



Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants

A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC

December 10, 2008

Mr. Claiborne Barnwell
Chief
Environmental Division
Mississippi Department of Transportation
Administration Building
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39215-1850

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Barnwell:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport, including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. The Police Administration building was a 10,159 square foot one-story brick building located at 2220 15th Street in Gulfport that served as the main law enforcement building for the City. The Police Community Services Building was a 3,144 square foot one-story brick building located at 2211 15th Street in Gulfport. The Municipal Court occupied an 11,188 square foot one-story brick building located at 2200 15th Street in Gulfport. All three buildings were located outside of both the 100-year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). Despite their location, each building was flooded with up to 36 inches of saltwater and sewage. The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement of each building. The City of Gulfport Police Department and Municipal Court are currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing the former 28th Street Elementary School, located at 2810 34th Avenue in Gulfport. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the police department or the municipal court. The former police and municipal court buildings were demolished due to public health and safety concerns.

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9801 Westheimer, Suite 101
Houston, Texas 77042
TEL 713-914-6490
FAX 713-789-8404



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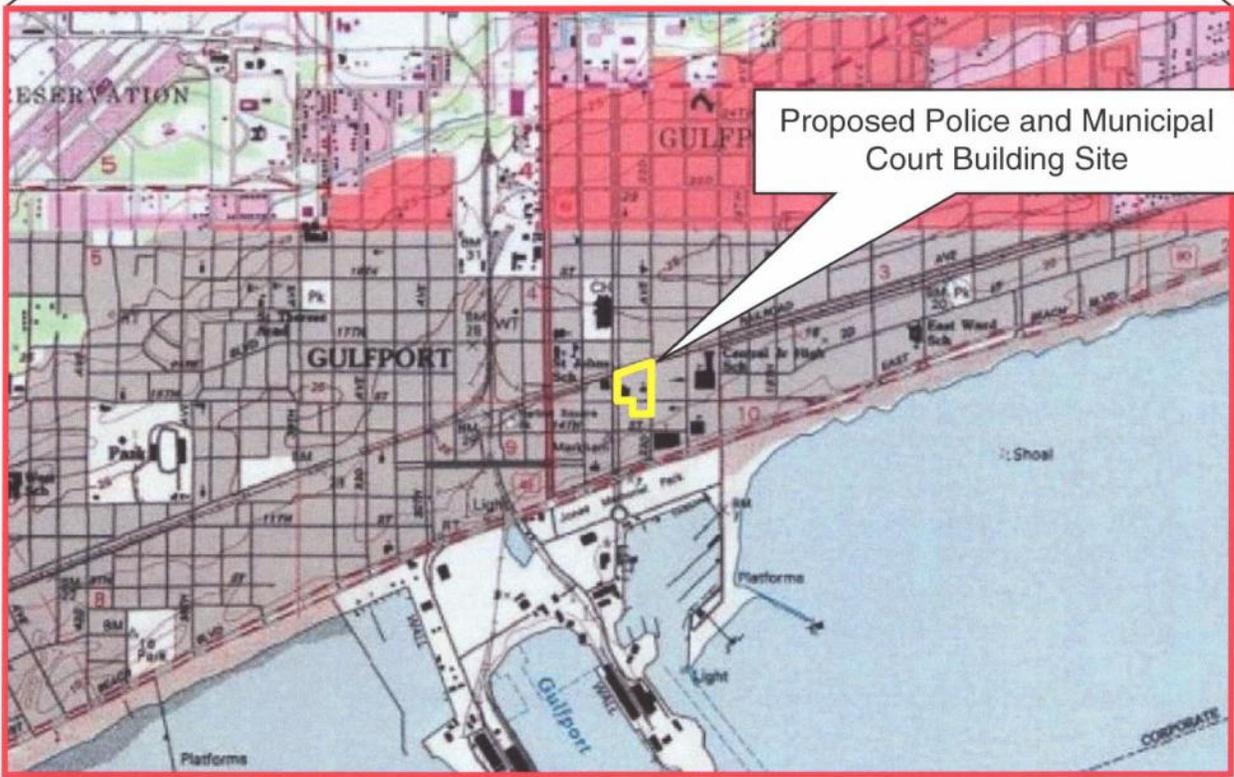
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey B. Pollard" with the word "for" written below it.

Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS

9801 Westheimer, Suite 101
Houston, Texas 77042
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Source: USGS, Gulfport South quadrangle

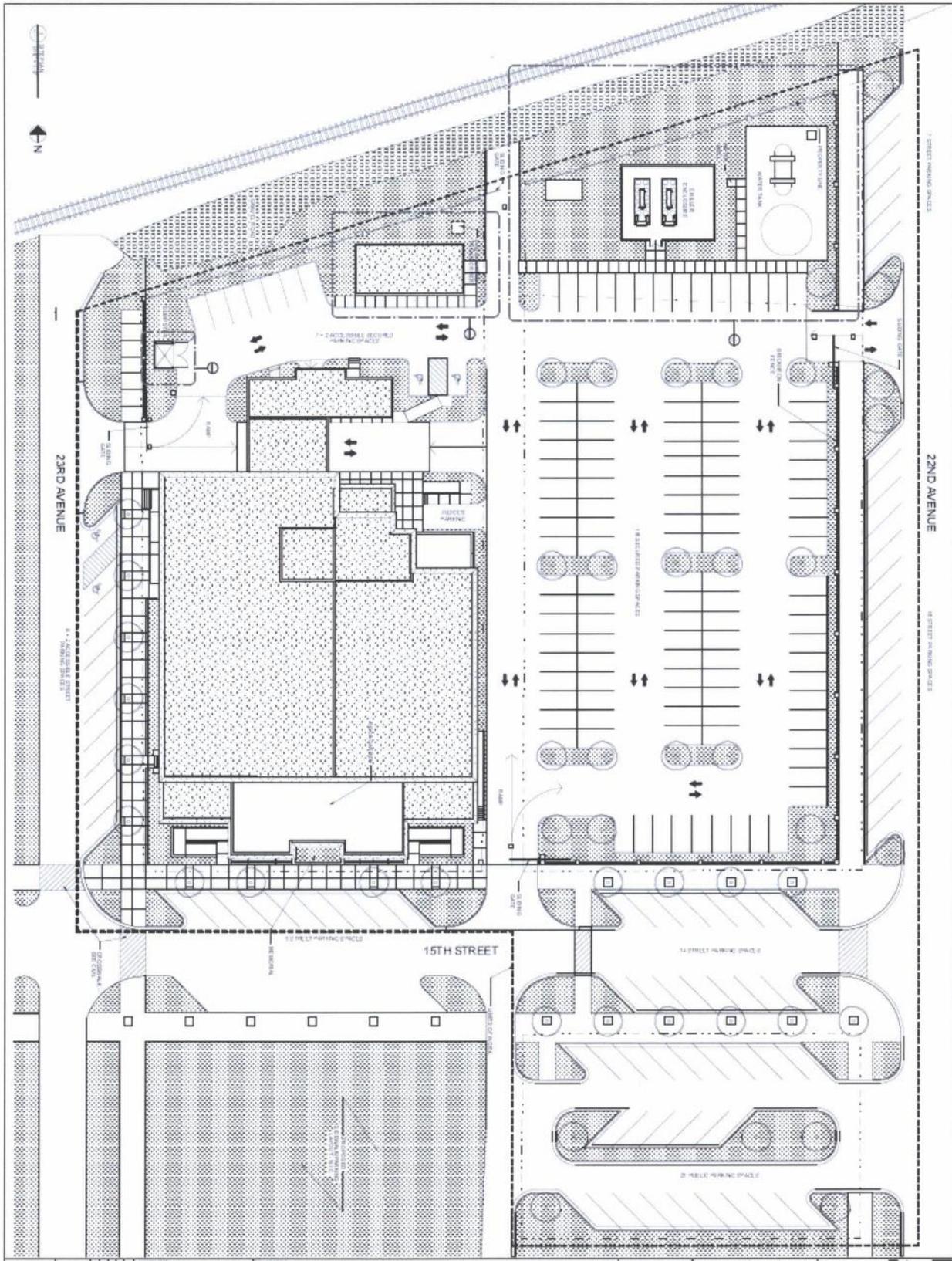
| | | | |
|-------------|--|--------|--|
| CLIENT | City of Gulfport | | |
| PROJ | Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | |
| REVISION NO | Draft | DES BY | |
| SCALE | | DR BY | |
| FILE | | CHK BY | |

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------|
| TITLE | PROJECT VICINITY | |
| |  | PROJ NO 15708003 |
| | | FIGURE 1 |



| | | | | |
|---|-------|--------|---------------------|------------------|
| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | TITLE | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | PROJECT AREA | |
| REVISION NO | Draft | DES BY | | PROJ NO 15708003 |
| SCALE | | DR BY | | FIGURE 2 |
| FILE | | CHK BY | | |





| | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|----------|--|
| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | | |
| REVISION NO | DES BY | DR BY | 10/15/08 | |
| SCALE | NTS | BSM | X | |
| FILE | CHK BY | X | X | |

TITLE **CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN**



| | |
|---------|----------|
| PROJ NO | 15708003 |
| FIGURE | 3 |



December 10, 2008

Mr. Don Underwood
Executive Director
Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 23005
Jackson, MS 39225-3005

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Underwood:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport, including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. The Police Administration building was a 10,159 square foot one-story brick building located at 2220 15th Street in Gulfport that served as the main law enforcement building for the City. The Police Community Services Building was a 3,144 square foot one-story brick building located at 2211 15th Street in Gulfport. The Municipal Court occupied an 11,188 square foot one-story brick building located at 2200 15th Street in Gulfport. All three buildings were located outside of both the 100-year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). Despite their location, each building was flooded with up to 36 inches of saltwater and sewage. The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement of each building. The City of Gulfport Police Department and Municipal Court are currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing the former 28th Street Elementary School, located at 2810 34th Avenue in Gulfport. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the police department or the municipal court. The former police and municipal court buildings were demolished due to public health and safety concerns.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey B. Padgett" with the word "for" written below it.

Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



December 10, 2008

Mr. Homer L. Wilkes
State Conservationist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Suite 1321, Federal Building
100 West Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39269

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Wilkes:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Mehok", with the word "for" written below it in a smaller, cursive script.

Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



December 10, 2008

Dr. Susan Rees
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District
109 St. Joseph Street
Mobile, AL 36602

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Dr. Rees:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

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Biloxi, MS



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December 10, 2008

Mr. Ray Aycock
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson Field Office
Suite A
6578 Dogwood View Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Aycock:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Mississippi Field Office
6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A
Jackson, Mississippi 39213

December 15, 2008

Mr. Brian Mehok
NISTAC
9801 Westheimer, Suite 101
Houston, TX 77042

Dear Mr. Mehok,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your letter dated December 10, 2008 regarding the proposed replacement and consolidation of the City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court buildings. The proposed project site is located in the 2200 block of 15th Street, Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi. Our comments are submitted in accordance with the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The Service has determined that the proposed project will not affect any federally listed threatened or endangered species, as suitable habitat does not exist within the project boundary. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at (601) 321-1135.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Chandler
Wildlife Biologist



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December 10, 2008

Mr. James D. Giattina
Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Water Management Division
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Giattina:

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Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



December 10, 2008

Mr. Andy Prosser
Bureau Director
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
P.O. Box 1609
Jackson, MS 39215

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

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Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



December 10, 2008

Ms. Michelle Vinson
Environmental Permits Division
Office of Pollution Control
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS 39289-0385

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

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In lieu of replacement, the applicant (City of Gulfport) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) program for an improved project to consolidate the functions of each of the damaged buildings into the new City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building. The new facility would utilize approximately 4.2 acres of land formerly occupied by the Police Department and Municipal Court buildings along the 2200 block of 15th Street. The proposed project site is located within a commercial area in downtown Gulfport and is adjacent to the Harbor Square Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is bound to the north by railroad tracks, to the south by 15th Street and commercial property, the west by 23rd Avenue, and to the east by 22nd Avenue. Currently, the site houses office trailers used by the City of Gulfport.

The new facility would include a 67,847 square foot, three-story building, approximately 205 secured and unsecured parking spaces, a water tank, wastewater storage bladder, and chiller. The building would include two municipal courtrooms and associated office space, police department office and training space, evidence and records storage space, and inmate holding cells. A Mississippi Power Company overhead power corridor located on the project site would be buried as part of the proposed project.



Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants

A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC

NISTAC has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, NISTAC requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information or resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by telephone at 713-914-6490, electronic mail at brian_mehok@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101, Houston, TX 77042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Mehok", with a large, stylized "for" written below it.

Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants

A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC

December 10, 2008

Ms. Robin Zantow
Administrative Assistant
Bureau of Wetlands Permitting
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

Dear Ms. Zantow:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport, including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. The Police Administration building was a 10,159 square foot one-story brick building located at 2220 15th Street in Gulfport that served as the main law enforcement building for the City. The Police Community Services Building was a 3,144 square foot one-story brick building located at 2211 15th Street in Gulfport. The Municipal Court occupied an 11,188 square foot one-story brick building located at 2200 15th Street in Gulfport. All three buildings were located outside of both the 100-year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). Despite their location, each building was flooded with up to 36 inches of saltwater and sewage. The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement of each building. The City of Gulfport Police Department and Municipal Court are currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing the former 28th Street Elementary School, located at 2810 34th Avenue in Gulfport. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the police department or the municipal court. The former police and municipal court buildings were demolished due to public health and safety concerns.

In lieu of replacement, the applicant (City of Gulfport) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) program for an improved project to consolidate the functions of each of the damaged buildings into the new City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building. The new facility would utilize approximately 4.2 acres of land formerly occupied by the Police Department and Municipal Court buildings along the 2200 block of 15th Street. The proposed project site is located within a commercial area in downtown Gulfport and is adjacent to the Harbor Square Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is bound to the north by railroad tracks, to the south by 15th Street and commercial property, the west by 23rd Avenue, and to the east by 22nd Avenue. Currently, the site houses office trailers used by the City of Gulfport.

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9801 Westheimer, Suite 101
Houston, Texas 77042
TEL 713-914-6490
FAX 713-789-8404



Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants

A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC

NISTAC has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, NISTAC requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information or resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by telephone at 713-914-6490, electronic mail at brian_mehok@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101, Houston, TX 77042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey D. Patten", with the word "for" written below it.

Brian Mehok
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,
Biloxi, MS



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2009

Brian Mehok
NISTAC
9801 Westheimer, Suite 101
Houston, Texas 77042

RE: DMR-090335

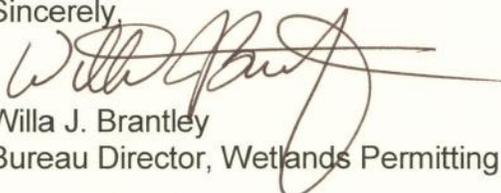
Dear Mr. Mehok:

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to insure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has received a request to review a proposal for The City of Gulfport to construct the City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building in Harrison County, Mississippi. The Department has no objections provided there are no direct or indirect impacts to coastal wetlands and no coastal program agency objects to the proposal. If wetland impacts are anticipated, an application should be submitted to this office for review. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your project.

For more information or questions concerning this correspondence, contact Jana Guynes with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at (228) 523-4118.

Sincerely,


Willa J. Brantley
Bureau Director, Wetlands Permitting

WB/jjg

cc: The City of Gulfport



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Transitional Recovery Office
Physical Address
220 Popps Ferry Rd.
Building A South
Biloxi, MS 39532

January 21, 2009

Mr. Jim Woodrick
FEMA Point of Contact
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Woodrick:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport, including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. The Police Administration building was a 10,159 square foot one-story brick building located at 2220 15th Street in Gulfport that served as the main law enforcement building for the City. The Police Community Services Building was a 3,144 square foot one-story brick building located at 2211 15th Street in Gulfport. The Municipal Court occupied an 11,188 square foot one-story brick building located at 2200 15th Street in Gulfport. All three buildings were located outside of both the 100-year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). Despite their location, each building was flooded with up to 36 inches of saltwater and sewage. The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement of each building. The City of Gulfport Police Department and Municipal Court are currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing the former 28th Street Elementary School, located at 2810 34th Avenue in Gulfport. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the police department or the municipal court. The former police and municipal court buildings were demolished due to public health and safety concerns.

In lieu of replacement, the applicant (City of Gulfport) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) program for an improved project to consolidate the functions of each of the damaged buildings into the

new City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building. The new facility would utilize approximately 4.2 acres of land formerly occupied by the Police Department and Municipal Court buildings along the 2200 block of 15th Street. The proposed project site is located within a commercial area in downtown Gulfport and is adjacent to the Harbor Square Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is bound to the north by railroad tracks, to the south by 15th Street and commercial property, the west by 23rd Avenue, and to the east by 22nd Avenue. Currently, the site houses office trailers used by the City of Gulfport.

The new facility would include a 67,847 square foot, three-story building, approximately 205 secured and unsecured parking spaces, a water tank, wastewater storage bladder, and chiller. The building would include two municipal courtrooms and associated office space, police department office and training space, evidence and records storage space, and inmate holding cells. A Mississippi Power Company overhead power corridor located on the project site would be buried as part of the proposed project.

Paul Drummond, a FEMA Archaeologist qualified under the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (36 CFR Part 61) in the discipline of archaeology, conducted an assessment of the project's potential to affect historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The APE is the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. For archaeological resources, the APE consists of the proposed project site; for above-ground historic properties, the APE is extended out to a 0.5-mile radius around the proposed project site. This APE was previously established through FEMA consultation with the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

A search of the SHPO site files and maps indicate that very few archaeological investigations have been executed within a two mile radius of the APE. Most notably, 07-187, was monitoring at Grasslawn during its demolition and two highway 49 corridor surveys (98-088 and 99-173). All three surveys produced negative results.

On September 20, 2008, Mr. Drummond visited the site to determine if any historic buildings/structures or archaeological sites were visibly present within the archaeological APE. With the exception of a brick building that appears to be 45 years or older, the only other structures are several temporary trailers used for office space by the Applicant. A FEMA structures specialist will submit a separate letter addressing this and other potential view shed issues.

The existing urban terrain is flat and is covered with approximately 95 percent concrete and 5 percent landscaping. The only exposed ground surface was on the northern boundary along the railroad tracks. This surface exhibited years of disturbance and had no evidence of significant cultural remains. Due to existing ground disturbance (past construction, utilities, etc.) sub-surface cultural resources are unlikely to be present or intact. A Phase 1 Cultural Resources Investigation is not recommended, however, if new construction results in excessive excavation then a monitor should be present to observe the ground disturbance.

FEMA requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information or resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If

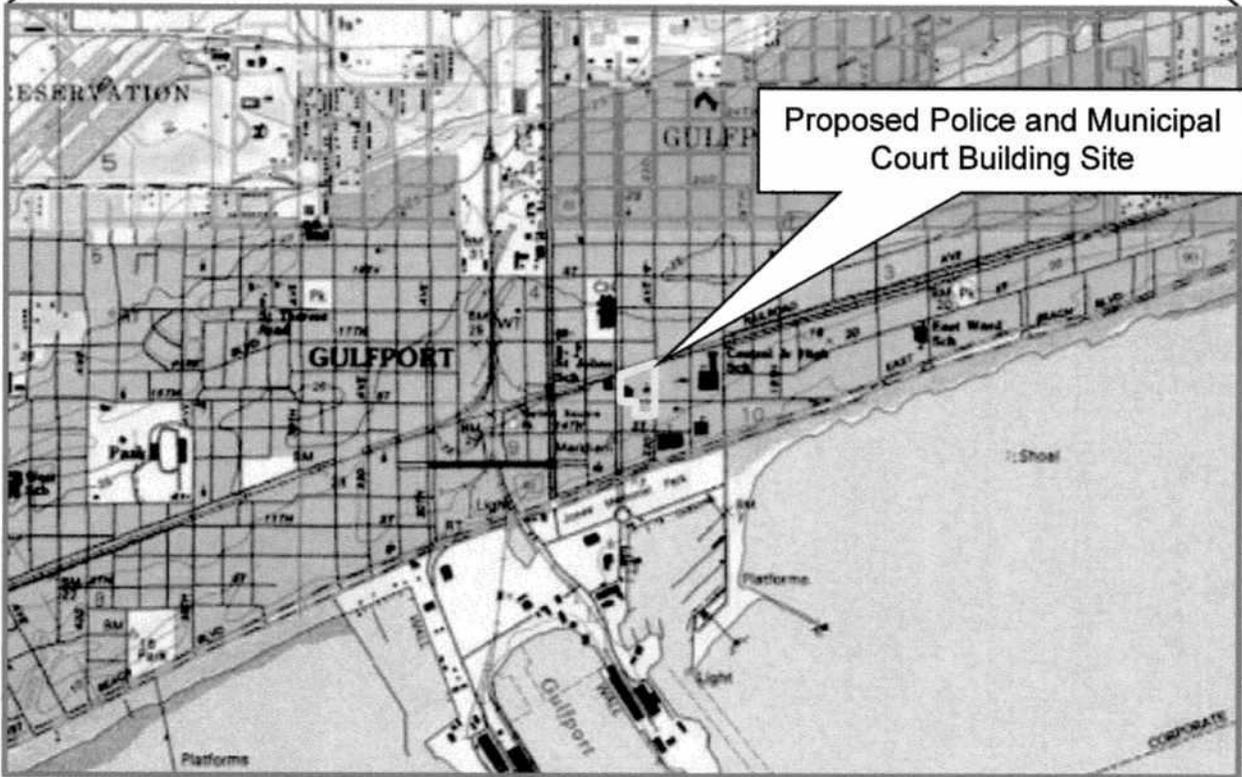
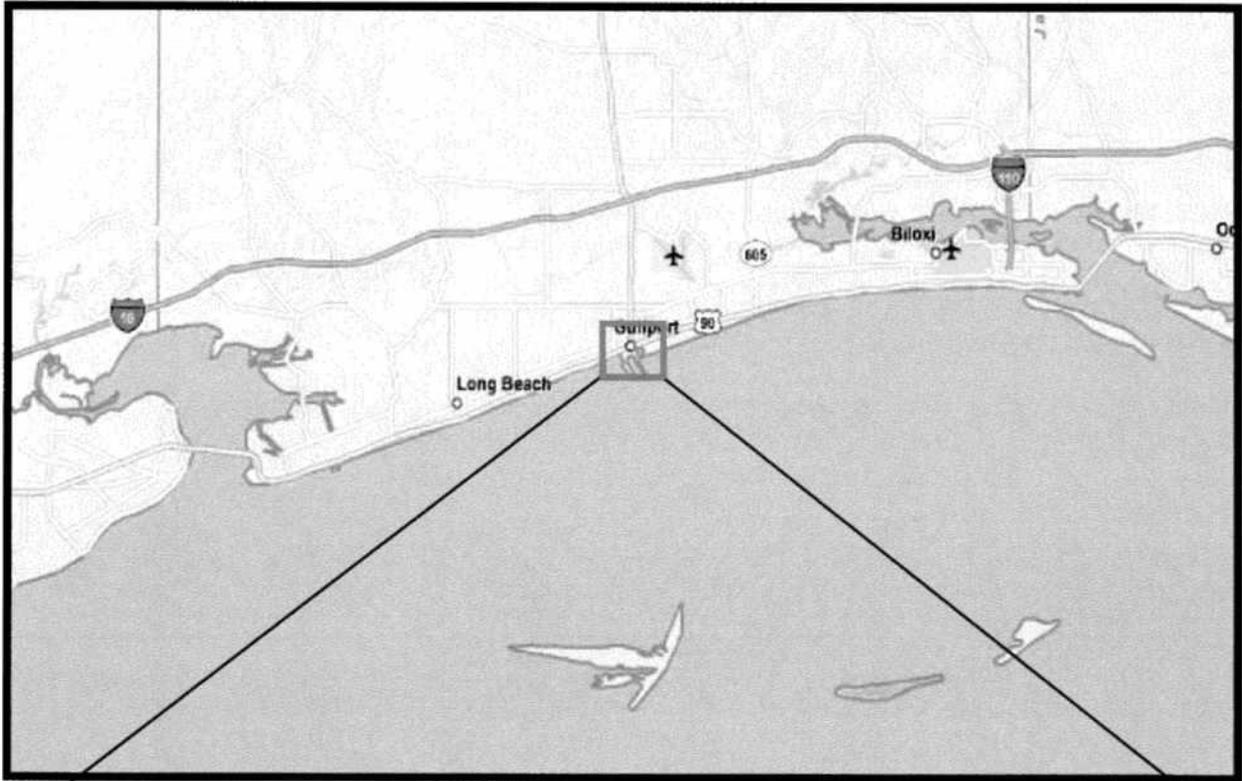
Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building Improved Project, 1/21/09

you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Paul Drummond by telephone at (228) 594-2960 or electronic mail at paul.a.drummond@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

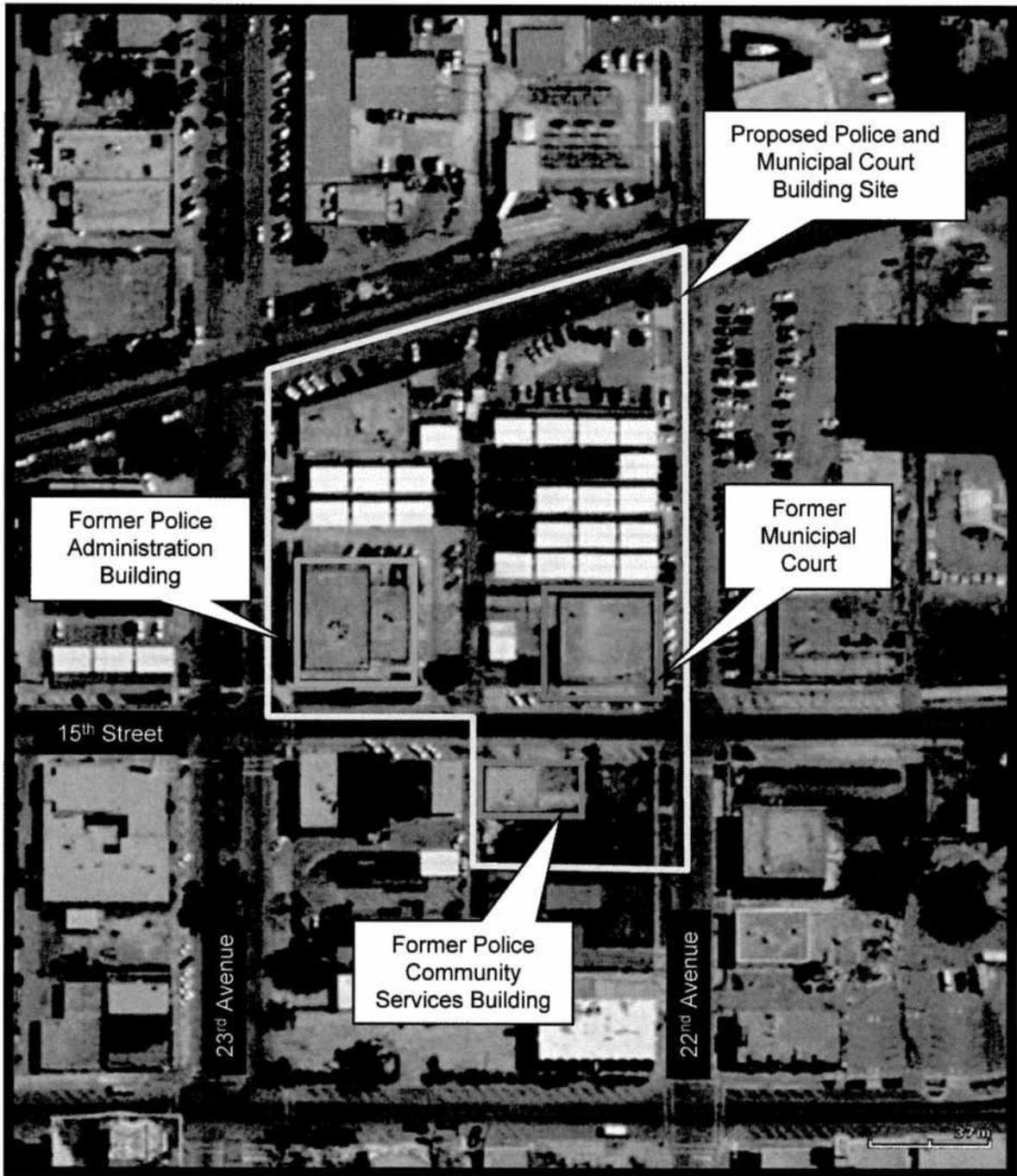
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Grisham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1604-DR-MS



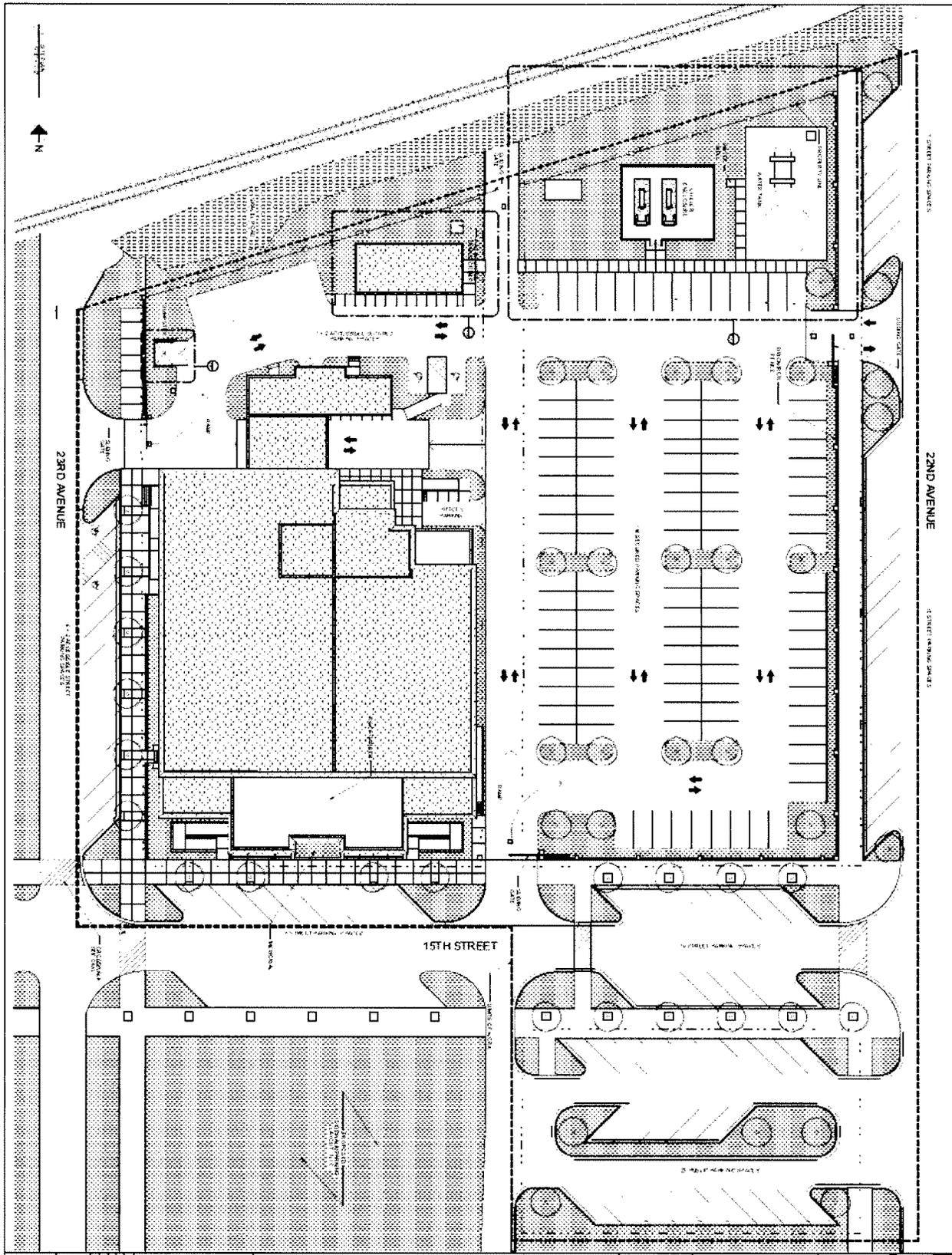
Source: USGS, Gulfport South quadrangle

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| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | TITLE | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | |  | |
| REVISION NO | Draft | | |
| SCALE | | DR BY | |
| FILE | | CHK BY | |
| | | PROJ NO | 15708003 |
| | | FIGURE | 1 |



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| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | | TITLE | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | | PROJECT AREA | |
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| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | | TITLE CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN | | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | |  | | |
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| | | | | FIGURE | 3 | |

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|---|-------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Client Name: City of Gulfport | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St., Gulfport, MS – Harrison County | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 1 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Southeast facing northwest | | | | | | | | |
| Description: Overview of APE | | | | | | | | |

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| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 2 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Southeast corner facing west | | | | | | | | |
| Description: View down 15 th St. looking toward the Historic District. | | | | | | | | |

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| Client Name: City of Gulfport | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St., Gulfport, MS – Harrison County | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 3 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Southwest corner facing east. | | | | | | | | |
| Description: South front of APE looking down 15 th st. | | | | | | | | |

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| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 4 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Southwest corner facing north. | | | | | | | | |
| Description: View along west boundary of APE looking north up 23 rd Ave. Historic district is on west side of 23 rd Ave. | | | | | | | | |

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| Client Name: City of Gulfport | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St., Gulfport, MS – Harrison County | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 5 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Northeast corner facing east. | | | | | | | | |
| Description: Northern boundary of APE. This is the only area with exposed ground surface with the exception of small landscaped areas throughout the APE. | | | | | | | | |

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| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 6 | | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Northeast corner facing south. | | | | | | | | |
| Description: Eastern boundary of APE looking south along 22 nd Ave. | | | | | | | | |

FEMA

PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

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|---|-------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Client Name: City of Gulfport | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St., Gulfport, MS – Harrison County | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 11/25/08 | Data Point | Photo No. 7 |  | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: Southwest facing northeast. | | | | | | | | |
| Description: Possible historic building in northwest corner of APE. | | | | | | | | |



FEMA

January 21, 2009

Mr. Jim Woodrick
Review and Compliance Officer
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Re: Concurrence With the Finding of Not Eligible for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places for the Police Operations Building at 1516 23rd Avenue, Gulfport, MS

Concurrence With the Determination of **No Historic Properties Affected** for the Demolition of the Building at 1516 23rd Avenue and the Construction of the Municipal Law Enforcement Complex for the 2200 Block of 15th Street, Gulfport MS.

Dear Mr. Woodrick:

The City of Gulfport has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed construction of the Municipal Law Enforcement Complex.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. These buildings were located in the 2200 Block of 15th Street. All three buildings were located outside of both, the 100 year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for replacement.

In lieu of replacement, the applicant (City of Gulfport) has applied for an improved project to consolidate the functions of each of the damaged buildings into the new City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building. The new facility would utilize approximately 4.2 acres of land formerly occupied by these structures. The site is bounded by 22nd Avenue, 15th Street, 23rd Avenue, and the CSX railroad tracks.

A fourth building remains on this site and is now being proposed for demolition to facilitate the construction of the new 73, 500 square foot Municipal Complex. It served as the Police Operations Building and is located at 1516 23rd Avenue. It is a low scale, one story, painted white brick structure. It appears to have been a back

of house type of structure at the rear of the site and adjacent to the CSX railroad tracks. The building is rectilinear in shape with windows of various sizes but predominantly 9 over 9 double hung windows. It has a flat roof and appears to date from circa 1960. It exhibits no particular style and is architecturally indistinctive. It has a small more recent addition on the east side of the main structure. The building does not possess the level of exceptional importance required to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. **FEMA therefore requests concurrence with its determination that this building does not meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.**

The area of potential effect is .25 miles which allows for adequate evaluation of potential adverse effects of demolition of the existing structure and of the new construction. The existing building sits visually isolated in the midst of parking lots and immediately adjacent to temporary trailers used for office space. The site is just outside and east of the Gulfport Harbor Square National Register Historic District which ends at 23rd Avenue. Along with a fairly recently constructed fire station are several other low scale intrusions on the edge of this historic district along 23rd Avenue that block the view of this district from the site under review.

Low scale construction lies north of the site and beyond - including the CSX railroad tracks and a power company substation. These structures serve as a barrier between the site and a potential new National Register Historic District where the Queen Anne vernacular styled cottages form the lower or southern boundary. To the east of the site are low scaled modern brick structures and temporary buildings, parking lots, a three story parking garage and the large Dan M. Russell U. S. Courthouse building.

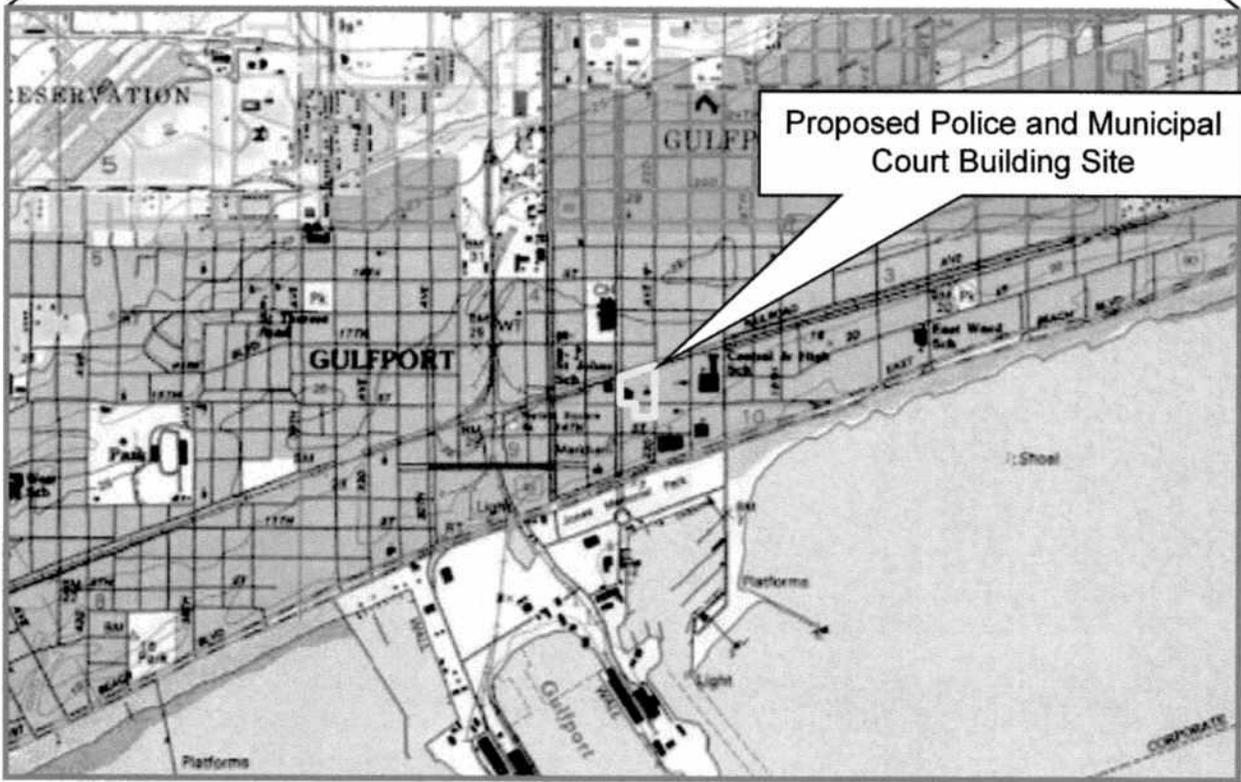
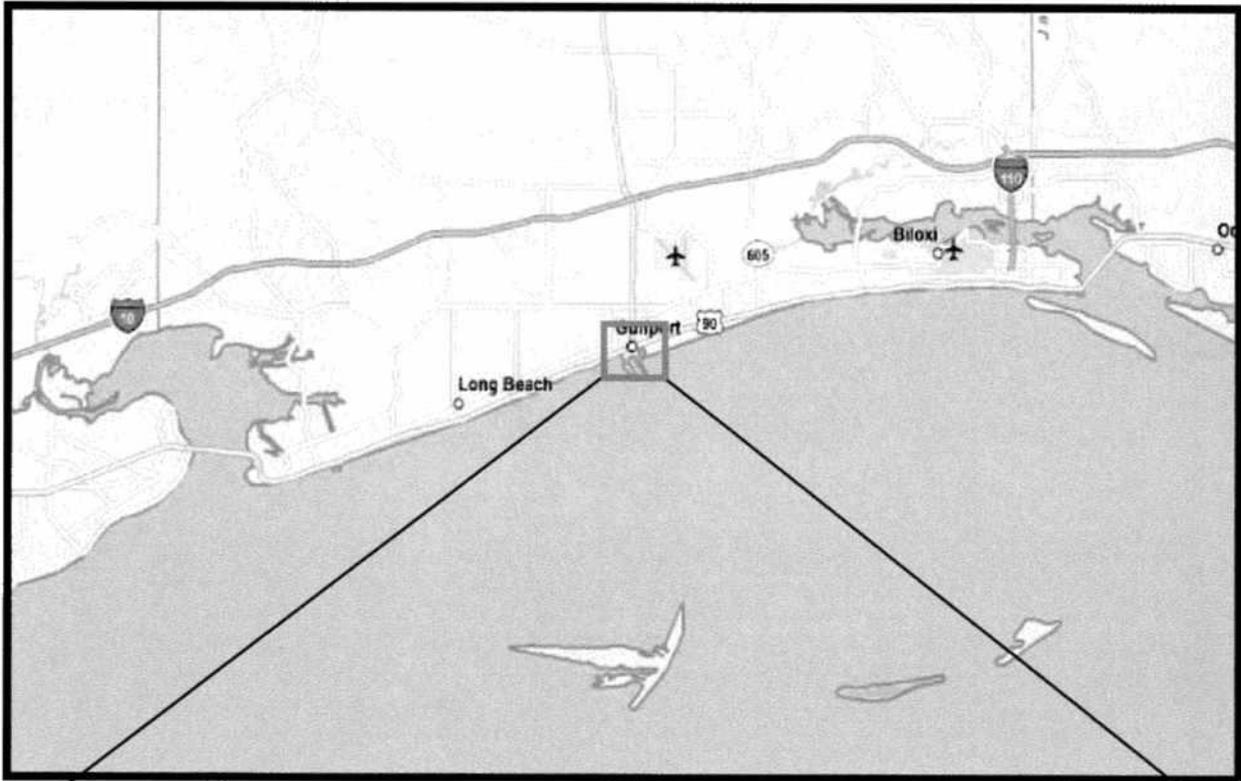
The proposed building will be a three story masonry structure with precast concrete pilasters, decorative cornices and a second floor roof garden in a vernacular neoclassical revival style, built to FEMA 361 Design and Construction Guidance for Community Shelters. It will be utilized as a First Responders' Shelter housing in excess of 275 personnel for Pre and Post disaster functions. The new facility will have secured parking for police and court vehicles in addition to general parking for the public.

We have reviewed the existing structure and have determined that it has no architectural or historical significance, that its proposed demolition will not cause an adverse effect and that the proposed new construction will be more in keeping with the character of the adjacent Harbor Square National Register Historic District.

FEMA requests SHPO concurrence with its **"No Effect on Historic Properties"** determination for the proposed demolition of the Police Operations Building at 1516 23rd Avenue in Gulfport and for the construction of the Gulfport Police Headquarters and Municipal Courts building on this site. A map and several images are provided. Your prompt review and comment on this project is greatly appreciated. Should you need additional information please contact Elrhei Thibodeaux, Historic Preservation Specialist, at 228-594-2955.

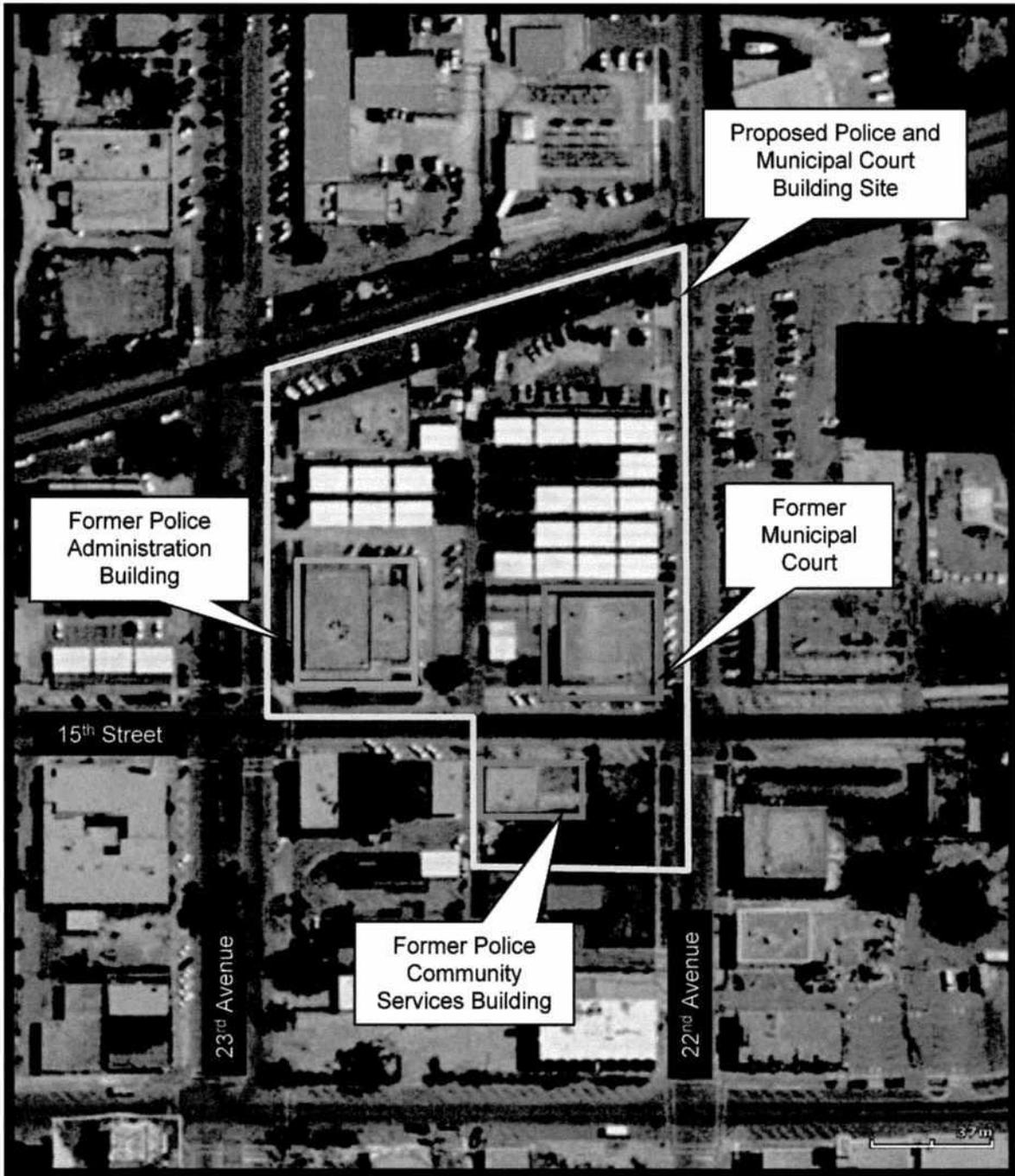
Sincerely,

Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA -1604-DR-MS



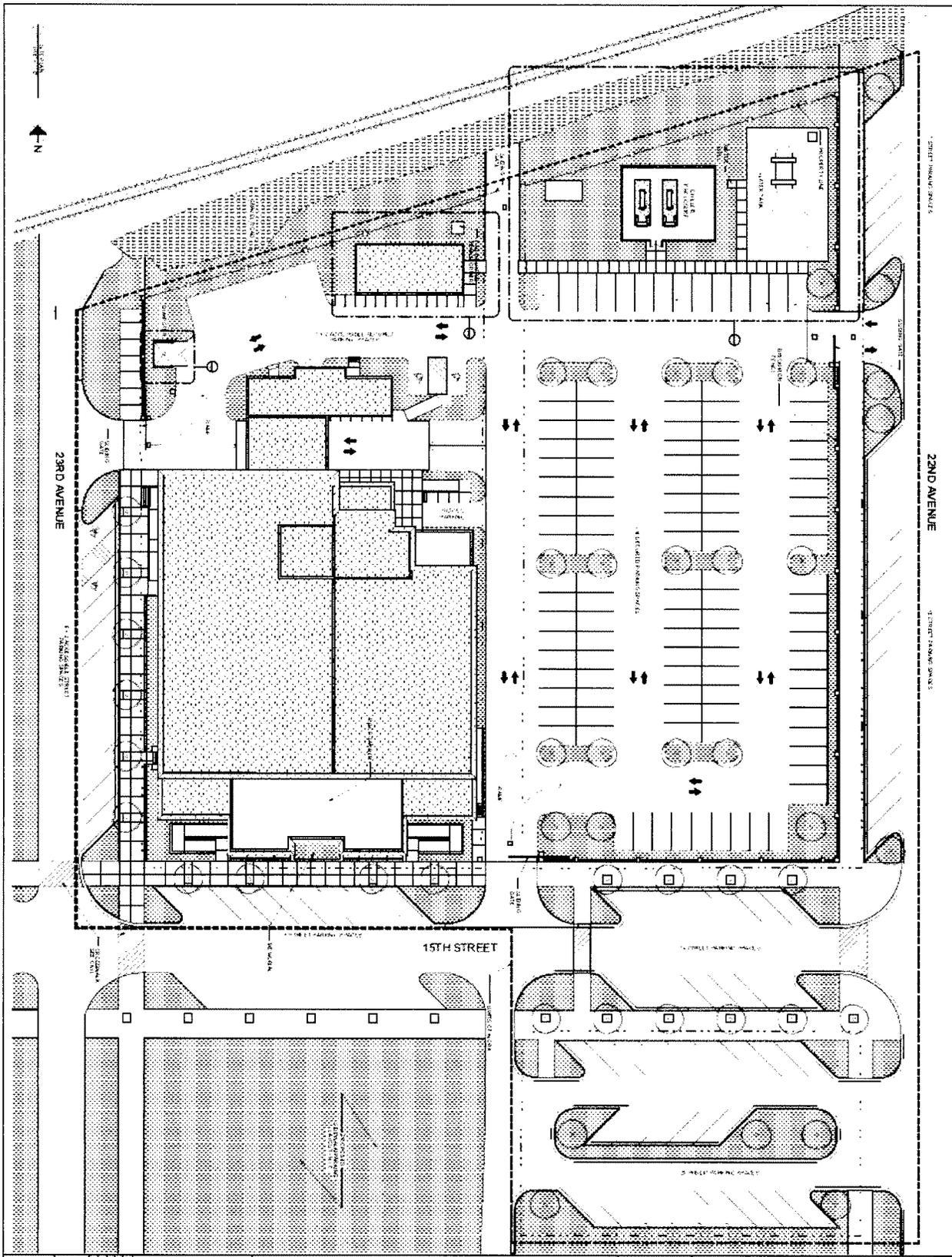
Source: USGS, Gulfport South quadrangle

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| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | | TITLE CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN | | |
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| Client Name: City of Gulfport – Municipal Complex | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St, Gulfport, MS | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 12-17-08 | Data Point | Photo No. 1 |  | | | | | |
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| Description: | | | | | | | | |



HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Ken P'Pool, director • Jim Woodrick, acting director
PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6940 • Fax 601-576-6955
mdah.state.ms.us

February 2, 2009

Mr. Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-DR-1604-MS
220 Popps Ferry Road, Bldg. A South
Biloxi, Mississippi 39531

RE: Proposed City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building Improved Project,
MDAH Project Log #01-100-09, Harrison County

Dear Mike:

We have reviewed your request for a cultural resource assessment, received on January 26, 2009, for the above referenced project in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After reviewing the information provided, we concur with FEMA's assessment that a Phase I archaeological survey is not necessary. We also concur that monitoring would be appropriate if new construction results in excessive excavation. We also concur with FEMA's determination that the structure located at 1516 23rd Avenue (Police Operations Building) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and, therefore, concur that no historic properties will be affected. As such, we have no reservations with the undertaking, with the provision for monitoring if appropriate.

Should there be additional work in connection with the project, or any changes in the scope of work, please let us know in order that we may provide you with appropriate comments in compliance with the above referenced regulations.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at (601) 576-6940.

Sincerely,


Jim Woodrick
Review and Compliance Officer

FOR: H.T. Holmes
State Historic Preservation Officer

c: Clearinghouse for Federal Programs



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Transitional Recovery Office
Physical Address
220 Popps Ferry Rd.
Building A South
Biloxi, MS 39532

January 21, 2009

Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
101 Industrial Road
Choctaw, MS 39305

Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building Improved Project

Dear Mr. Carleton:

The City of Gulfport has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the construction of the Police and Municipal Court Building.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged the City of Gulfport, including three buildings occupied by the City of Gulfport Police Department and the City of Gulfport Municipal Court. The Police Administration building was a 10,159 square foot one-story brick building located at 2220 15th Street in Gulfport that served as the main law enforcement building for the City. The Police Community Services Building was a 3,144 square foot one-story brick building located at 2211 15th Street in Gulfport. The Municipal Court occupied an 11,188 square foot one-story brick building located at 2200 15th Street in Gulfport. All three buildings were located outside of both the 100-year floodplain and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). Despite their location, each building was flooded with up to 36 inches of saltwater and sewage. The damage to each of the buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement of each building. The City of Gulfport Police Department and Municipal Court are currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing the former 28th Street Elementary School, located at 2810 34th Avenue in Gulfport. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the police department or the municipal court. The former police and municipal court buildings were demolished due to public health and safety concerns.

In lieu of replacement, the applicant (City of Gulfport) has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) program for an improved project to consolidate the functions of each of the damaged buildings into the new City of Gulfport Police and Municipal Court Building. The new facility would utilize

approximately 4.2 acres of land formerly occupied by the Police Department and Municipal Court buildings along the 2200 block of 15th Street. The proposed project site is located within a commercial area in downtown Gulfport and is adjacent to the Harbor Square Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is bound to the north by railroad tracks, to the south by 15th Street and commercial property, the west by 23rd Avenue, and to the east by 22nd Avenue. Currently, the site houses office trailers used by the City of Gulfport.

The new facility would include a 67,847 square foot, three-story building, approximately 205 secured and unsecured parking spaces, a water tank, wastewater storage bladder, and chiller. The building would include two municipal courtrooms and associated office space, police department office and training space, evidence and records storage space, and inmate holding cells. A Mississippi Power Company overhead power corridor located on the project site would be buried as part of the proposed project.

Paul Drummond, a FEMA Archaeologist qualified under the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (36 CFR Part 61) in the discipline of archaeology, conducted an assessment of the project's potential to affect historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The APE is the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. For archaeological resources, the APE consists of the proposed project site; for above-ground historic properties, the APE is extended out to a 0.5-mile radius around the proposed project site. This APE was previously established through FEMA consultation with the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

A search of the SHPO site files and maps indicate that very few archaeological investigations have been executed within a two mile radius of the APE. Most notably, 07-187, was monitoring at Grasslawn during its demolition and two highway 49 corridor surveys (98-088 and 99-173). All three surveys produced negative results.

On September 20, 2008, Mr. Drummond visited the site to determine if any historic buildings/structures or archaeological sites were visibly present within the archaeological APE. With the exception of a brick building that appears to be 45 years or older, the only other structures are several temporary trailers used for office space by the Applicant. A FEMA structures specialist will submit a separate letter addressing this and other potential view shed issues.

The existing urban terrain is flat and is covered with approximately 95 percent concrete and 5 percent landscaping. The only exposed ground surface was on the northern boundary along the railroad tracks. This surface exhibited years of disturbance and had no evidence of significant cultural remains. Due to existing ground disturbance (past construction, utilities, etc.) sub-surface cultural resources are unlikely to be present or intact. A Phase 1 Cultural Resources Investigation is not recommended, however, if new construction results in excessive excavation then a monitor should be present to observe the ground disturbance.

FEMA requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information or resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If

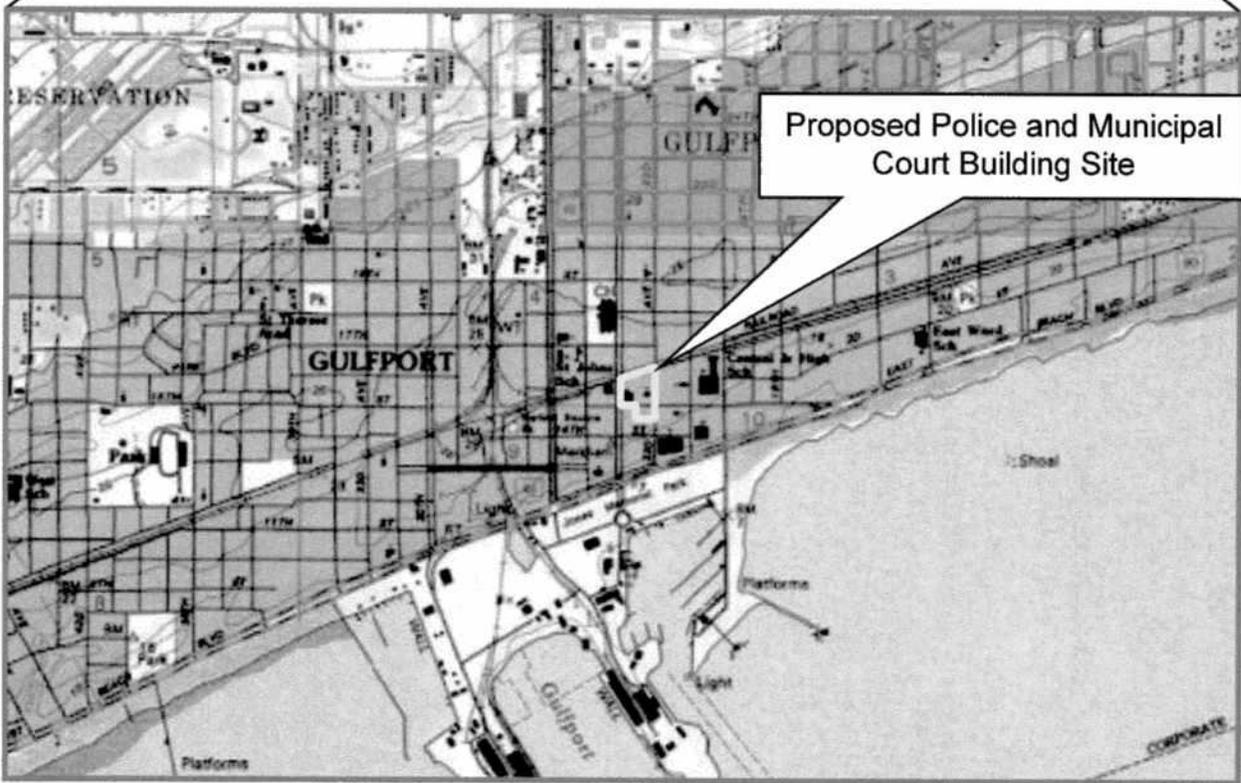
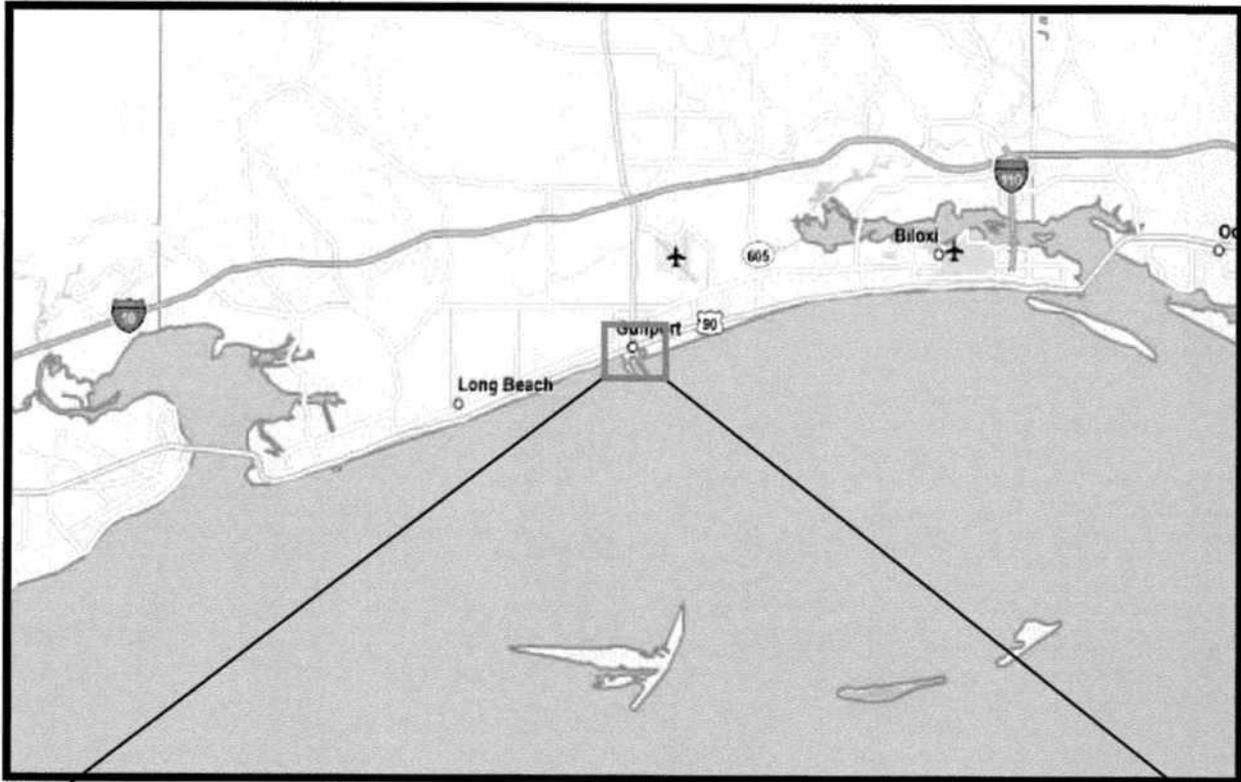
Re: Request for Project Review – City of Gulfport Municipal Law Enforcement Building Improved Project, 1/21/09

you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Paul Drummond by telephone at (228) 594-2960 or electronic mail at paul.a.drummond@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Grisham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Grisham" clearly distinguishable.

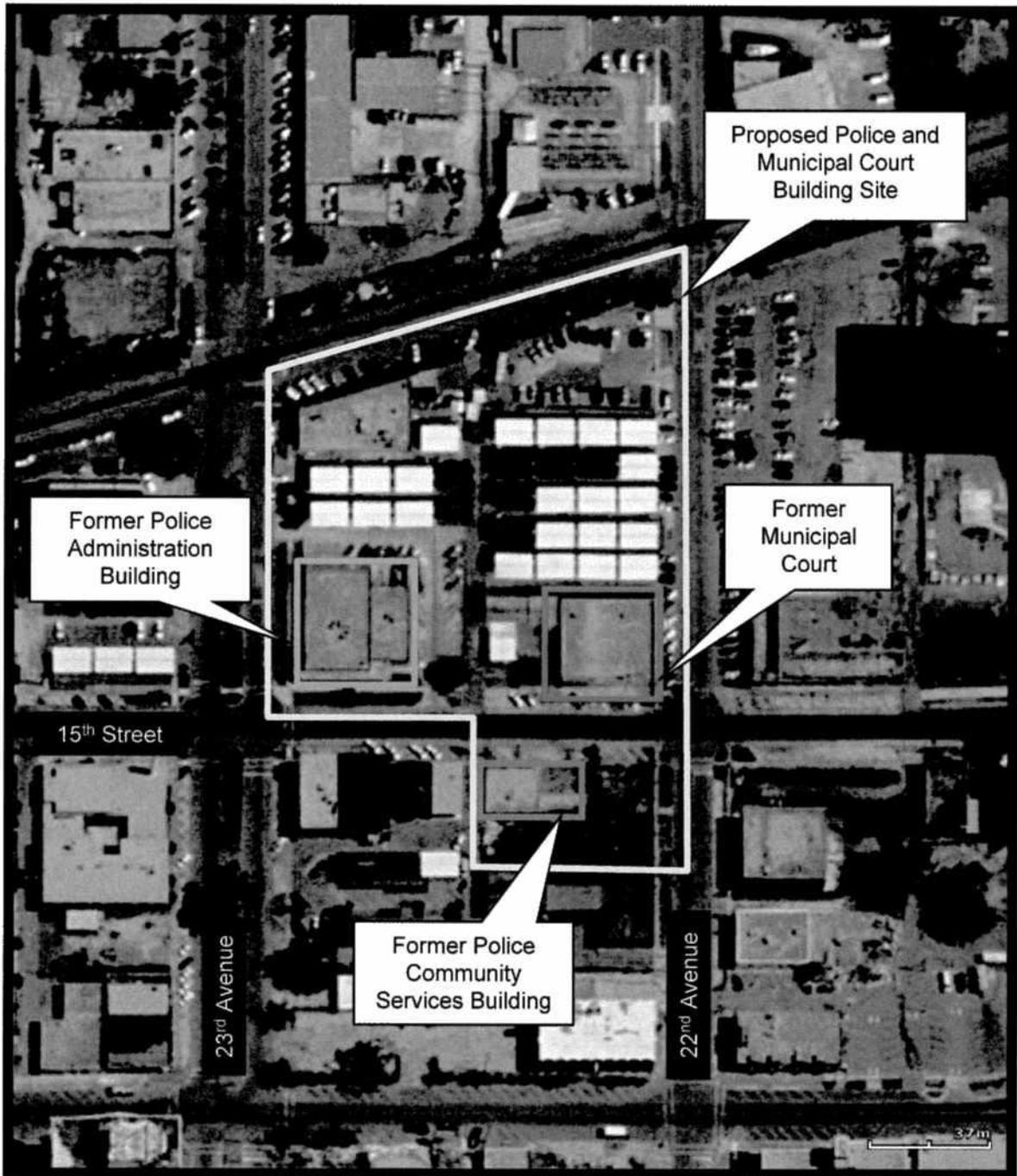
Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1604-DR-MS



Source: USGS, Gulfport South quadrangle

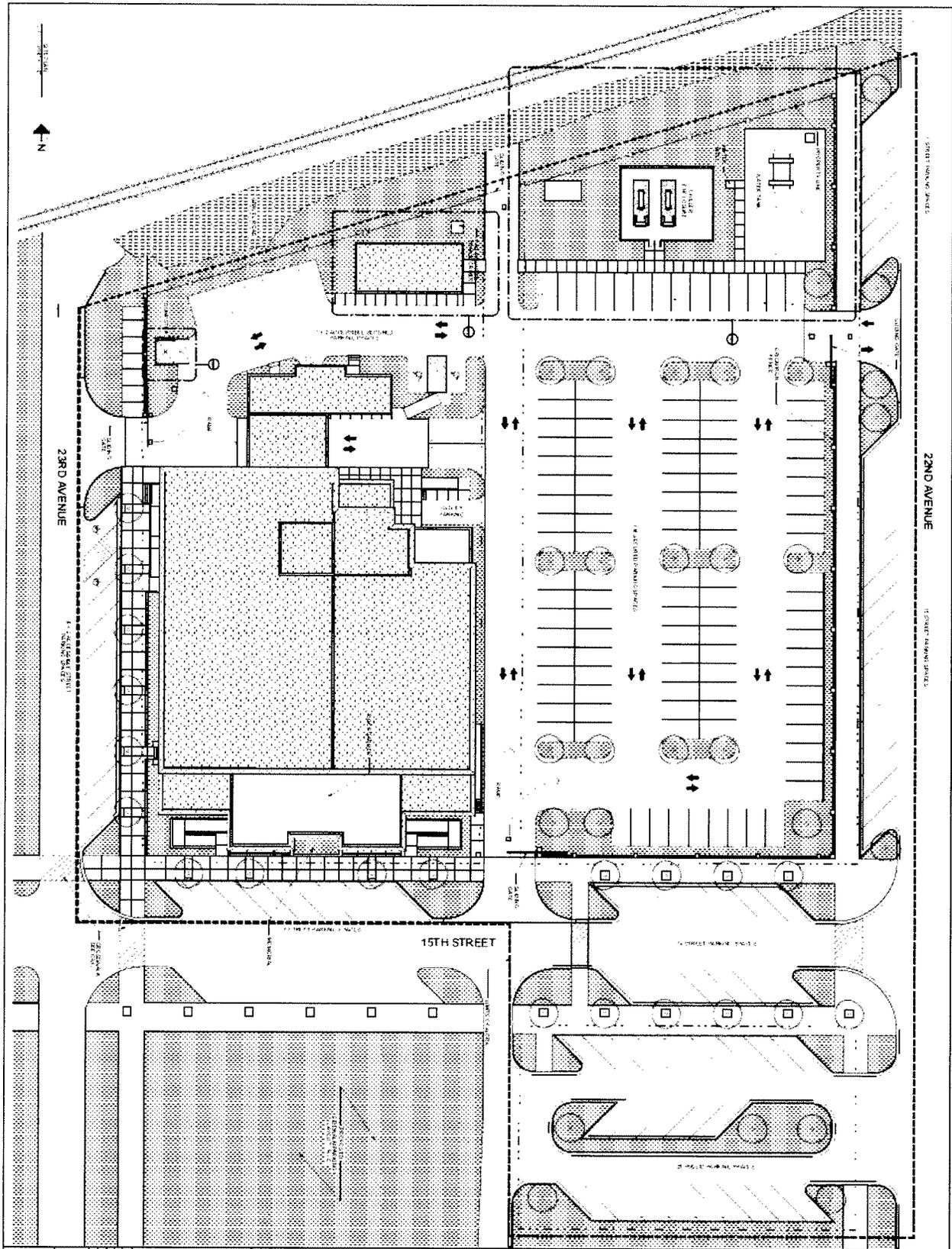
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|---|-------|--------|-------------------------|------------------|
| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | TITLE | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | PROJECT VICINITY | |
| REVISION NO | Draft | DES BY | | |
| SCALE | | DR BY | | PROJ NO 15708003 |
| FILE | | CHK BY | | FIGURE 1 |





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|---|-------|--------|--|--------------|----------|
| CLIENT City of Gulfport | | | | TITLE | |
| PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project | | | | PROJECT AREA | |
| REVISION NO | Draft | DES BY | | PROJ NO | 15708003 |
| SCALE | | DR BY | | FIGURE | 2 |
| FILE | | CHK BY | | | |





CLIENT City of Gulfport

PROJ Police and Municipal Court Building Improved Project

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|-------------|--------|--------|-----|----------|
| REVISION NO | DES BY | | | |
| SCALE | NTS | DR BY | BSM | 10/15/08 |
| FILE | | CHK BY | X | X |

TITLE **CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN**



PROJ NO 15708003

FIGURE **3**

FEMA

PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

Client Name:

City of Gulfport – Municipal Complex

Site Location:

2200 block of 15th St, Gulfport, MS

Project No.

Date
12-17-08

Data Point

Photo No.
1

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:



Date
12-17-08

Data Point

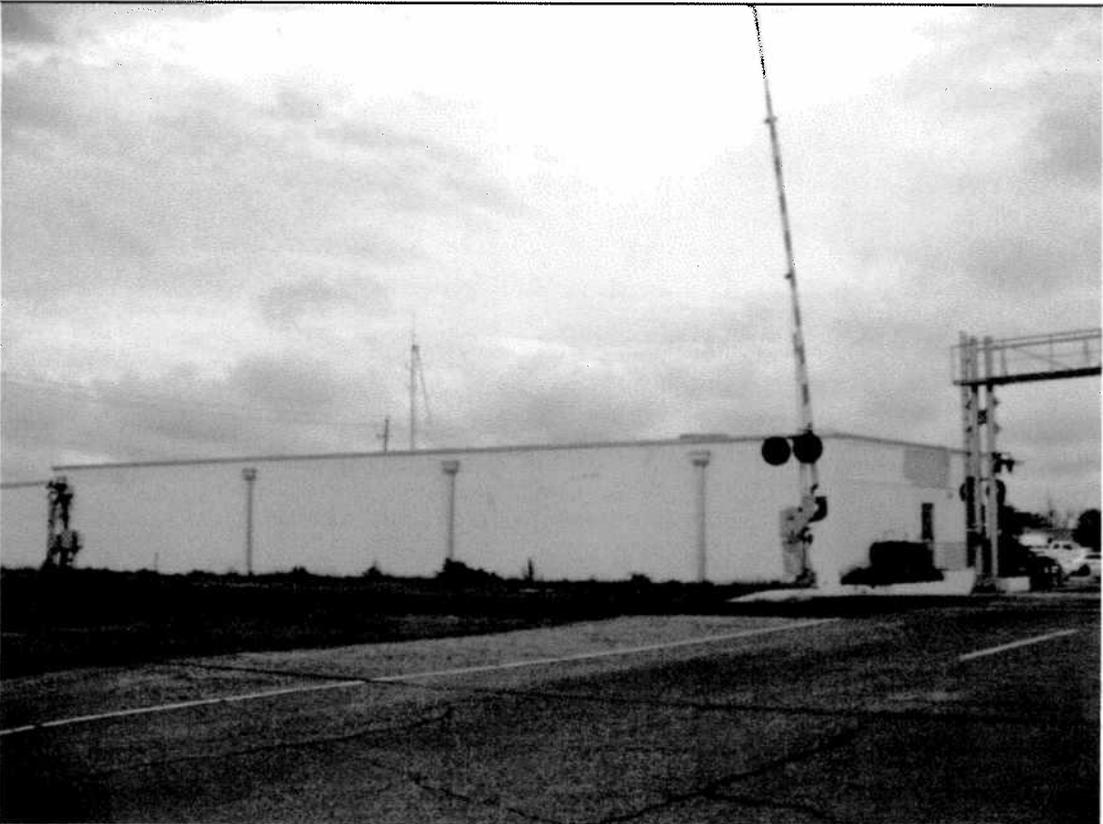
Photo No.

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:



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|---|-------------------|------------------|---|--|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Client Name: City of Gulfport – Municipal Complex | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St, Gulfport, MS | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 12-17-08 | Data Point | Photo No. |  | | | | | |
| Direction Photo Taken: | | | | | | | | |
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| Date 12-17-08 | Data Point | Photo No. |  | | | | | |
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|---|-------------------|------------------|---|--|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Client Name: City of Gulfport – Municipal Complex | | | Site Location: 2200 block of 15 th St, Gulfport, MS | | | Project No. | | |
| Date 12-17-08 | Data Point | Photo No. |  | | | | | |
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