AGENDA

CITY OF BERKELEY LAKE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION AUGUST 8, 2023 at 7:15 PM

4040 South Berkeley Lake Road Berkeley Lake, GA 30096

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a) July 11, 2023
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) PZRZ-23-08, 4477 and 4487 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard request to rezone from GC-A (C-1), Gwinnett County-Annexed (Neighborhood Business) to M-1, Light Industrial (PUBLIC HEARING)
 - b) PZV-23-09, 4477 and 4487 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard Variances to the following: (PUBLIC HEARING)
 - a. Sec. 78-242, elimination of 75-foot buffer when M-1 abuts R-100
 - b. Sec. 78-243 (1), reduction of M-1 minimum district area from 10 acres to 4.996 acres
 - c. Sec. 78-243 (5), reduction of front setback from 75 feet to 11.11 feet per the proposed site plan
 - d. Sec. 78-243 (8), increase in maximum building height from 40 feet to 45 feet
 - e. Sec. 78-240 (12), allow retail sales as an accessory use in M-1
- VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS
- VII. DISCUSSION SESSION
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF BERKELEY LAKE 4040 SOUTH BERKELEY LAKE ROAD BERKELEY LAKE, GEORGIA 30096 PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES JULY 11, 2023 7:15 PM

Those in attendance at the meeting were as follows:

Commission Members: Dan Huntington, Chair

George Kaffeazakis

Rand Kirkus Robin Sansone

City Administrator: Leigh Threadgill

Citizens Present:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Hutnington called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. A quorum of the commission along with City Administrator, Leigh Threadgill, were present at the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Huntington asked if there were any suggested changes to the agenda.

Sansone moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Kaffezakis seconded and all voted to approve the agenda.

III. MINUTES

1. Minutes of June 13, 2023

Kaffezakis moved to approve the minutes of the June 13th meeting. Kirkus seconded and all voted to approve the minutes.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Draft Minutes
Planning & Zoning Commission Special Called Meeting
July 11, 2023
Page 1 of 2

1. PZV-23-07, 142 Lakeshore Drive – Variance pursuant to Sec. 78-141, expansion of a non-conforming structure (PUBLIC HEARING)

Huntington acknowledged the applicant to introduce the project and answer any questions from the commission.

Brad Horbal, 142 Lakeshore Drive, stated that the letter of intent lays out the request clearly. This is about an 1100-sf expansion with a goal not to make the non-conformities worse and to slightly improve those related to front setback and lot coverage.

Kaffezakis stated that the front setback is improving and asked if that was due to the eaves. Horbal stated that was the change to improve the front setback slightly.

There was discussion.

Kirkus moved to approve the variance as requested. Sansone seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. AV-23-06, 828 Valley View Lane Administrative Variance Approval

Huntington explained that this was just a report to the commission of an administrative variance that was approved since the last meeting. Huntington reviewed the request with the commission. The request was to expand a non-conforming structure where the expansion did not increase the non-conforming aspects of the structure.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

VII. DISCUSSION

There was no further discussion.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kaffezakis moved to adjourn. Kirkus seconded the motion. All were in favor and Huntington adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submit	ted,
Leigh Threadgill	
City Administrator	

City of Berkeley Lake Staff Analysis

CASE NUMBER: PZRZ-23-08 & PZV-23-09 – 4477/4487 PEACHTREE

INDUSTIAL BLVD.

REQUEST: REZONE FROM GC-A (C-1, NEIGHBORHOOD

BUSINESS) TO M-1, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL

CONCURRENT VARIANCES:

1.) WAIVE THE 75-FOOT THE BUFFER BETWEEN M-1

AND R-100;

2.) REDUCE THE M-1 DISTRICT AREA MINIMUM FROM

10 ACRES TO 4.996 ACRES;

3.) INCREASE THE HEIGHT FROM 40 FEET TO 45

FEET;

4.) REDUCE THE FRONT SETBACK FROM 75 FEET TO

11.11 FEET ALONG APPROX. 49 FEET; AND

5.) ALLOW RETAIL SALES AS AN ACCESSORY USE

EXISTING ZONING: GC-A(C-1) – GWINNETT COUNTY ANNEXED,

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS

EXISTING USE: 4477 PIB – BILLBOARD

4487 PIB - UNDEVELOPED

PROPOSED ZONING: M-1, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL

PROPOSED USE: CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS – OFFICE,

WAREHOUSE AND SHOWROOM AND ACCESSORY

RETAIL SALES IN A STAND-ALONE BUILDING

APPLICANT: BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL, LLC

4595 WINTERS CHAPEL RD.

DORAVILLE, GA 30360

OWNERS: FIRST CITIZENS BANK & TRUST

4300 SIX FORKS RD., FCC-52

RALEIGH, NC 27609

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 8, 2023, P&Z MEETING DATE

SEPT. 21, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING DATE (tentative)

PROPOSED PROJECT:

The applicant proposes to combine the subject properties and build a 57,144-sf corporate headquarters consisting of offices, showroom and warehouse space. To support the use, the applicant proposes to provide 56 parking spaces as well as 8 loading/unloading spaces. In addition, the site plan submitted with the application shows a future retail building (9,000 square feet) and 39 parking spaces. Except for an existing billboard that is to remain, the property is undeveloped. In order for the property to be developed as proposed, the applicant is seeking the following concurrent variances:

- A waiver of the 75-foot buffer required between M-1 and R-100 (Sec. 78-242)
- A reduction in the M-1 minimum district area from 10 acres to 4.996 acres (Sec. 78-243(1))
- An increase in the M-1 permitted height from 40 feet to 45 feet (Sec. 78-243 (8))
- A reduction in the M-1 required front setback from 75 feet to 11.11 feet along approximately 49.53 feet (Sec. 78-243 (5))
- Allowance of retail sales as an accessory use in a M-1 district (Sec. 78-240)

STAFF FINDINGS:

- 1.) The subject properties (R6268 043 and R6268 044) contain 4.996 acres and are located on Peachtree Industrial Boulevard near South Berkeley Lake Road.
- 2.) Property to the north is zoned Single-Family Residential (R-100) and Gwinnett County Annexed (GC-A) with an underlying county zoning of Light Industry (M-1). Property to the east is zoned R-100 and GC-A, with an underlying county zoning of Heavy Industry (M-2). Peachtree Industrial Boulevard is located to the south and property to the west is zoned GC-A, with an underlying county zoning of Office-Institutional (OI).
- 3.) Prior to 2007 the property was zoned Light Industry (M-1) in unincorporated Gwinnett County, but in 2007 the zoning was changed to Neighborhood Business (C-1) pursuant to an application by the former owner for development of a 19,375-square-foot retail space and 5,525-square-foot restaurant with 125 parking spaces.
- 4.) At the time of the 2007 zoning approval, the following conditions were attached to the approval:
 - a. Retail, service commercial and accessory uses. Outdoor storage shall be prohibited. The following uses shall also be prohibited: convenience stores and dry cleaners. Restaurants without drive-thru windows, banks with drive-thru windows and drug stores are approved as special uses.
 - b. Abide by all requirements of the Peachtree Corners Activity Center/Corridor Overlay.
 - c. Limit the height of all buildings to one story.
 - d. To satisfy the following site development considerations:
 - i. Provide a 50-foot buffer adjacent to residentially zoned property. Adjacent to Mr. Holben's residential property, outside the 50-foot buffer, include a 5-foot-high vinyl coated chain link fence and a row of Thuga Green Giants, Leyland Cypress or other evergreen trees as approved by the Director of Planning and Development. The trees shall be 8-feet in height at time of planting.
 - ii. Location and design of driveways shall be subject to review and approval of the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation.
 - iii. Dumpster pick-up and deliveries shall be limited to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 - iv. No outdoor loudspeakers will be allowed. Sound level from any indoor or outdoor speaker shall be 0 decibels measured at the property line.

- v. Lighting shall be down-cast and directed in towards the property so that it does not shine into nearby residential properties.
- vi. Existing billboard on the property shall remain as it is and no other billboard shall be allowed.
- vii. The owner shall repair or repaint any graffiti or vandalism on the property within 72 hours.
- viii. Peddlers and parking lot sales are prohibited.
- e. Abide by the following requirements, dedications and improvements:
 - i. Any restaurant uses shall utilize modern odor scrubbing and air filtration equipment to minimize smoke, odor or other effects on surrounding properties. They shall also comply with all County, State and EPA health regulations. Final approval of restaurant design must be reviewed and approved by the Director of Planning.
 - ii. All roof mounted HVAC equipment shall be screened from view.
- 5.) In 2010, the owner applied for a change in the zoning condition relative to the buffer as follows: "Provide a retaining wall along the property line as generally depicted in the site plan approved herewith (with such modifications as required to accommodate actual site development and wall construction approved by the Director of Planning and Development). Adjacent to Mr. Holben's residential property along the base of the retaining wall, provide a row of Thuga Green Giants, Leyland Cypress or other evergreen trees as approved by the Director of Planning and Development. The trees shall be a minimum of 8- feet in height at time of planting. Along the top of the retaining wall, provide a 5-foot-high vinyl coated chain link fence."
- 6.) The Board of Commissioners denied the request for a change in the buffer condition.
- 7.) In 2011, the property was annexed into the city. Additionally, in 2011, the property was foreclosed.
- 8.) There is an existing billboard on the site which the applicant indicates can't be removed due to a 99-year lease.
- 9.) The applicant proposes to combine the lots and build a roughly 57,000-square-foot corporate headquarters, which will house offices, a showroom and warehouse. To support the use, 56 parking spaces are proposed along with 8 loading spaces. Parking is proposed in accordance with the city's parking standards for a warehouse.
- 10.) Currently, the property is zoned Gwinnett County Annexed, Neighborhood Business (GC-A, C-1), which is subject to the Gwinnett County zoning regulations in existence at the time of annexation. The proposed use is not permitted in GC-A, C-1.
- 11.) The applicant proposes rezoning the site to Light Industrial, M-1, which allows "enclosed warehouse with offices."
- 12.) A site plan and building elevation were submitted with the application. After review of the plans, staff has concerns about the following standards which do not appear to have been adequately addressed:
 - a. The site plan indicates tree plantings to meet a 20 TDUs/acre requirement; however, the city's ordinance requires 40 TDUs/acre. Staff would like to know how

- the applicant plans to meet this requirement with what appears to be limited space remaining for landscaping.
- b. The proposed building appears to be metal construction. The subject property is currently located in the Peachtree Corners Corridor Overlay which prohibits metal buildings.
- c. While the survey submitted with the application does not indicate the presence of a stream, the Gwinnett County Geographic Information System (GIS) web browser identifies a blue line stream in the northeast corner of the site as shown below. Streams are subject to buffers, but no stream buffers have been identified on the plans.



Streams are subject to stream buffers for the following reasons:

- i. Protecting, restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical and biological integrity of streams and their water resources;
- ii. Removing pollutants delivered in urban stormwater;
- iii. Reducing erosion and controlling sedimentation;
- iv. Protecting and stabilizing stream banks;
- v. Providing for infiltration of stormwater runoff;
- vi. Maintaining base flow of streams;
- vii. Contributing organic matter that is a source of food and energy for the aquatic ecosystem;
- viii. Providing tree canopy to shade streams and promote desirable aquatic habitat;

- ix. Providing riparian wildlife habitat;
- x. Furnishing scenic value and recreational opportunity;
- xi. Providing opportunities for the protection and restoration of greenspace.
- 13.) Not only does the stream trigger the city's stream buffer standards, but it is also considered state waters subject to a 25-foot state waters buffer.
- 14.) In addition to needing a zoning change, the applicant's plan for development requires variances from multiple M-1 standards. The applicant has requested 5 concurrent variances, as described below.
- 15.) The applicant has requested a waiver of the 75-foot buffer required between M-1 and R-100 (Sec. 78-242). While the majority of the property abuts commercially or industrially zoned property, the northeast corner abuts residential property zoned R-100.
- 16.) The buffer is required to shield or block noise, light, glare, visual or other conditions, and/or to minimize physical passage to non-similar areas, and/or reduce air pollution, dust, dirt and litter. It is intended to protect the less intense residential district from the impacts of the more intense industrial district.
- 17.) Waiving the buffer requirement and removing the mature pine forest that has grown in this location would result in a significant impact to the residential area to the north/northeast. There is nothing unusual about the size, shape or topography of the site that dictates the need for this buffer variance.
- 18.) The applicant has stated that an existing drainage easement, in place since around 1988, nullifies the buffer requirement because the drainage easement has given explicit right to the development of drainage infrastructure in the prescribed easement area.
- 19.) Staff, in consultation with the city attorney, does not agree that the buffer requirement is unenforceable because of the easement and encourages the applicant to investigate alternative stormwater management options.
- 20.) The second variance request is to reduce the 10-acre district area minimum required by Sec. 78-243(1) because the lots in question, even when combined, total just shy of 5 acres.
- 21.) However, if taken with the adjacent GC-A(M-1) in the Peachtree Lakes Office Park, the area of industrially zoned property would be approximately 23 acres and meet the 10-acre district area minimum requirement.
- 22.) The minimum lot size for M-1 is 30,000 square feet, which the subject properties, both in total and each separately, meet.
- 23.) The third variance request is to increase the maximum height in M-1 from 40 feet to 45 feet to accommodate proposed solar roof panels, which will extend six feet from the roof.
- 24.) Height is defined as the vertical distance from the mean, finished grade level at the front of the building to the highest point of the roof or parapet. Staff asked the applicant to confirm whether the building itself is under the 40-foot requirement.
- 25.) The fourth variance request is to reduce the front setback from 75 feet to 11.11 feet where there is a roughly 63.5-foot jog in the right-of-way of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to accommodate stormwater infrastructure. This creates an unusual lot shape. The building will be set back a consistent distance from the paved roadway.
- 26.) As currently shown on the site plan, the proposed buildings do not come any closer than 75 feet to the front property line.
- 27.) After an inquiry from staff, the applicant advised that the request was to provide flexibility in the event buildings had to be shifted during further site planning.

- 28.) The fifth variance request is not a variance to a dimensional standard, but rather a request to allow accessory retail sales. This type of request cannot be handled through a variance process as it pertains to the use of the property and must be handled via a text amendment to allow accessory retail sales in the M-1 district. The applicant has not applied for an amendment to the zoning ordinance.
- 29.) An additional roughly 9,000-square-foot building, along with 39 parking spaces is proposed to accommodate accessory retail sales. The impervious surface created by this additional stand-alone use is significant and eliminates potential alternative stormwater management opportunities on site.
- 30.) The application invokes Sec. 78-240(12), which gives authorization to the planning commission to allow other "light industrial uses upon the findings of the planning commission that such uses are of the same general character as those provided for herein, that meet the standards of this zoning district, and which will not be detrimental to the other uses within the district as to the adjoining land uses."
- 31.) Retail sales are generally not light industrial in nature, but rather are considered commercial in nature.
- 32.) The application refers to the permitted use of "machinery and transportation equipment sales and service" as justification for accessory retail sales to be allowed.
- 33.) Rather than the planning and zoning commission acting to allow accessory retail sales as a use of similar character, staff recommends that this request be handled as a text amendment, for which the applicant should apply.
- 34.) Staff would recommend that any text amendment include verbiage to qualify that such sales should be contained within the building housing the use to which they are accessory.
- 35.) Staff suggests the applicant consider the possibility of the retail sales being incorporated within the proposed headquarters building. This would make more efficient use of the site and provide additional space for stormwater management facilities to be built without encroachment into the required 75-foot buffer.
- 36.) In evaluating the application against the standards for zoning, staff offers the following:
 - a. The corporate headquarters is suitable in terms of the use and development of some of the adjacent and nearby property. However, the subject site is adjacent to a residential district to the north/northeast, which could be adversely impacted by the proposed use. Mitigating the impact on that residential area should be considered through the provision of zoning conditions.
 - b. The development of the subject site has the potential to adversely impact the adjacent and nearby residential property if the necessary buffers are not provided. Removal of existing mature trees that shield noise and light as well as other types of pollution would be harmful.
 - c. The subject site is currently zoned for neighborhood business uses and has been zoned as such since 2007. It was rezoned from M-1, Light Industry, to its current C-1 designation in 2007 with a plan for development with C-1 uses that never came to fruition and was foreclosed in 2011.
 - d. Staff has reached out to Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Gwinnett County Department of Transportation (DOT) for comment regarding the burden to existing infrastructure that the proposed development could create. The former development proposal called for two curb cuts, while the site plan submitted with this application shows three. Gwinnett DOT has not yet responded, but Gwinnett DWR provided comments which must be addressed by the applicant, including application for a sewer capacity request to ensure that there is adequate water and sewer to serve the proposed development.

- e. The proposed rezoning is in keeping with the current comprehensive plan and future land use map therein. The Peachtree Industrial District provides for the following uses: shopping centers, retail, restaurants, offices and some light industrial uses.
- f. Existing conditions to be considered in terms of development:
 - i. The mature tree canopy that serves as a buffer to the R-100 area should be maintained. The impact of losing this buffer has implications not just for the immediately adjacent residential properties but also non-adjacent but nearby residences. This swath of trees and natural area serves a purpose to block light, noise, dust and other pollution from the Peachtree Industrial Boulevard corridor.
 - ii. Stormwater management infrastructure and necessary upgrades to serve the proposed development deserve careful consideration. The proposed development appears to create more impervious surface than necessary if alternative site design were considered, such as eliminating the additional building for retail sales and associated parking and vehicle circulation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Having found that a corporate headquarters is a suitable land use in consideration of the surrounding land use pattern, staff recommends conditional approval of the change in zoning from GC-A(C-1) to M-1 along with the following concurrent variances:

- Variance to the front setback requirement to allow buildings to come no closer than 75 feet, or 11.11 feet where the cut-out in the Peachtree Industrial Boulevard right-of-way is located.
- Variance to reduce the M-1 district area minimum to 4.996 acres.
- Variance to increase the maximum building height to 45 feet to accommodate roof-mounted solar panels.

There are a number of conditions recommended for consideration should this property be rezoned as follows:

- 1.) Outdoor storage and display shall be prohibited.
- 2.) Permitted uses shall be limited to the following:
 - a) enclosed warehouse with offices,
 - b) wholesaling with offices, and
 - c) business office
- 3.) Abide by all requirements of the Peachtree Corners Activity Center/Corridor Overlay.
- 4.) To satisfy the following site development considerations:
 - a) Preserve a 75-foot undisturbed buffer adjacent to residentially zoned property. Where there is inadequate vegetative screening to achieve an opaque screen, provide supplemental plantings in accordance with Sec. 42-224 of the City of Berkeley Lake Code of Ordinances.
 - b) Location and design of driveways shall be subject to review and approval of the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation.

- c) Dumpster pick-up and deliveries shall be limited to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- d) No outdoor loudspeakers will be allowed. Sound level shall be 0 decibels measured at the property lines adjoining residential property.
- e) Lighting shall be down-cast and directed in towards the property so that it does not shine into nearby residential properties.
- f) The owner shall repair or repaint any graffiti or vandalism and remove any refuse or garbage illegally dumped on the property within 72 hours.
- g) Adhere to the state waters buffer and City of Berkeley Lake stream buffer requirements for any and all streams located on site.
- 5.) Abide by the following requirements, dedications and improvements:
 - a) All roof mounted HVAC equipment shall be screened from view.
 - b) The top of the roof-mounted solar panels shall not exceed 45 feet from the mean grade of the building.
- 6.) Abide by all requirements of the city's buffer, landscape and tree preservation ordinance as well as the Peachtree Corners Activity Center/Corridor Overlay landscaping standards. In the event of a conflict, the more stringent requirements apply.
- 7.) Address all comments from the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources as follows:
 - a) Locate the existing 48-inch Ductile Iron Pipe (DIP) reuse line on the southwest corner of the property. The line should be located both vertically and horizontally to determine if there will be appropriate cover over the line during all phases of construction, and if the line is able to handle the traffic anticipated over it. Designate the easement on the site plan.
 - b) Submit a sewer capacity request to verify available capacity at the Garner Industrial Pump Station.
 - c) Confirm that the existing sewer on the southern portion of the site, designated as vitrified clay pipe, is adequate for the anticipated depth and traffic for this development. If conditions are likely to compromise the integrity of the pipe, the developer must implement protection.
 - d) Confirm whether the abandoned 8-inch vitrified clay pipe bisecting the parcel has a dedicated easement.
 - e) Permanent structures are prohibited from being built in the existing sewer easement. The site design or sewer may need to be adjusted to avoid the walls from the loading docks encroaching on the easement and show the easement in the design plans. Confirm that the pipe is adequate for the anticipated depth and traffic for this development. If conditions are likely to compromise the integrity of the pipe, the developer must implement protection.
 - f) Connect to existing 16-inch ductile iron pipe water main located on the southern right-of-way of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard via jack-and-bore. Provide adequate easements for the bore and receiving pits. The water connection must not conflict with the existing 48-inch reuse line.

STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL:

In considering whether to recommend approval or denial of the request to rezone the property to M-1, Light Industrial, the commission must evaluate the application based on the criteria specified in Sec. 78-394 of the zoning ordinance:

Standards governing the exercise of zoning power:

- (1) Whether a proposed rezoning will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property;
- (2) Whether a proposed rezoning will adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby property;
- (3) Whether the property to be affected by a proposed rezoning has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned;
- (4) Whether the proposed rezoning will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools;
- (5) Whether the proposed rezoning is in conformity with the policy and intent of any land use plan then in effect; and
- (6) Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property which provide supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the proposed rezoning.

In considering whether to grant or deny the variances, the commission must evaluate the application based on the criteria specified in Section 78-366 (a)(1) of the zoning ordinance:

- a) Applications for variances.
 - (1) All applications for variances shall be submitted initially, in writing, to the planning and zoning commission of the city, which shall consider these requests at its next called meeting. The planning and zoning commission may authorize such variance from the terms of this zoning chapter as will not be contrary to the public interest. The spirit of this chapter shall be observed, the public safety, health and welfare secured and substantial justice done. At the hearing, any party may appear in person or have authorized representation. Such variances may be granted in individual cases if the planning and zoning commission finds that:
 - a. There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the particular property in question because of its size, shape or topography; and
 - b. The application of this chapter to this particular piece of property would create an unnecessary hardship; and
 - c. Such conditions are peculiar to the particular piece of property involved; and
 - d. Such conditions are not the result of any actions of the property owner; and
 - e. Relief, if granted, would not cause substantial detriment to the public nor impair the purposes or intent of this chapter; and
 - f. The variance is granted for a use of land or building or structure that is not prohibited by this chapter.

SITE PHOTOS







LOCATION MAP



AERIAL PHOTOS





Aerial photo depicting stormwater infrastructure

CITY OF BERKELEY LAKE REZONING APPLICATION

Application Form

SIGNATURE OF APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION
Owner's Name: First Citizens Bank & Trust PHONE: 919.716.4086
Owner's ADDRESS: 4300 Six Forks Rd., FCC-52 Raleigh, NC 27609
Street Address City State Zip
CONTRACT PURCHASER'S NAME:Builderstone Global LLCPHONE:
4595 Winters Chapel Rd., Doraville, GA 30360
Street Address City State Zip
Name of Owner's Agent / Attorney: Michael Penland Phone: 770-843-8332
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 3184, Cumming, GA 30028
Street Address City State Zip
FIRM:Powell Property Group, LLC penlandmj@bellsouth.net
APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY: [] OWNER [] OWNER'S AGENT [X] CONTRACT PURCHASER
REZONING INFORMATION
Current Zoning District: $C-1$ Proposed Zoning District: $M-1$ Proposed Use: Office/Warehouse
LAND DISTRICT(S): 6 LAND LOT: 268 ACREAGE: 3.206 AC. 4.996
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4477 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Berekeley Lake GA 30094
Street Address Propose making Lot 7 (Parcel ID: 6268 043) larger, while reducing size of Lot 8
PROPOSED CHANGE IN CONDITIONS: (Parcel ID: 6268 044) in order to accommodate a larger office/warehouse building (6 2 68 043) on Lot 7 once rezoned from the change additional sheets if necessary)
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT: NON-RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:
No. of Lots/Units: No. of Buildings/Lets: One (1) Primary One (1) Asses
Dwelling Unit Size (sq. ft.): Total Gross Sq. Ft. :
Gross Density: Density: T7,824 (Sq. Ft./Acres)
Net Density:
CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify that the information provided above and on attached sheets is true and correct and acknowledge that they City of Berkeley Lake does not consider any zoning applications nor rezone any property within its boundaries except in accordance with and conditioned on a definite proposal for the development of the property if rezoned. This shall include a site plan of the proposed development, architectural and engineering

renderings of the proposed development and a commitment by the applicant to develop the property in accordance with the aforesaid renderings and any conditions as imposed at approval of the rezoning.

SNATURE OF OWNER DATE

CITY OF BERKELEY LAKE REZONING APPLICATION

NAME OF OFFICIAL:

Builderstone Global LLC

CONTRACT PURCHASER'S SIGNATURE: ____

Certification of Campaign Contribution Disclosures for Rezoning Applications

OCGA Section 36-67A-1 et. seq. requires that any person or company who applies for a rezoning action and any attorney or other person representing or acting on behalf of a person or company who applies for a rezoning action disclose any campaign contributions aggregating \$250 or more made within two years immediately preceding the filing of this application to any local government official who will consider te application. Any person knowingly failing to comply with the requirements of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

		OWNER			
	ou represent made campaign con ion of Berkeley Lake within two y			o a member of the City Counci	il or
	№ [Х]	YES []	IF YES:		
NAME OF OFFICIAL:	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:	DATE	OF CONTRIBUTION:		
Owner's Signature:	Owner compaign contributions aggrega	'S AGENT / ATTO		Bylow e City Council or Planning & Zo	ning
	erkeley Lake within two years of				
	No[X]	YES []	IF YES:		
Name of Official: Michael Penland	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:	DATE	OF CONTRIBUTION:		
AGENT'S OR ATTORNEY'S SIGNAT	7	7 ITRACT PURCHASE	PRINTED: Mic	her Renkind	
	ou represent made campaign cor sion of the City of Berkeley Lake v			to a member of the City Counc	il or

YES []

IF YES:

PRINTED:

DATE OF CONTRIBUTION:

No[X]

CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:

Certification of Campaign Contribution Disclosures for Rezoning Applications

OCGA Section 36-67A-1 et. seq. requires that any person or company who applies for a rezoning action and any attorney or other person representing or acting on behalf of a person or company who applies for a rezoning action disclose any campaign contributions aggregating \$250 or more made within two years immediately preceding the filing of this application to any local government official who will consider te application. Any person knowingly failing to comply with the requirements of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

Have you or the company yo Planning & Zoning Commissi	ou represent made campaign co on of Berkeley Lake within two	ntributions aggre	gating \$250 or more to a mer lication?	nber of the City Council or
	No [X]	YES []	IF YES:	
Name of Official:	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:	DATE	DF CONTRIBUTION:	
OWNER'S SIGNATURE:		PRINTED:	Timethy J. Byl	ow
Have you or your firm made Commission of the City of Be	campaign contributions aggreg erkeley Lake within two years of	ating \$250 or mo	re to a member of the City Co	ouncil or Planning & Zoning
	No[]	YES []	If YES:	
Name of Official:	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:	DATE	OF CONTRIBUTION:	
AGENT'S OR ATTORNEY'S SIGNATI	URE:		Printed:	1
	<u>Co</u>	NTRACT PURCHASER	<u> </u>	
Have you or the company your Planning & Zoning Commission	ou represent made campaign co ion of the City of Berkeley Lake	ontributions aggrowithin two years	egating \$250 or more to a me of this application?	mber of the City Council or
	No [X]	YES []	IF YES:	
MAME OF OFFICIAL:	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT:	DATE	of Contribution:	
g			E	
CONTRACT PURCHASER'S SIGNAT	URE:		PRINTED: Enver 7	aner Baltaci

CITY OF BERKELEY LAKE REZONING APPLICATION

Authorization by Property Owner

If there is more than one owner, a separate form must be submitted with the original signature of each owner.
Timothy J. Bylow, SVP First Citizens Bank & Trust being duly sworn upon his/her oath, being of sound min
and legal age deposes and states: that he/she is the owner of the property which is subject matter of the attached application, as is shown in the records of Gwinnett County, Georgia.
He/she authorizes the person named below to act as applicant in the pursuit of a VARIANCE on this property
I hereby authorize the staff of the City of Berkeley Lake to inspect the premises which are the subject of this application.
Name of applicantBuilderstone Global, LLC - Enver Taner Baltaci
Address4595 Winters Chapel Rd., Doraville, GA 30360
Street Number/PO Box Street Name City State Zip
Telephone Numberbaltaci@builderstoneglobal.com
Limit Sper
Signature of Owner
Personally appeared before me
Timothy J. Bylow Owner's Name (print)
who swears that the information contained in this authorization is true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge and belief.
Hustie & Parcel Notary Public Comm eyp 11/3/24
(Seal)



June 12, 2023

Applicant: BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL LLC 4595 Winters Chapel Rd, Atlanta, GA 30360

Subject Property: 4477-4478 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. (Tax parcels R6268 043 R6268 044)

Current Zoning: C-1, GC-A (Gwinnett County-Annexed) **Proposed Zoning:** M-1, Light Industrial, City of Berkeley Lake

ROW Access: Peachtree Industrial Blvd.

Application: #_____

Dear City of Berkeley Lake,

This firm represents BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL LLC ("Builderstone"), a Georgia company currently located near Norcross, Georgia. Builderstone owns a business specializing in stone, including marble and quartz, for high-end kitchens as well as other luxury kitchen improvements. It principally sells wholesale and to contractors.

Builderstone is seeking to combine and rezone two lots (a total of 5 acres) located on Peachtree Industrial Blvd. from C-1, GWINNETT COUNTY-ANNEXED ZONING DISTRICT ("Gwinnett") to M-1 in order to build a headquarters for its business and move out of Norcross. The project includes a "Primary Building" that includes the corporate offices and a wholesale sales team, a large showroom with the company's products, and a storage warehouse for products. There will also be a second, smaller "Accessory Building" that will showcase and sell directly to the public the company's products including high-end German and European cabinets and fixtures for kitchens and bathrooms (the actual product will not be sold from the premises but will be shipped from an off-site warehouse).

Builderstone has been in business since 2017. It is owned by Taner Baltaci, a Georgia resident who immigrated from Turkey who has been in this business for over 20 years. The Company serves the Atlanta and Georgia market as well as an approximately 300 mile radius from the state.

I. The Property

Builderstone intends to combine both lots to create one parcel or "Property." One reason for combination is to allow the Principal Building to use both lots. The other is to add interconnectivity for vehicles and pedestrian use throughout the Property and to globally manage the extensive stormwater easements and improve the entire stormwater system for the entire Property.

The Property, a bank-owned foreclosure that has been vacant for many years and is used for illegal dumping, has several features that make it unique.

1. **Billboard.** The Property is subject to a 99-year lease for a billboard which is held by Lamar. Such lease requires that there be clearance to allow the billboard to be seen from Peachtree

49 Atlanta Street Marietta, Georgia 30060



Industrial Blvd. This limits the placement of buildings. (Please see Ex. A, Photo, attached hereto).

- 2. **Utility and Stormwater Easements**. The Property is subject to multiple easements including utility and sewer easements parallel to the roadway at the top of the Property. (Please see the Survey included with the application). The Property is further subject to multiple stormwater easements that direct runoff water from Peachtree Industrial Blvd. as well as the West Gwinnett Park & Aquatic Center across the street as part of a 91 acre basin (*See* Ex. B, p. 13, PIB Hydro_Report 5-18-2023, attached to Variance 1).
- 3. **Detention Pond.** The Property has a sizable detention pond easement that has been established since at least 1988. This pond, upstream from Berkeley Lake, directly benefits the lake by serving as a collection area for stormwater from the stormwater easements. The detention pond is currently not being maintained and has trees and other vegetation growing in the easement area.
- 4. **Property Line Cut-Out.** The Property is subject to an approximately 3,000 foot cut-out ("Cut-Out") adjacent to the road for stormwater easements directing runoff from Peachtree Industrial and the Aquatic Center.

Builderstone is committed to taking the time, effort and money to work with these challenges to make the Property a location for a productive business and increase the tax base for the City. This includes repairing and enforcing the detention pond with the assistance of its hydrology engineer.* Builderstone has already spent significant funds to work with engineers for site and building plans to work within the confines of the issues above.

*Builderstone has planned a stormwater management system to include a Bioretention Basin and Extended Dry Detention (EDD) Pond in accordance with standard engineering practices. Such improvements are estimated to be at least \$300,000. (See Ex. B, p. 14, PIB Hydro_Report 5-18-2023, attached to Variance 1).

II. The Buildings

The Principal Building of approximately 57,177 square feet is to be constructed as a showcase headquarters. The warehouse portion of the building will not look like a warehouse but will be enclosed within the larger headquarters building, (Please see Ex. B, Drawing, attached hereto).

The building will have an internal loading and unloading system whereby a truck enters into the building and the entire loading process occurs within the walls of the building. The Accessory Building of approximately 9,000 square feet shares driveways and a parking lot with the Principal Building to create a natural flow between the related buildings.

The Principal Building will not be used for manufacturing or fabrication. Builderstone hereby submits a proposed zoning condition to prohibit such use in the M-1 classification:

"The Subject Property is not to be used for manufacturing or fabrication without the consent of the Planning Commission."



III. Standard Governing the Exercise of Zoning Power

a. Whether the zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property.

The M-1 proposed zoning fits well within the existing Berkeley Lake zoning, businesses and uses as follows:

- (i) The Property is directly adjacent to 19.87 combined acres of M-1 Gwinnett.
- (ii) The Property fits into the City's Comprehensive Plan which includes the Property in its "Peachtree Industrial District" designation which it describes as: "Peachtree Industrial Corridor: This area denotes accessible centers of businesses, services, and complementary uses, which may include mixed use developments, along Peachtree Industrial Boulevard that contribute extensively to the economic base of the city. Exclusively commercial shopping centers that already exist are at present stable and desirable, but may be redeveloped as mixed-use activity centers during the planning horizon. Such areas should be transformed into less automobile-reliant and more pedestrian-friendly places. Uses: Shopping centers, retail, restaurants offices and some light industrial uses."
- (iii) The home construction-related business of Builderstone fits into the general M-1 businesses of the area and in the City -- some of which are focused on the same home construction industry.
- (iv) The Parcel as M-1 will serve as a buffer against the M-2 (Gwinnett) parcel to the North.
- b. Whether the zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing use of usability of adjacent or nearby property.

The Property is situated among already zoned properties that have been in current use for many years. The Property zoning will not affect any others' use of their properties. The only two properties that are undeveloped is a land-locked residential parcel that cannot be developed as-is and a M-2 Industrial parcel.

c. Whether the Property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned.

The Property has been zoned C-1 (Gwinnett) for years but has remained undeveloped and on the market. Given that the Property cannot be entered or exited but by the divided highway and is not located at an intersection with a traffic light, it is not appropriate for neighborhood commercial development to serve the local daily needs of residents. The more limited traffic use of Builderstone's headquarters and specialized wholesale and retail is more appropriate for this Property.

d. Whether the zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools.

The proposal zoning is not residential and should not affect schools. The parcel is solely accessed through the existing large divided state highway of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and cannot be accessed through neighborhood streets. The entire length of the



Property is accessible by sidewalk in the right of way. The Property has easy access to sewer and other utilities which run through easements through the top of the Property parallel to the road. The zoning of the Property is not expected to cause increased or excessive use of the area features above.

e. Whether the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan of the City of Berkeley Lake.

Berkeley Lake's code specially states that a general purpose of a manufacturing district is to "[t]o provide sufficient space in appropriate locations to meet the needs of the city's expected future economy for all types of manufacturing and related activities, with due allowance for the need for a choice of sites." (Sec. 78-238(1)). Builderstone's desire to relocate its headquarters to the City and create corporate offices, showroom, warehouse and be open for public sales, is the kind of high-end, enclosed, low-impact operation to strengthen the economic base of the City and increase the City's tax collection that the City has stated it wants for the future of the City. Pursuant to the City of Berkeley Lake Comprehensive Plan 2019 which places the Property in the "Peachtree Industrial District," (please see Ex. C, Future Development Map, attached hereto) "The annexation of parts of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard provides the city with a non-residential tax base." It further states, "Redevelopment and Attracting Businesses: As there are no opportunities for further annexation of commercial property, the City should invest in planning to maximize the potential of existing commercial areas, making them attractive for investment and redevelopment." Builderstone headquarters embodies the intent of the City's Comprehensive Plan to support smart redevelopment and the utilization of "existing" areas.

f. Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use of and development of the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal.

This is the City's opportunity, as its first zoning in at least 5 years, to set the stage for quality redevelopment for the future of the City.

IV. Variances

Builderstone is seeking variances to make this Property usable, to clarify ambiguous code ordinances, or to effectuate more modern land-planning principles. A short summary of each variance is below and a full discussion of each variance is attached.

<u>Variance 1</u>: Variance to remove the requirement of a 75-foot residential buffer as this is prohibited by a preexisting 30+ year detention pond and stormwater easements.

<u>Variance 2</u>: To remove the requirement of a 10-acre "District Area" as the term and specifics of calculation are not defined in the code and the City has historically not enforced such a provision.

<u>Variance 3</u>: To increase the height of the Primary Building from 40 feet to 45 feet to allow construction of showcase headquarters and to allow room for internal truck loading and unloading system as well as solar panels.



<u>Variance 4</u>. To decrease the 75-foot building setback from the road for 49.53 feet of the Cut-Out to be flush with the rest of the 75-foot building setback for the entire parcel to allow construction of the Accessory Building.

<u>Variance 5</u>. To allow sales to the public in the Accessory Building. The code does not specifically state or prohibit what can be in an accessory building. However, out of an abundance of caution, Builderstone wants to make sure sales to the public are allowed.

Enclosed is a copy of the conceptual site plan depicting the subject Property and the proposed improvements.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact me at by phone at 770.457.7000 or email at wkraby@gdcrlaw.com.

Sincerely,

GREGORY, DOYLE, CALHOUN & ROGERS, LLC

Sincerely,

/wendy.w.kraby/

Wendy W. Kraby



EXHIBIT A

The Land is described as follows:

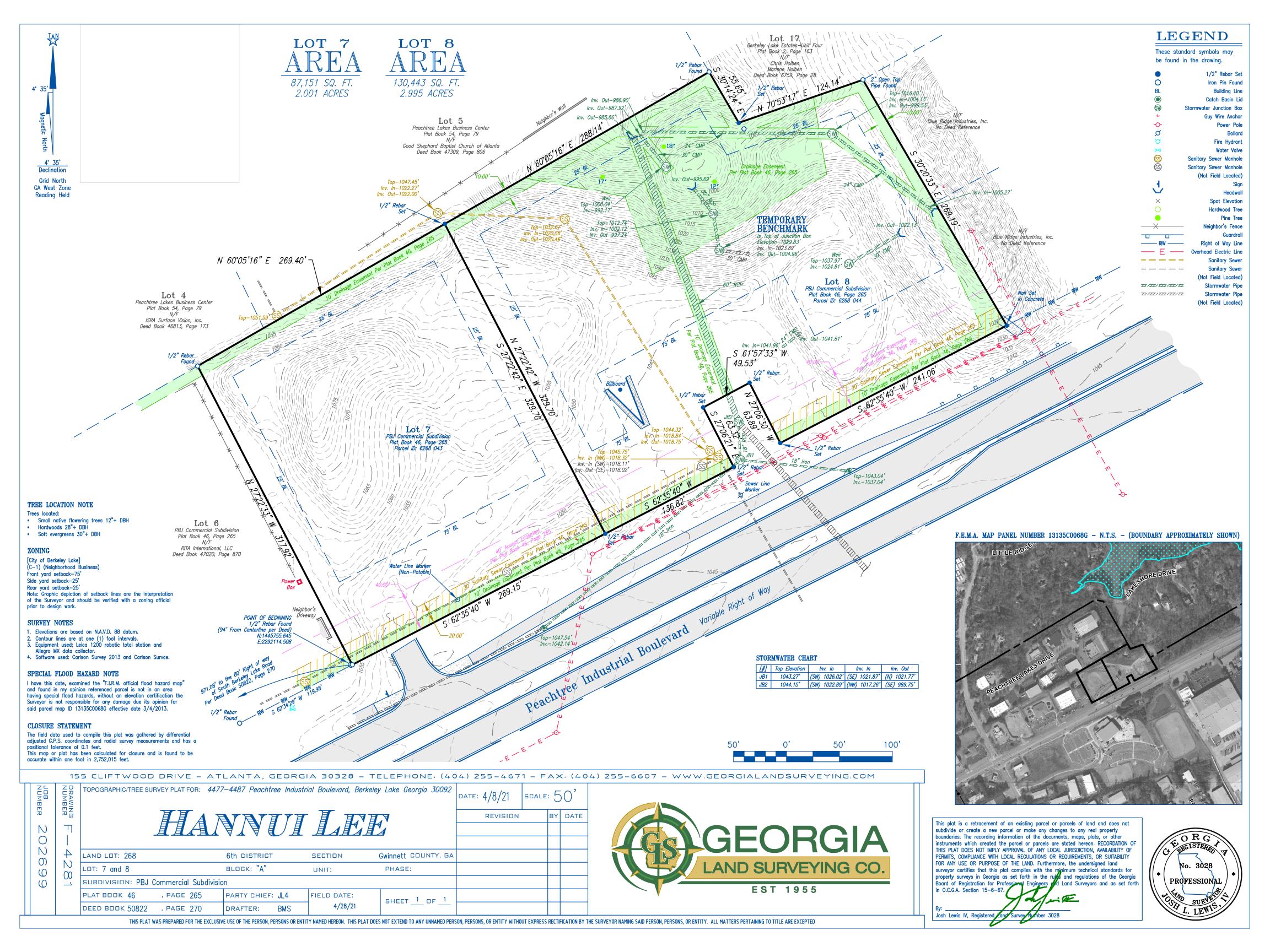
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 268 OF THE 6TH DISTRICT OF GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS BEING DESIGNATED AS LOTS 7 AND 8 OF BLOCK A OF PBJ COMMERCIAL SUBDIVISION ON A PLAT DATED JULY 15, 1985, LAST REVISED JANUARY 9, 1987, PREPARED BY GUILDEBEAU, BRITT, HAINES & ASSOCIATES, INC. AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT LOCATED ON THE NORTHWESTERN MOST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD (94 FEET FROM THE CENTER LINE THEREOF) WHICH POINT IS LOCATED 971.083 FEET NORTHEASTERLY, AS MEASURED ALONG THE NORTHWESTERN MOST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD FROM THE RIGHT OF WAY MONUMENT LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN MOST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD AND THE NORTHEASTERN RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF BERKELEY LAKE ROAD (ALSO KNOWN AS SOUTH BERKELEY LAKE ROAD WHICH HAS AN 80 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY); PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 27 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 27 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE LINE WHICH FORMS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN LOTS 6 & 7, SAID BLOCK AND SUBDIVISION, A DISTANCE OF 317.877 FEET TO A POINT; PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 60 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 559.250 FEET TO A POINT; PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 29 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 36 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 55.650 FEET TO A POINT; PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 70 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 7 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 124.140 FEET TO A POINT: PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 29 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 269.650 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTHWESTERN MOST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD, AND PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 56 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE NORTHWESTERN MOST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD A DISTANCE OF 241.060 FEET TO A POINT: THENCE PROCEEDING NORTH 26 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 63.890 FEET TO A POINT: PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 26 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 49.530 FEET TO A POINT; PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 26 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 63.320 FEET TO A POINT AND PROCEEDING THENCE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 56 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 405.969 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

This page is only a part of a 2016 ALTA® Commitment for Title Insurance issued by Chicago Title Ins. Co.. This Commitment is not valid without the Notice; the Commitment to Issue Policy; the Commitment Conditions; Schedule A; Schedule B, Part I—Requirements; and Schedule B, Part II—Exceptions; and a counter-signature by the Company or its issuing agent that may be in electronic form.

W-00016-23-CC





REZONING SITE PLANS FOR 4477-4478 PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD BERKELEY LAKE, GA 30092 **GWINETT COUNTY**

PARCEL ID's: 6268 043 & 6268 044

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette FEMA 17.5 Water Surface Elevation WINNETT COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS

WETLAND CERTIFICATION:

THE DESIGN PROFESSIONAL, WHOSE SEAL APPEARS HEREON, CERTIFIES THE FOLLOWING: 1) THE NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY MAPS HAVE BEEN CONSULTED; AND, 2) THE APPROPRIATE PLAN SHEET [] DOES/[X] DOES NOT (CIRCLE APPROPRIATE BOX) INDICATE AREAS OF UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS AS SHOWN ON THE MAPS; AND, 3) IF WETLANDS ARE INDICATE, THE LAND OWNER OR DEVELOPER HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT DISTRURBANCE OF PROTECTED WETLANDS SHALL NOT OCCUR UNLESS THE APPROPRIATE FEDERAL WETLANDS ALTERATION ("SECTION 404") PERMIT HAS BEEN OBTAINED.

GENERAL NOTES:

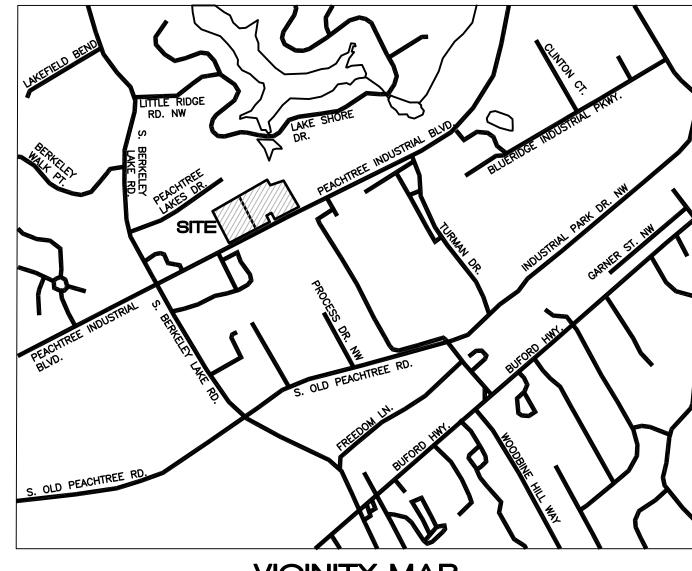
- 1. TOTAL SITE ACREAGE: 4.996 AC. (CURRENT ZONING: C-1; PROPOSED ZONING: M-1) 2. TOPOGRAPHIC AND BOUNDARY SURVEY BY GEORGIA LAND SURVEYING CO., DATED
- 3. CONTOUR INTERVAL SHOWN HEREON IS ONE (1) FOOT .4. SITE IS CURRENTLY SERVED BY PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY WATER AND SEWER. 5. SETBACK REQUIREMENT: FRONT SETBACK: 75 FEET
- SIDE SETBACK: 25 FEET REAR SETBACK: 25 FEET
- 6. THE MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT SHALL BE 45 FEET.
- 7. THERE IS NO FLOODPLAIN ON THIS PROPERTY FROM A WATER COURSE WITH A DRAINAGE AREA EXCEEDING 100 ACRES OR FLOODPLAIN PER GWINNETT COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS FEMA FIRM PANEL 13135C 0068G, DATED 03/03/2013.

INDEX OF DRAWINGS

RZ-1	SITE PLAN WITH LANDSCAPING
R7-2	SITE PLAN WITH TOPOGRAPHY

	UTILITY OWNERS	
<u>UTILITY</u>	OWNER	<u>PHONE</u>
WATER/SEWER	GWINNETT COUNTY	(770) 822-7150
ELECTRIC POWER	GEORGIA POWER	(404) 526-4436
TELEPHONE	BELLSOUTH	(770) 493-3711
NATURAL GAS	ATLANTA GAS LIGHT CO.	(770) 418-2260

FLOOD STATEMENT THERE IS NO FLOODPLAIN ON THIS PROPERTY FROM A WATER COURSE WITH A DRAINAGE AREA EXCEEDING 100 ACRES OR FLOODPLAIN PER GWINNETT COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS FEMA FIRM PANEL 13135C 0068G, DATED 03/04/2013.



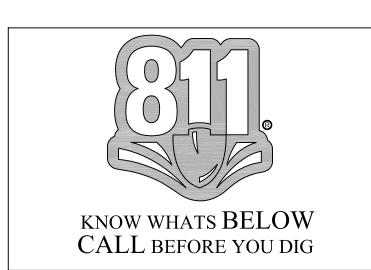
VICINITY MAP N.T.S

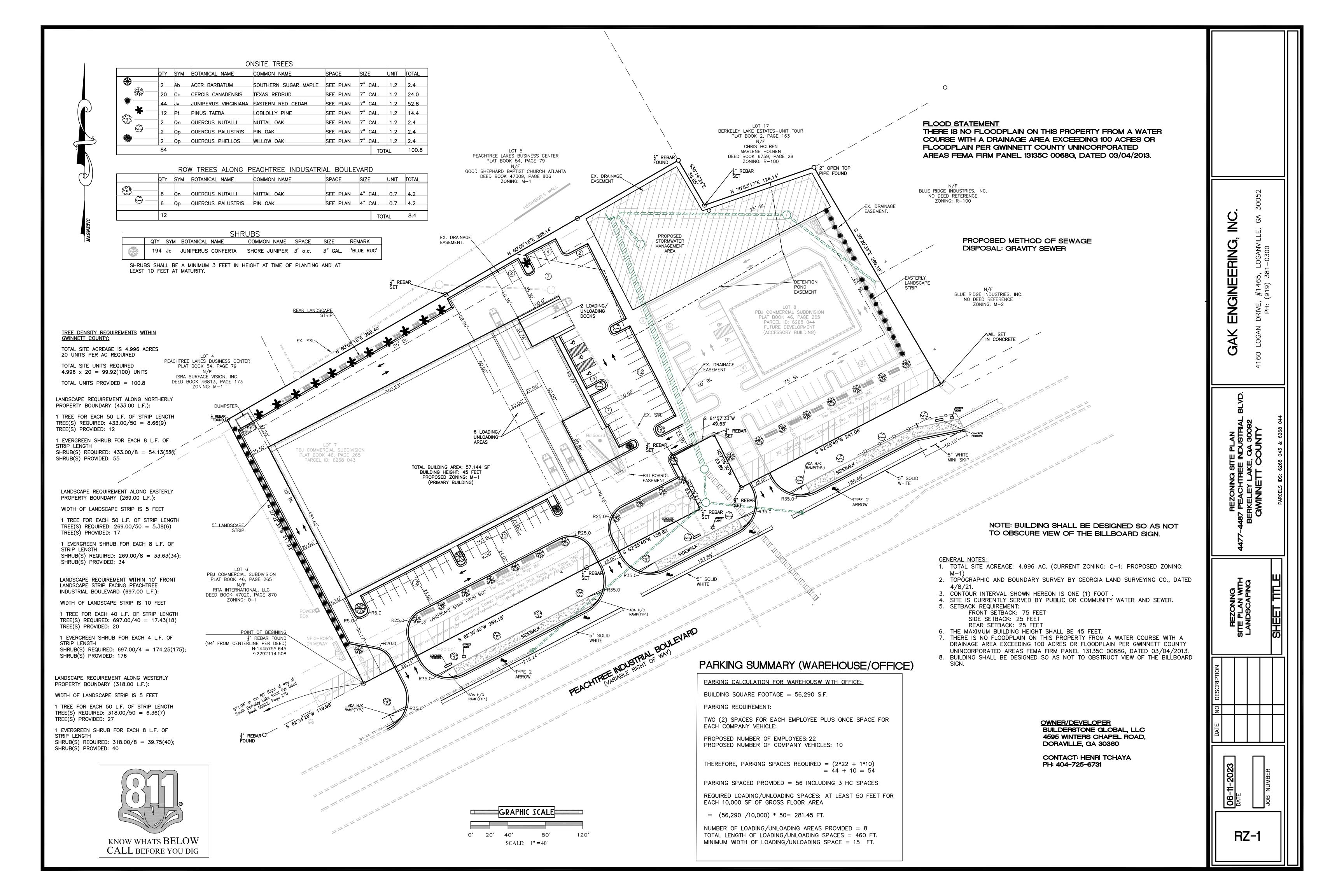
CONTRACTORS SHALL CONDUCT ALL WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICABLE REGULATIONS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) AND ALL LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS. PROPER SAFETY PROCEDURES ARE OF SPECIAL CONCERN ON THIS PROJECT CONSIDERING THAT WORKERS WILL BE IN OPEN TRENCHES FOR A PORTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK THIS SITE.

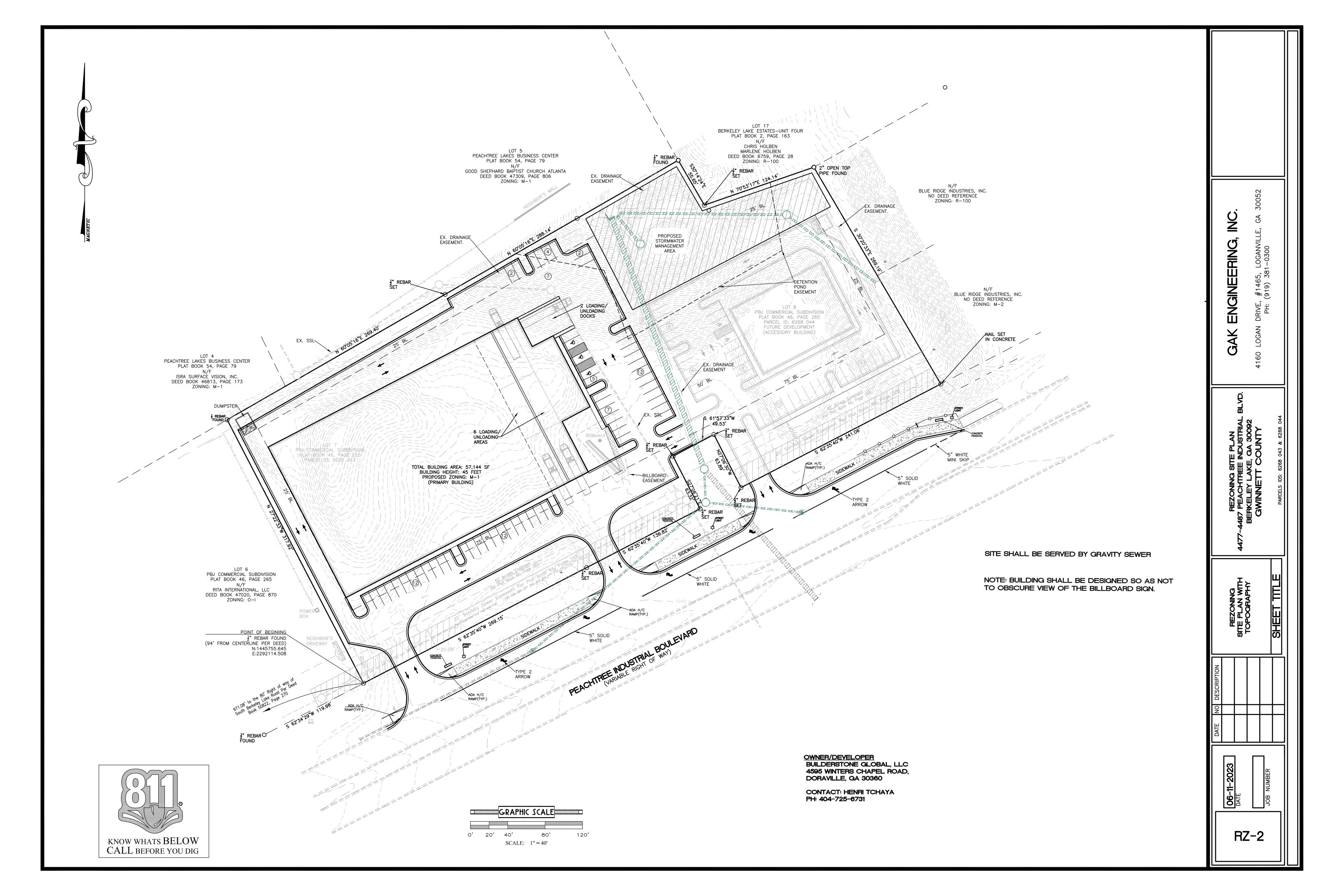
THIS PLAT WAS PREPARED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE PERSON(S), OR ENTITY NAMED IN THE CERTFICATE HEREON. SAID CERTIFICATE DOES NOT EXTEND TO ANY UN-NAMED PERSON(S) WITHOUT AN EXPRESS RECERTIFICATION BY THE SURVEYOR NAMING SAID PERSON(S).

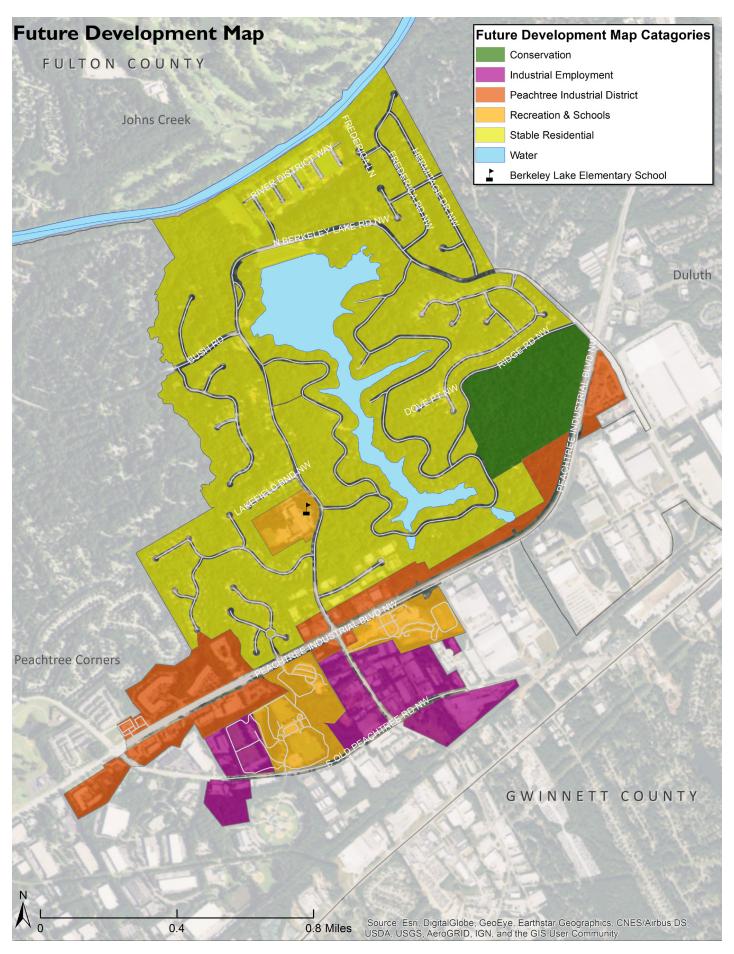
OWNER/DEVELOPER BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL, LLC 4595 WINTERS CHAPEL ROAD, DORAVILLE, GA 30360

CONTACT: HENRI TCHAYA PH: 404-725-6731









Chapter 7: Future Land Use 25

Variance Application: Part 3: Property and Use Information (continued)

Applicant: Please provide written responses to the following items in order to support the request. Attach a separate sheet if necessary:

2) Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship. 3) Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property. 4) Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner? If YES, explain. 5) What, if any, detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted. 6) Is the proposed use of land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance? 1 hereby make application to the City of Berkeley Lake, Georgia for the above referenced property. I do hereby affirm that the information provided here, above and contained in all material I submit for the purposes of supporting my request for a Variance, to the best of my knowledge is true, complete and accurate, and I understand that any inaccuracies may be considered just cause for invalidation of this application and any action taken as a result of this application. I understand that is smylour responsibility to conform to all City of Berkeley Lake ordinances in full and obtain any additional permits as may	1) Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property; OR if this request is for the expansion of a non-conforming structure, explain whether granting the variance would result in an increase in the non-conforming aspects of the structure.
3) Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property. 4) Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner? If YES, explain. 5) What, if any, detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted. 6) Is the proposed use of land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance? I hereby make application to the City of Berkeley Lake, Georgia for the above referenced property. I do hereby affirm that the information provided here, above and contained in all material I submit for the purposes of supporting my request for a Variance, to the best of my knowledge is true, complete and accurate, and I understand that any inaccuracies may be considered just cause for invalidation of this application and any action taken as a result of this application. I understand that	
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Owner's Signature Junil Date 05/09/2023	11/1



Application for Variance

For Of	fice Use Only
Application #: V/A	\V
Check #:	Cash;
Date Paid:	
P&Z hearing date: _	
Action:	
Appeal filed:	
Council hearing date	e:
Account	100.34.1390.2
Variance App	\$

Part 1: Applicant Information

		_	
APPLICANT IS: ☐ Owner ☐	Agent	_	
NAMEBuilderstone Global LLC			DATE 6-12-2023
MAILING ADDRESS 4595 Winters Chapel I	₹d.		
CITYDoraville	STATEGA		ZIP30360
TELEHONE	MOBILE		FAX
E-MAILbaltaci@builderstoneglobal.com			
NAME(S) First Citizens Bank & trust			
MAILING ADDRESS 4300 Six Forks Rd. FCC			710
CITY Raleigh			
TELEPHONE 919-716-4086	_ MOBILE		FAX
E-MAILpenlandmj@bellsouth.net			
out 0. Dramarks and Llos Informat	ion		
PROPERTY ADDRESS		DΔR	CELLD 6268-0043 and 6268-0044
PROPERTY ADDRESS		70N	ING M1 (francsed)
PARCEL SIZE			100
EXISTING USEVacant			
I am requesting relief from code sect	ion See Attached	(V,1-5)	for the purpose of:
See	attached		ti.
NOTICE: The granting of a Variance does no	t affect any require	ment for a Buildin	g Permit for proposed construction.
The following supplemental docum	entation must b	e submitted w	rith this application:

- Letter of Intent describing the proposed construction, development or improvements.

 Site Plan showing all existing and proposed improvements on the property.

 Survey of the property



Application for Variance

For Office	Use Only
Application #: V/AV_	23-08
Check #: 1979	Cash:
Check #: 1979 Date Paid: 6/13/202	23
P&Z hearing date:	
Action:	
Appeal filed:	
Council hearing date:	
Account 100	0.34.1390.2
Variance App	\$ 450.00

Part 1: Applicant Information			
APPLICANT IS: Owner	☐ Agent	☐ Attorney	
NAMEBuilderstone Global LLC			DATE 6-12-2023
MAILING ADDRESS 4595 Winters Chap	el Rd.		
CITY Doraville	STATEGA		ZIP30360
TELEHONE	MOBILE		FAX
E-MAIL baltaci@builderstoneglobal.com			
Part 2: Property Owner Information NAME(S)First Citizens Bank & trust			
MAILING ADDRESS 4300 Six Forks Rd. F			
CITY Raleigh 919-716-4086	STATE NO		ZIP
TELEPHONE 919-716-4086 E-MAIL penlandmj@bellsouth.net	MOBILE		FAX
PARCEL SIZE Vacant		PARCE	EL ID 6268-0043 and 6268-0044
EXISTING USEVacant		ZONIN	(14 cpose a)
I am requesting relief from code se			for the purpose of:
Set	attached		
NOTICE: The granting of a Variance does	not affect any requireme	ent for a Building I	Permit for proposed construction.
The following supplemental docu	mentation must be	submitted wit	h this application:
Letter of Intent describ	oing the proposed co existing and propose	onstruction, dev	elopment or improvements. ts on the property.

Survey of the property

Variance Application: Part 3: Property and Use Information (continued)

Applicant: Please provide written responses to the following items in order to support the request. Attach a separate sheet if necessary:

request is for the expansion of a non-conforming structure, explain whether granting the variance would result in an increase in the non-conforming aspects of the structure.
Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.
Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property.
A) Are the conditions were life as a principle the entry to the second the second supposed MATC and the
Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner? If YES, explain.
5) What, if any, detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted.
Is the proposed use of land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance?
Lhough application to the City of Parkelay Lake Coords for the phase referenced agency. Like hearty office the start of the City of Parkelay Lake Coords for the phase referenced agency.
I hereby make application to the City of Berkeley Lake, Georgia for the above referenced property. I do hereby affirm that the information provided here, above and contained in all material I submit for the purposes of supporting my request for a Variance, to the best of my knowledge is true, complete and accurate, and I understand that any inaccuracies may be
considered just cause for invalidation of this application and any action taken as a result of this application. I understand that it is my/our responsibility to conform to all City of Berkeley Lake ordinances in full and obtain any additional permits as may
be required and that failure to do so will result in enforcement action taken by the City.
Applicant's Signature Date 06/09/2023
Curred's Signature / Liver / / Free policy 1000 policy
Owner's Signature Date Date



June 12, 2023

Applicant: BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL LLC 4595 Winters Chapel Rd, Atlanta, GA 30360

Subject Property: 4477-4478 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. (Tax parcels R6268 043 R6268 044)

Current Zoning: C-1, GC-A (Gwinnett County-Annexed) **Proposed Zoning:** M-1, Light Industrial, City of Berkeley Lake

ROW Access: Peachtree Industrial Blvd.

Application: #_____

Dear City of Berkeley Lake,

This firm represents BUILDERSTONE GLOBAL LLC ("Builderstone"), a Georgia company currently located near Norcross, Georgia. Builderstone owns a business specializing in stone, including marble and quartz, for high-end kitchens as well as other luxury kitchen improvements. It principally sells wholesale and to contractors.

Builderstone is seeking to combine and rezone two lots (a total of 5 acres) located on Peachtree Industrial Blvd. from C-1, GWINNETT COUNTY-ANNEXED ZONING DISTRICT ("Gwinnett") to M-1 in order to build a headquarters for its business and move out of Norcross. The project includes a "Primary Building" that includes the corporate offices and a wholesale sales team, a large showroom with the company's products, and a storage warehouse for products. There will also be a second, smaller "Accessory Building" that will showcase and sell directly to the public the company's products including high-end German and European cabinets and fixtures for kitchens and bathrooms (the actual product will not be sold from the premises but will be shipped from an off-site warehouse).

Builderstone has been in business since 2017. It is owned by Taner Baltaci, a Georgia resident who immigrated from Turkey who has been in this business for over 20 years. The Company serves the Atlanta and Georgia market as well as an approximately 300 mile radius from the state.

I. The Property

Builderstone intends to combine both lots to create one parcel or "Property." One reason for combination is to allow the Principal Building to use both lots. The other is to add interconnectivity for vehicles and pedestrian use throughout the Property and to globally manage the extensive stormwater easements and improve the entire stormwater system for the entire Property.

The Property, a bank-owned foreclosure that has been vacant for many years and is used for illegal dumping, has several features that make it unique.

1. **Billboard.** The Property is subject to a 99-year lease for a billboard which is held by Lamar. Such lease requires that there be clearance to allow the billboard to be seen from Peachtree

49 Atlanta Street Marietta, Georgia 30060



Industrial Blvd. This limits the placement of buildings. (Please see Ex. A, Photo, attached hereto).

- 2. **Utility and Stormwater Easements**. The Property is subject to multiple easements including utility and sewer easements parallel to the roadway at the top of the Property. (Please see the Survey included with the application). The Property is further subject to multiple stormwater easements that direct runoff water from Peachtree Industrial Blvd. as well as the West Gwinnett Park & Aquatic Center across the street as part of a 91 acre basin (*See* Ex. B, p. 13, PIB Hydro_Report 5-18-2023, attached to Variance 1).
- 3. **Detention Pond.** The Property has a sizable detention pond easement that has been established since at least 1988. This pond, upstream from Berkeley Lake, directly benefits the lake by serving as a collection area for stormwater from the stormwater easements. The detention pond is currently not being maintained and has trees and other vegetation growing in the easement area.
- 4. **Property Line Cut-Out.** The Property is subject to an approximately 3,000 foot cut-out ("Cut-Out") adjacent to the road for stormwater easements directing runoff from Peachtree Industrial and the Aquatic Center.

Builderstone is committed to taking the time, effort and money to work with these challenges to make the Property a location for a productive business and increase the tax base for the City. This includes repairing and enforcing the detention pond with the assistance of its hydrology engineer.* Builderstone has already spent significant funds to work with engineers for site and building plans to work within the confines of the issues above.

*Builderstone has planned a stormwater management system to include a Bioretention Basin and Extended Dry Detention (EDD) Pond in accordance with standard engineering practices. Such improvements are estimated to be at least \$300,000. (See Ex. B, p. 14, PIB Hydro_Report 5-18-2023, attached to Variance 1).

II. The Buildings

The Principal Building of approximately 57,177 square feet is to be constructed as a showcase headquarters. The warehouse portion of the building will not look like a warehouse but will be enclosed within the larger headquarters building, (Please see Ex. B, Drawing, attached hereto).

The building will have an internal loading and unloading system whereby a truck enters into the building and the entire loading process occurs within the walls of the building. The Accessory Building of approximately 9,000 square feet shares driveways and a parking lot with the Principal Building to create a natural flow between the related buildings.

The Principal Building will not be used for manufacturing or fabrication. Builderstone hereby submits a proposed zoning condition to prohibit such use in the M-1 classification:

"The Subject Property is not to be used for manufacturing or fabrication without the consent of the Planning Commission."



III. Standard Governing the Exercise of Zoning Power

a. Whether the zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property.

The M-1 proposed zoning fits well within the existing Berkeley Lake zoning, businesses and uses as follows:

- (i) The Property is directly adjacent to 19.87 combined acres of M-1 Gwinnett.
- (ii) The Property fits into the City's Comprehensive Plan which includes the Property in its "Peachtree Industrial District" designation which it describes as: "Peachtree Industrial Corridor: This area denotes accessible centers of businesses, services, and complementary uses, which may include mixed use developments, along Peachtree Industrial Boulevard that contribute extensively to the economic base of the city. Exclusively commercial shopping centers that already exist are at present stable and desirable, but may be redeveloped as mixed-use activity centers during the planning horizon. Such areas should be transformed into less automobile-reliant and more pedestrian-friendly places. Uses: Shopping centers, retail, restaurants offices and some light industrial uses."
- (iii) The home construction-related business of Builderstone fits into the general M-1 businesses of the area and in the City -- some of which are focused on the same home construction industry.
- (iv) The Parcel as M-1 will serve as a buffer against the M-2 (Gwinnett) parcel to the North.
- b. Whether the zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing use of usability of adjacent or nearby property.

The Property is situated among already zoned properties that have been in current use for many years. The Property zoning will not affect any others' use of their properties. The only two properties that are undeveloped is a land-locked residential parcel that cannot be developed as-is and a M-2 Industrial parcel.

c. Whether the Property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned.

The Property has been zoned C-1 (Gwinnett) for years but has remained undeveloped and on the market. Given that the Property cannot be entered or exited but by the divided highway and is not located at an intersection with a traffic light, it is not appropriate for neighborhood commercial development to serve the local daily needs of residents. The more limited traffic use of Builderstone's headquarters and specialized wholesale and retail is more appropriate for this Property.

d. Whether the zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools.

The proposal zoning is not residential and should not affect schools. The parcel is solely accessed through the existing large divided state highway of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and cannot be accessed through neighborhood streets. The entire length of the



Property is accessible by sidewalk in the right of way. The Property has easy access to sewer and other utilities which run through easements through the top of the Property parallel to the road. The zoning of the Property is not expected to cause increased or excessive use of the area features above.

e. Whether the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan of the City of Berkeley Lake.

Berkeley Lake's code specially states that a general purpose of a manufacturing district is to "[t]o provide sufficient space in appropriate locations to meet the needs of the city's expected future economy for all types of manufacturing and related activities, with due allowance for the need for a choice of sites." (Sec. 78-238(1)). Builderstone's desire to relocate its headquarters to the City and create corporate offices, showroom, warehouse and be open for public sales, is the kind of high-end, enclosed, low-impact operation to strengthen the economic base of the City and increase the City's tax collection that the City has stated it wants for the future of the City. Pursuant to the City of Berkeley Lake Comprehensive Plan 2019 which places the Property in the "Peachtree Industrial District," (please see Ex. C, Future Development Map, attached hereto) "The annexation of parts of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard provides the city with a non-residential tax base." It further states, "Redevelopment and Attracting Businesses: As there are no opportunities for further annexation of commercial property, the City should invest in planning to maximize the potential of existing commercial areas, making them attractive for investment and redevelopment." Builderstone headquarters embodies the intent of the City's Comprehensive Plan to support smart redevelopment and the utilization of "existing" areas.

f. Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use of and development of the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal.

This is the City's opportunity, as its first zoning in at least 5 years, to set the stage for quality redevelopment for the future of the City.

IV. Variances

Builderstone is seeking variances to make this Property usable, to clarify ambiguous code ordinances, or to effectuate more modern land-planning principles. A short summary of each variance is below and a full discussion of each variance is attached.

<u>Variance 1</u>: Variance to remove the requirement of a 75-foot residential buffer as this is prohibited by a preexisting 30+ year detention pond and stormwater easements.

<u>Variance 2</u>: To remove the requirement of a 10-acre "District Area" as the term and specifics of calculation are not defined in the code and the City has historically not enforced such a provision.

<u>Variance 3</u>: To increase the height of the Primary Building from 40 feet to 45 feet to allow construction of showcase headquarters and to allow room for internal truck loading and unloading system as well as solar panels.



<u>Variance 4</u>. To decrease the 75-foot building setback from the road for 49.53 feet of the Cut-Out to be flush with the rest of the 75-foot building setback for the entire parcel to allow construction of the Accessory Building.

<u>Variance 5</u>. To allow sales to the public in the Accessory Building. The code does not specifically state or prohibit what can be in an accessory building. However, out of an abundance of caution, Builderstone wants to make sure sales to the public are allowed.

Enclosed is a copy of the conceptual site plan depicting the subject Property and the proposed improvements.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact me at by phone at 770.457.7000 or email at wkraby@gdcrlaw.com.

Sincerely,

GREGORY, DOYLE, CALHOUN & ROGERS, LLC

Sincerely,

/wendy.w.kraby/

Wendy W. Kraby

Builderstone is requesting relief from code section 78-242 for the purpose of maintaining the preexisting detention pond ("Detention Pond") and stormwater easements. Such easements, documents by decades-old recorded easement agreements, covenants and plats, should not be governed by later-passed law adopted in 2010. However, out of an abundance of caution, applicant is seeking this variance so there is no confusion.

Sec. 78-242. - Buffer zones established.

"In all M-1 light industrial districts, a buffer strip at least 75 feet wide is required where said industrial district abuts a residential use district. Buffers shall be planted to meet the requirements of Chapter 42 - Natural Resources, Article VII - Buffers, Landscape and Trees, Division 2 - Buffer Regulations. (Ord. No. O-118-10, § 1, 10-21-2010)"

Below are just some of the requirements of Chap. 42 as to buffer zones that cannot be accomplished due to the existing nature of the property.

"Sec. 42-224(b)(1). Screening requirements: Buffers shall be natural, undisturbed, and free of encroachments except as authorized by a condition of zoning, special use or variance approval, or as authorized herein, and shall contain the existing tree cover and vegetation as well as any supplemental plantings or replantings as may be required or permitted by the OEO."

"Sec. 42-224(e)(1). Disturbance or encroachments: Ditches, swales, stormwater conveyance facilities, stormwater detention ponds, sanitary sewer conveyance facilities, similar facilities, and any associated easements, shall not encroach into a buffer except that necessary access and utility crossings (e.g. stormwater or sanitary sewer pipes) may encroach into the buffer as near to perpendicular as practical."

1) Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property.

Nearly the entire 75-foot buffer area is filled with a large easement detention pond and numerous stormwater/drainage easements that include pipes and concrete culverts. Such Detention Pond and easements have been in place, in written recorded easements and plats, since at least 1988. (*Please see* Ex. A, "1988 Book 46 Page 265," attached hereto.) Such stormwater system directs stormwater directly from Peachtree Industrial Blvd. and the West Gwinnett Aquatic Center from a basin of approximately 98 acres into the detention pond where there is a steep drop-off in topography, which eventually drains into the "Retention Lake" on Lot 17 of Berkeley Lake Estates, then under Lake Shore Drive (Please see Ex B. Lot 17 Retaining Pond) into Berkeley Lake. The Retention Lake of Lot 17 is part of the Water Distribution System as approved in 1974 by the City of Berkeley Lake Berkeley Lake Planning Commission, the City Engineer and Mayor.

The Detention Pond has not been maintained and is overgrown with trees and vegetation. Builderstone intends to renovate the area according to code and the recommendation of its hydrology engineer. This may include, but is not limited to, adding retaining walls, the removal of

trees and vegetation, and the installation of safety fencing. Attached is the Stormwater Management Report from GAK Engineering dated May 18, 2023 (*See* Ex. C, PIB Hydro_Report 5-18-2023, attached hereto). The proposed stormwater management system will include a Bioretention Basin and Extended Dry Detention (EDD) Pond in accordance with standard engineering practices and methods of analysis for storm water management in the City of Berkeley Lake. Such improvements are estimated to be at least \$300,000.

The improved stormwater management system, in particular, will directly benefit Berkeley Lake by offering a retention area for stormwater that is piped directly onto the land that would otherwise entirely flow downstream to Berkeley Lake.

2) Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.

Removing the Detention Pond and stormwater infrastructure to enforce the buffer would be a clear violation of the easements and the City's ordinance on non-conforming land use. In addition, it runs the risk of increasing the stormwater runoff into Berkeley Lake. Given the steep topography of the Detention Pond area, it is unable to be planted to the ordinance's specifications. The loss of this Detention Pond area will require a retention pond for the parcel to be located elsewhere on the parcel, The Property is also subject to a substantial 75-foot front setback that further reduces the area available for a building. Requiring these extensive buffers will have the result of rendering this parcel of the Property incapable of being developed in an economically feasible way.

3) Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property

The unique conditions of the Detention Pond, setbacks and the numerous stormwater easements are detailed above.

4) Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner?

No, the Detention Pond and stormwater easements have been in place for at least 35 years through no action of the Applicant or Owner.

5) What, if any detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted?

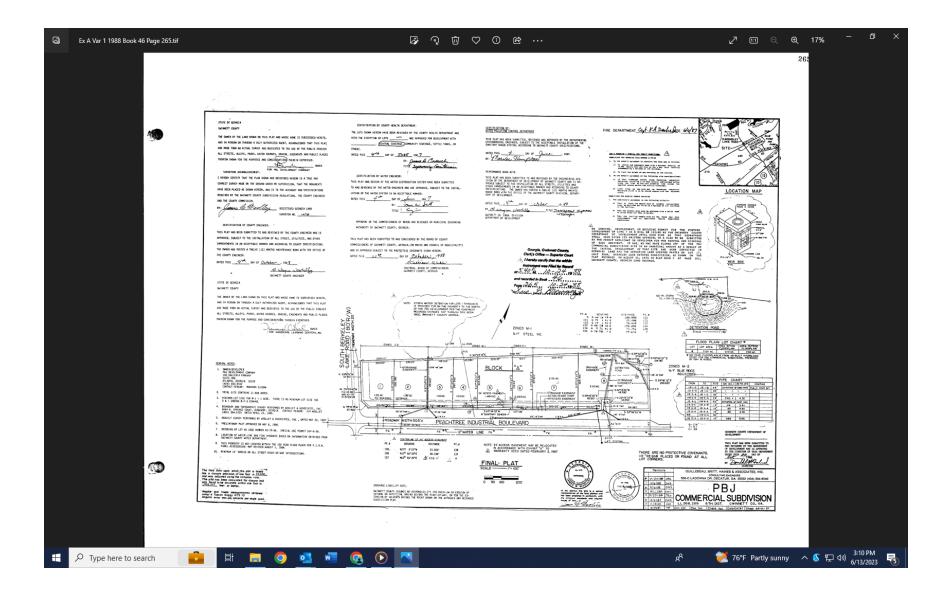
There should be no detriment to the public as the maintenance of the stormwater easements and Detention Pond are vital to the health of Berkeley Lake. The purposes of the ordinance are not frustrated as the Detention Pond and easement areas offer a large buffer between lots and buildings that retain the intentions of the ordinance to create a buffer.

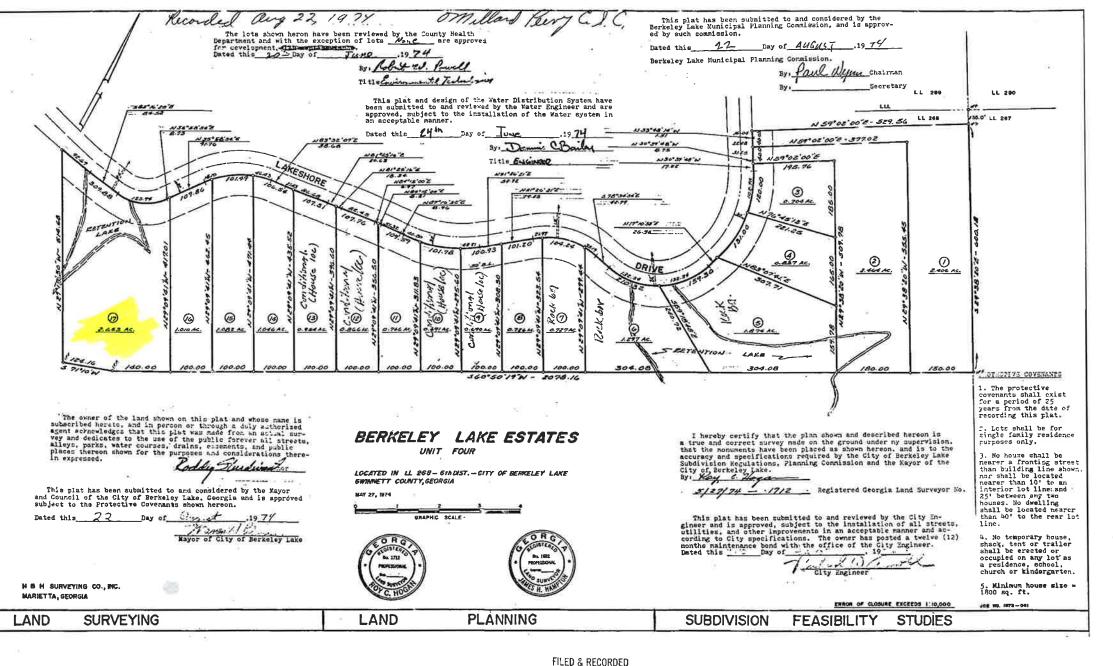
There are only two residential lots adjacent to the Property, which is primarily surrounded by M-1 (Gwinnett), O-I (Gwinnett) and M-2 (Gwinnett) properties. One lot is 2.65 acres owned by the Holbens since 1991, which is 3 years after the easements and Detention Pond were on the public record. The Holbens' lot contains a "Retention Lake" downstream from the Detention Pond. The lot is heavily wooded and this Retention Lake will benefit from an improved Detention Pond with regular maintenance upstream.

The other lot (Tax Number R6268 019) (2.97 acre) is a land-locked vacant property that would be very difficult to very develop due to its lack of depth and lack of access to the public right of way.

6) Is the proposed use of the land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance?

Yes





FILED & RECORDED
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT
GWINNETT COUNTY GA

DATE STORY THE
PLANT - L 2 PAGE ALC
TOM LAWLER, CLERK 121100

Builderstone is requesting relief from code section 78-243 for the purpose of allowing M-1 zoning next to M-1 GWINNETT COUNTY-ANNEXED ZONING DISTRICT.

Sec. 78-243 states "District area" "Minimum" "Ten Acres."

1) Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property.

This Property was annexed into the City from Gwinnett County and retains the Gwinnett County zoning of C-1(Gwinnett). This gave the Property a unique status and makes it very difficult, if not impossible, for the property to zone into C-1 or M-1 classifications under the City's pre-annexation 2004 code at issue.

2) Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.

The ordinance does not define the term "District area" nor does it define how such a "District area" is measured or calculated.

The city of Berkeley Lake has said the M-1 zoning is not allowed because it would not be in a M-1 district of 10 acres, even though it is located directly adjacent to 19.87 combined acres of M-1 (Gwinnett). In addition, a majority of the annexed, non-residential lands into the City are zoned M-1 (Gwinnett). (Please see Ex. A, Official Zoning Map 2018 04 19, attached hereto.). Given the limited city boundaries and existing development, it would be difficult to create 10 acre "districts" of city-zoned land.

The City has or has permitted "District areas" by the City's non-written definition of less than "Ten Acres":

- Tax parcel 6269 31 (4.94 ACRES)(487 S Old Peachtree Rd, Norcross, GA 30071) was rezoned in 2017 to M-1. Although is it is adjacent to "M-1 Gwinnett" it is not adjacent to "M-1."
- Tax parcel R6269 158 (3.46 acres) (4790 PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BLVD) is zoned C-1 even though the C-I "District area" is "Ten Acres."
- Tax parcels R6290 230 and R6290 231 (total of 4.59 acres) (3960 AND 3980 PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BLVD) is zoned C-1 even though the C-I "District area" is "Ten Acres."

The code in question was adopted in 2004, years before the M-1 Gwinnett properties were annexed into the City. The code, in light of the modern City limits, does not take into account the vast property changes the City would undertake to bring commercial properties into its limits.

The City's stated purpose in annexation was to diversity and bring in commercial and manufacturing properties into its tax base ("City's Purpose"). To that effect, prohibiting this

Property from M-1 zoning due to an outdated and inadequately defined ordinance defeats the City's purpose.

3) Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property.

The ordinance unfairly targets any property that seeks to zone to M-1 or C-1 designation within the City because it would be nearly impossible to be located next to property that is not already zoned M-1 Gwinnett or C-1 Gwinnett. The distinction between M-1 and M-1 Gwinnett County is a technicality and does not serve the City's intent to group similar uses together. For purposes of the "District area," no distinction should be made between M-1 and M-1 (Gwinnett).

4) Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner?

No, the conditions are a result of the City's annexation of commercial property into the City limits without updating its zoning code accordingly.

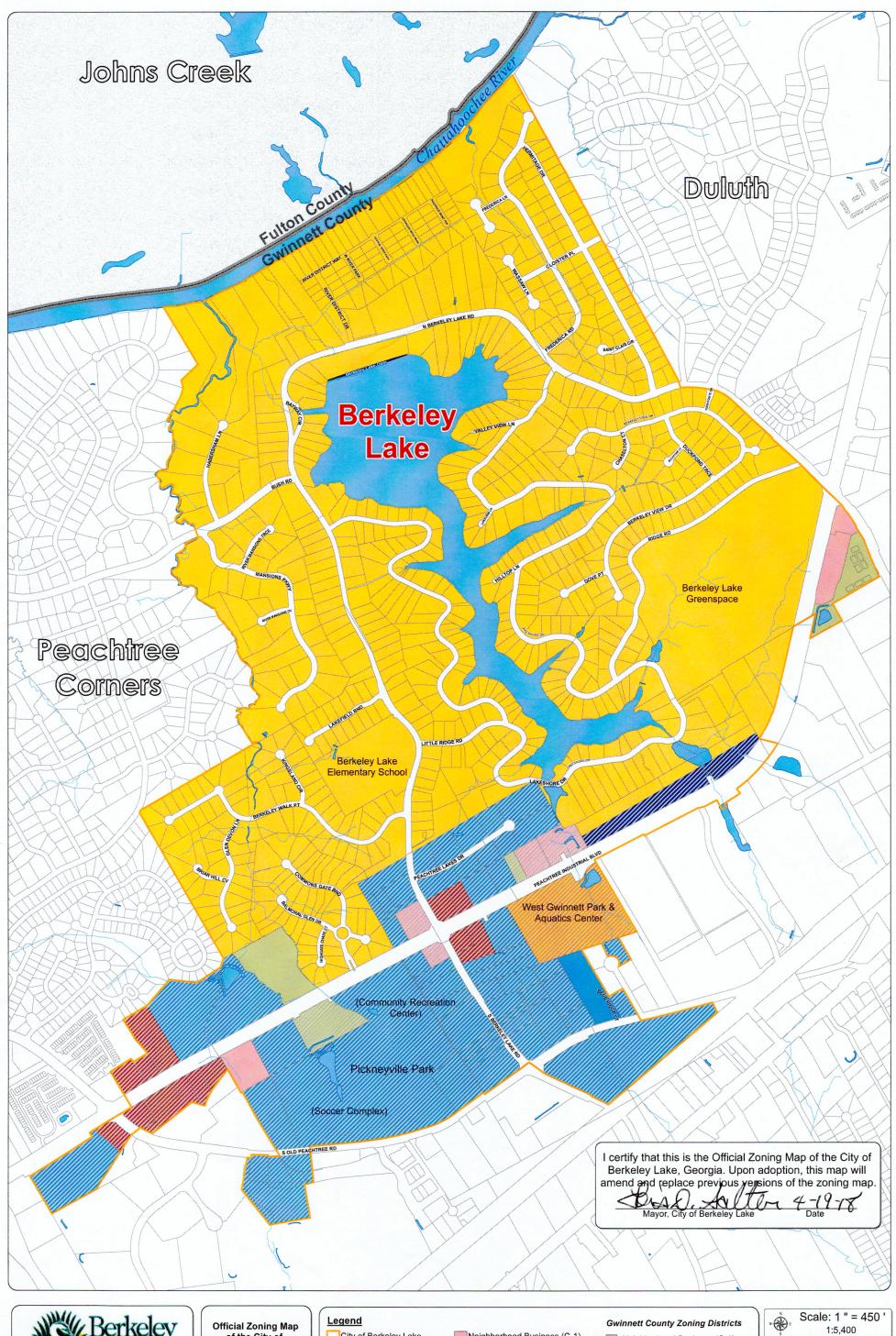
5) What, if any detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted.

Granting the variance does not change the substantial use of M-1 designation nor the intent of the City to group like or similarly zoning districts together.

The City's code section on Gwinnett properties (ARTICLE XII. - GWINNETT COUNTY-ANNEXED ZONING DISTRICT) specifically states that if questions arise under this code, the Berkeley Lake Zoning District most similar to the Gwinnett zoning classification shall apply. Such section pairs M-1 Gwinnett with M-1. To then distinguish between the two classifications to not allow such similar zoning classifications to be located next to each due to "District area" is not consistent with the intent of the Code.

6) Is the proposed use of the land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance?

Yes





Berkeley Lake, GA 30096

of the City of **Berkeley Lake**

Effective December 2017

Map Prepared February 15, 2018



Hydrography

Neighborhood Business (C-1) Light Industrial (M-1) County Boundaries

Single Family Residential (R-100)

Neighborhood Business (C-1) General Business (C-2) Light Industry (M-1)

Single Family Residence (R-ZT)

Heavy Industry (M-2) Office-Institutional (O-I) Single Family Residential (R-100) Map Notes: Imcorporated areas outside of Berkeley Lake are current as of the date this map was prepared. The C-1 district is a conditional use district. The GC-A district is an overlay district that refers back to the original zoning as regulated by the County and identified on the map.

(770) 368-9484 ~ www.berkeley-lake.com Disclaimer: All data is provided as is, with all faults, without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. This map is the property of the City of Berkeley Lake, Georgia and its assigns. All rights reserved.

Gwinnett Co - Annex (GC-A)

Builderstone is requesting relief from code section 78-243 for the purpose of constructing a Primary Building of 45 feet in height.

Sec 78-243 states "Building Height" "Maximum" "Two stories or 40 feet, whichever is less"

1) Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property.

This Property is limited in area and height in certain areas by a billboard and its 99-year lease. Because of the billboard, some of the building will have to be one story or parking areas which shrinks the size of the building. Builderstone seeks to build a company headquarters with warehouse that includes an internal loading and unloading system as well as an extensive showroom and office space. The plans for the remaining Primary Building is to have a maximum height of 45 feet to accommodate these plans. This height will also include the building's solar panels which require about 6 feet above the roofline.

The location of the property along a major, divided state highway lends itself to a height of more than 40 feet. Upon information and belief, the West Gwinnett Aquatic Center across the street is over 45 feet in height and numerous office buildings, hotels and other locations in the immediate area of Peachtree Corners and Duluth exceed a two-story minimum.

The Property primarily backs up to a M-1 (Gwinnett) manufacturing park (Peachtree Lakes Drive) and such height of 45 feet is reasonable and compatible with nearby manufacturing and non-residential uses.

2. Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.

Builderstone is already greatly limited in height on a portion of the Property due to the existing billboard and its lease which requires no structure higher than the bottom of the billboard, or one story. The remainder of the Primary Building at 45 feet would give it the height it needs for its operations.

3. Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property.

Few properties are subject to a 99-year billboard lease that limits development of a Property. That same Property is subject to a sizable detention pond, numerous easements and city-imposed 75-feet front setbacks. Allowing a slight increase in the height of the Primary Building would allow that Builderstone develop the Primary Building it requires for its operations.

4. Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner?

No, the conditions are not the result of any action of the Applicant or Owner. The current billboard lease has been in effect since 1999 and the detaining pond and stormwater easements have been in place since at least 1988.

5. What, if any detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted.

There is no detriment to the public to allow 5 additional feet to the height of a building in M-1, located in an industrial and high-intensity use area adjacent to and accessed by Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. Directly across the street is the West Gwinnett Aquatic Center which appears to greatly exceed 40 feet in height.

6. Is the proposed use of the land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance? Yes.

Builderstone is requesting relief from code section Sec. 78-243 for the purpose of reducing a small portion to be consistent with the rest of the 75-foot setback. To decrease the 75-foot building setback from the road for 49.53 feet of the Cut-Out to be flush with the rest of the 75-foot building setback for the entire Property. Please see the Site Plan.

Sec. 78-243 "Front Yard" "Minimum" "75 Feet"

This ordinance from 2004 does not define what "Front Yard" means or what "75 Feet" denotes. However, if the City's intention was that this code was to mean the building setback from the right of way, Builderstone requests the variance above.

Sec. 78-3. - Definitions.

Front and frontage means that side of a lot abutting on a street or way and ordinarily regarded as the front of a lot, but it shall not be considered as the ordinary side of a corner lot.

1) Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property.

The Property is subject to an approximately 3,000-foot cut-out ("Cut-Out") at the top of the road for stormwater easements directing runoff from Peachtree Industrial Blvd. and the West Gwinnett Aquatic Center. To enforce a 75-foot building set back from the back of this Cut Out would effectively prohibit the development of the Property which is already greatly reduced by the presence of a large detention easement and a billboard lease.

2) Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.

There is no evident reason to require a 75-foot setback from the Cut-Out. It would not frustrate the intent of the City to push back buildings 75 feet from the right of way. Enforcing such a setback would be arbitrary and would serve no purpose other than to prohibit development of the Property.

3) Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property.

The Cut-Out is an odd feature of the Property that has existed for decades.

4) Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner?

No, the condition of the Cut-Out and the Detention Pond and Stormwater easements have existed for decades and are not the result of the actions of the current owner, the foreclosing bank.

5) What, if any detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted.

Granting of the variance will not reduce the overall setback of 75 feet and will not allow buildings within this setback. Modern zoning encourages buildings to be closer to the road so that

parking can be on the sides and back when possible. To the extent that the City encourages large front yards with parking, this variance does not frustrate that goal and maintains a good 75-foot building setback from Peachtree Industrial Boulevard.

6) Is the proposed use of the land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance?

Yes

Builderstone is requesting relief from code section 78-240 for the purpose of maintaining an Accessory Building to the Primary Building upon the Property for sales to the public in addition to wholesales.

The Applicant seeks a variance to allow the use of retail sales in an Accessory Building to the Primary Building, or in the alternative, the planning commission find that Builderstone's use of the Accessory Building is "(12) Other light industrial uses upon the findings of the planning commission that such uses are of the same general character as those provided for herein, that meet the standards of this zoning district and which will not be detrimental to the other uses within the district as to the adjoining land uses."

Sec. 78-240. - Uses permitted.

In M-1 light industrial districts, the following uses are permitted:

- (1) Enclosed manufacturing industries meeting the performance standards established by this chapter.
- (2) Enclosed warehouse with offices.
- (3) Public utility.
- (4) Enclosed service or repair.
- (5) Machinery and transportation equipment sales and service.
- (6) Enclosed industrial processing service.
- (7) Wholesaling with offices.
- (8) Business office.
- (9) Enclosed accessory buildings. (emphasis provided)

. . .

- (12) Other light industrial uses upon the findings of the planning commission that such uses are of the same general character as those provided for herein, that meet the standards of this zoning district and which will not be detrimental to the other uses within the district as to the adjoining land uses. (Ord. No. O-118-10, § 1, 10-21-2010) (emphasis provided)
- ** Please note that the City Code regarding Accessory Buildings or Accessory Structures is contradictory. For reference, below are some other code provisions regarding Accessory buildings or structures.

Sec. 78-89. - Accessory uses or structures.

(c) Accessory structure requirements apply only to residential zoning districts. Any structure built on commercial or industrial zoned property shall be considered a principal structure. This provision prohibits accessory buildings in C-1 or M-1 districts and labels them "principal structures." ...(Code 2004, § 39-401; Ord. No. O-31-05c, 2-2-2006; Ord. No. O-61-07, 1-17-2008; Ord. No. O-91-08, 12-18-2008; Ord. No. O-109-09, 11-19-2009; Ord. No. O-171-14, § 1, 9-18-2014)

However the code below then allows a principal structure and accessory building on a lot. Also, the M-1 code and I-O code specifically allow accessory buildings.

Sec. 78-64. - Only one principal building or lot use.

Only one principal building or structure or use and its customary accessory building and uses shall be permitted on any lot. (Code 2004, § 39-305)

Please note that such code dated 2004 predates the annexation of the parcels at issue.

Sec. 78-3. - Definitions.

(a) The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Accessory buildings and uses means a subordinate building or portion of the main building, the use of which is incidental to that of the dominant use of the main building or land including bona fide servants' quarters. An accessory use is one which is incidental to the main use of the premises.

Accessory structure means a detached subordinate structure, the use of which is clearly incidental or related to that of the principal structure or use of the land, and which is located on the same lot as that of the principal structure or use.

1. Explain the extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the size, shape or topography of the subject property.

The location of the Property adjacent to Peachtree Industrial Blvd. and accessed only through this main vehicular artery is an ideal location for the company headquarters and the uses it will create of office, wholesale, retail and warehouse product storage along with its Accessory Building. The Principal Building and Accessory Building will have common ownership and common management.

2. Explain how the application of the ordinance to the subject property would create an unnecessary hardship.

Builderstone would like to have a complete headquarters that can sell directly the public as an accessory use to its main operations for the wholesale of high-end bath and kitchen improvements. Customers will meet with designers to plan their kitchens and baths, and then will order improvements and fixtures that will be shipped directly for off-site warehouses. Customers will not take possession of products on site.

The M-1 code specifically prohibits residential use. But it does not specifically prohibit retail or public sales of this sort.

Prohibiting an accessory building from being used as related retail serves no practical use. The code allows for the sale of "Machinery and transportation equipment sales" as well as "[o]ther light industrial uses upon the findings of the planning commission that such uses are of the same general character as those provided for herein, that meet the standards of this zoning district and

which will not be detrimental to the other uses within the district as to the adjoining land uses." The Planning Commission has this flexible statutory provision to allow uses of the same general character.

Builderstone's goal of combining the two lots and having a Primary Building and an Accessory Building is to create one lot with inter-parcel connections for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The other is to cohesively address the stormwater issues and the engineering of the retaining pond to handle stormwater not only from the Property but from the many stormwater easements crossing the Property.

3. Explain how the conditions are peculiar or unique to the subject property.

The Property, due to its unique characteristics and limitations, must be creative in utilizing the buildable space upon the land. Having to have a separate lot for the Accessory Building or a separate lot zoned commercial hampers the ability of that lot to be utilized due to a large detention pond and significant city-required set-backs. Having the flexibility to create a great interconnected headquarters is key to making the Property productive to generate tax revenue.

4. Are the conditions requiring a variance the result of any actions of the property owner? No, the unique conditions of the Property are not caused by the Owner or Applicant. At this point in time, Applicant has not instituted any "use" upon the Property.

5. What, if any detriment to the public or impairment to the purposes of the ordinance would result if the variance were granted.

There is no detriment to allowing retail sales in the Accessory Building. The Property is currently zoned C-1 (Gwinnett) which would allow retail sales. The difference is that the accessory sales are related to the Primary Building and Builderstone's products and is not likely to create as much day-to-day traffic as a local retail serving the neighborhood. There is no access to the Property from any road other than Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and no internal or neighborhood roads will be affected by the Property development or ongoing business operations.

6. Is the proposed use of the land, building or structure permitted by the zoning ordinance. Yes, if in accordance with this variance.