# SPECIAL USE PERMIT (S): SUP-2022-003

# CITY OF SUWANEE SPECIAL USE PERMIT ANALYSIS

**CASE NUMBER:** 

SUP-2022-003

**REQUEST:** 

**OUTDOOR STORAGE** 

LOCATION:

3370 LAWRENCEVILLE-SUWANEE ROAD

TAX ID NUMBER:

7-194-372

ACREAGE:

**2.09 ACRES** 

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:

**OUTDOOR STORAGE** 

APPLICANT:

THE HONEY BAKED HAM COMPANY, LLC

3875 MANSELL ROAD ALPHARETTA, GA 30022

OWNER:

H&G PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT, LLC

1626 GUNBARREL ROAD CHATTANOOGA, TN 37421

CONTACT:

CHRIS CUMMINGS PHONE: 724-971-0270

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

## PROJECT DATA:

Honey Baked Ham seeks a Special Use Permit within the C-2A zoning district for outdoor storage to allow for a 20-foot long storage unit for the purpose of storing dry goods throughout the year, a 40-foot cold storage unit for the months of November and December each year, and a 20 foot cold storage unit for the 2 week period prior to Easter each year. These storage units would be located behind the retail space in an approximately 24-feet wide service drive behind the building. The storage containers are approximately 8 feet wide.

The applicant occupies a 1,470 square foot retail space in the Suwanee Promenade shopping center located at 3370 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road. Honey Baked Ham has been operating at this location for 15 years and has been using both a permanent storage container year round and a temporary cold storage container during their peak seasons in the proposed locations. The City of Suwanee Zoning Ordinance does not allow outdoor storage without a Special Use Permit. The City recently discovered the business was using the containers and made the applicant aware that outdoor storage was not allowed. The applicant is now seeking a Special Use Permit to be in compliance with the code.

The Special Use Permit process was created by the City Council in 2001 to better handle certain land uses. The SUP process allows the Council to review certain proposals in the context of their use and take into consideration the surrounding area and other relevant factors. A Special Use Permit does not change the underlying zoning of property, but grants the property an additional specified use. In this case the specified use would be outdoor storage.

## **ZONING HISTORY:**

The subject property was rezoned from M-1 to C-2A in 2005 in order to allow for the development of the existing shopping center.

## **ANALYSIS:**

The Honey Baked Ham store has a unique seasonal need for increased storage capacity due to the increased sales of its products during the holidays. The store has historically handled this need with temporary cold storage containers located in the loading area directly behind the store without incident. The 24-foot wide lane behind the building allows for vehicles to pass even when the temporary storage container is in place. Approval of the request for a temporary storage container for 2 ½ months of the year is not likely to negatively impact the surrounding area as it is hidden behind the building, and if safety precautions are taken, the site could accommodate the containers safely. In the past, the applicant has run a temporary electrical connection from the building to the cold storage container that vehicles run over. The property is capable of supporting the proposed special use; however, if a Special Use Permit is approved, the electrical connection for the cold storage facility will need to comply with building code requirements to the satisfaction of the Building Official.

The Suwanee Promenade shopping center on the subject property is fully occupied by other restaurants and retailers. The adjacent property to the south also contains several restaurants and retail and is zoned C-2A (Special Commercial District). Adjacent properties to the north and west are zoned M-1 (Light Industrial District) and occupied by light industrial buildings and businesses. Across Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road is another shopping center with restaurants and retail (zoned PMUD) and an auto parts store (zoned C-2A). This area of the City is a thriving commercial area with infrequent vacancies. None of the surrounding restaurant or retail uses are allowed outdoor storage as a use by right.

The request for temporary outdoor storage seems reasonable at this location given the unique seasonal needs of the business. A permanent storage container is not ideal. A permanent container could be considered an accessory structure, which is allowed by the Zoning Code if constructed with materials complying with the City's Architectural Standards, primarily brick or stone for commercial buildings. The storage container that is currently being used on the site is a metal shipping container, which does not meet the Architectural Standards.

The purpose of not allowing outdoor storage is to prevent clutter, trash and negative visual impacts in the City. Approval of seasonal storage is not likely to cause negative effects. A permanent storage container could contribute to negative visual impacts on the surrounding area

and encourage others to use the loading area for storage purposes if negative impacts are not managed. The shopping center has received warnings regarding trash at the rear of the property in the past. Additionally, the fence between the adjoining property next to the temporary storage container location is damaged and the dumpster door is broken. If approved, conditions should ensure that the property remains in compliance with code. Therefore, the Planning Department recommends **APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS** of SUP-2022-003.

## SUP-2022-003

Planning Department Recommendation:

Approval of outdoor storage subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The property shall be limited to one year round outdoor storage container and one temporary outdoor storage container for a maximum of 4 months in a 12 month period.
- 2. The one year round outdoor storage container shall be maintained in good condition. The unit shall be painted a subdued color to match the color of the shopping center. Said unit shall be located approximately as shown in Exhibit A.
- Temporary outdoor storage shall be limited to one 20-foot long storage container or one 40-foot long storage container at a time. Said container shall be located behind the building and shall not block the passage of vehicles (including emergency vehicles) or loading activities.
  - a. A building permit shall be obtained from the Planning and Inspections Department prior to the placement of temporary outdoor storage container each time. Up to two permits for temporary outdoor storage may be issued per calendar year. Each permit will be good for up to 2 months. Prior to the issuance of each permit, the Planning and Inspections Department will perform an inspection for code violations.
  - b. If the temporary outdoor storage container needs electricity, electrical supply shall comply with all applicable building codes. Said electrical shall be subject to approval of the Building Official.
  - c. No permit will be issued until all code violations are remedied and the Building Official determines that the electrical supply for the outdoor storage unit complies with applicable codes.

## Standards Governing Exercise of Zoning Power

Pursuant to Section 2006 of the City of Suwanee Zoning Ordinance, the City finds the following standards are relevant in balancing the interest in promoting the public health, safety, morality, or general welfare against the unrestricted use of property and shall govern the exercise of the zoning power therewith.

A. Whether the zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property;

Outdoor storage would be suitable in view of existing and nearby properties if properly maintained and visibility of any outdoor storage is minimized. The proposed location for the outdoor storage would be behind the commercial building and adjacent to industrial property.

B. Whether the zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing uses or usability of adjacent or nearby property;

With appropriate conditions, approval of the request would not likely affect the existing uses or usability of nearby property.

C. Whether the property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned;

The subject property has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned.

D. Whether the zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools;

Approval of the request would not create an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools.

E. Whether the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the Land Use Plan;

The Future Land Use Plan recommends commercial for the subject property. The proposed outdoor storage would be used to support existing commercial on the subject property.

F. Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal;

The Honey Baked Ham store has peak sales on a seasonal basis and has a need for extra cold storage a few months of the year.

## SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

An Appointment is required prior to submitting an application. Please contact MaryAnn Jackson at 770-945-8996 to setup an appointment.

APPLICANT INFORMATION*	OWNER INFORMATION	)N*				
NAME: The Honeybaked Ham Company, LLC	NAME: H&G Properties Management, LLC					
ADDRESS: 3875 Mansell Road	ADDRESS: 1626 Gunbarrel Road					
Alpharetta, GA 30022	Chattanooga, TN 37421					
PHONE: 724-971-0270	PHONE: 423-364-6628					
CONTACT PERSON: Chris Cummings	PHONE: 724-971-0270					
E-Mail Address: <u>ccummings@hbham.com</u>						
PROPERTY INFORMATION						
PRESENT ZONING DISTRICT(S): <u>C2-A</u>	REQUESTED ZONING DISTRICT					
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Ground Based Storag	ge					
TAX PARCEL NUMBER(S): 7-194 -	372					
ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 3370 Lawrenceville-Suv	vanee Road, Suite 120, Suwanee, GA 300	24				
TOTAL ACREAGE: 2.09 PUBLIC ROADWAY ACCESS: Lawrencville-Suwanee Road & Satellite Blvd. NE						
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:	FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL DEVEL	OPMENT:				
NO. OF LOTS/DWELLING UNITS:	NO. OF BUILDINGS/UNITS: 1					
DWELLING UNIT SIZE (SQ. FT.):	TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FEET: 1,470					
CERTIFICATIONS						
I hereby certify that the above and attached information is						
same land which has been denied by the City Council sha unless said time period is waived by the Council. In no c						
from the date of last action by the Council. Last	are that any and all conditions which may be	attached to the				
property shall be binding on the property and all ANAVOL	owners.					
Signature of Applicant*  Date OTARY	Signature of Owner*	Date				
Chris Cummings  Frint Name*	Print Name*	Date				
Signature of Nobary	Signature of Notary	Date				
Manual To COUNTY	Complete Additional Application Form(s)					
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Date Received: 4/29/22 Case No.: SUP-2022-005 Accepted By: AD

SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICANT'S RESPONSE

## SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

An Appointment is required prior to submitting an application. Please contact MarvAnn Jackson at 770-945-8996 to setup an appointment.

APPLICANT INFORMATION*	OWNER INFORMATION*					
NAME: The Honeybaked Ham Company, LLC	NAME: H&G Properties Management, LLC					
ADDRESS: 3875 Mansell Road	ADDRESS: 1626 Gunbarrel Road					
Alpharetta, GA 30022	Chattanooga, TN 37421					
-						
PHONE: 724-971-0270	PHONE: 423-364-6628					
CONTACT PERSON: Chris Cummings	PHONE: 724-971-0270					
E-Mail Address: ccummings@hbham.com						
PROPERTY INFORMATION						
PRESENT ZONING DISTRICT(S): CZ-A	REQUESTED ZONING DISTRICT					
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Ground Based Storage						
TAX PARCEL NUMBER(S): 7-194-372						
ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 3370 Lawrenceville-Su	wanee Road, Suite 120, Suwanee, GA 30024					
TOTAL ACREAGE: 2.09 PUBLIC ROADWAY ACCESS: Lawrencville-Suwanee Road & Satellite Blvd. NE						
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:	FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:					
NO. OF LOTS/DWELLING UNITS:	NO. OF BUILDINGS/UNITS: 1					
DWELLING UNIT SIZE (SQ. FT.):	TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FEET: 1,470					
CERTI	IFICATIONS					
CERTIFICATIONS  I hereby certify that the above and attached information is true and correct. I am also aware that no reapplication on the same land which has been denied by the City Council shall be acted upon within 12 months from the date of last action unless said time period is waived by the Council. In no case shall a reapplication be acted upon in less than 6 months from the date of last action by the Council. I am also aware that any and all conditions which may be attached to the property shall be binding on the property and all subsequent owners.						
	WANAWATTO Tay 5/2/2,					
Signature of Applicant* Date Chris Cummings	Signature of Owner* Han 5/1/22					
Print Name* Date	TENSION Name* TENSION Name* Successful Signature of Notary  Date					
Signature of Notary Date	Signature of Notary Date					
* If Additional Applicant or Owner Information is Needed Please Completing diffusional Application Form(s)						

Date Received: 5/2/22 CITY OF SUWANEE USE ONLY

Case No.: SUP-2022-003 Accepted By: AD

## STANDARDS GOVERNING EXERCISE OF THE ZONING POWER

Pursuant to the 1998 Zoning Ordinance, the city council finds that the following standards are relevant in balancing the interest in promoting the public health, safety, morality, or general welfare against the right to the unrestricted use of property and shall govern the exercise of the zoning power.

Please respond to the following standards in the space provided or use an attachment as necessary:

	e proposed use is for The HoneyBaked Ham Company LLC to have a '20 storage unit for the purpose of storing dry
	oughout the year furthermore, HoneyBaked is requesting permission for a '40 cold storage unit for the months of
No	vember -December each year, and a '20 cold storage unit during the 2-week period prior to Easter.
Wb	nether the zoning proposal will adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or
	arby property:
	is proposal will not affect the existing tenants in the shopping center as the area where the container is pu
to t	be placed is currently used by tenants for storage and waste removal.
	nether the property to be affected by the zoning proposal has a reasonable economic use as
	rently zoned:
_	e property is currently zoned for retail sales use and the placement of the container will not adversely important the container will not adversely in the c
reu	ail sales activity.
Wh	nether the zoning proposal will result in a use which will or could cause an excessive or
	rdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools:
Th	e placement of the storage container will not create an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets,
tra	ensportation facilities, utilities or schools.
 Wł	nether the zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan:
	ne placement of the container is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan.
W/I	hether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development
of t	the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the zoning
Th	he relatively small size of the HBH retail store at 1,470 sq. ft. necessitates that dry goods such as boxes ar
pa	cking materials be stored at the rear of the premises in a container to allow for the efficient operation of t
	ore.



## Dear Planning Commission:

This correspondence shall serve as the Letter of Intent relative to The HoneyBaked Ham LLC's Special Use Permit Application. HoneyBaked is submitting the Special Use Permit application in order to obtain approval to allow certain storage behind its retail premises located within the Suwanee Promenade Shopping Center.

HoneyBaked occupies a 1,470 sq. ft. retail store within the above center and provides HoneyBaked products to retail customers at the store location. HoneyBaked leases the space from the owner of the center and has operated from the retail space in the shopping center since 2007. HoneyBaked is respectfully seeking approval from the Planning Commission to allow HoneyBaked to place certain storage containers at the rear of the premises. The containers would not interfere with traffic flow or fire lanes and the proposed placement of the containers is set forth on the site plan attached hereto.

HoneyBaked is seeking to place a twenty (20) ft. long container throughout the year in order to store dry goods such as boxes and paper products. Further, HoneyBaked is also seeking approval to place a forty (40) ft. long cold storage unit at the rear of the premises during the months of November and December in addition to the 20' long dry goods container. During the Easter season HoneyBaked is proposing that it be allowed to place a twenty (20) ft. long cold storage unit at the rear of the premises in addition to the twenty (20) ft. long dry goods container.

The storage containers are necessary for the efficient operation of the store given the relatively small size of the premises consisting of 1,470 sq. ft. The proposed use will not adversely affect existing tenants in the center as the area at the rear of the center where the containers would be placed has been designed for storage and delivery of goods. Storage containers have in the past been placed at the rear of the center without any adverse effects upon other tenants and without having created any safety hazards.

Sincerely,

Chris Cummings, Regional Manager - Atlanta

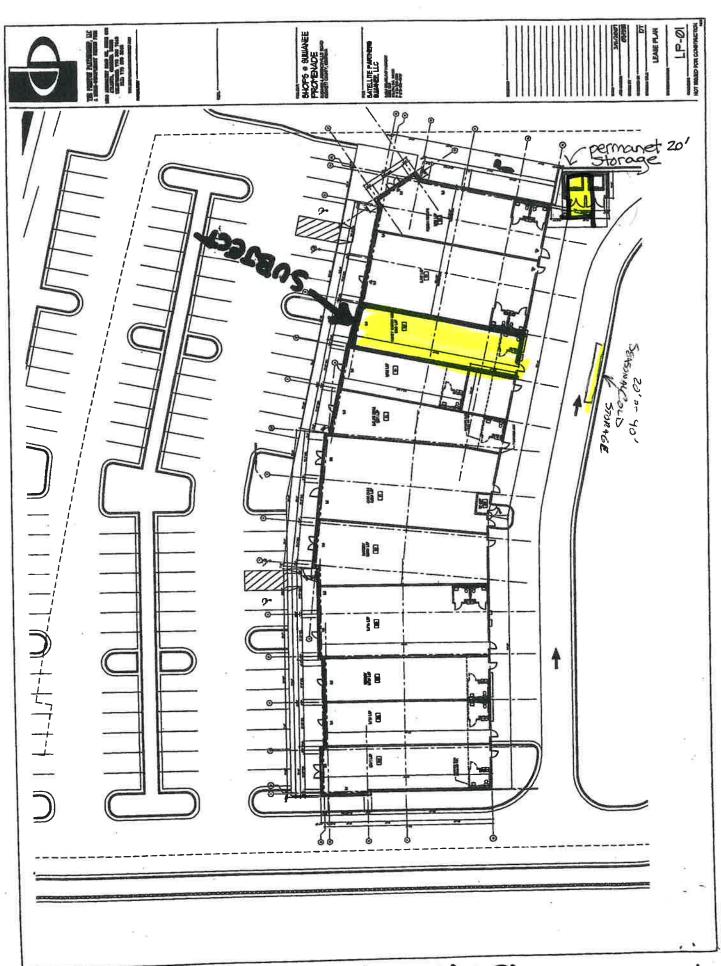
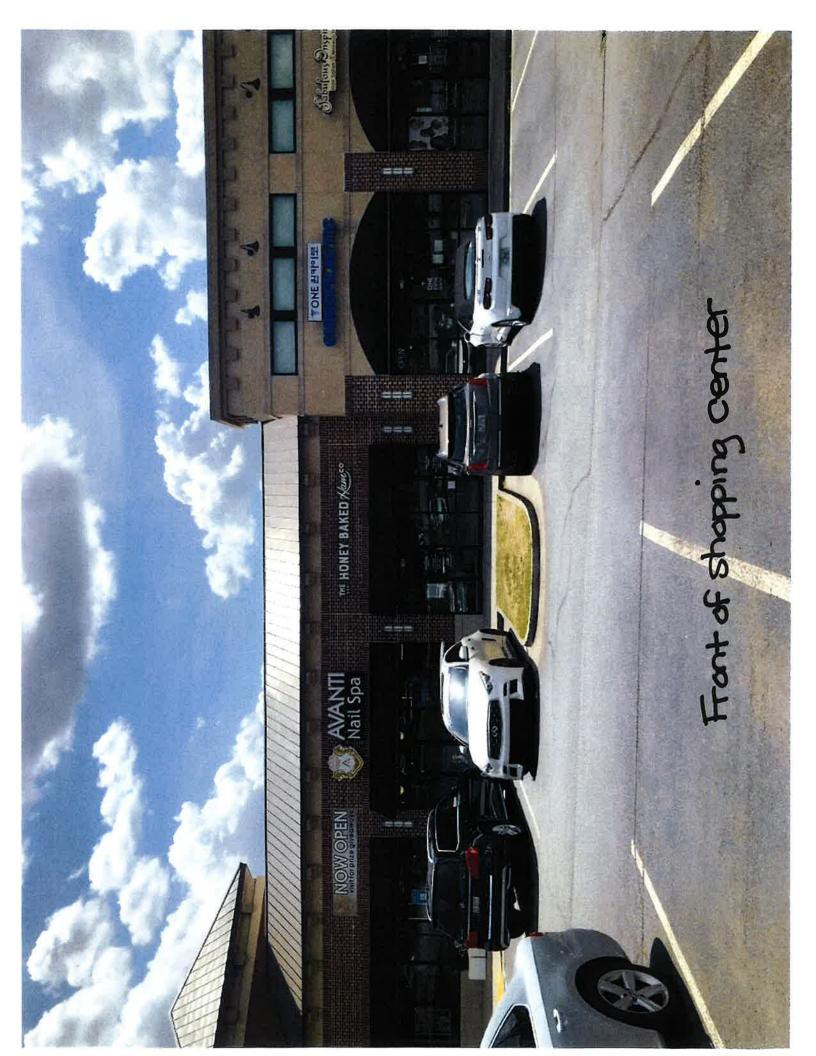


Exhibit A - Site Plan





location of requested outdoor storage

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# View from adjacent property



Street View - Dec 2018





750

375



# **Legend**

Subject Property

Parcels

