

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-34  
CONCURRENCE WITH NO ADVERSE EFFECTS DETERMINATION  
RELATED TO THE STATE ROUTE 4/US HIGHWAY 25 BUSINESS AT  
SAVANNAH RIVER AT SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LINE BRIDGE  
REPLACEMENT PROJECT #0013927

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the City of North Augusta (City) has proposed replacement of the existing bridge carrying State Route (SR) 4/US Highway 25 Business over the Savannah River between Augusta, GA and North Augusta, SC; and

WHEREAS, the proposed bridge will be replaced at its existing location to minimize environmental and right-of-way impacts along the project corridor; and

WHEREAS, the proposed bridge will consist of four travel lanes, two in each direction, along with an eight-foot median and four foot raised island in the middle of the roadway plus a five-foot sidewalk with urban shoulder and curb and gutter on the northbound side and a 10-foot shared use path with an eight-foot shoulder and barrier on the southbound side; and

WHEREAS, the North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park and Water Works Park are within the proposed project vicinity which requires GDOT to convert portions of these parks into permanent easements, temporary easements and new right-of-way as identified in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, throughout the duration of the construction period beginning mid- 2025 through completion, portions of the North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park and Water Works Park will be closed to the public as identified in Exhibit A; and,

WHEREAS, as recreation facilities owned by the City, these three parks are afforded special protections under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act which allows the City to review for concurrence that the proposed project does not cause adverse impacts to the recreation area; and,

WHEREAS, GDOT has provided the City with the summary of project impacts (Exhibit A), and requests a City official to sign a letter concurring that the proposed transportation project will not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of the North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park and Water Works Park; and.

WHEREAS, if the City concurs, the FWHA intends to make a de minimis finding regarding impacts to the North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park and Water Works Park, thus satisfying the requirements of Section 4(f).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council for the City of North Augusta in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that:

1. The proposed transportation project will not cause adverse effects to the parks, and
2. The Mayor shall sign the requested letter of concurrence and submit the letter to GDOT.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.



Briton S. Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Lamar, City Clerk



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

Mayor Briton S. Williams  
City of North Augusta  
100 Riverview Park  
North Augusta, SC 29841

RE: State Route (SR) 4/US Highway (US) 25 Business at Savannah River at South Carolina State Line- Bridge Replacement  
Richmond County  
PI #0013927

Dear Mayor Williams:

The Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) in coordination with the City of North Augusta and the Federal Highway Administration has proposed replacement of the existing bridge carrying State Route (SR) 4/US Highway (US) 25 Business (BU) over Savannah River between Augusta, Georgia and North Augusta, South Carolina (see Figure 1: Project Location Map). The proposed bridge would be replaced at its existing location to minimize environmental and right-of-way (ROW) impacts along the project corridor. SR 4/US 25 BU is currently classified as a Principal Arterial with 2016 Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 21,200 vehicles per day (VPD) and 2.5% trucks. The roadway section on the Georgia side consists of four 12-foot travel lanes with urban shoulders, while the section on the South Carolina side consists of four 12-foot travel lanes with a 14 to 16-foot flush median and urban shoulders. The proposed roadway section would consist of four travel lanes, with an 11-foot inside lane and a 12-foot outside lane in each direction. An 8-foot median with a 4-foot raised island would be located in the middle of the roadway along the bridge. The northbound side would include a 5-foot sidewalk with an urban shoulder and curb and gutter. The southbound side would feature a 10-foot shared use path with an 8-foot shoulder and barrier separating the path from the roadway. The proposed project length would be approximately 0.6 mile. The existing ROW varies between 81 and 295 feet, and the proposed ROW varies between 81 and 300 feet.

The North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park, and Waters Works Park are within the proposed project vicinity (see Figure 1). The proposed improvements would require converting approximately 0.14 acre of the North Augusta Greenway, 0.10 acre of Brick Pond Park, and 0.09 acre of Water Works Park to transportation right-of-way. In addition, 0.09 acre of permanent easement and 0.14 acre of temporary easement would be required from the North Augusta Greenway and 0.13 acre of permanent easement would be required from Brick Pond Park. As recreation facilities owned by the City of North Augusta, these properties are afforded special protections under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act (recodified in 49 U.S.C. 303 and 23 U.S.C 138). Under the provisions of Section 4(f), if the proposed project would result in adverse effects to the park or recreation facility, the transportation agency must conduct an evaluation to demonstrate that there is no prudent and feasible alternative to the use of the 4(f) property. Because this evaluation can be expensive and potentially result in project delays, an exemption is provided in cases where the official with jurisdiction over the park or recreation area concurs in a determination that the impacts are not adverse. This concurrence enables the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to make a *de minimis* (minimal impact) finding, which satisfies the requirements of Section 4(f) and precludes the need for a Section 4(f) Evaluation.

The purpose of this letter is to request your concurrence in the "no adverse effects" determination, thus allowing the FHWA to make the *de minimis* impact finding and allowing this project to proceed as planned.

### **A Summary of Project Impacts**

#### **North Augusta Greenway**

The proposed project would involve constructing a sidewalk on the eastern side of SR 4/US 25 BU within the northern project limits. Construction of a parapet wall would begin directly north of the North Augusta Greenway tunnel and would provide a safety measure for pedestrians and bicyclists using the proposed sidewalk. The proposed work would require approximately 0.14 acre of ROW from the trail and vegetated area of the North Augusta Greenway surrounding the North Augusta Greenway tunnel. In addition, approximately 0.09 acre of permanent easement would be required from the North Augusta Greenway trail to construct the proposed shared use path on the western side of the proposed bridge approach

and to tie-in the shared use path to the North Augusta Greenway (see Sheet 13-0007 of the construction plan sheets). Approximately 0.14 acre of temporary easement would be required from the North Augusta Greenway trail to construct the northern end of the proposed bridge (see Sheet 13-0004 on the construction plan sheets). The land acquired as a result of the proposed project would continue to be used by pedestrians and bicyclists would provide enhanced connectivity between the existing pedestrian and bicyclist facilities. Therefore, the acquired land would retain its recreational use. During construction, portions of the North Augusta Greenway would be temporarily closed and rerouted. However, closed portions of the North Augusta Greenway would be reopened following construction. The pedestrian and bicyclist detour are described below.

#### *Pedestrian/Bicyclist Detour*

The portion of North Augusta Greenway parallel to SR 4/US 25 BU would be closed during construction. Barricades would be used to establish these closure areas. All barricades would include a trail closure sign. Pedestrians and bicyclists would be warned by an additional trail closure sign at the trail's intersection with Esplanade Avenue approximately 1,000 feet west of the closure (see Trail Closure Sign on Figure 2). A barricade would be placed on the North Augusta Greenway trail at the SR 4/US 25 BU crossing of the Savannah River (see Barrier 1 on Figure 2). Another barricade would be placed where the North Augusta Greenway trail intersects with Railroad Avenue (see Barrier 2 on Figure 2). These barricades would restrict access along the North Augusta Greenway trail along SR 4/US 25 BU between the Savannah River and Railroad Avenue (see Closure Area 1 on Figure 2). In addition, a barricade would be placed approximately 94 feet southeast from the existing bridge to restrict access to the portion of the North Augusta Greenway along the Savannah River under the existing bridge throughout construction (see Closure Area 2 and Barrier 3 on Figure 2). The duration of the detour would be approximately 4 years.

Some connectivity between the various trailways within Brick Pond Park and connections to the North Augusta Greenway would be temporarily altered. The gravel trail on the eastern limits of Brick Pond Park would be closed during construction (see Closure Area 3 on Figure 2). A barricade would be placed approximately 145 feet north of Railroad Avenue (see Barrier 4 on Figure 2). A barricade would also be placed approximately 20 feet south of the North Augusta Greenway connection (see Barrier 5 on Figure 2). In addition, barricades would be placed at the entrances of two trailways that intersect the eastern gravel trail within Brick Pond Park (see Barrier 6 and Barrier 7 on Figure 2).

In addition, the portion of the North Augusta Greenway along Riverside Boulevard would be closed during construction (see Closure Area 4 on Figure 2). One barricade would be placed on the northern sidewalk of Railroad Avenue where the sidewalk merges with the North Augusta Greenway path under the bridge (see Barrier 8 on Figure 2). An additional barricade would be placed approximately 100 feet southeast of the North Augusta Greenway tunnel (see Barrier 9 on Figure 2). A barricade would also be placed on the northern sidewalk of East Shoreline Drive approximately 70 feet from where the East Shoreline Drive sidewalk connects with the North Augusta Greenway path (see Barrier 10 on Figure 2).

In order to maintain connectivity along the North Augusta Greenway, users would follow an alternative route along Esplanade Avenue, Railroad Avenue, and the existing Brick Pond Park trail along the east side of Center Street. Pedestrians would utilize the existing sidewalks along Esplanade Avenue, Railroad Avenue, and the trail along Center Street while bicyclists would use the roadway. The proposed detour route would be approximately 900 feet (0.17 mile) shorter than the existing route along the North Augusta Greenway. Pedestrians and bicyclists on the North Augusta Greenway would turn north on Esplanade Avenue and continue on Esplanade Avenue until reaching Railroad Avenue. Pedestrians would then turn east on Railroad Avenue and proceed approximately 420 feet until reaching the Brick Pond Park trail along Center Street. Pedestrians and bicyclist would continue north on Center Street until reconnecting with the North Augusta Greenway (see the Detour Route marked red on Figure 2).

Pedestrians and bicyclists on North Augusta Greenway wanting to travel south toward the Landing at River Club neighborhood would continue to travel through the North Augusta Greenway tunnel under SR 4/US 25 BU and continue on the North Augusta Greenway until reaching Center Street. Pedestrians would then travel south on the Brick Pond Park trail along Center Street until reaching Railroad Avenue, while bicyclists would travel south on the Center Street roadway. Pedestrians and bicyclists could then travel east to their destination.



**Brick Pond Park**

The proposed project requires the addition of drainage features and a Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall on the west side of SR 4/US 25 BU. This proposed work would require approximately 0.10 acre of ROW from a vegetated area within the Brick Pond Park. A small portion of this ROW would be from a designated wetland. In addition, 0.13 acre of permanent easement would be required to construct a shared use path that would connect the existing western sidewalk on SR 4/US 25 BU to Brick Pond Park and provide an additional path to the North Augusta Greenway (see Sheet 13-0006 and Sheet 13-0007 of the construction plan sheets). The proposed acquisition of property would not prevent the Brick Pond Park from operating as a recreational facility. The gravel trail along the eastern limits of Brick Pond Park would be temporarily closed during construction (see Closure Area 3 on Figure 2). However, there are other entry ways to the park and the other Brick Pond Park trails would be maintained throughout construction (see Figure 3). Project construction would result in improved drainage, soil stability provided by the MSE wall, and the enhanced connectivity between the existing pedestrian facilities nearby.

**Water Works Park**

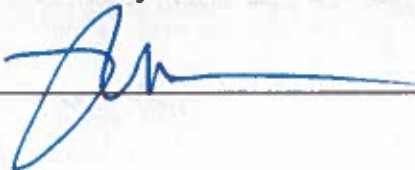
The parking lot for Water Works Park is located at the northern end of the project limits (see Figure 1). The proposed construction of the sidewalk and parapet wall would require approximately 0.09 acre of ROW from the grassed area within Water Works Park adjacent to the park's asphalt parking lot. The acquisition of ROW is approximately 30 feet north of the parking lot and would not result in a lack of parking or a change in the use of the recreational use of the park (see Sheet 13-0007 of the construction plan sheets).

**Concurrence with the No Adverse Effects Determination**

If you agree that the acquisition of right-of-way as shown on the attached aerial photography would not adversely affect the recreational activities, features, and attributes that qualify North Augusta Greenway, Brick Pond Park, and Water Works Park for protection under Section 4(f), the Georgia DOT requests that you sign and date this letter in the spaces below:

**As the official with jurisdiction over North Augusta Greenway, Water Works Park and Brick Pond Park, I concur in a determination that the proposed transportation project as described in this letter and shown on the accompanying attachment would not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify North Augusta Greenway, Water Works Park, and Brick Pond Park for protection under Section 4(f). I have also been informed that, based on my concurrence, the FHWA intends to make a *de minimis* finding regarding impacts to North Augusta Greenway and Brick Pond Park, thus satisfying the requirements of Section 4(f).**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8-15-22

After signing and dating this letter, we ask that you return a copy to the attention of Cody Hufstetter at the Georgia Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Services, 600 West Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30308. The Georgia DOT appreciates your assistance in making this transportation project possible. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Mr. Hufstetter at (678)-247-2506.

Sincerely,

*Eric Duff*

Eric Duff  
State Environmental Administrator

ED/ch

CC: Cassandra Boswell, Georgia DOT Project Manager



FIGURE 1



SR 4/US 25 BU at Savannah River Bridge Replacement Aiken County SC/Richmond County GA

Impacted Parks and Trails  
North Augusta

Legend  
Project Location  
North Augusta Greenway  
Brick Pond Park Trail  
Parks

0 300 600 1200 Feet



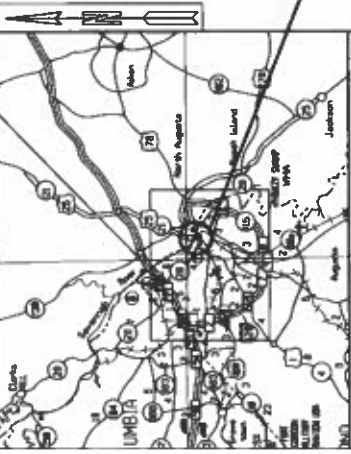


# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

## PLAN AND PROFILE OF PROPOSED SR 4/US 25BU BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER SAVANNAH RIVER

RICHMOND COUNTY (GA), AIKEN COUNTY (SC)

FEDERAL ROUTE • 25 BU  
STATE ROUTE • 4  
P.I. NO. 0013927



LOCATION SKETCH

**DESIGN DATA:**  
 SR4/US25  
 TRAFFIC ADJ.: 25J00 (2024)  
 TRAFFIC ADJ.: 31925 (2044)  
 TRAFFIC DHV: 2335 PM (2024)  
 DIRECTIONAL DIST: 72%SB 66%NB  
 % TRUCKS: 2.0%  
 24 HR TRUCKS %: 2.00%  
 SPEED DESIGN: 45 MPH

**LOCATION & DESIGN APPROVAL DATES:**  
 FUNCTIONAL CLASS: PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL  
 THIS PROJECT IS EXC. IN RICHMOND COUNTY AND CONG. DIST. NO. 2  
 THIS PROJECT IS TIE IN AIKEN COUNTY AND CONG. DIST. NO. 2  
 PROJECT DESIGNATION: EXEMPT

THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN PREPARED USING THE HORIZONTAL GEOMETRIC SYSTEM OF AASHTO AND VERTICAL GEOMETRIC SYSTEM OF AASHTO.

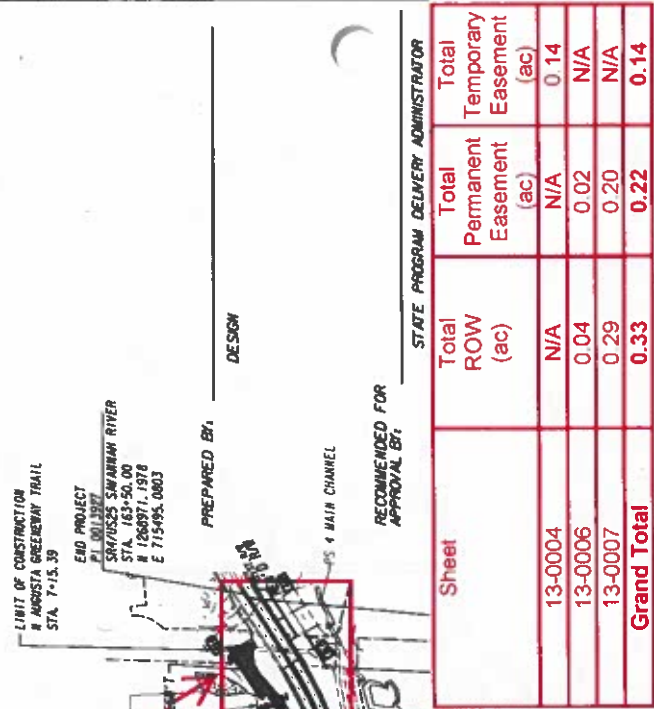
**MID POINT CO-ORDINATES**  
 STA. 47+00.00  
 N=4557405.9472  
 E=7152300.0000

THE DATA TOGETHER WITH ALL OTHER INFORMATION SHOWN ON THESE PLANS OR IN ANY MAP REQUIRED THEREUNDER BY DRAWINGS OR REFERENCE TO ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS, SHALL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND THE CONTRACTOR. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM ALL AGENCIES AND AGENCIES OF TRANSPORTATION IN ANY WAY. THE ATTENTION OF BIDDERS IS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TO SUBSTITUTIONS, ADDITIONS AND OMISSIONS OF THE SPECIFICATIONS.



PROJECT LOCATION

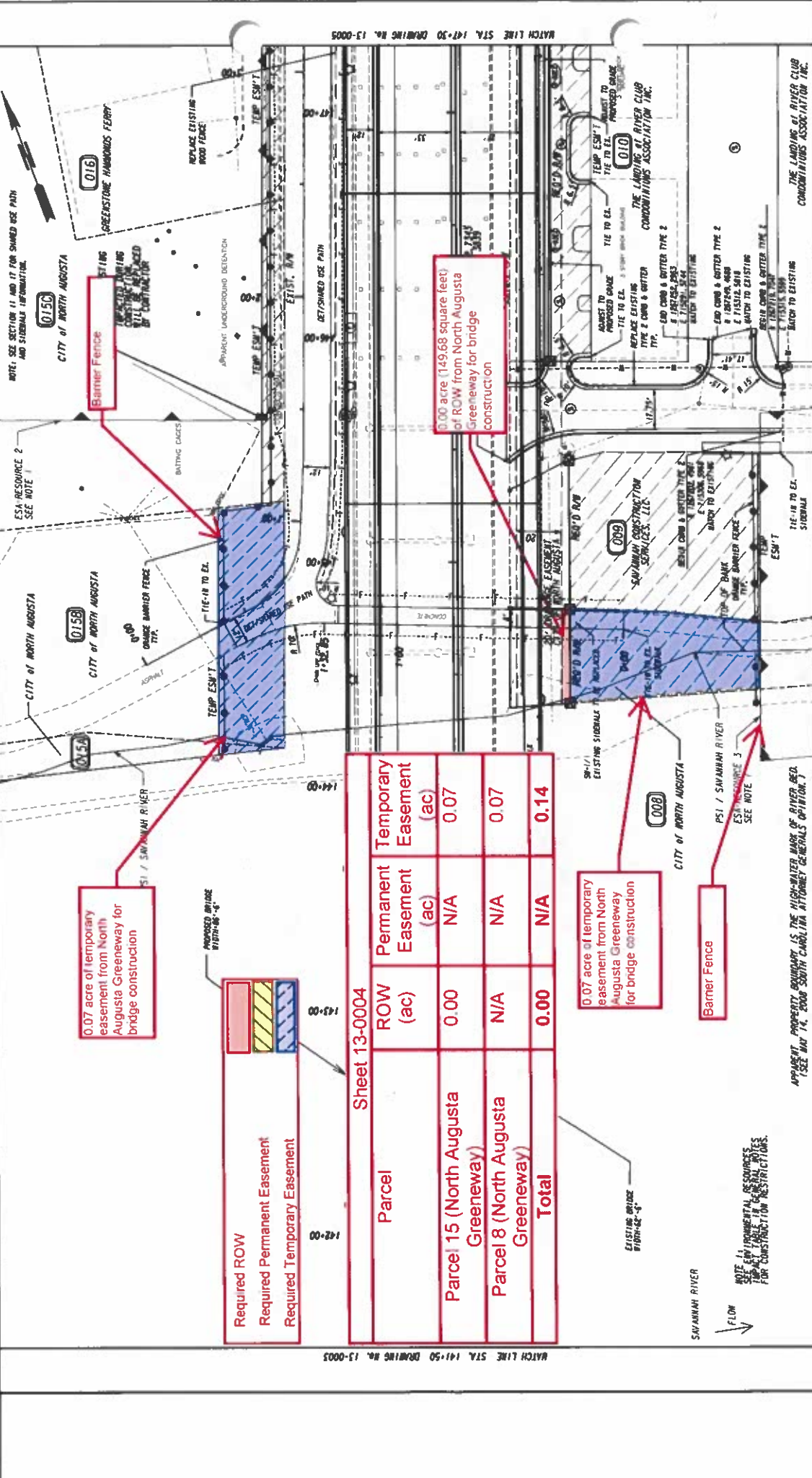
FEDERAL ROUTE • 25 BU  
STATE ROUTE • 4  
P.I. NO. 0013927



Sheet	Total ROW (ac)	Total Permanent Easement (ac)	Total Temporary Easement (ac)
13-0004	N/A	N/A	0.14
13-0006	0.04	0.02	N/A
13-0007	0.29	0.20	N/A
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>0.14</b>



**NOTE:**  
 ALL REFERENCES IN THIS DOCUMENT WHICH REQUIRE ALL PAPERWORKS, DOCUMENTS, DRAWINGS OR PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS DOCUMENT TO STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM ALL AGENCIES AND AGENCIES OF TRANSPORTATION IN ANY WAY. THE ATTENTION OF BIDDERS IS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TO SUBSTITUTIONS, ADDITIONS AND OMISSIONS OF THE SPECIFICATIONS.



0.07 acre of temporary easement from North Augusta Greenway for bridge construction

Required ROW  
 Required Permanent Easement  
 Required Temporary Easement

Sheet 13-0004

Parcel	ROW (ac)	Permanent Easement (ac)	Temporary Easement (ac)
Parcel 15 (North Augusta Greenway)	0.00	N/A	0.07
Parcel 8 (North Augusta Greenway)	N/A	N/A	0.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>0.14</b>

0.07 acre of temporary easement from North Augusta Greenway for bridge construction

Barmer Fence

PROPERTY AND EXISTING ROW LINE  
 REQUIRED ROW LINE  
 CONSTRUCTION LIMITS  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR OF SLOPES  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR OF DRAVES

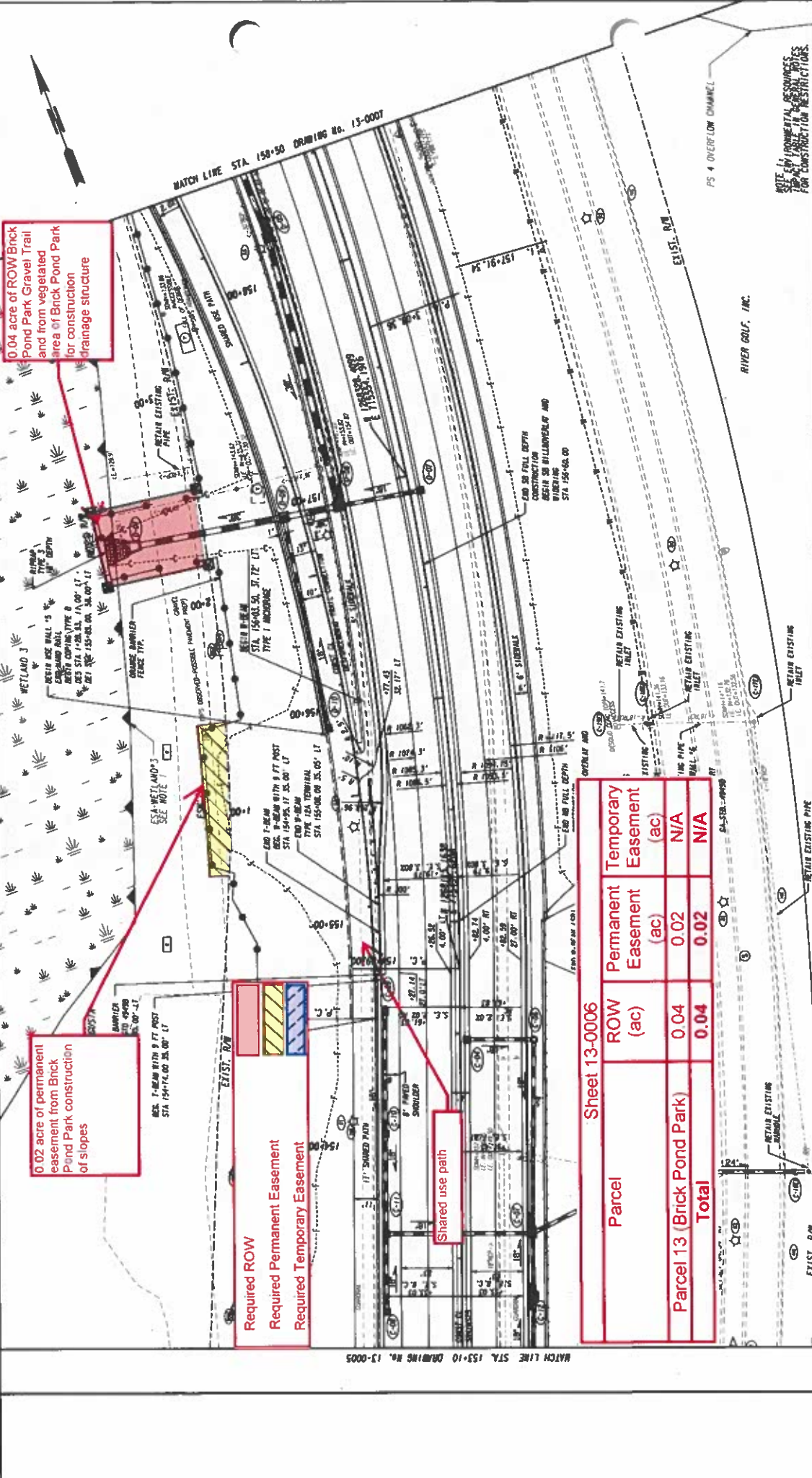
BEGIN LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 END LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 RED'D ROW B LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 ORANGE BARRIER FENCE  
 ESA - ENV. SENSITIVE AREA (SEE CRIT TABLE)

BUA  
 EIA  
 R/W  
 ROW

NOTE: SEE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES FOR ALL LIMITS IN CRITICAL AREAS FOR CONSTRUCTION RESTRICTIONS.

APPARENT PROPERTY BOUNDARY IS THE HIGH-WATER MARK OF RIVER BED. (SEE MAY 14, 2008 SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION.)





0.04 acre of ROW Back Pond Park Gravel Trail and from vegetated area of Back Pond Park for construction drainage structure

0.02 acre of permanent easement from Brick Pond Park construction of slopes

Required ROW  
 Required Permanent Easement  
 Required Temporary Easement

Shared use path

Sheet 13-0006

Parcel	ROW (ac)	Permanent Easement (ac)	Temporary Easement (ac)
Parcel 13 (Brick Pond Park)	0.04	0.02	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>N/A</b>

PROPERTY AND EXISTING ROW LINE  
 REQUIRED ROW LINE  
 CONSTRUCTION LIMITS  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR OF SLOPES  
 EASEMENT FOR CONSTR OF DRIVES

BEGIN LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 END LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 RED'D ROW & LIMIT OF ACCESS  
 ORANGE BARRIER FENCE  
 ESA - ENV. SENSITIVE AREA (SEE CRIT TABLE)

PS 4 OVERFLOW CHANNEL  
 RIVER GOLF, INC.

NOTE: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES TOP AND TABLE IN GENERAL NOTES FOR CONSTRUCTION RESTRICTIONS.

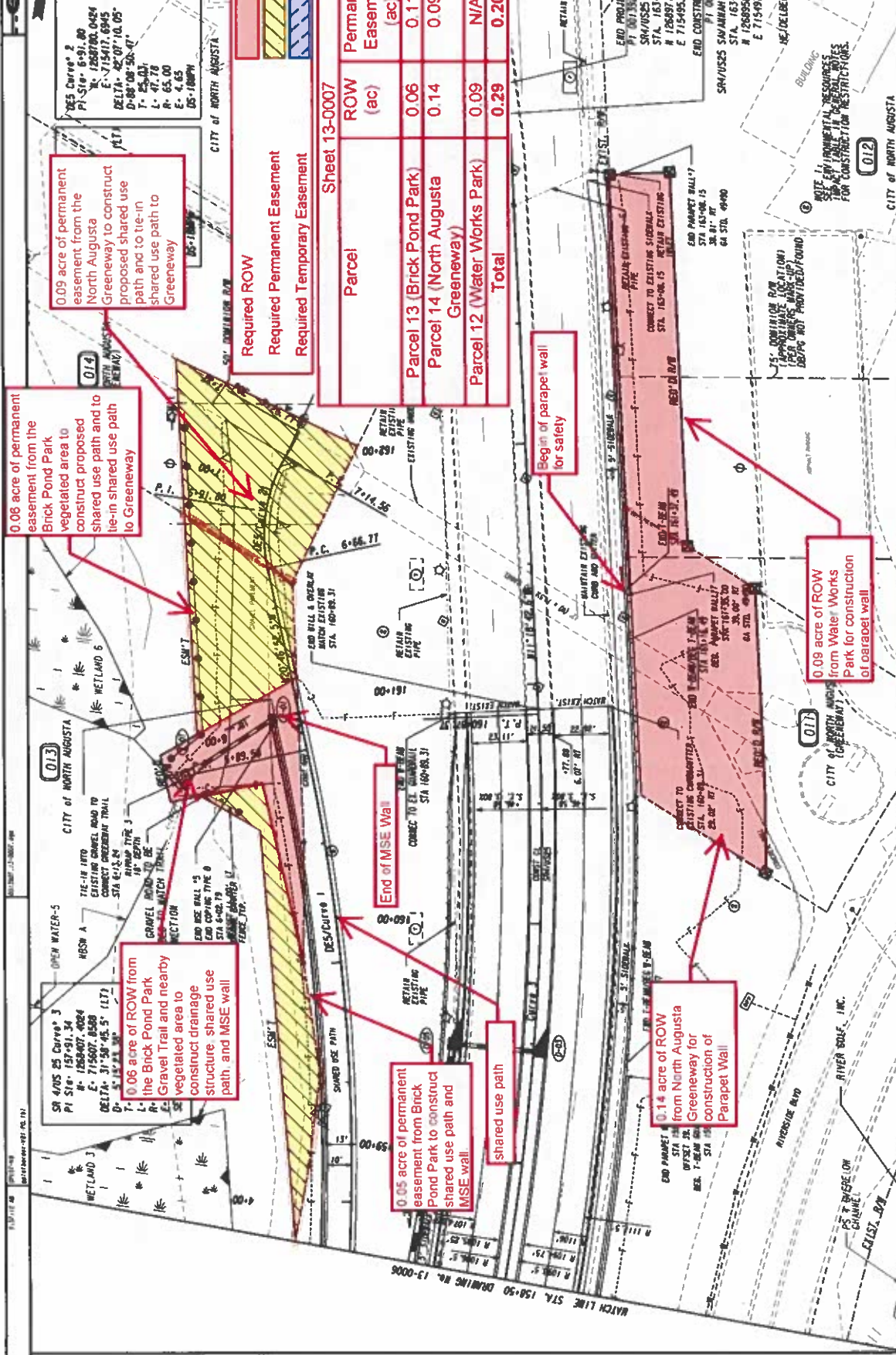
**CONSTRUCTION PLAN**  
 SR 4/US 25BU SAVANNAH RIVER  
 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LINE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

DATE: 10/15/13  
 DRAWING NO.: 13-0006

**PARSONS**  
 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LINE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
 PLANNING CONSULTING, INC.

**GDOT**  
 Georgia Department of Transportation  
 DISTRICT 2

SCALE: 1" = 40' FEET



0.09 acre of permanent easement from the North Augusta Greenway to construct proposed shared use path and to tie-in shared use path to Greenway

0.06 acre of permanent easement from the Brick Pond Park vegetated area to construct proposed shared use path and to tie-in shared use path to Greenway

0.06 acre of ROW from the Brick Pond Park Gravel Trail and nearby vegetated area to construct drainage structure, shared use path, and MSE wall

0.05 acre of permanent easement from Brick Pond Park to construct shared use path and MSE wall

Required ROW  
Required Permanent Easement  
Required Temporary Easement

Sheet 13-0007

Parcel	ROW (ac)	Permanent Easement (ac)	Temporary Easement (ac)
Parcel 13 (Brick Pond Park Greenway)	0.06	0.11	N/A
Parcel 14 (North Augusta Greenway)	0.14	0.09	N/A
Parcel 12 (Water Works Park)	0.09	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Begin of parapet wall for safety

0.09 acre of ROW from Water Works Park for construction of osrabet wall

**CONSTRUCTION PLAN**  
SR 4/US 25B SAVANNAH RIVER  
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LINE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

DATE	SCALE	DRAWING NO.
11/11/11	AS SHOWN	13-0007

**PARSONS**  
PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF  
1000 PEACOCK CORNERS, GA 30082

SCALE IN FEET  
0 20 40 60

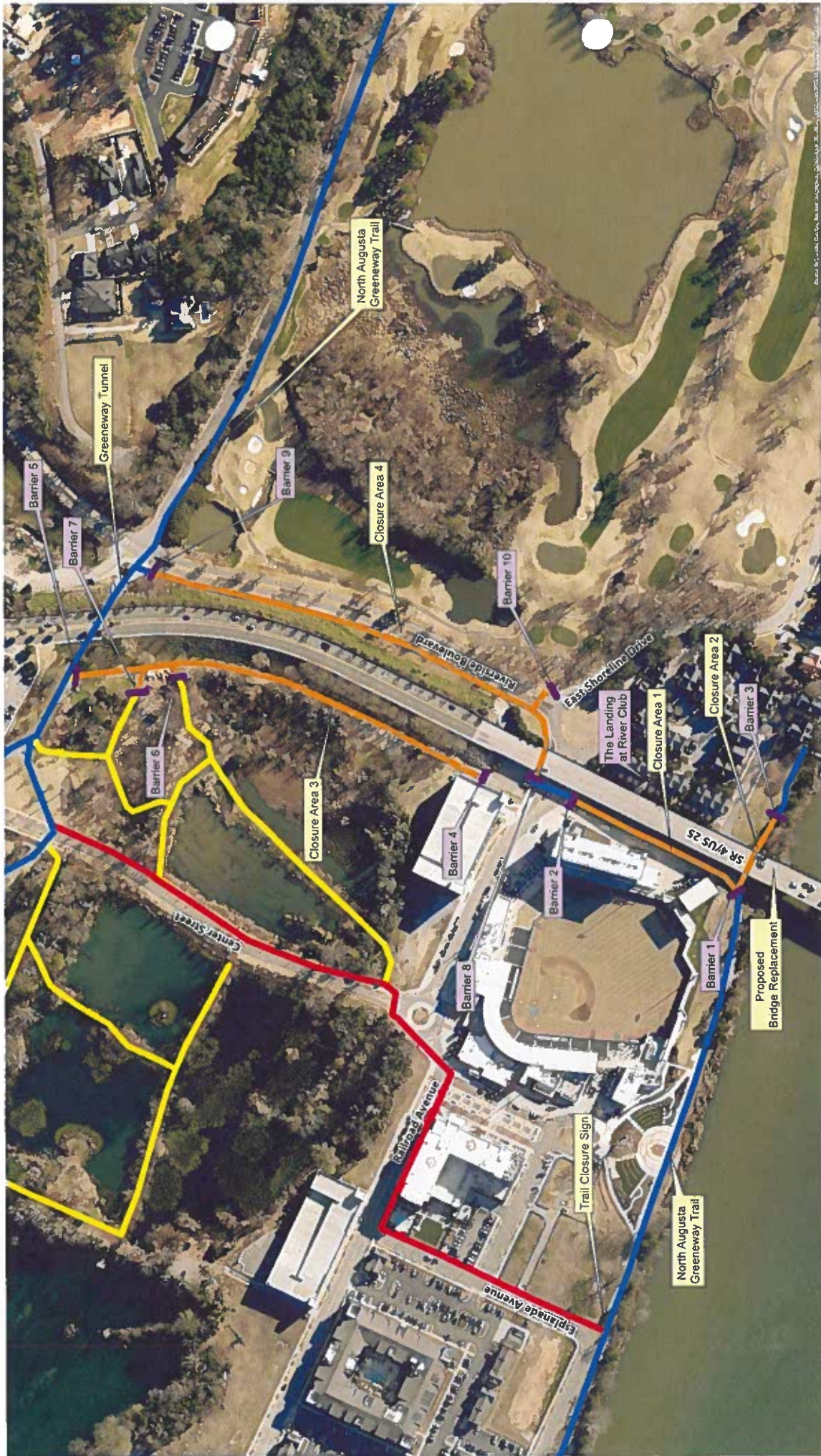
**GDOT**  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
DISTRICT 2

PROPERTY AND EXISTING OWN LINE  
REQUIRED ROW LINE  
CONSTRUCTION LIMITS  
EASEMENT FOR CONSTR  
& MAINTENANCE OF SLOPES  
EASEMENT FOR CONSTR OF DRIVES

BEGIN LIMIT OF ACCESS  
END LIMIT OF ACCESS  
LIMIT OF ACCESS  
RED'D ROW & LIMIT OF ACCESS  
GRAVEL BARRIER FENCE  
ESA - ENV. SENSITIVE AREA (SEE ERIT TABLE)



FIGURE 2



**SR 4/US 25 BU at Savannah River Bridge Replacement** Aiken County SC/Richmond County GA  
**Pedestrian/Bicyclist Detour**  
 North Augusta

**Legend**  
 Detour Route  
 Existing Route  
 Brck Pond Park Trails  
 Detour Route  
 Barrier  
 Closure Area  
 Brck Pond Park Trails

0 250 500 1000 Feet

N