City of Sugar Hill Planning Staff Report SUP 19-001

DATE: June 18, 2019
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Planning Director
SUBJECT: Special Use Permit | SUP 19-001 1163 Buford Highway



RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of special use permit for a vehicle emissions testing station with the following conditions:

- 1. The siding and wood trim on the existing structure shall be repaired and/or repainted within (6) six months of approval.
- 2. Prior to receiving a building permit, provide an updated landscaping plan subject to the review and approval of the City Manager.
- 3. Prior to certificate of occupancy, replacement landscaping shall be installed in accordance with the approved landscaping plan.
- 4. Pavement striping for the parking area(s) and other required access improvements shall be replaced prior to certificate of occupancy.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Commission held a scheduled public hearing on June 17, 2019. Applicant representative Ray Wozniak spoke on behalf of this request. There were no other public comments.

Planning Commission recommends APPROVAL with conditions as presented.

ISSUE The City of Sugar Hill has an application dated May 14, 2019 from Hae Myung Park for a special use permit to convert an existing single vehicle automatic car wash bay into a vehicle emission testing station. The subject property is currently a car wash with one automatic bay and four (4) self-serve car wash bays.

DISCUSSION

- Subject property is within a maturing neighborhood district where appropriate infill development is encouraged by the city's latest comprehensive plan.
- Converting part of the existing car wash facility to a vehicle emissions testing facility provides a useful neighborhood service without altering the existing character of the property.

BACKGROUND

Applicant/Owner:	Hae Myung Park
Existing Zoning:	General Business District (BG)
Request:	Special use permit for a vehicle emission testing station.

6/18/2019

Purpose:	Convert an existing automatic car wash bay into a vehicle emission
	testing station.
Property Size:	± 2.66 Acres
Location:	1163 Buford Highway
	Tax Parcel R7-257-012
Public Notice:	Letters to adjoining owners via USPS regular mail on 5-29-19. Signs posted on Buford Hwy frontage on 5-29-19. Ad in legal section of Gwinnett Daily Post on 5-29-19, & 6-19-19.
Public Response:	No public comments have been received as of 6/14/2019.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- To the North: Office-Institutional (OI)
- To the South: Unincorporated Gwinnett County (R-75) Single-Family Residence District
- To the East: BG
- To the West: BG

There are three ground signs on the property which may not have been permitted properly and the detention pond appears to require maintenance. Both concerns have been referred to the appropriate departments for follow up. Parking lot striping has faded and appears to require maintenance. The landscaping which was required when the site was originally developed has been removed.

ZONING ANALYSIS

- Will the rezoning requested permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property? Yes. The subject property has similar auto-oriented commercial uses on both sides and is heavily wooded to the rear.
- 2. Will the rezoning requested adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby properties? No.
- 3. Does the property for which the rezoning is requested have a reasonable economic use as currently zoned?

Yes.

4. Will the rezoning requested create an overcrowding condition with respect to the existing streets, transportation facilities, or schools?

No.

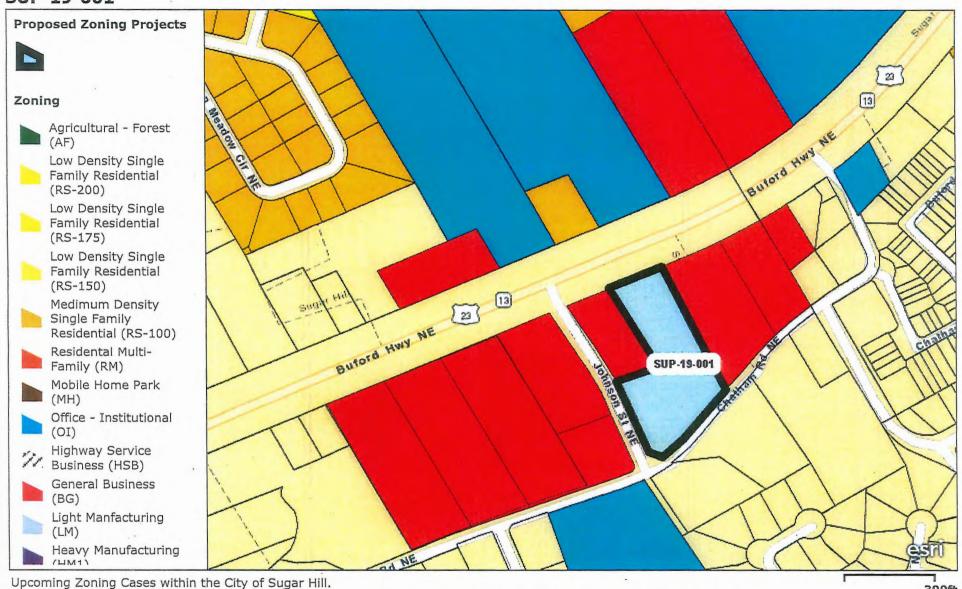
5. Does the rezoning requested conform to the Sugar Hill Land Use Plan?

Yes. This site is within a Maturing Neighborhood District. This use is a suitable neighborhood service similar in character to nearby uses.

6. Are there other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property which would give support to an approval or disapproval of the rezoning request?

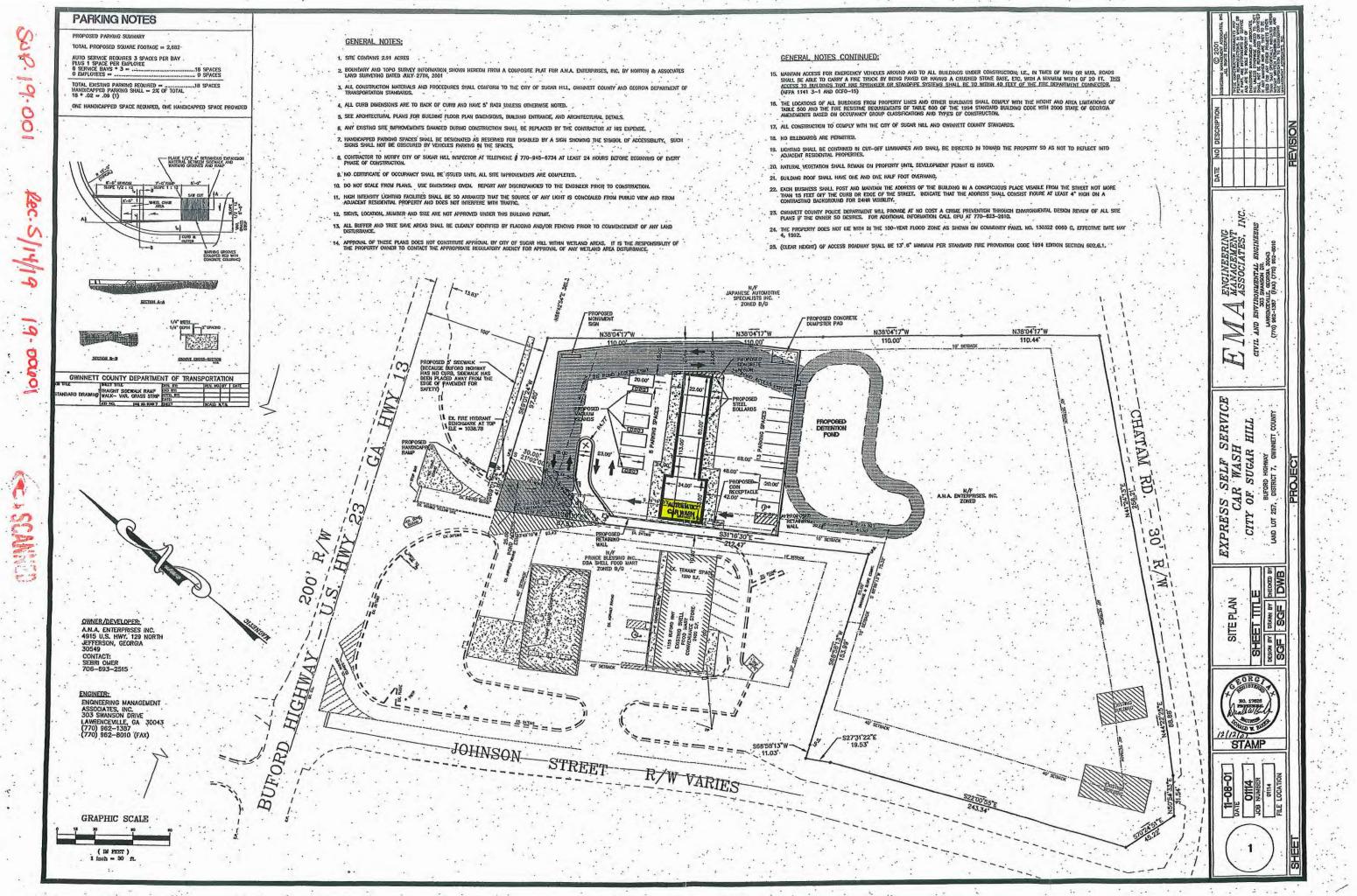
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SUP-19-001



Forsyth County GIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

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SUP. 19.001

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Mr. Hae Myung Park 5049 Nesbit Ferry Lane Atlanta, GA 30350

City of Sugar Hill 5039 West Broad Street Sugar Hill, GA 30518

May 01, 2019

Re: Letter of Intent

Dear Municipality,

This communication is a letter of intent as required by the City of Sugar Hill for requesting a special use permit for my business, the Buford Highway Express Car Wash, located at 1163 Buford Highway Sugar Hill, GA, 30518. My proposal and application regards the expansion of a viable car wash business that I have operated at this location for fourteen years but which has fallen on some hard times due to serial theft and vandalism, which I have not been able to recover from the perpetrators, and also an apparent demographic shift which has led to a lower business volume. My proposed remedy is:

- 1) A special use permit to allow the conversion of an already existing single-automobile automatic car wash building on my property, which cannot be used for its original purpose due to it having long ago broken down and a dearth of spare parts to bring it online, to be used as a cars emissions operation instead. This will allow me to deploy an employee on site to perform routine car emission checks out of the weather, supervise the property, and perform routine cleaning and maintenance for the car wash portion of the business. Car emission use is consistent with the business character of the immediate area under the BG zoning and apparently, unless I am mistaken, does not require rezoning, but non-conforming use under a special use permit. No new structures would be developed but rather the interior of the single automatic car wash bay would be transformed to accommodate car emission activity.
- 2) The unutilized automatic car wash bay measures 32ft x 16ft x 11ft and currently contains old, broken machinery, which will be removed and replaced with car emissions equipment. An indoor seating arrangement for our customers will be setup on the western corner of the bay consisting of four chairs while the emissions machine will be placed on the northern corner, so that it will be on the driver side of a parked vehicle. The countertop for our employees will be setup adjacent to the emissions machine on the northeastern wall as well. Vehicles will enter in the bay via the northwestern garage door and will be parked in the bay during emissions. We have spoken with a state licensed commercial contractor regarding the potential costs of renovating the automatic bay which will be as minimal as possible as well as a rough estimate of the

cost of emissions machinery. Once we obtain approval for the special use permit, we will work with our contractor to obtain a remodeling permit.

3) In addition, we are also planning to renovate and repair our car wash business sign to include our emissions testing capability as well as restripe the lines of parking lot to include ten parking spaces.

1. (F.) • [4]

If the City of Sugar Hill will do me the courtesy of extending its approval to this improvement of my car wash business, I feel that I can survive the business difficulties I have encountered at this location. I thank Sugar Hill for consistently providing a climate friendly to business and civil progress. I am new at this process, so your kind instructions are solicited.

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Yours Sincerely,

Hae Myung Park

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