



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2019-00478-JRO

October 22, 2019

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
DMR-060658

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PLACE FILL IN WATERS OF THE U.S. TO
CONSTRUCT AN AERONAUTICAL MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN GULFPORT,
HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: **Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport Authority (GBRAA)**
Attention: Don Shepley
14035-L Airport Road
Gulfport, Mississippi 39505

AGENT: **Waggoner Engineering, Inc.**
Attention: Mr. Kevin Morgan, P.E.
143A LeFleurs Square
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

LOCATION: **In Sections 27 & 34, Township 7 South, Range 11 Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (latitude 30.4006° North, longitude 89.0783° West).**

WORK DESCRIPTION: **The applicant proposes to fill 105.2 acres of wetlands for the purpose of constructing an aircraft manufacturing, maintenance, and repair facility in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi. The project site is approximately 159.7 acres in size, of which 105.2 acres are considered wetlands. The proposed project includes the placement of approximately 252,496 cubic yards of fill in 105.2 acres of wetlands for the installation of the access roads, parking lots, office buildings, assembly facility, apron, taxiway, engine check pad, and hangars. The applicant is proposing the purchase of mitigation credits to offset unavoidable wetland impacts.**

The applicant has applied for State Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to WQC will be made by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Office of Pollution Control.

The applicant has applied for coastal zone consistency from the State of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with Section 57-15-6 of the Mississippi Code Annotated. (DMR-060658).

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

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, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE 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 USACE to determine whether to issue, 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 the 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.

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.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the USACE has determined that the permit area consists of the proposed footprint of the entire 105.2 acre project site. The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has made a preliminary determination that the project will have no effect to cultural and historic properties within the permit area. However, we are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized American Indian tribes, local historical societies, museums, universities, the National Park Service, and the general public regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties which may be affected by the work. This action constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the project area.

The 2017 Mississippi Standard Local Operating Procedures (SLOPES) for Endangered Species was utilized for the initial evaluation of proposed impacts to federally-listed species. Standard ESA Section 7(a)(2) procedures are followed for species not denoted by the SLOPES species-specific determination keys. A preliminary review of this application, of the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants in the subject project's subwatershed, and the National Marine Fisheries Service list of Mississippi's Threatened and Endangered Species indicates the proposed project will have no effect on any threatened, endangered, or proposed species and/or their designated critical habitat. This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2019-00478-JRO**, and should be directed to USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Jeremy R. Overstreet, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, with a copy to the DEQ, Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Permitting Division, Attention: Florance Bass, P.E., Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Attention: Jennifer Wilder, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 501, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager, at (251) 690-3188 or email at jeremy.r.overstreet@usace.army.mil. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

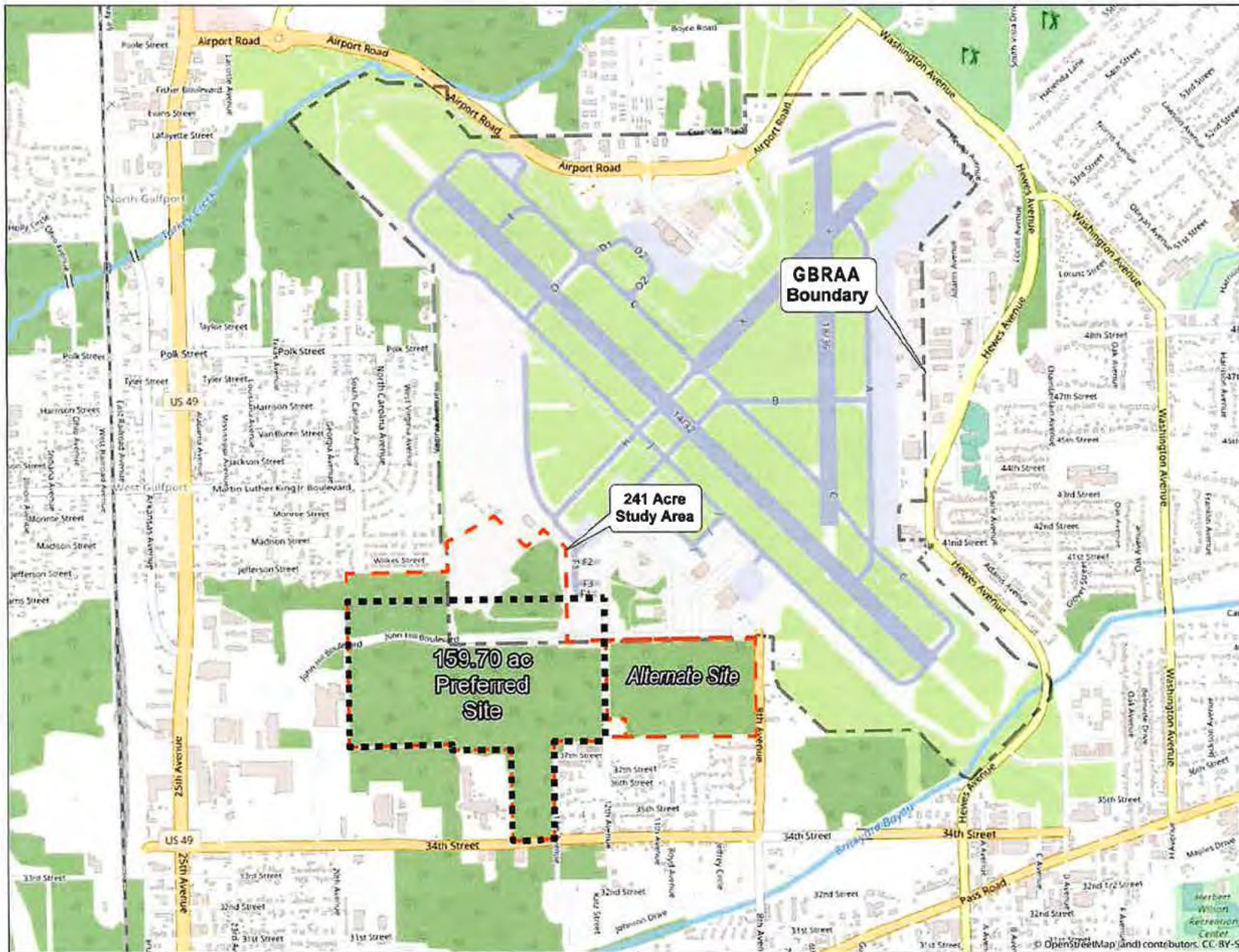
MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures




**Aeronautical Development
Expansion Project
John Hill Boulevard Site**

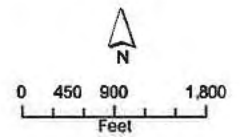
Location Map

FIGURE 1



Legend

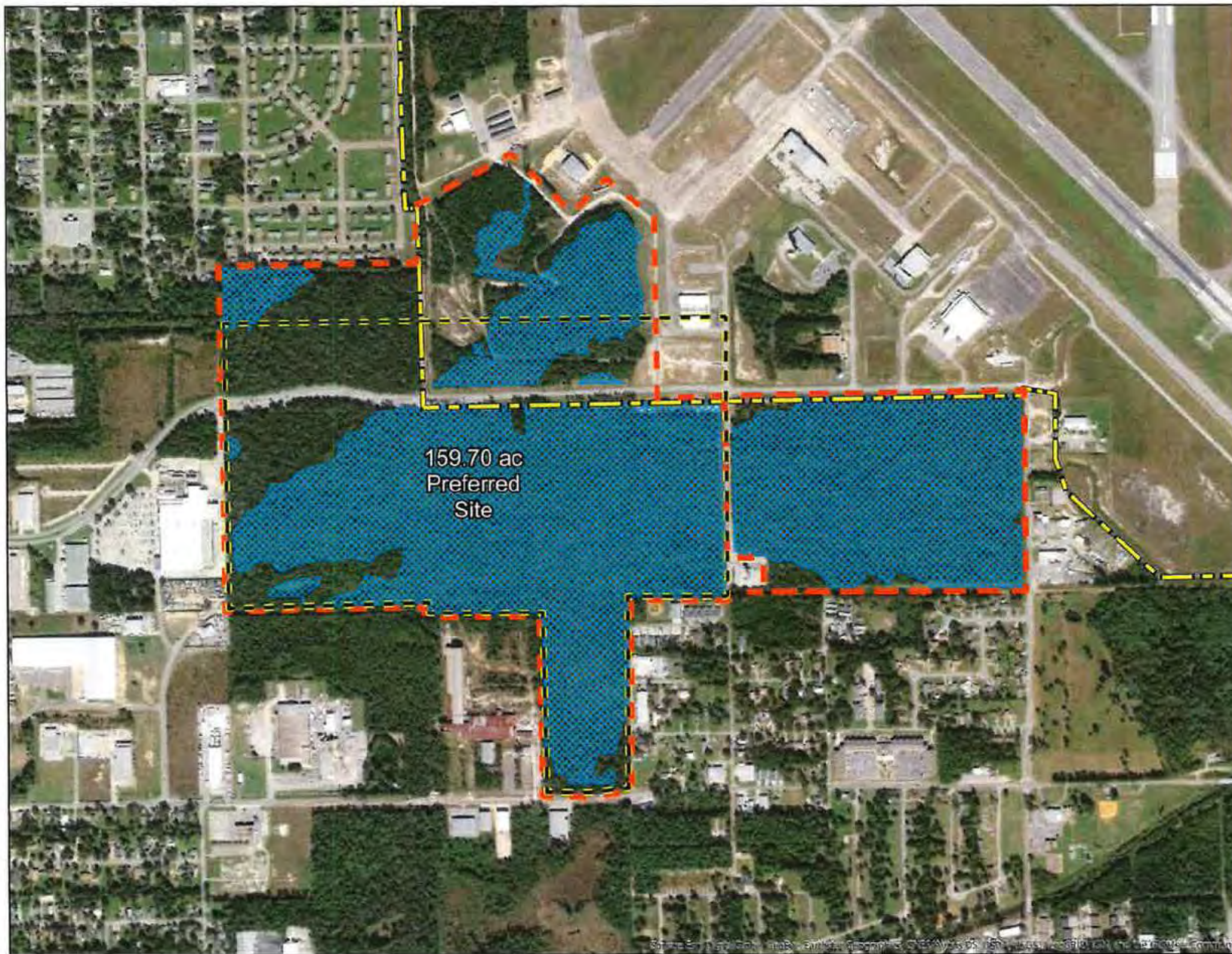
-  Site Boundary
-  GBRAA Boundary
-  241 Acre Study Area







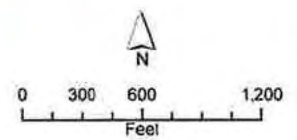
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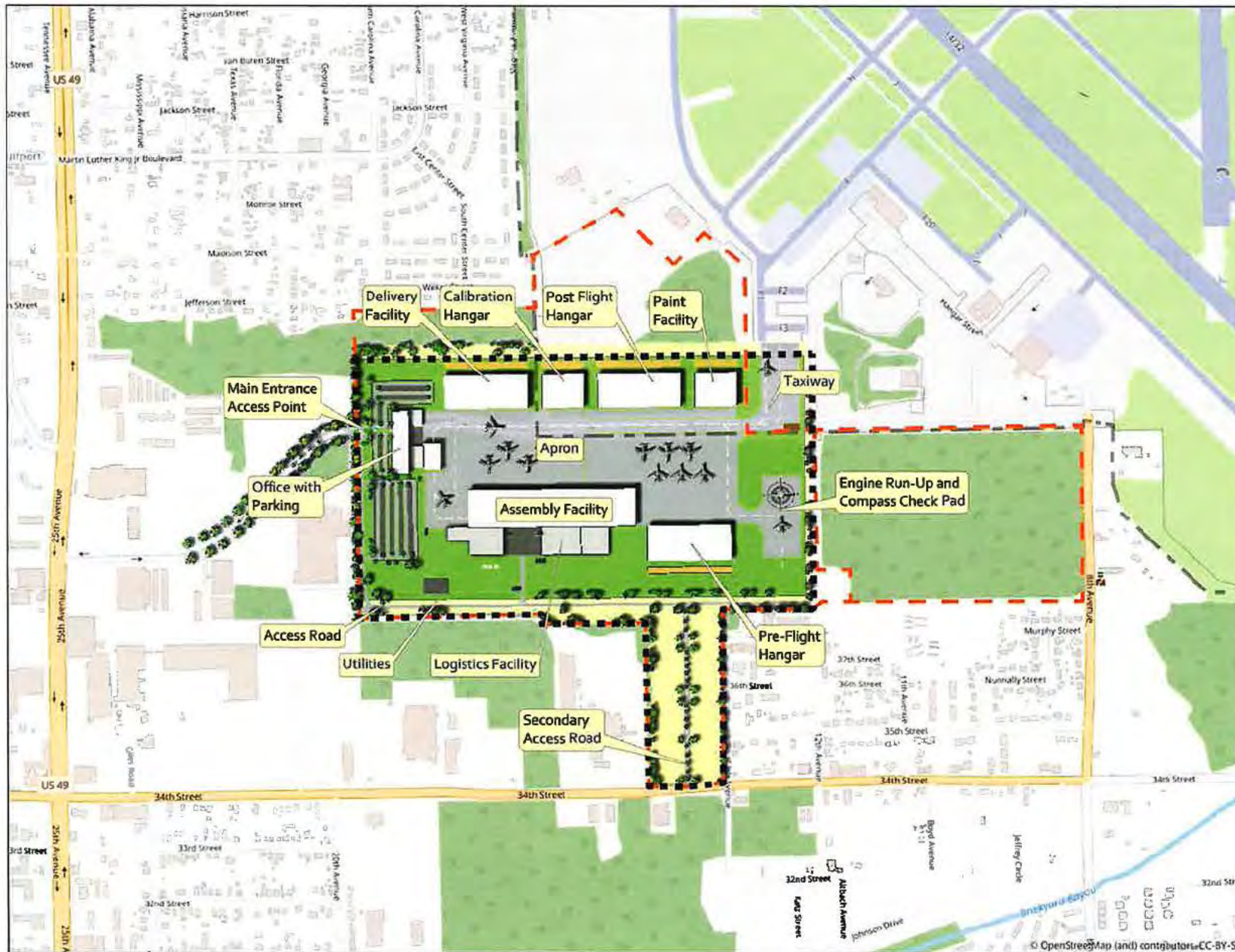
Jurisdictional Wetlands

FIGURE 2



- Legend
-  Site Boundary
 -  241 Acre Study Area
 -  GBRAA Boundary
 -  Jurisdictional Wetlands
172 Acres






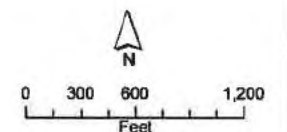


Aeronautical Development Expansion Project
John Hill Boulevard Site

Conceptual Site Layout

FIGURE 3

- Legend
-  Site Boundary
 -  241 Acre Study Area
 -  GBRAA Boundary








**Aeronautical Development
Expansion Project
John Hill Boulevard Site**

Impacted Wetlands

FIGURE 4

APPROXIMATE SITE GRADING
Site Area (AC) 159.70 +/-
Cut/Fill Depth FT 0.98 +/-
Fill Volume CY 252,496 +/-

Legend

-  Site Boundary
-  24.1 Acre Study Area
-  GBRAA Boundary
-  Impacted Wetlands +/- 105.2 Acre
-  Wetlands Not Impacted

