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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **Hillside Drive Storm Water Drainage Project Update**

*North Myrtle Beach, SC* – The City of North Myrtle Beach Hillside Drive Storm Water Drainage Project involves the installation of a series of regional retention ponds designed to mitigate flood damage to public and private property throughout a 400-acre drainage basin. The primary purpose of the project is flood control and water quality improvement along the public beach. This project will connect to the ocean outfall that the City installed several years ago at 6th Avenue South.

Completed project improvements include: An ocean outfall at 6th Avenue South, a 72-inch drainage pipe that runs along 6th Avenue South and Hillside Drive, and a 60-inch drainage pipe that runs along 8th Avenue South and Perrin Drive.

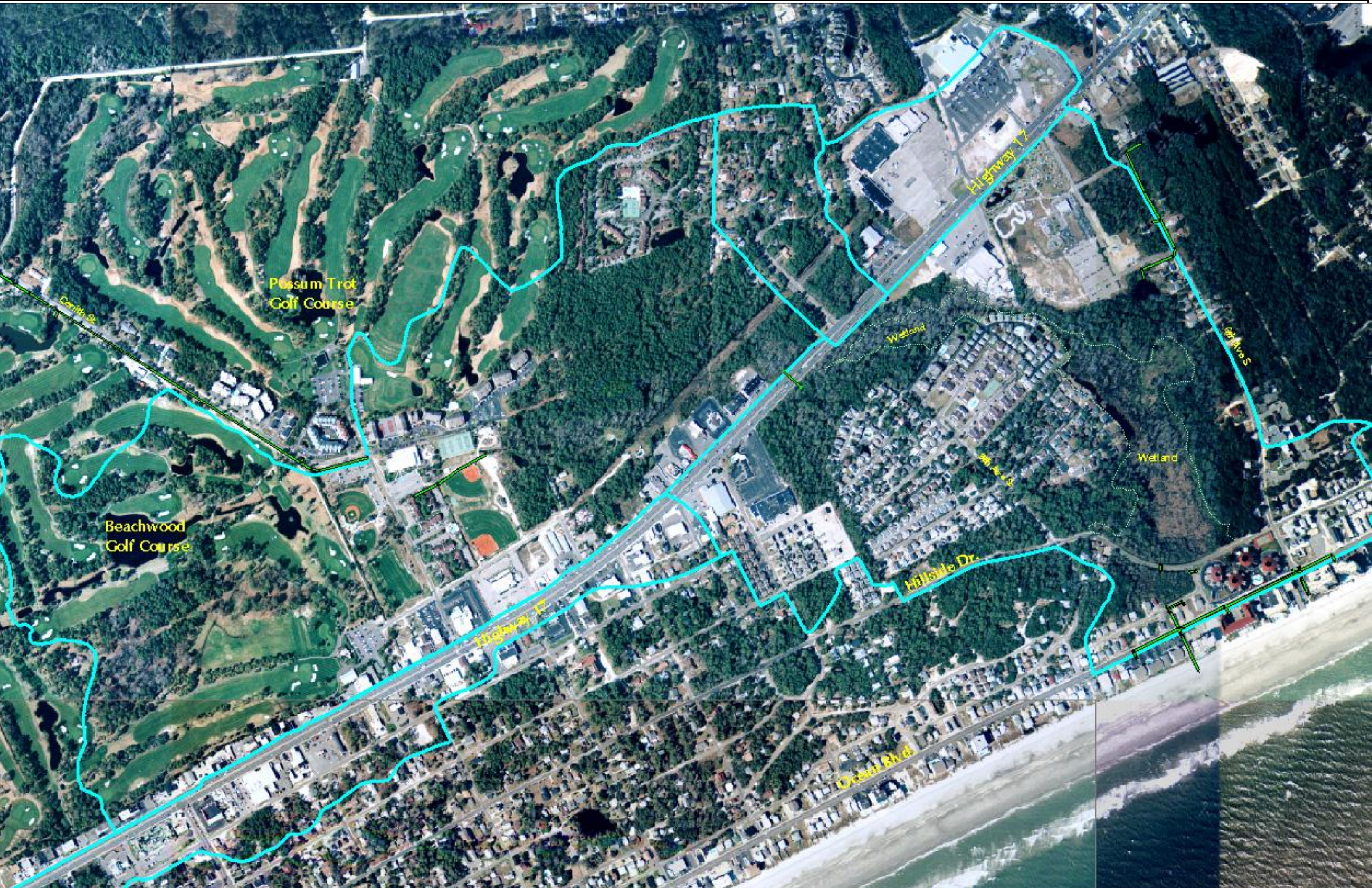
Proposed project improvements include: A 20 acre wetland area for periodic storm water retention use, drainage ditch/creek stabilization and improvement, the rebuilding of Hillside Drive near 7th Avenue South in order to raise the road elevation above the flood zone elevation, and the installation of two retention ponds northwest of Highway 17.

Property acquisition for the project is proceeding as follows: Property easement acquisition is 84% complete with 20 easements acquired out of the 24 total easements needed. Property purchase acquisition is 60% complete with six land parcels acquired out of the 10 total parcels needed.

Permitting status is as follows: State and Federal environmental permits have been issued for the project, and wetland mitigation requirements are in progress.

The construction schedule is projected as follows: The city will solicit construction bids within six months. It is anticipated that construction would start in late summer or early fall 2012.

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Possum Trot  
Golf Course

Beachwood  
Golf Course

Wetland

Wetland

Highway 17

Highway 17

Hillside Dr.

Ocean Blvd.

66th Ave S

Carrick St

58th Ave S