

**WE OPPOSE
RIVIAN
ASSEMBLY PLANT**

**Morgan, Walton,
Newton, Jasper,
& surrounding areas**

No2Rivian.org

No2Rivian News

Telling truth to power about Rivian in Georgia

website: No2Rivian.org e-mail: info@No2Rivian.org

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Mid-Morning Update

Dear Fellow Concerned Citizens and Friends:

This is to bring you a mid-morning update to the email we sent to you early this morning.

Madison-Morgan Conservancy slams Rivian proposal

In a 6-page report with 35 pages of exhibits, dated February 4, the Madison-Morgan Conservancy issued a damning assessment of the Rivian proposal. The letter was addressed by Robert Trulock, President of the Board of Directors of the Conservancy, to the Morgan County Planning Commission; Morgan County Board of Commissioners; City Councils of Bostwick, Buckhead, Madison, and Rutledge; and Morgan County Manager.

Here are the report's major conclusions verbatim as follows:

1. Previously-developed sites, including excess federal properties, would be preferable for redevelopment/adaptive reuse than the Morgan/Walton County "greenfield" location.
2. The State and the JDA's approach purposefully avoided public discourse about the Rivian Facility and failed to allow the affected public to identify issues or concerns that had been overlooked or poorly analyzed by the State and the JDA.
3. The rezoning application is incomplete. **Commission action on the rezoning application should await real Rivian input into the actual, current Rivian plans, especially as its on-going studies may avoid, ameliorate, or mitigate adverse impacts. [emphasis added by us]**
4. The impacts include but are not limited to the loss of farmland and farm infrastructure, the loss of groundwater recharge area, the loss of county history and related historic structures, loss of tree canopy and wildlife habitat, increased light pollution, and a potential wave of speculative development for housing and commercial uses.

According to its website, "For twenty years . . . the Madison-Morgan Conservancy has been protecting farms, forests, and front porches for future generations, successfully protecting critical resources and creating a culture of conservation. Thanks to its 550+ members and hundreds of donors, Morgan County now boasts of 5,300+ acres of permanently protected land, the state's second largest revolving fund for protecting endangered properties, a Junior Conservancy, and significant gains in natural resource conservation, farmland protection, and historic preservation."

The Conservancy's report suggests ways to mitigate the effects of the plant to make it consistent with our area's Comprehensive Plan. Given the gigantic size of the plant and its intended location in the midst of our pristine countryside, it appears to us that none of the mitigations is feasible.

Furthermore, **the Conservancy's mission**---as emphasized on its website---is "to provide public education on conservation matters and to protect and enhance the heritage and quality of life of the residents of Morgan County, **by preserving historic sites, greenspace, farmland, and timberland.** [emphasis added by us]

In the context of the Conservancy's mission statement and its report to the rezoning officials, it is clear to us that the Conservancy has slammed the door on the JDC's proposal and advises our Commissioners that they cannot under any feasible circumstances approve the Rivian rezoning.

In the face of this and many other written comments, our elected officials will be bringing our area and themselves to disaster if they approve the JDA's rezoning requests now.

[Click here](#) for the complete text of the Conservancy's report including exhibits.



For further details on the JDA and Rivian's plans for a plant that is going to be FIVE TIMES BIGGER than Rivian's plant in the industrial area of Normal, Illinois, shown in the photo above---and how you can help to stop the JDA and Rivian in our small-town/natural area of rural Georgia ---[please click here to go to our website: No2Rivian.org](#)

Please click here to [contact us](#) with your suggestions and comments.

Yours sincerely,

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