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JMTE WAYN 1364 TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM DECEMBER 20, 2022

To: Rebecca Walls 120 Suburban Road, Suite 204 Knoxville, TN 31923 Becca@hditn.com

From: David W. Hyder, P.E., Engineering Director J.M. Teague Engineering & Planning

SUBJECT: Traffic Impact Letter for Poplar Farms (WAYN 1364)

J.M. Teague Engineering and Planning (JMTE) has prepared a Traffic Impact Letter documenting the impacts of Home Development Incorporated's Poplar Farms development. Poplar Farms is a one hundred and fifty (150) unit single-family residential development off West Emory Road on approximately 68 acres in the unincorporated portion of Knox County Tennessee (Figure 1). The Knox County Development Ordinance provides for a two-phase process for getting development approval. The first phase of the process is developing a Traffic Impact Letter addressing the impacts of the "maximum potential use" for the proposed parcel. The second phase of the process is preparing a formal traffic impact study of the specific project and its immediate area.

Based on the Growth Policy Plan and the current zoning regulations, 204 dwelling units is the maximum number of dwelling units allowed on this 68 acre site.

Poplar Farms Subdivision Technical Memorandum

Knoxville, Tennessee

Documentation Prepared by:



1155 North Main Street Waynesville, NC 28786 (P) 828-456-8383



J. Mark Teague, P.E.

December 20, 2022



Figure 1: Site (Poplar Farms) Location (source Knox County GIS)

This Traffic Impact Letter (TIL) includes a project description, an assessment of existing conditions, proposed site access information, and information on trip demand. Based on our fieldwork and capacity analysis, we believe that a development of up to 204 dwelling units will not cause or contribute to a significant decline in traffic operations or safety on the affected roads or at the affected intersections.

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

JMTE visited Oak Ridge Highway and West Emory Road on the afternoon of November 16, 2022, and November 21, 2022. The site visits included driving on West Emory Road from the intersection with Oak Ridge Highway to the intersection with Karns Valley Drive. The conditions observed during the site visit are described below.

OAK RIDGE HIGHWAY – Oak Ridge Highway (TN 62) is a publicly maintained, two-lane 24-foot-wide paved highway with a 6-foot paved shoulder with a guardrail on both sides. The posted speed limit near the intersection with West Emory Road is 55 mph. The cross-section, vertical alignment, and horizontal alignment are typical of 2-lane rural, medium-volume, highways in east Tennessee. The condition of the asphalt and the width of the road indicate a medium to high traffic volume.

The intersection of Oak Ridge Highway and West Emory Road is a 'T' intersection. The intersection is approximately sixty-five (65) feet wide and has no dedicated turn lanes on any approach. West Emory Road is the minor approach and is controlled by a stop sign. Figure 2 and Figure 3 show the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway with West Emory Road. Figure 4 shows the measured sight distances at the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway and West Emory Road. The shortest measured sight distance is nine hundred seventy (970) feet; exceeding AASHTO's recommended sight distance (of 610 feet) by three hundred sixty (360) feet.



Figure 2: Oak Ridge Highway at W. Emory Rd (looking east)



Figure 3: Oak Ridge Highway at W. Emory Rd. (looking west)

WEST EMORY ROAD - Beginning at the intersection with Oak Ridge Highway, West Emory Road is a two-lane paved road approximately three miles in length between Oak Ridge Highway and Karns Valley Drive. The travel way consists of asphalt paving, the width is approximately 20 feet wide near the connection to Oak Ridge Highway narrowing to approximately eighteen (18) feet in width near the proposed Poplar Farm entrances. The grades on Figure 4: Sight Distance (Oak Ridge Highway & Emory Road) West Emory Road vary and the terrain



is considered rolling, the longitudinal grade near the proposed subdivision entrances is approximately 5.5%. On the north side of the road, the shoulder falls off immediately from the edge of the pavement into the drainage ditch (i.e., there is no recovery area). On the south side of the road, the shoulder is approximately two-feet wide between the edge of the pavement and the top of the embankment. The posted speed limit is 30 mph (Figure 5). The distance from the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway to the first proposed entrance is approximately 0.8 miles (4,224 feet) and the second entrance is approximately 0.9 miles (4,752 feet) from the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway and West Emory Road. There is a "Hill Blocks View Next 1.2 Miles" sign (Figure 6). Both proposed entrances are within that 1.2 miles.



Figure 5: West Emory Road (Posted Speed Limit)



Figure 6:Hill Blocks View Sign on West Emory Road

KARNS VALLEY DRIVE – Karns Valley Drive is a paved road approximately one mile east from the intersection with Oak Ridge Highway to the intersection with West Emory Road. The three-lane cross-section includes two twelve (12) foot travel lanes separated by a two-way turn lane plus an eight-foot paved shoulder on each side (Figure 7). The posted speed limit for this section of Karns Valley Road is roadway is 45 mph (Figure 8).







Figure 8: Karns Valley Drive (Posted Speed Limit)

Figure 10 shows the measured sight distances at the intersection of Karns Valley Drive and West Emory Road. The shortest measured sight distance is seven hundred (700) feet; exceeding AASHTO's recommended sight distance (of 500 feet) by two hundred (200) feet. Figure 10 shows the measured sight distances at the intersection of Oak Ridge Road and Karns Valley Drive. The shortest measured sight

distance is seven hundred seventy (700) feet; exceeding AASHTO's recommended sight distance (of 610 feet) by ninety (90) feet.



Figure 10: Sight Distance (Karns Valley Drive & West Emory Road)

Figure 9: Sight Distance (Oak Ridge Highway & Karns Valley Drive)

Table 1 estimates the existing Level of Service (LOS) for each studied roadway using the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) method. The estimated LOS is based on Table 4-3 of the FDOT capacity guidance (See Appendix B). Each studied roadway section is assumed to be a rural uninterrupted two-lane roadway. Using these assumptions all the studied roadways operate at or above LOS C.

Existing Travel Demand

JMTE installed a pneumatic tube volume counter between the two proposed access points. The count began on Wednesday, November 16th at 1 PM and ended Saturday, November 19th at 1 pm. The threeday average daily traffic at that location was 535 vehicles with the AM peak hour being 48 vehicles and the PM peak hour at 79 vehicles. (See attached Appendix A). An equipment failure Sunday, November 20th, 2022, resulted in a shorter-than-expected count.

Figure 11 below shows the location of the Tennessee DOT average daily traffic count stations. Table 1 shows the counts of each location for the year 2021.



Figure 11: TDOT Traffic Count Stations

Table 1 Current Roadway Operating Conditions

Roadway Name	FDOT Class	Count Station ID	Average Daily Traffic	Next Highest FDOT Capacity	Level of Service
Oak Ridge Highway	Rural Uninterrupted Flow Highways	47000364	10,611	13,800	C
West Emory Road	Rural Uninterrupted Flow Highways	47000582	818	2,600	A
Karns Valley Drive	Rural Uninterrupted Flow Highways	47000468	7,904	8,600	С

Differences in Travel Demand

JMTE used the *ITE Trip Generation Manual* (11th ed.) to estimate the daily, morning, and afternoon weekday trips for the maximum land use as it is currently zoned (1 dwelling unit per acre) and proposed zoning (3 dwelling units per acre). Table 2 summarized the results of the trip generation calculation.

ITE LUC	Proposed Land Use	Size	Trip	Daily	AM Pe	ak Ho	ur	PM Pe	ak Ho	ur
			Rate		Enter	Exit	Total	Enter	Exit	Total
210	Proposed Zoning	204 DU		1944	37	106	143	122	72	194
	Existing Zoning	68 DU		708	14	38	52	43	26	69
Difference		136 DU		1236	23	68	91	79	46	125

Table 2: Poplar Farms Trip Generation

Table 4 estimates the effects of Poplar Farms on the studied roadways. One hundred percent of the trips generated by Poplar Farms are assumed to use West Emory Road. Sixty percent (Table 3) of the trips generated by Poplar Farms are assumed to use Oak Ridge Highway and the remaining forty percent (Table 3) of trips are assumed to use Karns Valley Drive (Figure 12). The trip distribution on West Emory is assumed to be proportional to the traffic volumes in Table 1 and Table 3. This proposed development does not change the trip distribution in this region. The Average Daily Traffic column of Table 1 shows the existing traffic, the added traffic, and the total traffic at build-out. *Comparing Table 1 with Table 4 shows no significant change in the Levels of Service.*

Table 3: Trip Distribution Calculations

Road Name	AADT	Portion	Rounded
Oak Ridge Highway			
	10,611	0.57	60%
Karns Valley Drive			
	7,904	0.43	40%
Totals	18,515	1.00	100%



Figure 12: Trip Distribution Diagram

Roadway Name	FDOT Class	Count Station ID	Averag Tra	-	Next Highest FDOT Capacity	Level of Service
Oak Ridge	Rural Uninterrupted	47000364	Existing	10,611	13,800	С
Highway	Flow Highways		Added	879		
			Total	11,490		
West Emory	Rural Uninterrupted	47000582	Existing	818	2,600	А
Road	Flow Highways		Added	1,465		
			Total	2,283		
Karns Valley	Rural Uninterrupted	47000468	Existing	7,904	8,600	С
Drive	Flow Highways		Added	586		
			Total	8,490		

Table 4: Estimated Effect of Poplar Farms on Traffic Operations

SITE ACCESS

Safe access to and from the roadway is critical in the development process. This section of the TIL addresses sight distance, the need for turn lanes, and the ability of emergency vehicles to access the sight. Figure 13 and Figure 14 are photographs taken at the approximate location of Access 1. Figure 15 and Figure 16 are photographs taken at the approximate location of Access 2.





Sight Distance

Per the Knoxville-Knox County *Subdivision Regulations* section *3.04.j.5.* The minimum required sight distance for a road with a posted speed limit of 35 mph is 350 feet in each direction During the site visit, JMTE was not able to get an accurate sight distance from the proposed entrances due to the terrain and vegetation. It appears that the sight distance may be acceptable. However, it is the affirmative responsibility of the developer to ensure that sight distance is adequate when construction is complete.

Turn lane Warrant

The Knox County Department of Engineering and Public Works handbook, "Access Control and Driveway Design Policy," was used to determine if a northbound left turn lane or a southbound right turn lane is warranted at either of the proposed entrances. Based on existing opposing volumes (AM peak of 48 vehicles per hour (vph) and a PM peak of 79 vph), turn lanes are not warranted at either proposed driveway connection. (See Table 5). The red block indicates where these unwarranted values fall. However, turn lanes may be warranted if specific site traffic distribution exceeds the threshold shown in Table 5.

OPPOSING		THROU	GH VOLUME PL	US LEFT-TURN	VOLUME *	
VOLUME	<100	100 -199	200 - 249	250 - 299	300 - 349	350 - 399
Fewer Than 25						
25 - 49						
50 - 99						
100 - 149						
150 - 199						
200 - 249						
250 - 299						Yes
300 - 349					Yes	Yes
350 - 399				Yes	Yes	Yes
400 - 449			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
450- 499			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
500 - 549		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
550 - 599		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
600 or More	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 5: Knox County Left Turns Thresholds for 2-lane Roads (source Knox County)

Emergency Access

Emergency access will be available through the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway and West Emory Road. The width and condition of West Emory Road at the proposed access point would not hamper emergency vehicle access to the site. The National Fire Protection Association's Brian O'Connor summarizes the needed fire access requirements at <u>https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-andmedia/Blogs-Landing-Page/NFPA-Today/Blog-Posts/2021/01/08/Fire-Apparatus-Access-Roads</u> Fire Departments need 20 feet of unobstructed width and 13.5 feet of vertical clearance.

Appendix D of the 2012 International Fire Code requires multiple-family residential projects having more than 100 dwelling units to be equipped with two separate and approved fire access roads. The code also requires these roads to be spaced not less than one-half the length of the longest diagonal dimension of the area to be served. If the developer cannot meet the spacing requirement, Appendix D provides for other methods to ensure the safety of lives and property.

CRASH HISTORY

Knox County staff did not require crash history.

OTHER CONDITIONS

Knox County staff reported no special considerations.

CONCLUSION

Poplar Farms Subdivision will cause no significant deterioration of Oak Ridge Highway, West Emory Road, or Karns Valley Drive. Oak Ridge Highway operates at LOS C, West Emory Road operates at LOC A and Karns Valley Drive operates at LOS C. After the construction of the proposed Poplar Farms Subdivision,

it is expected that the Levels of Service on all studied roadways will maintain the same LOS. The sight distances at the existing intersections are adequate. The sight distance at the proposed intersections could not be evaluated because of the terrain and vegetation. The developer will be responsible for achieving the required sight distance from both proposed entrances and getting approval for these entrances from Knox County. The developer is also responsible for ensuring proper stem length to prevent blockage of internal intersections.



APPENDIX A: TRAFFIC COUNT DATA

JMTE - West Emory Road Traffic Count

Printed: 11/21/2022 at 16:17 TrafficViewer Pro v1.6.4.124 PicoCount 2500 V2.40 (s/n# 19092719)

Daily Vehicle Volume Report

 Study Date:
 Wednesday, 11/16/2022 / Thursday, 11/17/2022

 Unit ID:
 0453

 Location:
 WAYN 1364

	Southbound Volume	Northbound Volume	Total Volume
13:00 - 13:59	12	11	23
14:00 - 14:59	27	22	49
15:00 - 15:59	16	23	39
16:00 - 16:59	8	25	33
17:00 - 17:59	10	53	63
18:00 - 18:59	20	63	83
19:00 - 19:59	8	25	33
20:00 - 20:59	6	21	27
21:00 - 21:59	5	14	19
22:00 - 22:59	9	7	16
23:00 - 23:59	1	3	4
00:00 - 00:59	3	7	10
01:00 - 01:59	2	2	4
02:00 - 02:59	0	0	0
03:00 - 03:59	0	2	2
04:00 - 04:59	1	0	1
05:00 - 05:59	8	0	8
06:00 - 06:59	16	1	17
07:00 - 07:59	24	3	27
08:00 - 08:59	49	12	61
09:00 - 09:59	35	12	47
10:00 - 10:59	23	14	37
11:00 - 11:59	15	21	36
12:00 - 12:59	17	15	32
Totals	315	356	671
AM Peak Time	08:22 - 09:21	10:59 - 11:58	08:24 - 09:23
AM Peak Volume	58	21	75
PM Peak Time	14:08 - 15:07	17:29 - 18:28	17:33 - 18:32
PM Peak Volume	28	73	91

APPENDIX B: FLORIDA CAPACITY TABLE

TABLE 4 – 3 GENERALIZED ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY VOLUMES FOR FLORIDA'S RURAL UNDEVELOPED AREAS AND CITIES OR DEVELOPED AREAS LESS THAN 5,000 POPULATION'

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0-49% ** ** ** ** 6,200 Side 50-84% ** ** ** ** 17,600	walk Coverage 0-49%	e A	B	C.	D 4,400	E 14,200
85-100% ** ** 3,900 >3,900 ***	50-84%	**			8,000	14,200
	\$5-100%	**	••	9,400	>9,400	***
02/22/02 NON-FREEWAY AND SIGNA					VIDED ADJ	USTMENT
Source: Florida Department of Transportation (alt Systems Planning Office Lanes	er correspondin Median		eft Turn La		Adjustmen	t Factors
605 Suwannee Street, MS 19 2	Divided	2	Yes	18.0	+5%	
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450 2	Undivided		No		-204	%
Multi Multi	Undivided Undivided		Yes		-5%	
http://wwwllnnyfforida.com/planning/systems/sm/los/default/htm Multi "This table does not constitute a standard and should be used only for general planning applications. The computer mod		table is destroy 1.4	No		-25%	

APPENDIX C: KNOX COUNTY PRE-SUBMITTAL



ATTACHMENT B: Pre-Submittal Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA) Scope Determination Form

	DEVELOPMENT INFORMA	TION
Project name:	Poplar Farms	
Project Description:	A residential community in the	Karns area
Project Location	9841 West Emory Rd. Knoxville	e, TN 37931
Existing Zoning:	Ag	
Development Name:	Poplar Farms	
Developer name & address:Home Development Inc. 120 S		uburban Rd. Suite 204 Knoxville, TN
Telephone number: 7736201627		
Email:	becca@hditn.com	
Tax Map & Parcel #:		
	the time of discussion)	
	the development that includes:	
Site Map details (this should be <u>attached</u>):		
Building footp	rints	Varied within lot size 60 x 100
Number of un	its/unit size	150 DU
Access points		2 from West Emory Rd
Internal roadways (if any)		
Adjacent streets		
Proposed sidewalks and bicycle facilities, and		Lot depth allows sidewalks
Location and r (if applicable)	number of proposed parking spaces	
Phasing plan (if ap	oplicable) that includes:	
Phase size, loc	cation, & timing	

BELOW TO BE FILLED OUT BY KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY PLANNING STAFF

Pre-study scope meeting **needed**

Pre-study scope meeting **not needed**

Intersection(s) to study:

N/A -see notes below

Level of Analysis:

Transportation Impact Letter (TIL) required due to rezoning within the "Rural Area" portion of Knox County according to the Growth Policy Plan

Notes:

Refer to Section 6.A. of the Knoxville-Knox County Planning TIA Guidelines for scope requirements of a Rural Area TIL with an existing conditions assessment of W. Emory Rd in handling the additional traffic from higher proposed density on this parcel.

Additional notes:

1.) Crash history/analysis not required

2.) Average Daily Traffic (Daily Traffic Capacity) level analysis based on FDOT standards or other approved methodology for arterial routes of:

- Karns Valley Drive btwn W. Emory Rd and Oak Ridge Hwy (TDOT sta. 47000468)

- W. Emory Rd near Clinton Hwy (TDOT sta. 47000047)
- Oak Ridge Hwy btwn Pellissippi Pkwy and W. Emory Rd (TDOT sta. 47000364)

2000

11/15/2022

Signature

Date



1155 North Main Street Waynesville, NC 28786 (P) 828.456.8383 (F) 828.456.8797 www.jmteagueengineering.com

December 15, 2022

Mike Conger, P.E. Knoxville-Knox County Planning 400 Main Street, Suite 403 Knoxville, TN 37902

Re: Poplar Farms Subdivision - Traffic Impact Letter

Dear Mr. Conger,

On behalf of Home Development Incorporated, we are pleased to submit the requested additional information for your review and approval. The comments identified from your office dated December 12, 2022, and the associated responses are listed below.

Comment	Response
Please add P.E. stamp to the cover sheet of the TIL	Mark Teague P.E. has stamped this TIL.
This report needs to speak in more general terms	The text has been updated to speak in more
regarding a proposed development that could result	general when referring to a proposed
from the rezoning request rather than a specific	development.
development plan which will be reviewed at a later	
Concept plan and full TIS if the zoning request is	
approved. Please state in the introductory paragraph	
that this report addresses the requirement for a	
transportation analysis associated with rezoning to	
higher density in the Rural Areas as designated by the	
Growth Policy Plan. The subsequent sections of the TIL	
need to perform analyses based on the maximum	
number of dwelling units that would be allowed f the	
requested zoning (3 Du/acre) is granted by the	
Planning Commission.	
On page 2, it would be preferable to show the affected	An image of the Knox County GIS map with
parcel(s) on this location map if possible.	the subject parcel highlighted is now
	included In the report.
On page 5, please add a map showing the ADT	The ADT evaluation location map has been
evaluation locations. The same map could also be used	added to the report. As figure 11 on page 8.
in the subsequent section to display the before/after	
traffic volumes with and without this development on	
each affected roadway.	

WAYN 1364

Comment	Response
On page 6, as noted previously, trip generation should	Table 2 has been updated to show the
be based on the maximum unit count that is allowable	requested zoning and the existing zoning
per the requested zoning. Additionally, please include	along with their differences.
the trip generation estimate for the existing allowable	- C
dwelling unit density in the Ag zoning, which is 1	
DU/Acre and report the total net increase that will	
result from the requested increased density.	
On page 6, please provide additional supporting	Additional information and a Trip
information as to how the trip distribution	Distribution figure have been added to the
percentages were derived. Additionally, please include	report on page 9.
a figure with the roadway network that graphically	
shows the general distribution patterns.	
Regarding sight distance, please note that intersection	The site distance requirements statement
sight distance minimums are based on different	has been updated to Knox County
methodologies when strictly dealing with a County-	requirements rather than Tennessee DOT.
maintained roadway which are instead measured as	
10 times the posted speed limit (refer to Section	
3.04.J.5 of the Knoxville-Knox County Subdivision	
Regulations). The Tennessee DOT however does	
require ISD to meet AASHTO requirements where a	
state-maintained roadway is involved.	
On page 9, the information being conveyed by the	The tables have been updated and replaced
turn lane warrant sheets is not clear including the	and are clearly denoting where the volumes
blanked-out areas. Please provide an updated sheet	fall on Table 5 page 13.
denoting the volumes for this analysis and where they	
fall on the chart to indicate the warrant status.	
On page 10 in the "Conclusion" section, in line 8	This replacement has been made.
Replace "The Fire Marshall" with "Knox County".	
On page 11, in the legend, replace " E. of Pellissippi	This replacement has been made.
Parkway" with Oak Ridge Highway".	
A few typos were found where "sight" was spelled as	All typos have been addressed.
"site" and "Karns" was spelled as "Karnes", please	
correct as necessary.	

If you should have any questions or comments regarding this submittal, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: 4226FF2577A7414... Dec-20-2022

J. Mark Teague, P.E., CPM

Owner and Principal Engineer