Medline Activity Center □ Wesley Chapel LCI □ Candler Road Flat Shoals LCI □ Redan Road Indian Creek Master Active Plan □ Toco Hills Node of the North Druid Hills LCI  This project is in close proximity to the Belvedere Master Active Living Plan Study.	
23. <b>Preferred Uses</b> – Each Town Center shall include a high density mix of retail, office, services, and employment to serve neighborhoods.			$\boxtimes$		Re	Percentage of mixed use:Residential Office RetailOpen Space Job Creation Numbers: Construction Permanent Jobs Wages	
Impact Analysis  (In support of Section 27-7.3.4 of the DeKalb County Code states that the following standards and factors shall govern the review of all proposed							
amendments to ti				<mark>cial Zon</mark>	<mark>ing Ma</mark>	p.)	
Questions		-	YES	mplia		Comments to support zoning proposal	
A. Zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the comprehensive plan:			×	NO	N/A	The proposal requires the extension of an existing Town Center.	
B. The zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby properties:			$\boxtimes$				
C. The property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a				$\boxtimes$			
reasonable economic use as currently zoned:  D. The zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing use				$\boxtimes$			
or usability of adjacent or nearby property:  E. There are other existing or changing conditions affecting							
the use and development of the property, which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal:				$\boxtimes$			
. The zoning proposal will adversely affect historic				$\boxtimes$			

buildings, sites, districts, or archaeological resources:				
G. The zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could				
cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets,		$\boxtimes$		
transportation facilities, utilities, or schools:				
H. The zoning proposal adversely impacts the environment				
or surrounding natural resources.		$\boxtimes$		
	Dlan		N	
Transportation			_	
(Based on the DeKalb County 201				
Policies	Compliant with the CTP			Additional comments that justify staff recommendation
			N/A	recommendation
Functional Classification for the project site:	163	140	14/ 🗥	
□ Freeway □ Major Arterial □ Minor Arterial	$\boxtimes$	П		
□Collector □Local				
Freight				
□Located on a truck or sanitation route				
□ Proximity of Landfill or Transfer Station			$\boxtimes$	
□Located on a state route			2 3	
□Located in proximity of rail lines and / or crossings				
Access Management		$\boxtimes$		
Complete Streets Policy				Belvedere MALP Study recommends
County / Developer will consider installing bicycle and / or	$\boxtimes$			•
pedestrian facilities, and Transit facilities.				increased walkability.
Design: The following street design guidelines and best				
practices are listed on page 16 in the Appendix document of the		$\boxtimes$		
CTP.				
<b>Application:</b> See page 16 in the Appendix document of the CTP		$\boxtimes$		
Exemptions:				
□Roadway corridor legally prohibits specific users (e.g.				
bicyclists and pedestrians on interstate)				
☐ Cost of providing bicycle or pedestrian facilities is excessively			$\boxtimes$	
disproportionate to the need or probable use	_			
□ Absence of current and future need is documented				
☐Roadways not owned or operated by DeKalb County.				
Performance Measures. Success of complete streets include:				
☐Miles of new on-street bicycle routes				
☐Miles of new or reconstructed sidewalks				
□ Percentage completion of bicycle and pedestrian networks as	П		$\boxtimes$	
envisioned by the latest DeKalb County Comprehensive		_	23	
Transportation Plan				
□Increase in pedestrian and bicycle volumes along key				
Corridors Human Services Transportation				
<u>.</u>		Ш	$\boxtimes$	
Bicycle and Pedestrian Level of Service Goals and Connectivity				Located within a Town Center.
□LOS C (not within an activity center)	$\boxtimes$			
□ Existing PATH Trail				
Priority Bicycle Network				
□ First Tier Priority Network □ Second Tier Priority Network				
□Existing PATH □Future PATH			$\boxtimes$	
<u> </u>				
MARTA and TOD				
Bus Routes				
⊠ Project is on a bus route				
⊠ Project is near a bus route	$\boxtimes$			
Project is not close to a bus route				

Transit Stations  □ Project is on a transit station site  ⊠ Project is near a transit station  □ Project is not close to a transit station	$\boxtimes$		Project is 'near' the Avondale and Kensington MARTA Stations.
Priority Projects for DeKalb County  □Tier 1 □Tier 2 □Tier 3 □None		$\boxtimes$	





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Chief Executive Officer
Michael Thurmond

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

Director

Andrew A. Baker, AICP

### APPLICATION TO AMEND COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA

OF BEINALD GOONTY, GEORGIA			
Application No.: LP 18 1235089 Date Received:			
Applicant's Name: Grandview Residential, LLC c/o Battle Law, PC E-Mail: mlb@battlelawpc.com			
Applicant's Mailing Address: ONe West Court Square, Suite 750, Decatur, GA 30030			
Applicant's Daytime Phone #: 404-601-7616 Fax: 404-745-0045  **********************************			
Owner's Name: Aaron and Laura Pettiford E-Mail lauraepet@gmail.com			
Owner's Mailing Address 5277 Rosser Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30087			
Owner's Daytime Phone #			
Address/Location of Subject Property: 1473 Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA			
District(s):15 Land Lot(s):186 Block(s):01 Parcel(s:004			
Acreage: 2.366 Commission District(s): 3 & 7			
Current Land Use Designation: Proposed Land Use Designation: Town Center (TC)			
Current Zoning Classification(s): R-75			
PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE SIGNING			
<ol> <li>This application form must be completed in its entirety. In addition, any application that lacks any of the required attachments or payment of the filing fee shall be determined to be incomplete and shall not be accepted.</li> </ol>			
II.  Disclosure of Campaign Contributions: In accordance with the Conflict of Interest in Zoning Act, O.C.G.A., Chapter 36-67A, the following questions must be answered: Have you, the applicant, made \$250 or more in campaign contributions to a local government official within two years immediately preceding the filling of this application? Yesx No IV.			
If the answer is yes, you must file a disclosure report with the governing authority of DeKalb County showing:			
<ol> <li>The name and official position of the local government official to whom the campaign contribution was made.</li> <li>The dollar amount and description of each campaign contribution made during the two years immediately preceding the filing of this application and the date of each such contribution.</li> </ol>			
The disclosure must be filed within 10 days after the application is first filed and must be submitted to the C.E.O. and the Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, 1300 Commerce Drive, Decatur, Ga. 30030.			
TO MAN			
NOTARY SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT Check One, Owner Agent			
EXPIRATION DATE / SEAL DATE			



ONE WEST COURT SQUARE, SUITE 750 DECATUR. GA 30030

What is a Community Meeting?

Community meetings are designed to inform the surrounding communities of current rezoning, and special land use permit applications. It's an opportunity for the community to learn about the proposed projects, ask questions, present concerns, and make suggestions. We take this opportunity to encourage you to come out and participate. Owner? Renter? Doesn't matter. All are welcome.

For More Info Contact Batoya Clements at:
Phone: 404-601-7616 ext. 2
Fax: 404-745-0045
Email: bdc@battlelawpc.com

LAND USE CHANGE TO
TRADITIONAL
NEIGHBORHOOD &
REZONING TO MR-1 FOR 25
UNITS TOWNHOME
COMMUNITIES

Community Meeting Monday, July 2, 2018 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm 1473 Columbia Drive Decatur, Georgia 30032

PROPOSED LOCATION: 1473 Columbia Drive Decatur, Georgia 30032

#### **LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 186 of the 15<sup>th</sup> Land District of DeKalb County, Georgia, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the corner formed by the intersection of the North side of said Land Lot 186 with the southwestern side of Columbia Drive, at a point, thence run southeastern along southwestern Right of Way of Columbia Drive 214 feet to a 0.5"RBF,

Thence run North 89 Degrees 44 Minutes 35 Seconds West a distance of 6.30 feet to a 0.5"RBS, The True Point of Beginning;

From The True Point of Beginning established run southeasterly along said Right of Way of Columbia Drive South 23 Degrees 12 Minutes 30 Seconds East a distance of 193.46 feet to a 0.5"RBS,

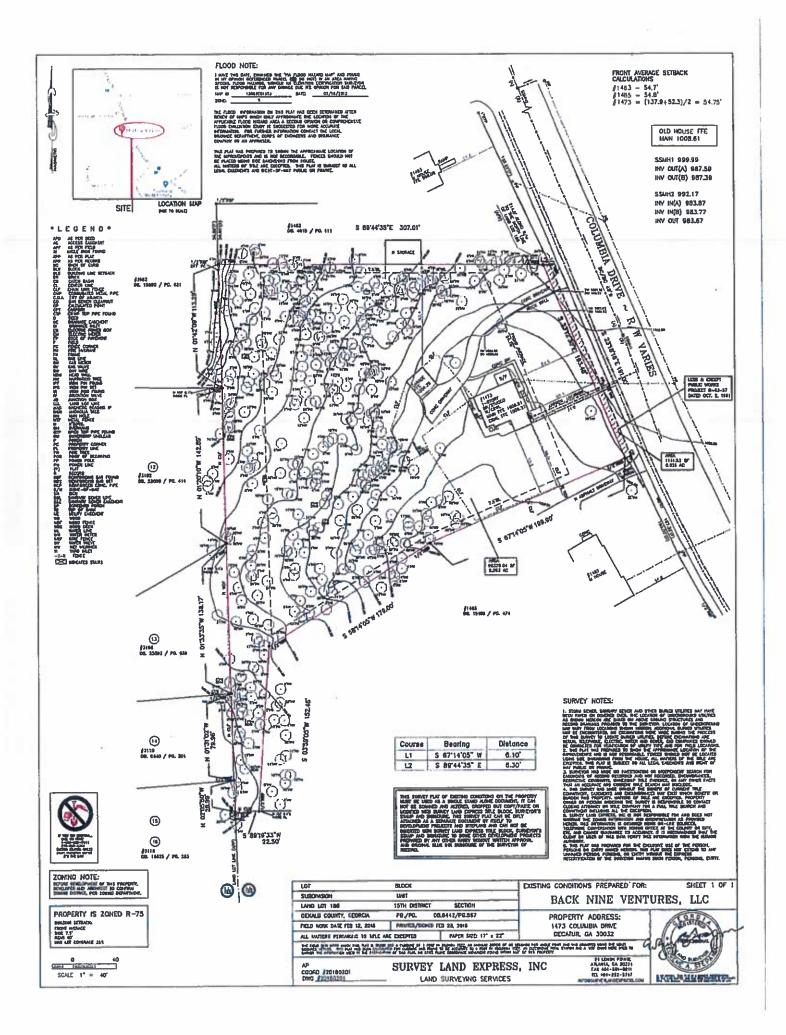
Thence leaving said Right of Way run South 67 Degrees 14 Minutes 05 Seconds West a distance of 199.90 feet to a 0.5"RBS,

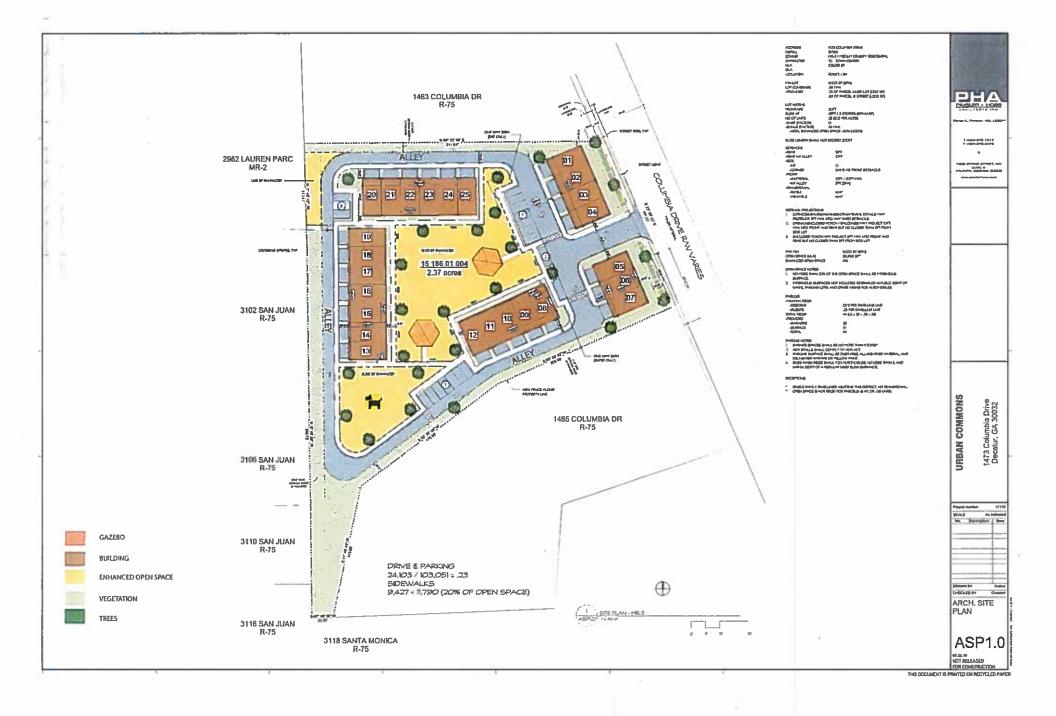
Thence run South 58 Degrees 14 Minutes 05 Seconds West a distance of 179.00 feet to a 0.5"RBS, Thence run South 03 Degrees 59 Minutes 05 Seconds West a distance of 152.45 feet to a 0.5"RBF, Thence run South 89 Degrees 19 Minutes 33 Seconds West a distance of 22.50 feet to a 0.5"RBF, Thence run North 02 Degrees 05 Minutes 50 Seconds West a distance of 28.99 feet to a 0.5"RBF, Thence run North 01 Degrees 31 Minutes 02 Seconds West a distance of 79.96 feet to a 0.5"RBF, Thence run North 01 Degrees 33 Minutes 35 Seconds West a distance of 138.17 feet to a 0.5"RBF, Thence run North 01 Degrees 20 Minutes 10 Seconds West a distance of 142.89 feet to a 1" ROD, Thence run North 01 Degrees 42 Minutes 09 Seconds West a distance of 113.29 feet to a 0.5"RBS, Thence run South 89 Degrees 44 Minutes 35 Seconds East a distance of 307.01 feet to a 0.5"RBS, said point being the True Point of Beginning.

Land Area = 2.263 AC

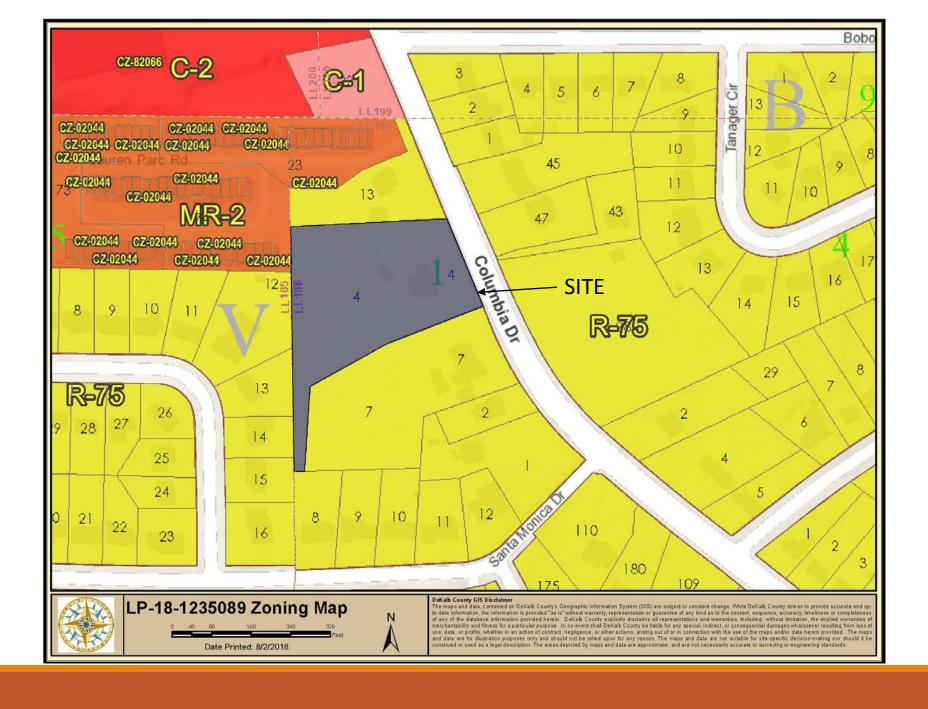
Survey completed by Survey Land Express, Inc., dated February 28, 2018

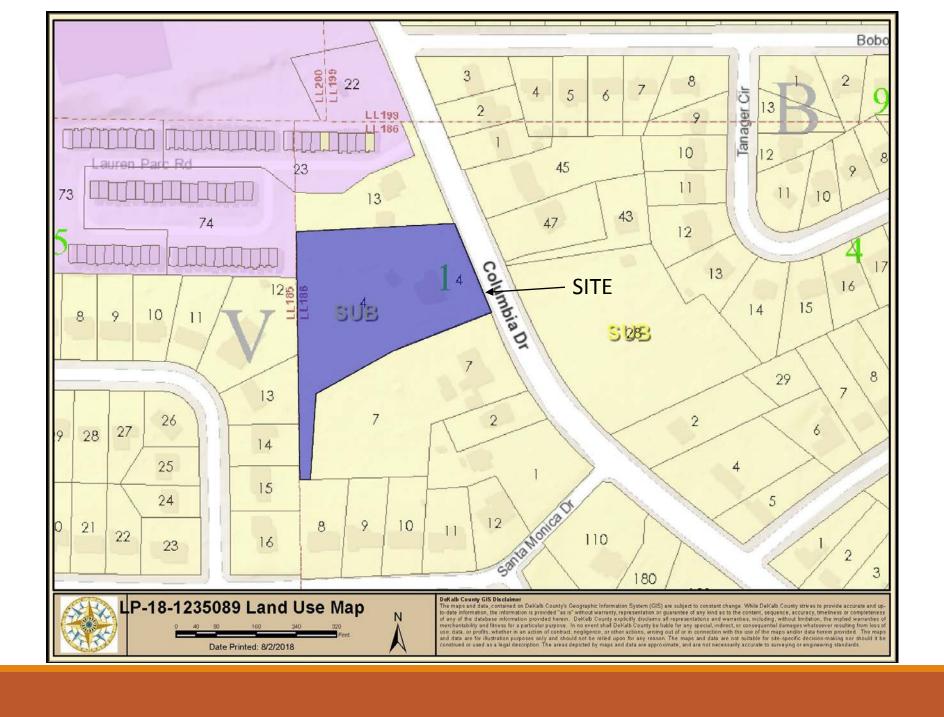
The End















### LP-18-1235089 Aerial Map



DeKaib County GIS Disclaimer
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