### DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAINHOY PENINSULA

Alternative Designs for Reducing Harm to Ecological Resources

Prepared by

DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS

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### CAINHOY REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Developers propose building approximately 9,000 residential units on a 9,000-acre property called Cainhoy Development, which is located in the City of Charleston within Berkeley County. The developers' plans include streets, stormwater systems, open spaces, mixed-use buildings and other civic features typically associated with new, large neighborhoods.

However, as currently proposed, developers will fill more than 180 acres of wetlands and site a substantial number of new homes in a floodplain where the risk for water damage is considerable. Wetlands in the Charleston region are natural and critical flooding defenses for an area that now experiences chronic inundation. Because wetlands provide valuable flood storage, protecting these systems and maintaining natural land cover helps to reduce flood damages.<sup>1</sup>

A simple re-imagining of the Cainhoy proposal reveals that all, or nearly all, of what developers seek can be accomplished without substantial wetlands destruction, and without siting so many homes in flood hazard areas.

This report lays out three alternative versions of the development that:

- Maintain the developers' goal of 9,000 units
- Disturb fewer than 14 acres of wetlands
- Avoid all cavity trees for federally-protected Red-cockaded woodpeckers and significantly increase the size of buffers around these trees
- Place 90 percent of homes outside of the 100- and 500-year floodplains

A fourth alternative in the report eliminates all wetlands impacts by reducing the number of housing units to 6,000. Notably, this 6,000-unit plan is only illustrative of what could be achieved on the Cainhoy site with zero wetland impacts; the number of residential units is malleable and could be increased by increasing the density of housing units and/or expanding the development footprint to other upland areas, while still impacting no wetlands.

It is important to note that this report is not an endorsement of the development of Cainhoy. A case can be made that Cainhoy should be left as it is to conserve its unique Lowcountry beauty and cultural resources, provide a buffer to the Francis Marion National Forest, and maintain the critical wetlands and wildlife habitat at the site.

However, we understand the development pressures facing the Charleston area. This report is meant to bring alternatives into public discussion that facilitate a desire for growth and expansion while avoiding and minimizing negative impacts—to the greatest extent possible—to the wetlands and floodplains integral to this region's flood defenses, and minimizing the number of our future neighbors placed into vulnerable tracts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Brody, S., R. Blessing, A. Sebastian, & P. Bedient. 2014. Examining the Impact of Land Use/Land Cover Characteristics on Flood Losses. Journal of Environmental Planning and Management 57(8): 1252-1265.)

### BACKGROUND

The Cainhoy Development is a 9,000-acre timber tract located within the City of Charleston in Berkeley County in the State of South Carolina. The property contains approximately 5,800 acres of upland and 3,200 acres of wetlands and marshes with significant ecological and historical assets.

The approximately 4,500 acres north of Clements Ferry Road are primarily freshwater wetlands and Longleaf pine forests, while the portion south of Clements Ferry Road is primarily uplands with young stands of loblolly pines and saltwater wetlands. The entire property has over 10 linear miles of marsh and wetland frontage on the Cooper and Wando Rivers and Beresford and Flagg Creeks.

As proposed, the project would concentrate development on the southern portion of the property, much of which falls within the 100-year floodplain. Development within the floodplain is highly vulnerable to flooding, sea level rise, and storm surge.

In addition, the Cainhoy Development shares a two-mile border with the 250,000-acre Francis Marion National Forest (FMNF), which is home to nine endangered and threatened animal species, and 43 sensitive plant species. A broad plateau of old-growth Longleaf pine forest, some 40 feet in elevation, stretches from the FMNF across the northern portion of the Cainhoy property, providing habitat for 16 endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) colonies, along with populations of Gopher Frogs and Flatwoods Salamanders.

### HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

In 2014, the owners of the Cainhoy property received approval from the City of Charleston for a rezoning, in the form of a Planned Unit Development (PUD), of the entire 9,000 acres consistent with a proposed Master Plan allowing for the construction of 18,000 residential units and industrial units on the property. The School District of Berkeley County completed construction of a high school and elementary/middle school on the southern portion of Cainhoy in 2016. Approximately 60 acres of the property on the south side of Clements Ferry Road have already been developed near the road, with additional parcels on the south side also in varying stages of permitting by the City of Charleston.

The prospective developers of the Cainhoy property applied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit to fill wetlands and to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Consistency Determination. The initial Joint Public Notice for the application was issued by the Corps and DHEC for public comment on March 21, 2018. The project proposed to discharge fill material into 187.9 acres of wetlands. Since that time, the Cainhoy property owners have sold a portion of the overall project and revised the project boundary. Accordingly, a revised application was submitted in August 2019 with minimal revisions; the revised project now proposes to impact 181.9 acres of wetlands. It is our understanding that the prospective developers intend to construct 9,000 residential units on the property (Fig. 1).

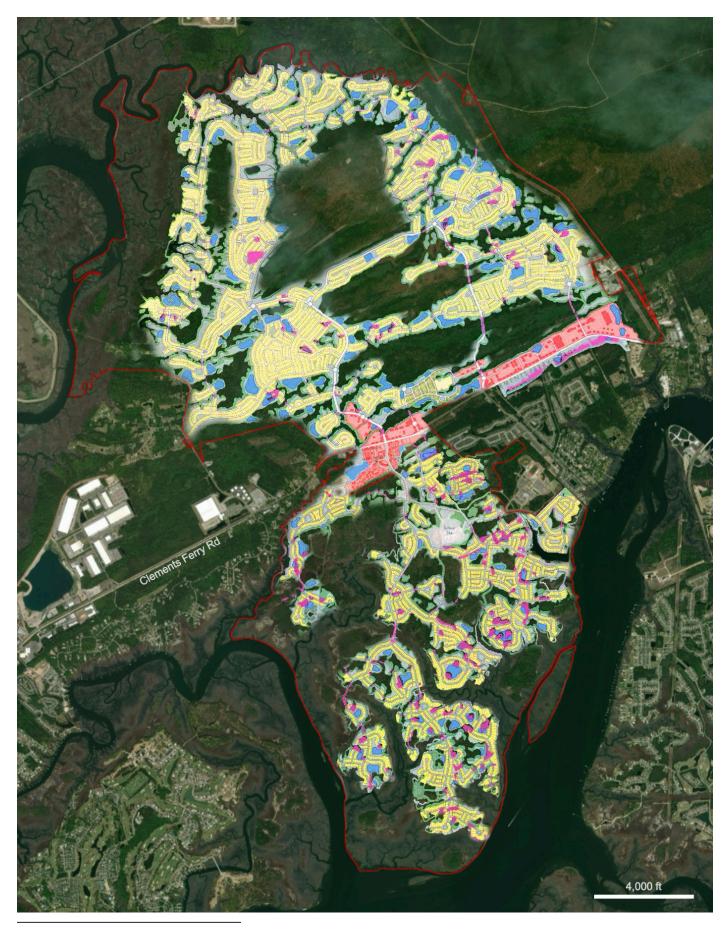


Fig. 1 Cainhoy Site as Proposed by Developer



 ${\bf Fig.~2}\ Cainhoy\, Aerial\, with\, Project\, Boundary\, in\, Red$ 

### OUR REVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) and the Coastal Conservation League (Conservation League) commissioned Dover, Kohl & Partners to review this proposed project in 2019 (Appendix A. Firm Profile). Founded in 1987, Dover, Kohl & Partners is a town planning firm whose work seeks to balance livability, economic prosperity, and environmental concerns in furtherance of smart, sustainable growth. The firm has produced and facilitated over 200 charrettes during the last decade and has received numerous awards for its projects, including a national Congress for the New Urbanism Charter Award for the I'On development in Mount Pleasant.

SELC and the Conservation League asked us to conduct an analysis of the Cainhoy property and determine whether the projected 9,000 residential units, and a commensurate quantity of commercial and workplace uses, could be accommodated on the Cainhoy site in a way that minimizes impacts on wetlands and protects habitat for the federally-protected Red-cockaded woodpecker. We based our analysis on a Suitability Map of the property provided by SELC and the Conservation League, as described in more detail below.

We have produced our findings in the form of a conceptual site plan for the property, discussed herein.

### DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS METHODOLOGY

The following is a step-by-step description of the methodology employed for the study, followed by a series of resulting draft plans accompanied by rough yield calculations and estimated quantification of impacts.

The Cainhoy site, bounded in red (Fig. 2), is located on both the north and south sides of Clements Ferry Road, approximately 8 miles northeast of the Charleston peninsula. The site is comprised of diverse natural conditions, and development opportunities are affected in numerous locations by a variety of wetland systems and sensitive habitat areas.

In preparation for the design process, the diverse environmental conditions on the Cainhoy site were graphically categorized, mapped and compiled. The various portions of the site were rated through this process for their relative suitability for development. On the resulting Suitability Map (Fig. 3), greener colors indicate areas more suitable for development and redder colors indicate areas less suitable for development.

The degree to which various areas of the Cainhoy site were considered suitable for development was largely governed by the wetland pattern. Where possible, development should avoid these wetland areas to comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and protect the flood-storing capacity of these systems (Fig. 4). In addition to wetlands, the Suitability Map identifies areas occupied by endangered species and uses floodplain, storm surge, sea level rise inundation risk, and rainfall flooding data to delineate areas prone to present day and future flooding. Avoidance of these areas is necessary to maintain both community and ecologic protections.

As a starting point in the design process, non-wetland areas were identified (Fig. 5).

A "blur test" was then applied to these non-wetland areas to find the most contiguous areas of the site (Fig. 6). In the resulting diagram, the lighter areas feature larger contiguous non-wetland areas, whereas the darker areas feature less contiguous non-wetland areas. In striving to build a well-connected walkable neighborhood fabric, the priority is to locate development in areas with greater non-wetland contiguity.

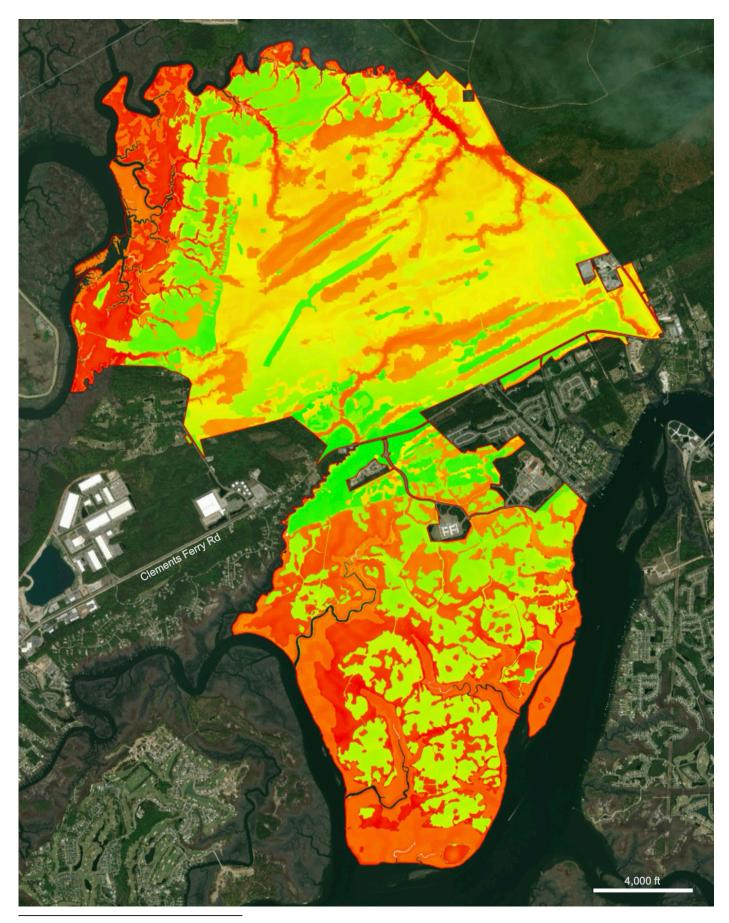
The areas of the Cainhoy site with the greatest non-wetland contiguity were then further analyzed to identify those portions with the readiest access to existing regional transportation infrastructure. Non-wetland sites with high contiguity within one mile of Clements Ferry Road were thus selected and prioritized for development.

The areas prioritized for development (non-wetland sites, with high contiguity, within one mile of Clements Ferry Road) were then mapped with greater precision and distinguished from non-wetland areas that were to be set aside and excluded from development (Fig. 7).

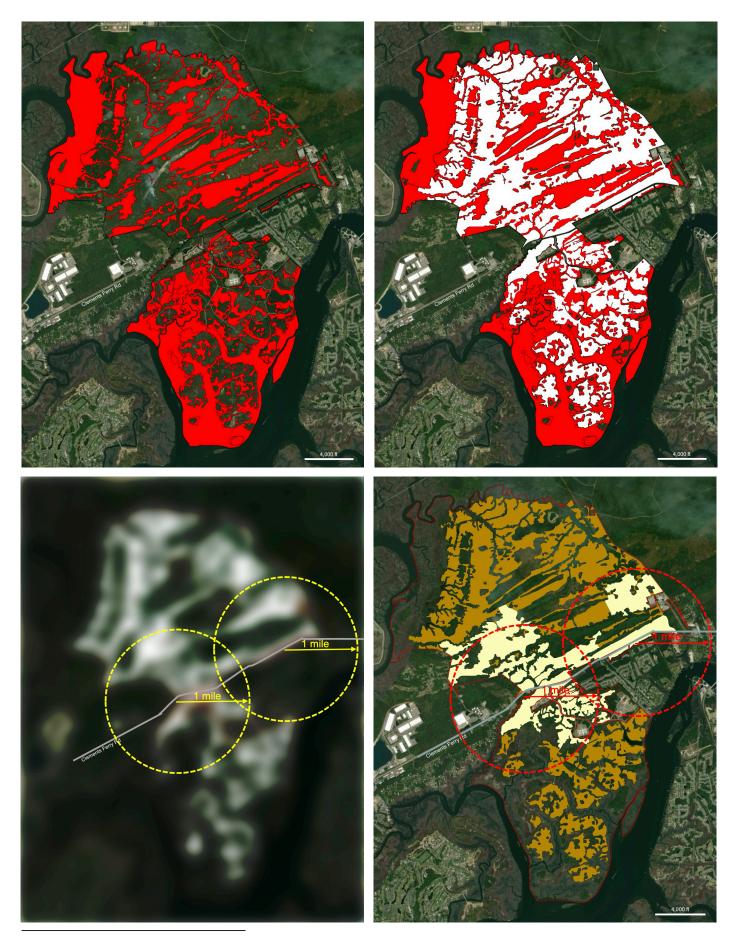
Four alternative development scenario versions were then established:

- Version 1 occupies all of the identified non-wetland sites featuring high contiguity within 1 mile of Clements Ferry Road. As Version 1 features the largest amount of development area of the four scenarios, its relative development character intensity is the lowest.
- Version 2 constrains the developable area somewhat further. As the development area was reduced, the intensity of development character was increased to achieve the same yield of uses.
- Version 3 further constrains the area to be developed compared to Version 2, and features the highest relative intensity of development character to achieve the same yield of uses.
- Version 4 further modifies and constrains the development footprint as needed to eliminate all wetland impacts. This version maintains the same proportional mix of residential lots and units as Version 3, and the residential unit count in this version has been reduced to facilitate constraining and modifying the development footprint to avoid all wetland impacts.

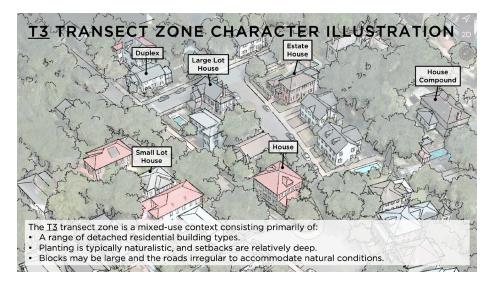
The number of residential units in Version 4 could be increased, however, by increasing the density of housing units and/or expanding the development footprint to other upland areas while still avoiding impacts to all wetlands.

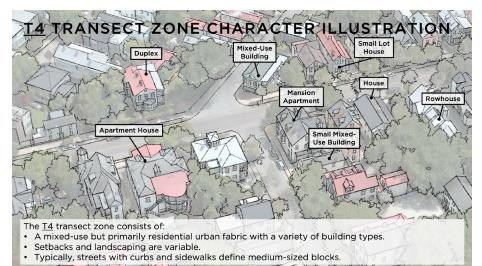


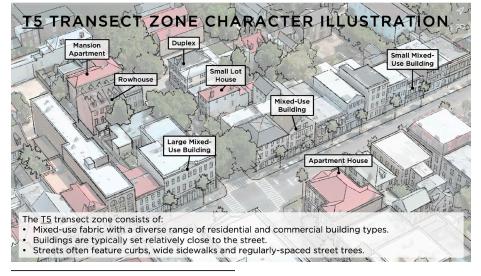
 $\label{eq:Fig.3} \textit{Gainhoy Overall Suitability Map with Green Indicating Most Suitable for Development and Red Indicating Least Suitable for Development$ 



Top Left: Fig. 4 Cainhoy Wetlands Identified in Red; Top Right: Fig. 5 Cainhoy Uplands Identified in White and Wetlands Identified in Red; Bottom Left: Fig. 6 Cainhoy Blur Test Identifying Connectivity of Uplands; Bottom Right: Fig. 7 Most Suitable Development Areas Identified in Lighter Cream Color with a One-Mile Radius from Clements Ferry Road Identified in Dotted Red Circles







Top to bottom: Fig. 8 *T3 Transect Zone;* Fig. 9 *T4 Transect Zone;* Fig. 10 *T5 Transect Zone* 

### SITE PLAN DESIGN APPROACH

### <u>The Rural-to-Urban Transect</u>

Expression of development character in this analysis utilized the planning concept of the rural-to-urban Transect. This tool illustrates that the increased densities and compactness utilized in the four test versions are part of the normal physical urban grammar of the region and are both feasible to construct and proven to be highly attractive to homebuyers.

As described by the Congress for the New Urbanism, "[t]he Transect is a powerful tool New Urbanists can use to analyze and understand urban places — and ultimately to design new settlements that will possess qualities associated with the best old urbanism."

"The rural-to-urban Transect is a system that places all of the elements of the built environment in useful order, from most rural to most urban. For example, a street is more urban than a road, a curb more urban than a swale, a brick wall more urban than a wooden one, and greater density is more urban than less density. If all of the built elements are in sync, the place can be described as 'immersive.' The elements are symbiotic.

The rural-to-urban Transect is divided into six zones (referred to as T-Zones): natural (T1), rural (T2), sub-urban (T3) (Fig. 8), general urban (T4) (Fig. 9), center (T5) (Fig. 10), and core (T6). The remaining category, Special District, applies to parts of the built environmental with specialty uses that do not fit into neighborhoods."

### NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN APPROACH

The Neighborhood is the fundamental unit of walkable design and is defined by <u>The</u> <u>Lexicon of the New Urbanism</u> (DPZ 2014) as follows:

"The Neighborhood is a mixed-use, mixed-income urban sector whose limit is defined by walking distance instead of population density (Fig. 11). The neighborhood fulfills most ordinary human needs, including those of transportation. A network of thoroughfares variously detailed for character and capacity serves the neighborhood as a public realm suitable for both pedestrian and vehicular usage".

The typical Standard Neighborhood is approximately a 5-minute (1/4 mile) walk from center to edge.

This analysis assumed that a typical neighborhood is composed of roughly:

- + 50% of land area devoted to Lots
- + 30% of land area devoted to Thorough fares
- 20% of land area devoted to Civic/Stormwater/Open Space

The walkable neighborhood has a long history in American planning, and its characteristics were articulated by Clarence Perry in his classic diagram of the Neighborhood Unit in 1930 (Fig.12). While this diagram of the Neighborhood Unit has been refined and updated many times by others since, it retains its core characteristics including:

- A clear center and edge
- A walkable size
- An interconnected network of walkable streets
- A mix of uses
- Special sites reserved for civic uses

The fundamental characteristics of the Neighborhood Unit can be applied to a diverse array of site shapes and constraints.

When there is one neighborhood standing alone among the farms, along the shore, or in the woods or the wilderness, that's a Village (Fig. 13).

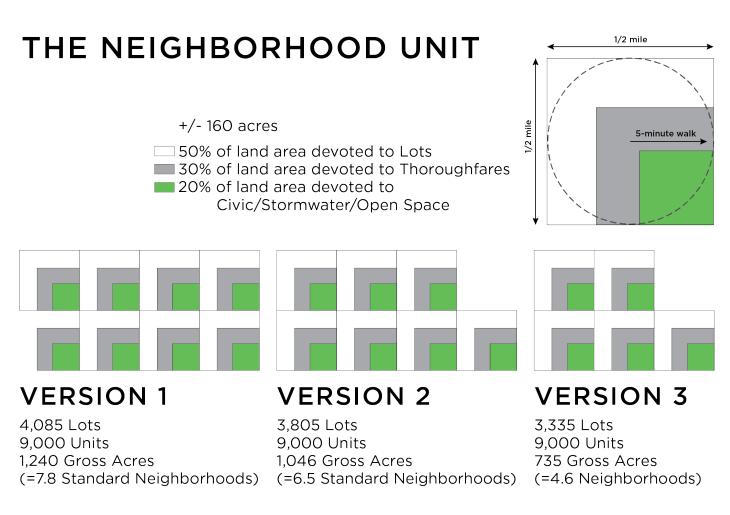
When growth leads to several of these neighborhoods positioned tightly together, they become a Town (Fig. 14).

Neighborhoods forming a town should be connected with a logical and legible primary street network armature.

This primary street network should then be further refined to include a fine-grained, interconnected network of blocks and streets that are walkable in size and scale.

The resulting urban structure can then be programmed for diverse development types, with certain areas assigned greater intensity of development character (higher transect zones) and others assigned lower intensity of development character (lower transect zones).

The concept of the Neighborhood Unit was applied to the area of the Cainhoy site occupied by the four test development scenario versions.

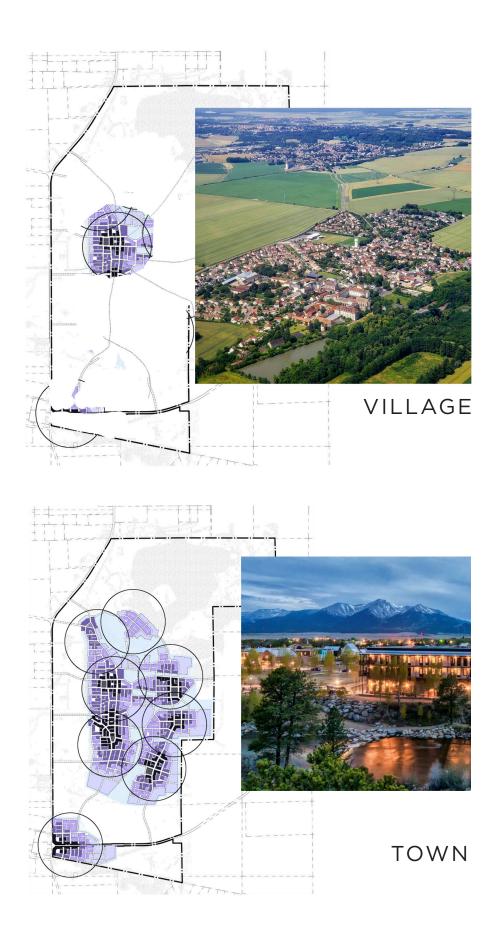


+ Workplace District (114 Gross Acres)

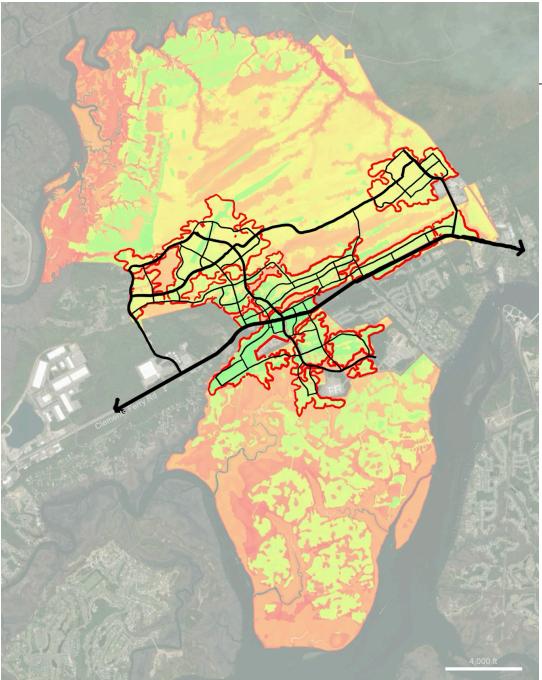


NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Top to bottom: Fig. 11 The Neighborhood Unit; Fig. 12 Neighborhood Organization



Top to bottom: Fig. 13 Village; Fig. 14 Town



**Fig. 19** Cainhoy Overall Suitability with potential road and neighborhood framework

### STREET NETWORK DESIGN APPROACH

Once neighborhood boundaries (shown in red) were identified (Fig. 15), these neighborhoods were then linked via a primary street connection armature (Fig. 16). The primary street connection armature was reinforced and enhanced with a secondary street connection armature (Fig. 17). Finally, the street armature was further refined to include a fine-grained interconnected network of blocks, streets and public spaces that are walkable in size and scale (Fig. 18).

The goal was to retain a legible and orderly geometry, while achieving a high degree of street connectivity and multiple parallel routes wherever possible in order to improve circulation and to better distribute trips across transportation modes.

The pattern of neighborhoods and the armature of streets were superimposed on the Suitability Map to assess its responsiveness to environmental constraints (Fig. 19).



Top Left: Fig. 15 Cainhoy Area Most Suitable for Development; Top Right: Fig. 16 Primary Street Link Between Suitable Development Areas; Bottom Left: Fig. 17 Secondary Street Network Within Suitable Development Areas; Bottom Right: Fig. 18 Fine-grain Interconnected Network of Blocks Within Suitable Development Areas

### SITE PLAN ALTERNATIVES

The detailed urban framework with a fine-grained interconnected network of blocks, streets and public spaces that are walkable in size and scale was then applied to the footprints of the four test development scenario versions.

A draft development program was also devised to fit the available land area for each of the four site plan alternative scenario versions. Each of the first three development scenario versions were configured to accommodate 9,000 residential units with commensurate space to accommodate roads, stormwater, and civic space, an associated quantity of commercial, and 114 gross acres of Workplace District. The fourth development scenario version is configured similarly except that it avoids all wetland impacts while accommodating 6,000 residential units.

The amount of land area required for each of the four development scenario versions was then calculated and represented graphically at the same scale as the site. The land area required for each of the four test development scenario versions was then configured on the site within the boundaries of the previously identified contiguous non-wetland sites within one mile of Clements Ferry Road. The land area required for each of the four test development scenario versions was expressed not just in gross acres, but also in Standard Neighborhoods.

To gain a sense of the three-dimensional character of the four test development scenario versions, it is instructive to compare each with known local examples of walkable urbanism. Scale comparisons were made to the historic districts of Charleston, SC and Savannah, GA that includes a roughly similar amount of residential, civic, retail and business uses that correspond with each of the first three test development scenario versions (Fig. 20). Each development scenario includes a breakdown of land use acreage for all four versions (see Figs. 22, 27, 32, 37).

Outlined in red on the maps of Charleston and Savannah is an area containing approximately 9,000 dwelling units plus other uses.



### CHARLESTON

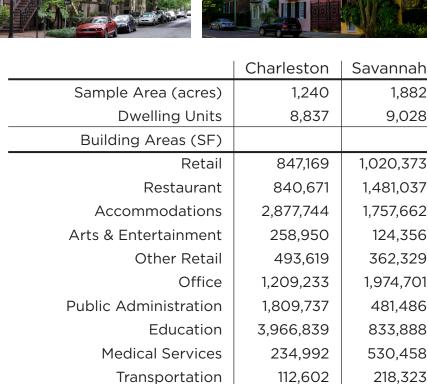






### SAVANNAH





Wholesale

Fig. 20 Scale Comparisons of Charleston, SC and Savannah, GA

82,817

122,384

# SITE PLAN ALTERNATIVE **VERSION 1**

Version 1 utilizes the largest available land area, impacting 1,354 gross acres of land on both sides of Clements Ferry Road. Due to the larger developed area, it accommodates the greatest proportion of single-family detached residences, relative to single-family attached and multi-family residences (Fig. 21).

This version includes 3,200 single family detached units, 1,200 single family attached units, and 4,600 multi-family attached units across 4,085 residential lots (Fig. 22).

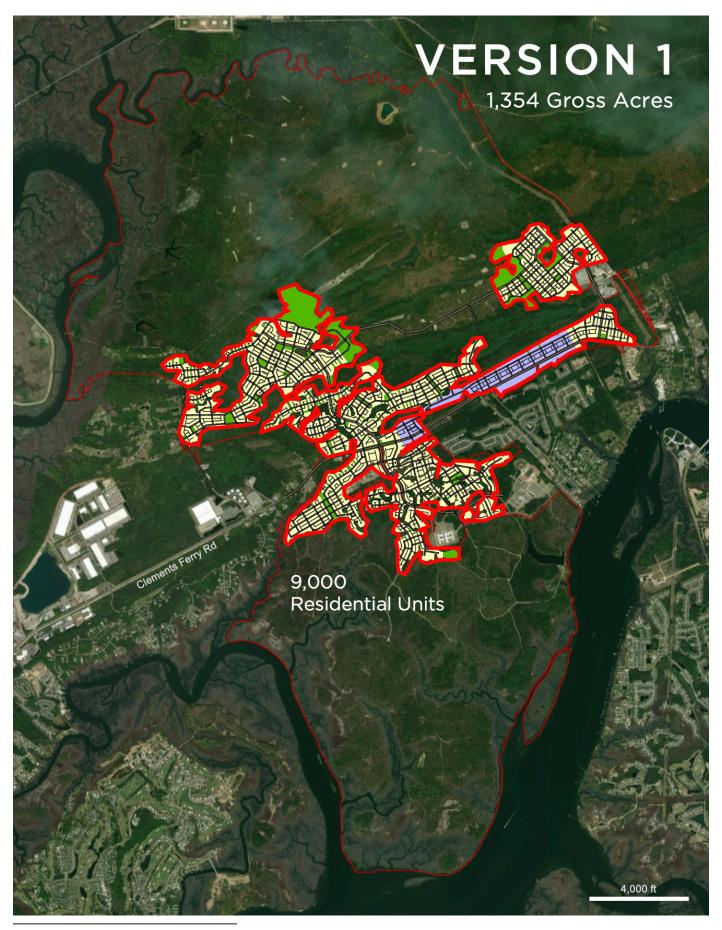
The residential component of this version utilizes 620 total acres of land, while 372 acres are utilized for thoroughfares, and 248 acres of land are dedicated to civic space, open space, and stormwater management areas.

Development scenario Version 1 was compared to the Charleston and Savannah examples at the same scale referenced in Figure 20. The 9,000 units of Version 1 occupy slightly more land area than 9,000 units in Charleston and somewhat less than 9,000 units in Savannah.

The documented RCW locations on the Cainhoy property were then overlaid onto the site plan alternative to analyze potential impacts (Fig. 23). Potential impacts were determined by identifying cavity trees known to house RCWs. Clusters of trees were grouped together with a polygon drawn around each cluster to encompass all of the trees together. A 200-foot buffer was then applied to each cluster polygon. Buffers were expanded where needed to achieve a minimum 10-acre area for each cluster.

Version 1 has minimal impacts to RCW locations overall, though some potential impacts within the 200-foot buffer may occur in the northeastern area. Due to potential encroachment on RCW buffers, additional detailed inspection of buffer shape and plan geometry would be recommended to determine whether any minor plan refinements are needed to completely avoid buffered areas.

The design of Version 1 was also configured to avoid and minimize the impacts to wetlands on the property (Fig. 24). Version 1 impacts approximately 13.2 acres of freshwater wetlands, and these impacts are limited to road crossings. No wetlands are impacted by building lots or stormwater systems. Further, 1,232 acres, or 91% of the gross area for Version 1, are within the FEMA designated X Flood Zone, which is outside of the 500-year and 100-year floodplains and has a relatively minimal flood hazard. Only 122 acres, or 9% of the gross area for Version 1, are within the FEMA designated x Flood Zone, which is 0.50.



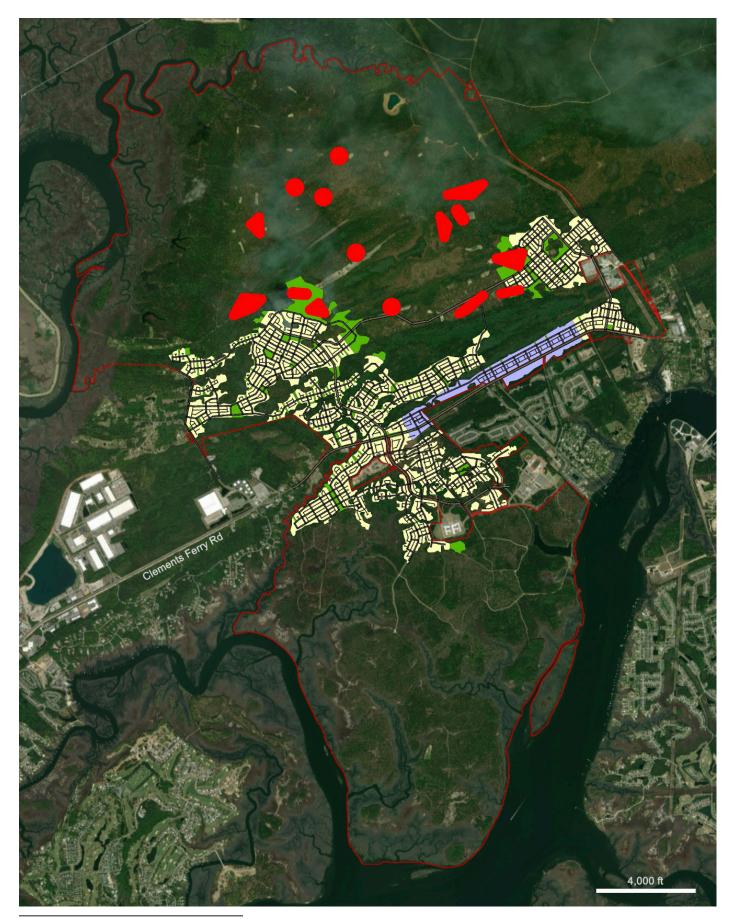


Fig. 23 Version 1 Site Plan Identifying RCW Locations with Buffers Indicated in Red, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green

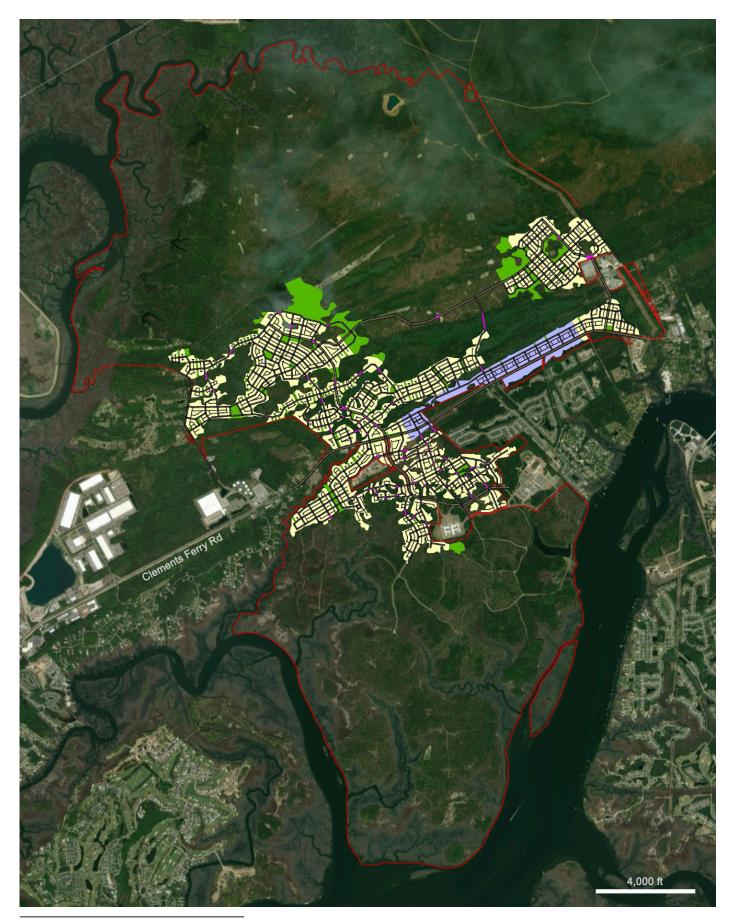


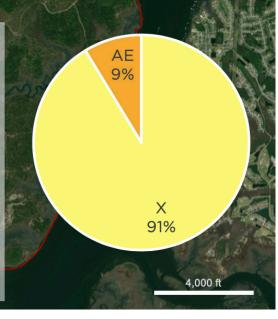
Fig. 24 Version 1 Site Plan Identifying Wetland Impacts Indicated in Pink, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green

### VERSION 1 1,354 Gross Acres

X = Approximately <u>1,232</u> acres

(Areas of minimal flood hazard from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.)

AE = Approximately <u>122</u> acres (Areas subject to a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding in any given year.)



 ${\bf Fig.~25}\ Version 1\,Site\,Plan\,with\,Flood\,Zones\,Highlighted$ 

Clements Ferry

### **VERSION 1: LOWER T-ZONE EMPHASIS**

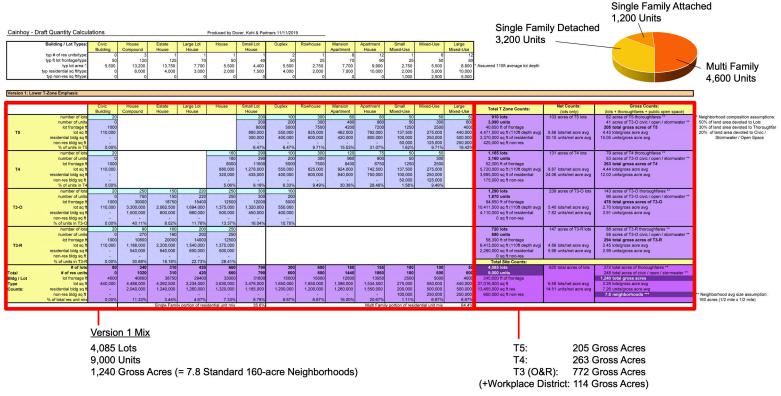


Fig. 22 Version 1: Medium T-Zone Emphasis with Development Use Chart

# SITE PLAN ALTERNATIVE VERSION 2

Version 2 constrains the development area to 1,160 gross acres. This increase in density results in a somewhat lower proportion of single-family detached residences, relative to single-family attached and multi-family types, than in Version 1 (Fig. 26).

This version includes 2,510 single family detached units, 1,350 single family attached units, and 5,140 multi-family attached units across 3,805 residential lots (Fig. 27).

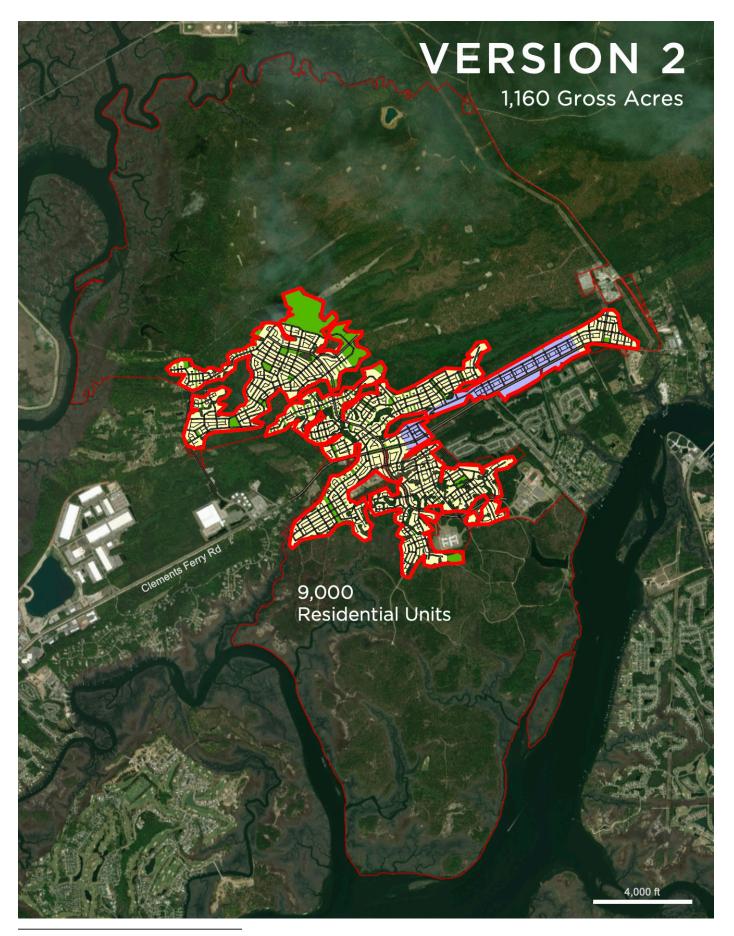
The residential component of this version utilizes 523 total acres of land, while 314 acres are utilized for thoroughfares, and 209 acres of land are dedicated to civic space, open space, and stormwater management areas.

Development scenario Version 2 was compared to the Charleston and Savannah examples at the same scale referenced in Figure 20. The 9,000 units of Version 2 occupy almost the same amount of land as 9,000 units in Charleston and somewhat less than 9,000 units in Savannah.

Version 2 would therefore largely feature development quite similar in intensity to Charleston's historic district.

The documented RCW locations on the Cainhoy property were then overlaid onto the site plan alternative to analyze potential impacts (Fig. 28). Version 2 reduces the northeastern areas that were included for development in Version 1, and therefore further avoids RCW adjacency in those locations. The western portion of Version 2 approaches RCW cavity trees most closely while still maintaining development a minimum of approximately 100 feet from the edge of RCW buffer zones.

The design of Version 2 was also configured to further avoid and minimize the impacts to wetlands on the property (Fig. 29) compared to Version 1. Version 2 involves approximately 11 acres of freshwater wetland impacts, restricted entirely to road crossings. No wetlands are impacted by building lots or stormwater systems. Further, 1,044 acres, or 90% of the gross area for Version 2, are within the FEMA designated X Flood Zone, which is outside of the 500-year and 100-year floodplains and has a relatively minimal flood hazard. Only 116 acres, or 10% of the gross area for Version 2, are within the FEMA designated AE Flood Zone (Fig. 30).



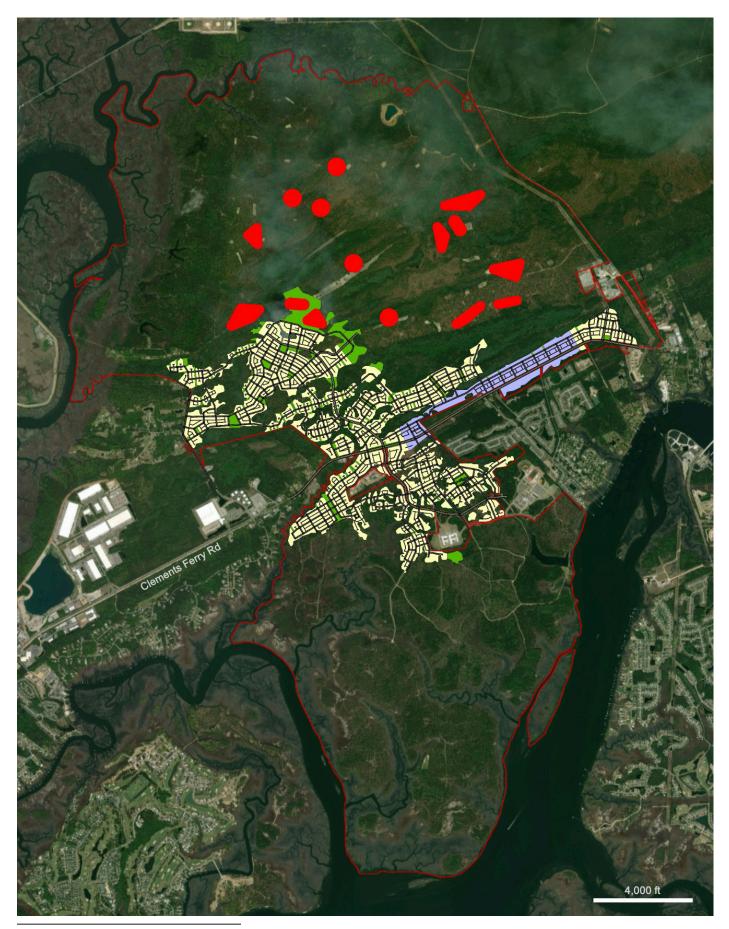


Fig. 28 Version 2 Site Plan Identifying RCW Locations with Buffers Indicated in Red, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green

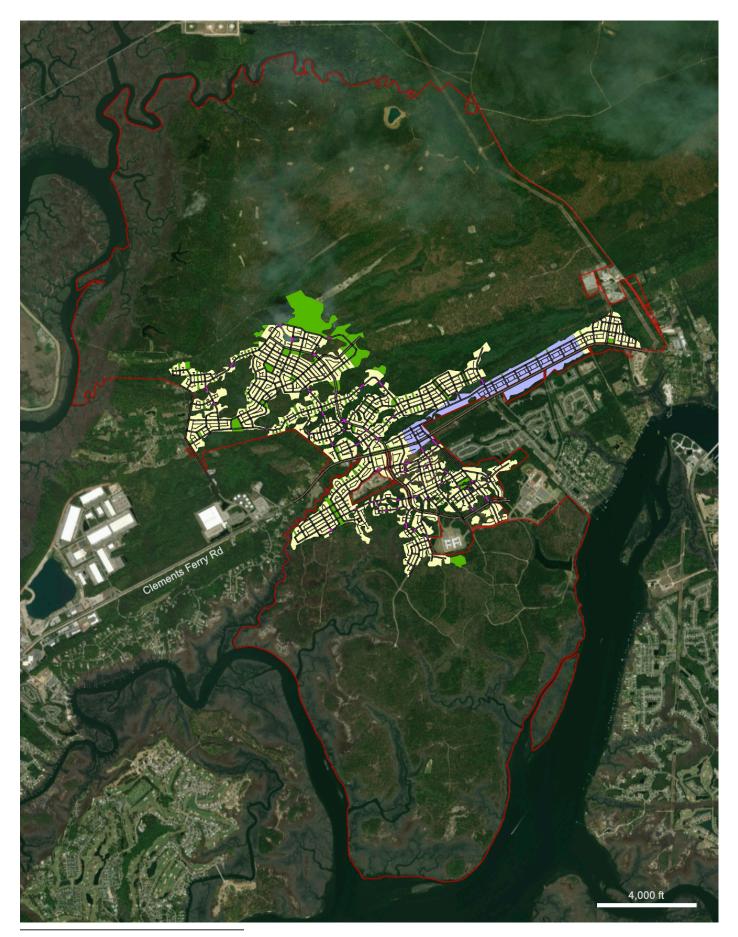


Fig. 29 Version 2 Site Plan Identifying Wetland Impacts Indicated in Pink, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green

## VERSION 2 1,160 Gross Acres

### X = Approximately <u>1,044</u> acres

(Areas of minimal flood hazard from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.)

AE = Approximately <u>116</u> acres (Areas subject to a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding in any given year.)

 $\label{eq:Fig.30} \textit{Fig. 30 Version 2 Site Plan with Flood Zones Highlighted}$ 

AE

10%

X 90%

4,000 fi

## VERSION 2: MEDIUM DISTRIBUTION ACROSS T-ZONES

																	1,350 Units	
Calinhov - Draft Quantity Calculations Produced by Dover: Koh & Panners 11/11/2019												Single Family Detached						
	Building / Lot Types:	Civic	House	Estate	Large Lot	House	Small Lot	Duplex	Rowhouse	Mansion	Apartment	Small	Mixed-Use	Large	2,510 Units	s		
	typ # of res units/type: typ ft lot frontage/type: typ lot area *; typ residential sq ft/type: typ non-res sq ft/type:	Building 0 50 5,500 0 0	Compound 3 120 13,200 6,000 0	House 1 125 13,750 4,000 0	House 1 70 7,700 3,000 0	1 50 5,500 2,000 0	House 1 40 4,400 1,500 0	2 50 5,500 4,000 0	1 25 2,750 2,000 0	Apartment 8 70 7,700 7,000 0	House 12 90 9,900 10,000 0	Mixed-Use 1 25 2,750 2,000 1,000	6 50 5,500 5,000 2,500	Mixed-Use 12 80 8,800 10,000 5,000	* Assumed 110ft average lot depth			Multi Family 5,140 Units
Version 2: Medi	lium Distribution Across T	-Zones																1
		Civic	House		Large Lot	House	Small Lot	Duplex	Rowhouse	Mansion	Apartment	Small	Mixed-Use	Large	Total T Zone Counts:	Net Counts:	Gross Counts:	1
	number of lots	Building 20	Compound	House	House		House 220	100	375	Apartment 80	House 85	Mixed-Use 60	60	Mixed-Use 60	1,060 lots	(lots only) 118 acres of T5 lots	(lots + thoroughfares + public open space) 71 acres of T5 thoroughfares **	* Neighborhood composition assumptions:
т5	number of units lot frontage ft lot sq ft residential bldg sq ft non-res bldg sq ft % of units in TS	0 1000 110,000 - - 0,00%					220 8800 968,000 330,000 	200 5000 550,000 400,000	375 9375 1,031,250 750,000	640 5600 616,000 560,000	1020 7650 841,500 850,000 	60 1500 165,000 120,000 60,000 1.67%	360 3000 330,000 300,000 150,000 10.01%	720 4800 528,000 600,000 300,000 20,03%	3,595 units 46,725 ft of frontage 5,139,750 sq ft (110ft depth avg) 3,910,000 sq ft of residential 510,000 sq ft non-res	8.98 lots/net acre avg 30.47 units/net acre avg	47 acres of T3-O civic / open / stormwater ** 236 total gross acres of T5 4.49 lots/gross acre avg 15.23 units/gross acre avg	50% of land area devoted to Lots 30% of land area devoted to Thoroughfar 20% of land area devoted to Civic / Stormwater / Open Space
T4	number of lots number of units lot frontage ft iot sq ft residential bidg sq ft non-res bidg sq ft % of units in T4	20 0 1000 110,000 - - 0.00%				120 120 6000 660,000 240,000 - 3.60%	300 300 12000 1,320,000 450,000 - 9,00%	100 200 5000 550,000 400,000 - 6.00%	375 375 9375 1,031,250 750,000 - 11.24%	120 960 8400 924,000 840,000 - 28.79%	80 960 7200 792,000 800,000 - 28.79%	60 60 1500 165,000 120,000 60,000 1,80%	60 60 360 3000 330,000 300,000 150,000 10,79%	20.00%	1,235 lots 3,335 units 53,475 ft of frontage 5,882,250 sq ft (110ft depth avg) 3,900,000 sq ft of residential 210,000 sq ft non-res	135 acres of T4 lots 9.15 lots/net acre avg 24.70 units/net acre avg	81 acres of T4 thoroughfares ** 54 acres of T3-O civic / open / stormwater ** 270 total gross acres of T4 4.57 lots/gross acre avg 12.35 units/gross acre avg	
тз-о	number of lots number of units lot frontage ft lot sq ft residential bldg sq ft % of units in T3-O	20 0 1000 110,000 - - 0,00%	175 525 21000 2,310,000 1,050,000 - - 36,71%	50 6250 687,500 200,000 - 3.50%	180 12600 1,386,000 540,000 - 12,59%	175 175 8750 962,500 350,000 - 12,24%	300 300 12000 1,320,000 450,000 - - 20,98%	100 200 5000 550,000 400,000 - 13,99%							1,000 lots 1,430 units 66,600 ft of frontage 7,326,000 sq ft (110ft depth avg) 2,990,000 sq ft of residential 0 sq ft non-res	168 acres of T3-O lots 5.95 lots/net acre avg 8.50 units/net acre avg	101 acres of T3-O thoroughfares ** 67 acres of T3-O civic / spen / stormwater ** 338 total gross acres of T3-O 2.97 lots/gross acre avg 4.25 units/gross acre avg	
T3-R	number of lots number of units lot frontage ft lot sq ft residential bldg sq ft non-res bldg sq ft % of units in T3-R	20 0 1000 110,000 - - 0.00%	75 225 9000 990,000 450,000 - 35.16%	90 90 11250 1,237,500 360,000 - 14.06%	140 140 9800 1,078,000 420,000 - 21.88%	185 9250 1,017,500 370,000 - 28.91%									510 lots 640 units 40,300 ft of frontage 4,433,000 sq ft (110ft depth avg) 1,800,000 sq ft of residential 0 sq ft non-res Total Site Counts:	102 acres of T3-R lots 5.01 lots/net acre avg 6.29 units/net acre avg	61 acres of T3-R thoroughtares ** 41 acres of T3-O civic / open / stormwater ** 204 total gross acres of T3-R 2.51 lots/gross acre avg 3.14 units/gross acre avg	
Total Bidg / Lot Type Counts:	# of lots # of res units lot frontage ft lot sq ft residential bldg sq ft non-res bldg sq ft % of total res unit mix	80 0 4000 440,000 - - 0.00%	250 750 30000 3,300,000 1,500,000 - 8.33%	140 140 17500 1.925,000 560,000 - 1.56% Single Family	320 320 22400 2.464,000 960,000 - 3.56% portion of reside	480 480 24000 2,640,000 960,000 - 5.33% ential unit mix	820 820 32800 3,608,000 1,230,000 - - 9,11% 27,9%	300 600 15000 1,650,000 1,200,000 - 6.67%	750 750 18750 2,062,500 1,500,000 - 8.33%	200 1600 14000 1,540,000 1,400,000 - - 17.78%	165 1980 14850 1,633,500 1,650,000 - - 22.00% Multi Famil	120 120 3000 330,000 240,000 120,000 1.33% v portion of resid	120 720 6000 660,000 600,000 300,000 8,00% dential unit mix	60 720 4800 528,000 600,000 300,000 8.00% 72,1%	3,805 lots 9,000 units 207,100 tof frontage 22,781,000 sq ft 12,400,000 sq ft ros 720,000 sq ft non-res	523 total acres of lots 7.28 lots/net acre avg 17.21 units/net acre avg	314 total acces of throughfares ** 209 total acces of civic / open / stormwater ** 1,045 total gross acces 3.64 tots/gross acce avg 8.60 units/gross acce avg 6.5 neighborhoods ***	** Neighborhood avg size assumption: 160 acres (1/2 mile x 1/2 mile)
	Version 2 Mix T5: 236 Gross Acres   3,805 Lots T5: 236 Gross Acres   9,000 Units T4: 270 Gross Acres   1,046 Gross Acres (= 6.5 Standard 160-acre Neighborhoods) T3 (O&R): 540 Gross Acres														Gross Acres Gross Acres	-		
															(+Workplace District: 114 Gross Acres)			

Fig. 27 Version 2: Medium T-Zone Emphasis with Development Use Chart

# SITE PLAN ALTERNATIVE **VERSION 3**

At 849 gross acres, Version 3 constrains the area to be developed the most of the first three test scenarios at 849 gross acres. This dense site plan design features the highest relative intensity of development character and the highest proportion of multi-family residences relative to single-family detached and attached types. However, Version 3 still contains a significant proportion of single-family homes (Fig. 31).

This version includes 1,050 single family detached units, 1,650 single family attached units, and 6,300 multi-family attached units across 3,335 residential lots (Fig. 32).

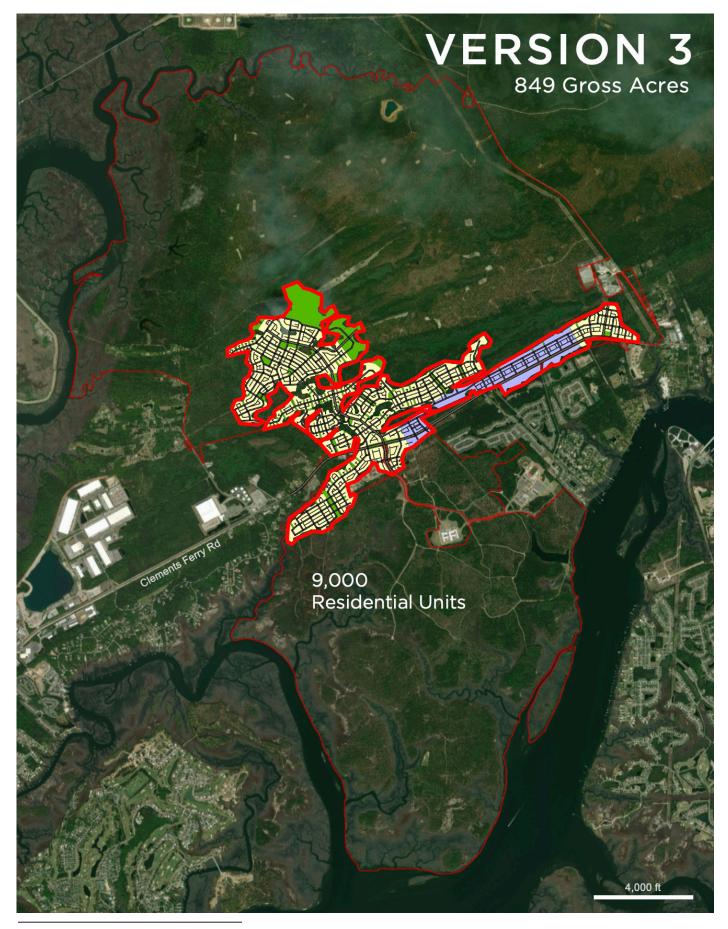
The residential component of this version utilizes 368 total acres of land, while 221 acres are utilized for thoroughfares, and 147 acres of land are dedicated to civic space, open space, and stormwater management areas.

When development scenario Version 3 is compared to the Charleston and Savannah examples at the same scale referenced in Figure 20, the 9,000 units of Version 3 occupy somewhat less land than the 9,000 units in Charleston and quite a bit less than 9,000 units in Savannah.

A substantial portion of Version 3 would therefore feature development similar to the most intensely developed areas in the Charleston and Savannah historic districts.

The documented RCW locations on the Cainhoy property were then overlaid onto the site plan alternative to analyze potential impacts (Fig. 33). Like Version 2, Version 3 reduces the northeastern areas that were included for development in Version 1, and therefore further avoids RCW adjacency in those locations. The western portion of Version 3 approaches RCW cavity trees most closely while still maintaining development a minimum of approximately 100 feet from the edge of RCW buffer zones.

The design of Version 3 was also configured to avoid and minimize the impacts to wetlands on the property (Fig. 34) more than achieved in Versions 1 and 2. Version 3 involves approximately 5.2 acres of freshwater wetland impacts, restricted entirely to road crossings. None of the wetlands are impacted by building lots or stormwater systems. Further, 840 acres, or 99% of the gross area for Version 3, are within the FEMA designated X Flood Zone, which is outside of the 500-year and 100-year floodplains and has a relatively minimal flood risk. Only 9 acres, or 1% of the gross area for Version 3, are within the FEMA designated XE Flood Zone (Fig. 35).



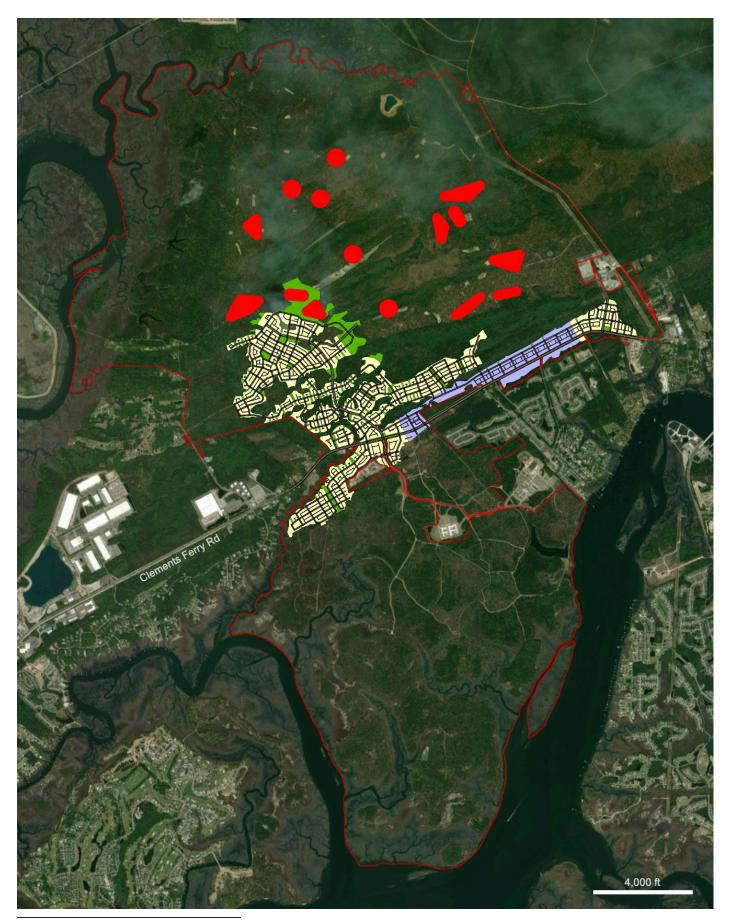


Fig. 33 Version 3 Site Plan Identifying RCW Locations with Buffers Indicated in Red, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green

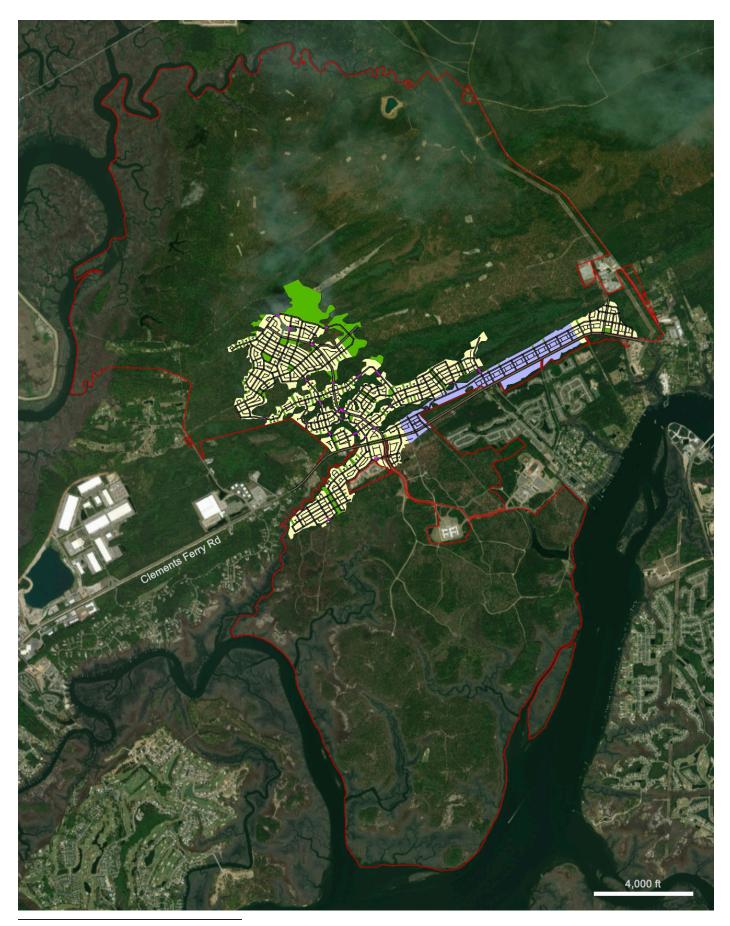


Fig. 34 Version 3 Site Plan Identifying Wetland Impacts Indicated in Pink, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green



### X = Approximately <u>840</u> acres

(Areas of minimal flood hazard from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.)

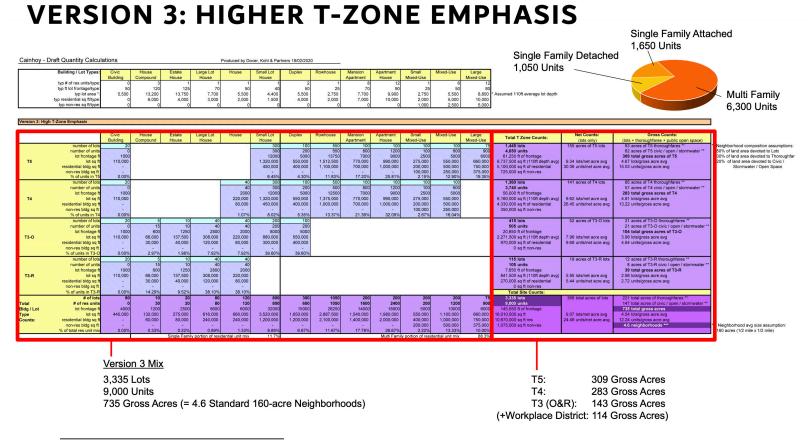
AE = Approximately <u>9</u> acres (Areas subject to a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding in any given year.)

 ${\bf Fig.~35}~Version~3~Site~Plan~with~Flood~Zones~Highlighted$ 

Clements Ferry

X 99%

4.000 f



#### Fig. 32 Version 3: Medium T-Zone Emphasis with Development Use Chart

# SITE PLAN ALTERNATIVE **VERSION 4**

A fourth site plan alternative was designed that maintains the same proportional mix of residential units found in the previous third alternative, while reducing the total residential unit count to facilitate constraining and modifying the development footprint to avoid all wetland impacts (Fig. 36).

In order to demonstrate a scenario where all wetland impacts are eliminated, the plan area of Version 3 was modified and constrained while maintaining the relative intensity and proportional mix of units. As the developed area was constrained to 599 gross acres, the total unit count was proportionally reduced to 6,000 units. This 6,000-unit plan is only illustrative of what could be achieved on the Cainhoy site with zero wetland impacts; the number of residential units is malleable and could be increased by increasing the density of housing units and/or expanding the development footprint to other upland areas, while still impacting no wetlands.

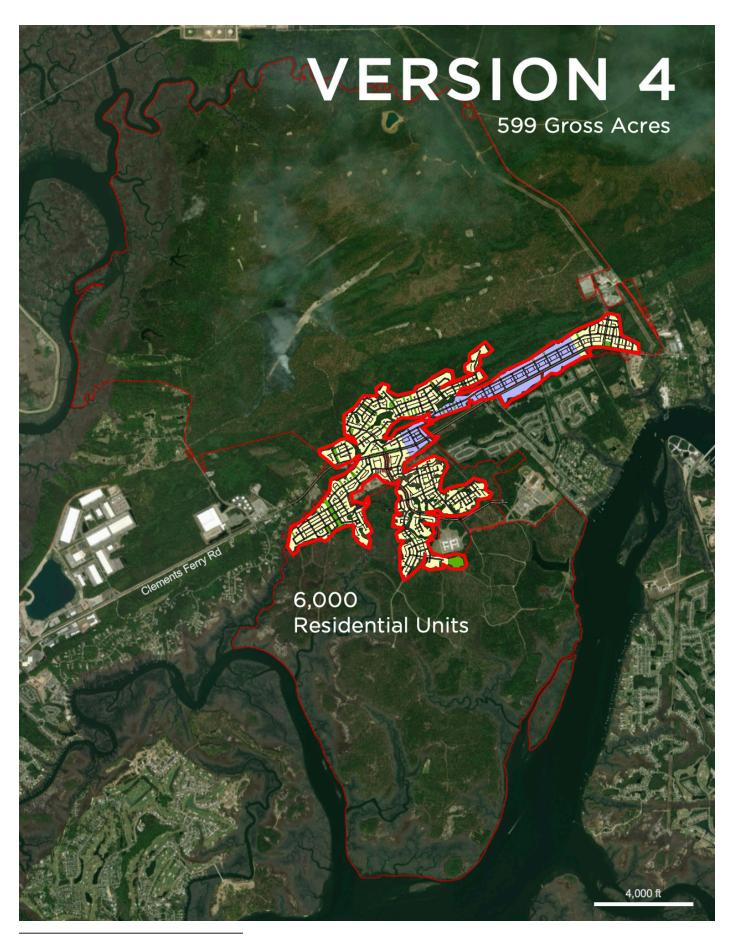
This version includes 675 single family detached units, 1,132 single family attached units, and 4,193 multi-family attached units across 2,225 residential lots (Fig. 37).

The residential component of this version utilizes 242 total acres of land, while 145 acres are utilized for thoroughfares, and 97 acres of land are dedicated to civic space, open space, and stormwater management areas.

When development scenario Version 4 is placed alongside the Charleston and Savannah examples at the same scale, the 6,000 units of Version 4 occupy substantially less land than the 9,000 units in the Charleston and Savannah comparisons utilized in the previous three versions.

The documented RCW locations on the Cainhoy property were then overlaid onto the site plan alternative to analyze potential impacts (Fig. 38). Version 4 moves the development footprint southward, further away from mapped RCW cavity tree locations. The closest adjacency of development in Version 4 to RCW buffer zones is approximately 1,000 feet.

As mentioned, the design of Version 4 was configured to avoid all wetlands on the property. Further, 497 acres, or 83% of the gross area for Version 4, are within the FEMA designated X Flood Zone, which is outside of the 500year and 100-year floodplains and has a relatively minimal flood risk. Approximately 102 acres, or 17% of the gross area for Version 4, are within the FEMA designated AE Flood Zone (Fig. 39).



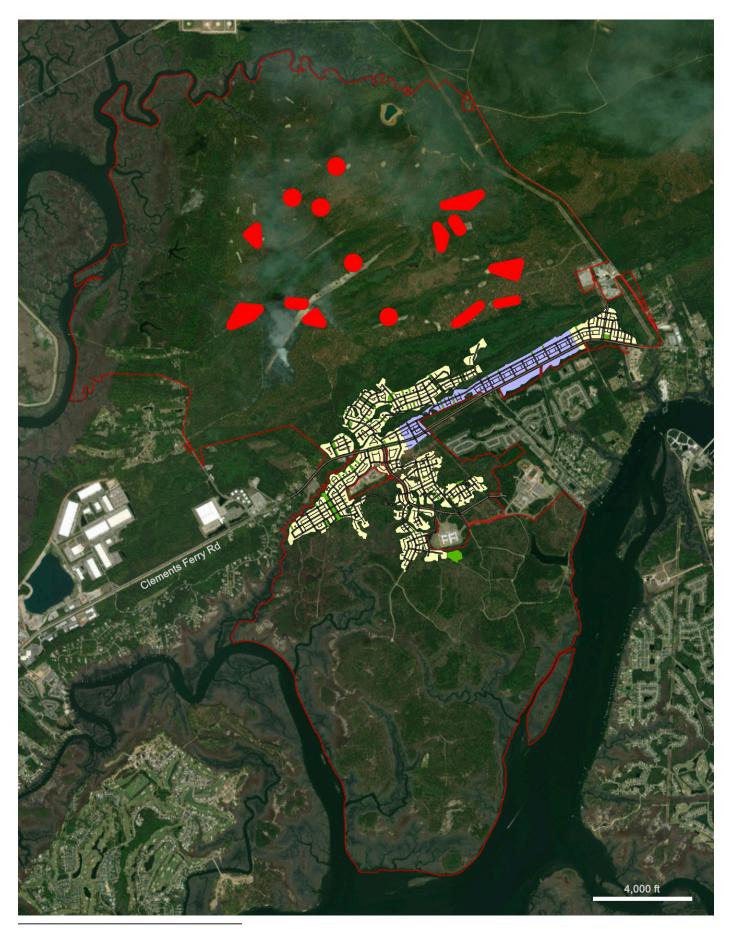


Fig. 38 Version 3 Site Plan Identifying RCW Locations with Buffers Indicated in Red, Residential Areas Indicated in Tan, Commercial District Indicated in Purple, and Parks Indicated in Green



### X = Approximately <u>497</u> acres (Areas of minimal flood hazard

from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.)

AE = Approximately <u>102</u> acres (Areas subject to a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding in any given year.)

Fig. 39 Version 4 Site Plan with Flood Zones Highlighted

Clements Ferry

X 83%

4,000 f

AE 17%

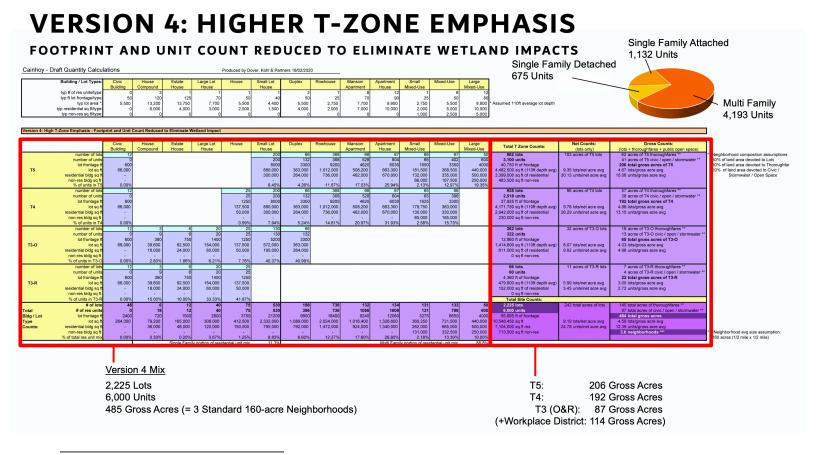


Fig. 37 Version 4: Medium T-Zone Emphasis with Development Use Chart

### CONCLUSION

The four alternative plan versions present varied character intensity proportional with the total size of each version's development area. Version 1 features the largest overall development area and the lowest average intensity of development. Version 2 is intermediate. Version 3 features the most compact development area, and therefore, the highest average intensity of development of scenarios achieving 9,000 residential units. Version 4 demonstrates how a feasible development could be designed for this site without impacting any delineated wetlands. Although Version 4 reduces the number of residential units from 9,000 to 6,000, that number is adjustable depending on the density of housing units and the overall development footprint.

Each of the four test scenario plan versions were designed to avoid homogeneity and featured a diverse range of uses, building types and highly livable character types that continue to be preferred by many homebuyers across the nation (Appendix B).

Development scenario Versions 1, 2 and 3 all achieve 9,000 residential units, plus an associated quantity of commercial units and a 114 gross acre Workplace District, within an interconnected network of walkable streets and public spaces configured to minimize impacts on both wetlands and RCW habitat. Development scenario plan Version 4 achieved 6,000 residential units as well as the same quantity of commercial space and Workplace District, while maintaining an interconnected network of walkable streets and public spaces without impacting any RCW habitat or wetlands.

We believe each of these development versions allows for significant development of the property, while accounting for the need to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands, the need to protect endangered species, and the risk of development in the floodplain, particularly with current sea level rise projections. Each of the first three development versions demonstrates that it is possible to build a 9,000 residential unit development on the property while greatly avoiding and minimizing impacts to wetlands, protecting RCW colonies, and considering the risk of development within the floodplain, and the fourth version demonstrates the ability to avoid all critical resources.

# DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS

Dover, Kohl & Partners was founded in 1987. Our expertise lies in balancing the visionary 'civic art' of planning with the practical consensus building needed to make projects succeed. We are trained in the principles of sustainable town planning, and have perfected techniques for documenting and understanding local traditions in building to enhance each community's sense of place.

Our plans and codes focus on smart growth, sustainability, and emphasizing that there does not have to be a trade-off between livability, economic prosperity, and environmental concerns. Victor Dover and Joseph Kohl are charter members of the Congress for the New Urbanism and have worked for many public agencies, developers, and citizen groups to create appropriate methods of land development regulations. Victor Dover served on the LEED for Neighborhood Development Core Committee, and the Congress for the New Urbanism Board; both Joseph and Victor are founding members and on the Board of the Form-Based Codes Institute. The firm has produced and facilitated over 200 charrettes during the last decade.

Victor Dover and John Massengales's new book, Street Design: The Secret to Great Cities and Towns, is on bookshelves now. Over the course of three years, Victor and John traveled across the US, Europe and Central America to compile research for the book, amassing a collection of over 15,000 photographs and measurements of hundreds of compelling examples, including historic, retrofitted, and new streets. Writing the book has helped the Dover-Kohl team reach a new understanding of the possibilities for streets in American cities in modern times. Dover-Kohl especially understands how to preserve local distinctiveness and a sense of place while also enhancing usability for all modes of travel – pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit users – and creating great addresses.

Our work has also been published in *Progressive Architecture, Metropolitan Home*, numerous planning journals, and has been featured on National Public Radio, CNN's *Earthwatch*, and in *Business Week*. Dover-Kohl projects have been profiled in *The New Urbanism* by Peter Katz, *Rural By Design* by Randall Arendt, *Sustainable Urbanism* by Douglas Farr, *Retrofitting Suburbia* by Ellen Dunham-Jones, *Form-Based Codes* by Daniel Parolek, as well as *Land Use Strategies* and *Public Participation Tools*, both published by the Center for Livable Communities.

Dover-Kohl has received numerous state and regional American Planning Association (APA) Awards for projects including: Seven50 (the Southeast Florida Regional Prosperity Plan); the Downtown Plan for Richmond, VA; the Jamestown Mall Area Plan in St. Louis, MO; and the Downtown Plan and SmartCode for Montgomery, AL. The firm has also received national Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) Charter Awards for Plan NoBe in Miami Beach, FL; Columbia Pike in Arlington County, VA; the Town Resiliency Plan for Jean Lafitte, LA; I'On in Mount Pleasant, SC; City Plan 2025 for Fayetteville, AR; and Glenwood Park in Atlanta, GA. The EPA awarded Plan El Paso a 2011 National Award for Smart Growth Excellence in Programs, Policies, and Regulations. Dover-Kohl's work has received the Driehaus Form-Based Codes Award three times since its inception in 2007 for Towns, Villages, Countryside Land Development Regulations in St. Lucie County, Florida; the Compact Communities Code for Lee County, Florida; and the 2012 award for the Bradenton Form-Based Code for Bradenton, Florida.



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Clinton, New Jersey 08809

908 735-6336

June 15, 2020

Re: Cainhoy Site Berkeley County, South Carolina Design Exploration of Alternative Plan Variations

Zimmerman/Volk Associates (ZVA) has been asked by Dover, Kohl & Partners to render an opinion on the Cainhoy Site Design Exploration of Alternative Plan Variations. For over three decades, ZVA has specialized in the market analysis of housing in urban, traditional and other mixed-use walkable neighborhoods nationwide. Our long experience in the Charleston area ranges from the mid-'90s pre-development market positioning of I'On in Mount Pleasant to a 2016 analysis of a large site within the Charleston city limits.

ZVA has not conducted an analysis of the market potential and optimum market position of the Cainhoy site and therefore cannot address the specific feasibility of the alternative plans. However, the concepts underlying the plans are perfectly in keeping with current residential neighborhood preferences toward compact walkable mixed-use neighborhoods and away from auto-dependent single-use subdivisions.

Since the National Association of Realtors (NAR) first rigorous survey of community preferences in 2004, there has been a consistent and growing preference for walkable neighborhoods.

"The more walkable the community, the more satisfied residents are with their quality of life."

"Americans prefer walkable communities, but only to a point. A small majority—as in other years—prefer a walkable community even if it means a smaller yard, but just under half prefer the larger yard and more driving. For the first time, however, half of all respondents say they prefer a walkable community and shorter commute even if it means living in an attached home."

-2017 (most recent) NAR Community Preference Survey

The walkable neighborhood preference that includes an attached residence does not necessarily mean that the attached dwelling is a compromise. There is a significant mismatch between households and the nation's housing stock. Households consisting of just one or two people are 62 percent of all U.S. households, and yet the housing type least appropriate for one- and two-person households, the single-family detached house, represents 62 percent of all U.S. dwellings.

Based on the demographics of buyer households nationally, there is frequently an underserved and significant market for residential options other than the detached house. According to the NAR 2020 Characteristics of Home Buyers, only 35 percent of buyers are families with children. The majority consists of a mix of married couples without children (26 percent of all buyers); single, mostly older women (17 percent); unmarried, mostly younger couples (nine percent); and single men (nine percent).

Cainhoy Site, Berkeley County, South Carolina June 15, 2020

From the developer's perspective, the compact form and fine-grained mix of housing types makes infrastructure substantially more efficient. Offering a wide range of rental and ownership housing types within a walkable neighborhood increases the breadth of the potential market, accelerating the pace of neighborhood and community development.

Sincerely,

Todd Zimmerman Director Emeritus