

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

April 8, 2019

United States Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-3651

(504) 862-2284
Sara.B.Fortuna@usace.army.mil
Project Manager
Sara Fortuna
Permit Application Number
MVN-2018-00994-WKK

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
ATTN: Water Quality Certifications
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(225) 219-3225
Elizabeth.Hill@la.gov
Project Manager
Elizabeth Hill
WQC Application Number
WQC 190318-03

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN CALCASIEU PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Investors Group of Louisiana, L.L.C., c/o Rowden Consulting, L.L.C., Post Office Box 978, Bullard, Texas 75757.

LOCATION OF WORK: Intersection of E. McNeese Street and Gerstner Memorial Boulevard, located in the community of Lake Charles, in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Location: Latitude: 30.178138° N / Longitude: -93.180753° W, Hydrologic Unit Code: 08080206 – Calcasieu Basin.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Conduct operations to construct a 43,230 square foot Rouses grocery store, a 17,250 square foot retail center, a 6,000 square foot retail store, a 7,200 square foot retail store, two detention ponds, a parking lot, and place approximately 1,000 cubic yards of hauled-in fill material within the wetland areas, all to develop a 10.2 acre site. Approximately 0.71 of an acre of emergent wetlands would be permanently impacted via project implementation. The applicant has proposed to compensate for wetland impacts by acquiring appropriate credits from a Department of the Army approved mitigation bank, should a permit be issued.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above.**

Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species. Utilizing Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on any listed species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of N/A acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

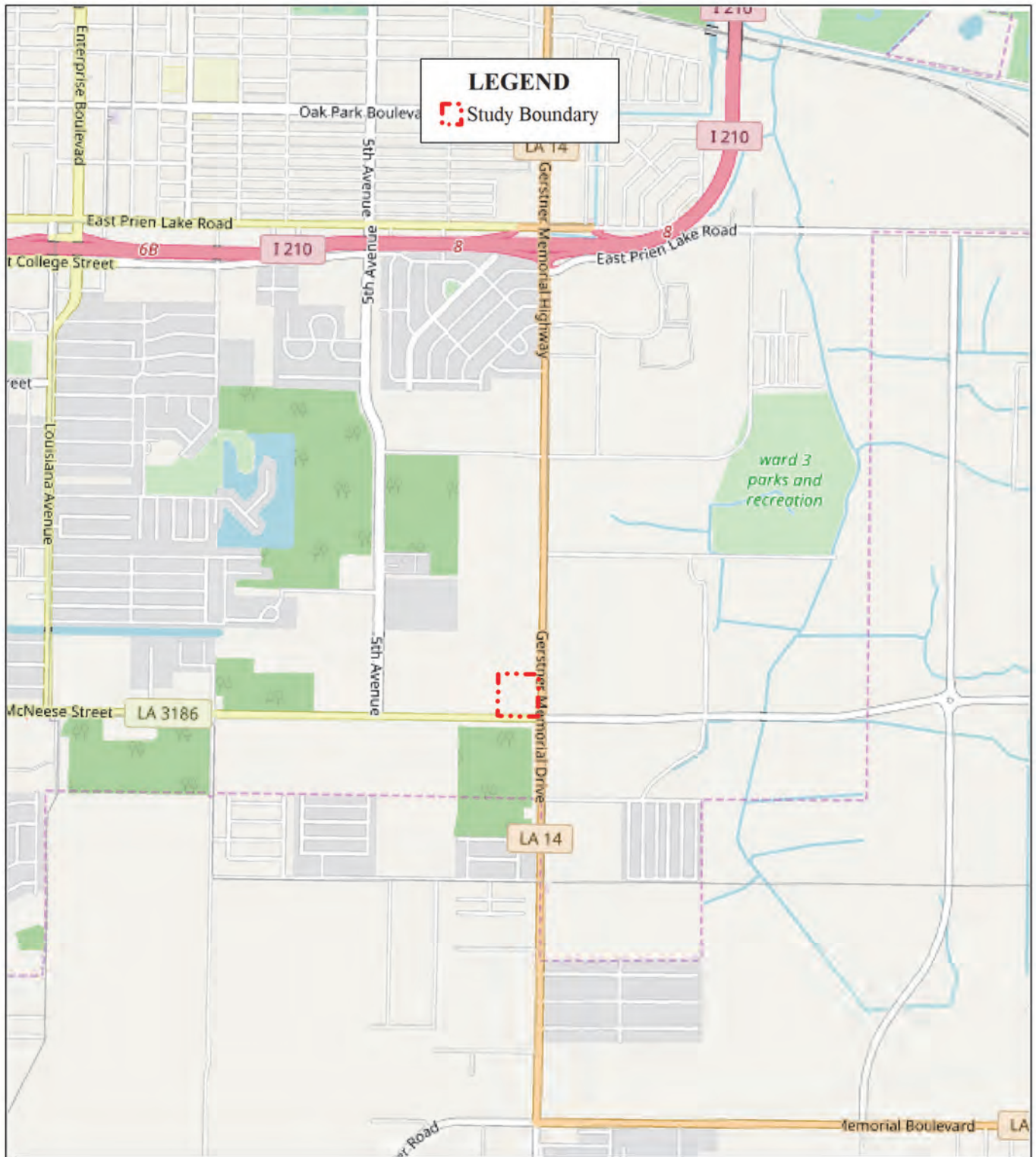
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, before a permit is issued.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

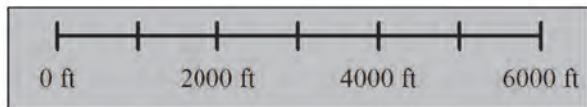
Darrell S. Barbara
Chief, Western Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure






LEGEND
 Study Boundary

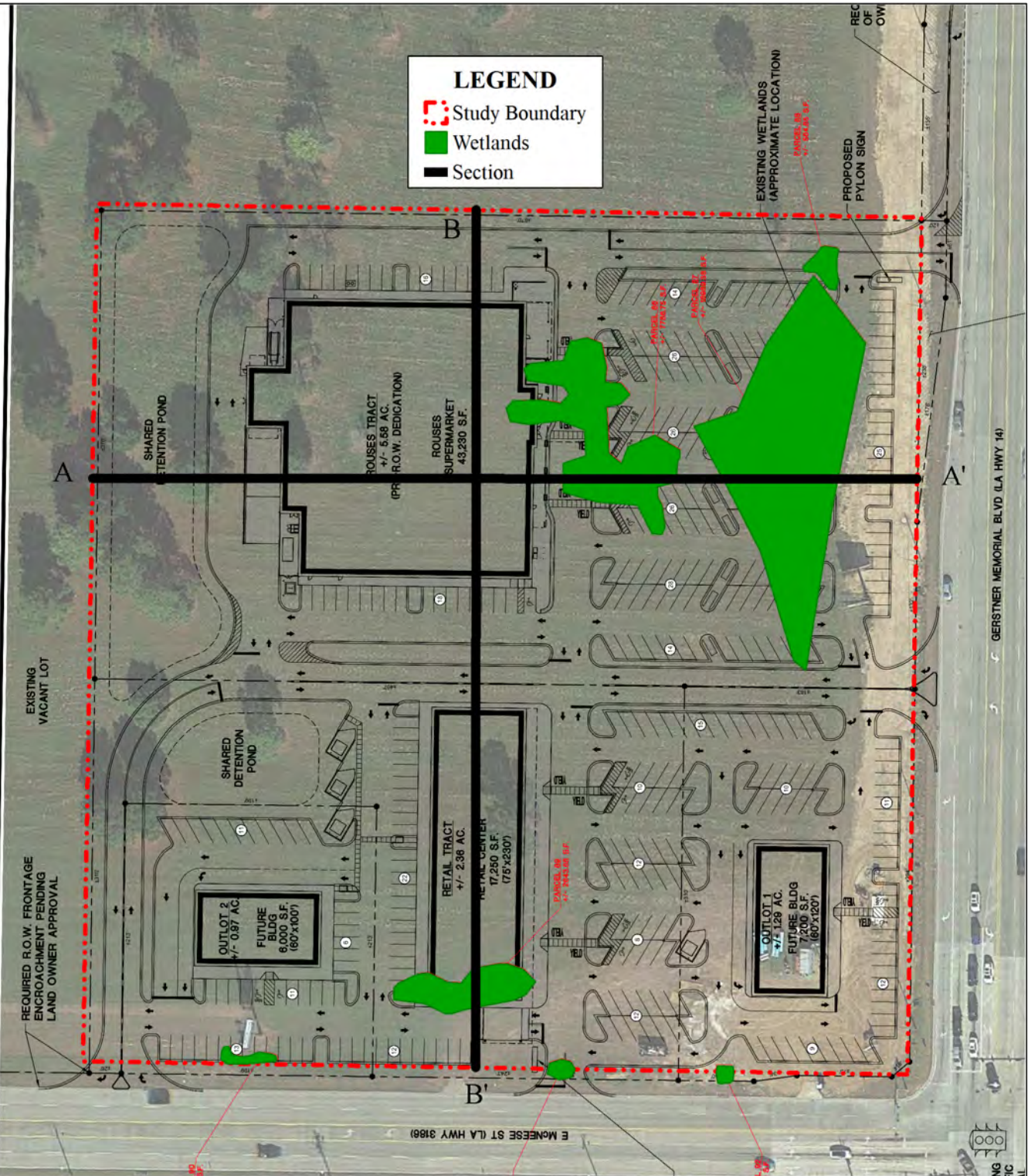
Project Number MVN-2018-00994-SH
 Exhibit 1 - Location Map
 March 2019



Rowden Consulting, LLC
 Environmental Services

LEGEND

-  Study Boundary
-  Wetlands
-  Section



REQUIRED R.O.W. FRONTAGE ENCROACHMENT PENDING LAND OWNER APPROVAL

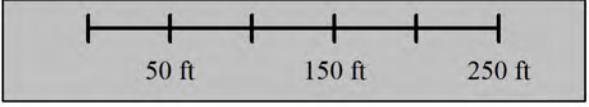
EXISTING VACANT LOT

GERSTNER MEMORIAL BLVD (LA HWY 14)

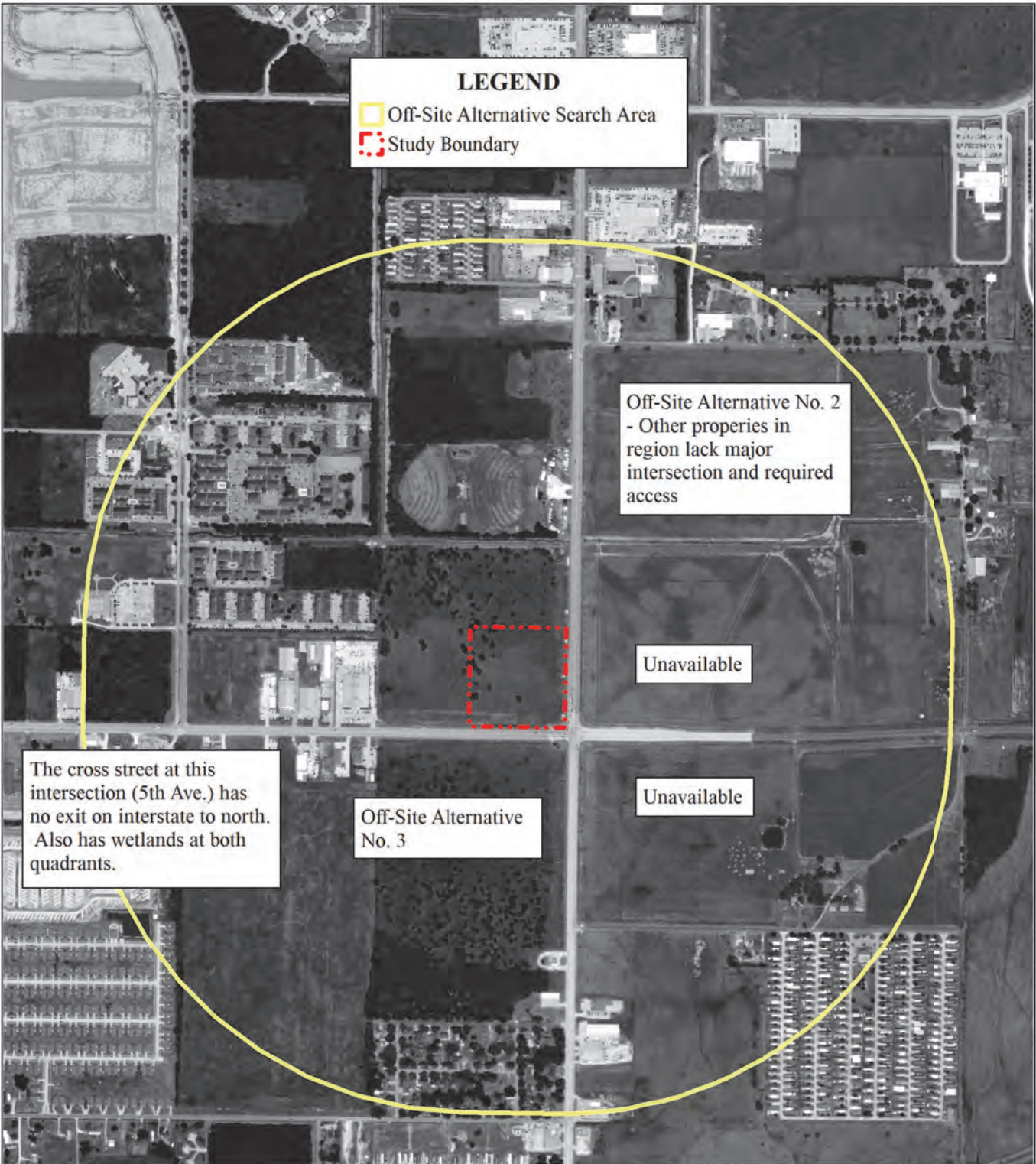
E MONROE ST (LA HWY 3186)



Project Number MVN-2018-00994-SH
 Exhibit 2 - Site Plan (Alt. #5 - LEDPA)
 March 2019



Rowden Consulting, LLC
 Environmental Services



LEGEND
 □ Off-Site Alternative Search Area
 ▭ Study Boundary

Off-Site Alternative No. 2
 - Other properties in
 region lack major
 intersection and required
 access

Unavailable

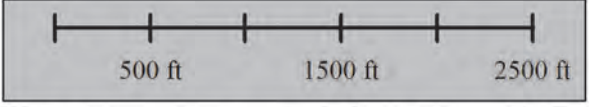
Unavailable

Off-Site Alternative
 No. 3

The cross street at this
 intersection (5th Ave.) has
 no exit on interstate to north.
 Also has wetlands at both
 quadrants.

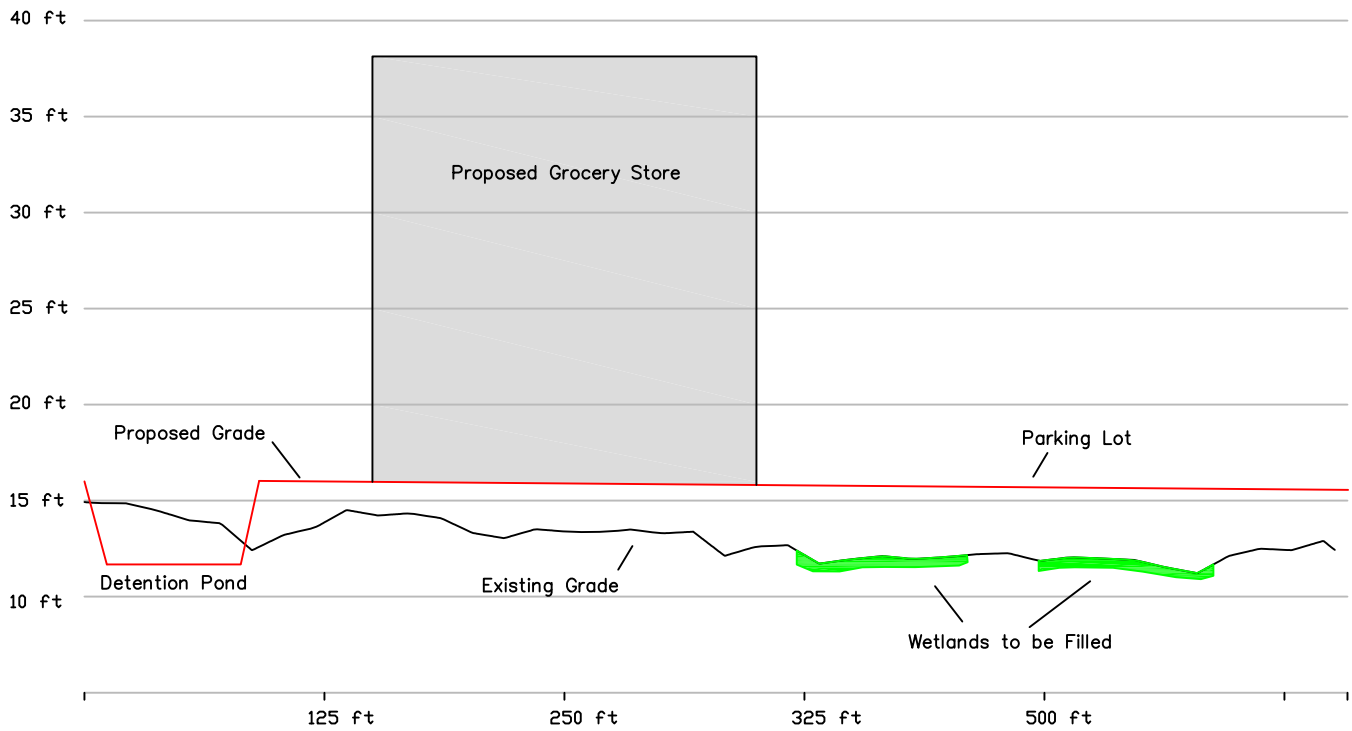


Project Number MVN-2018-00994-SH
 Exhibit 4 - Off-Site Alternatives
 March 2019



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Note: Elevations are conceptual. Final grades and elevations to be determined and engineered by others.



SCALE: 1"= 100'
(5X Vert.)

Section A - A'

FIGURE NO.

5

Project Number MVN-2018-00994-SH
Exhibit 5 - Cross Section
March 2019



Rowden Consulting, LLC
Environmental Services
P.O. Box 978 - Bullard, TX - 75757

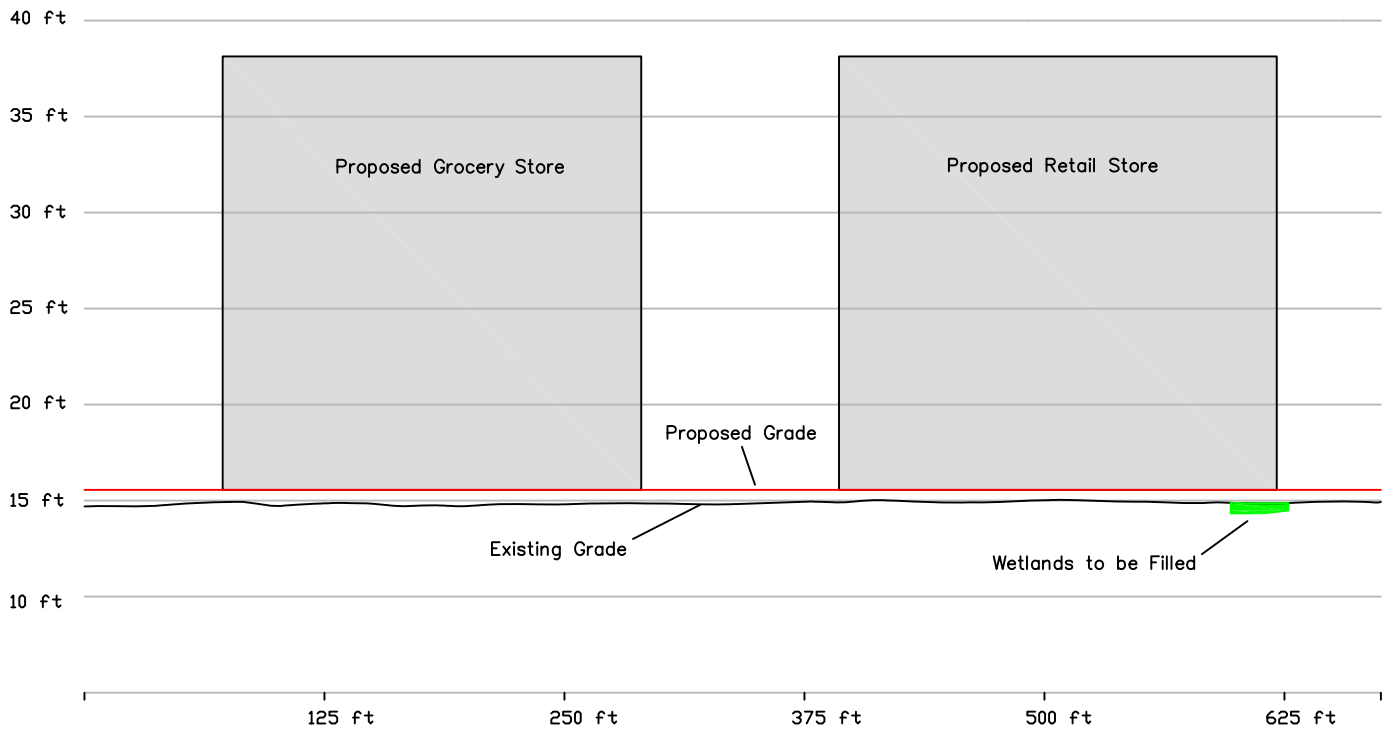
PROJECT NO.
18.047

DATE
March 2019

PROJECT MGR.
jwr

PROJECT TECH
jwr

Note: Elevations are conceptual. Final grades and elevations to be determined and engineered by others.



SCALE: 1"= 100'
(5X Vert.)

Section B - B'

FIGURE NO.

6

Project Number MVN-2018-00994-SH
Exhibit 6 - Cross Section
March 2019



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