MCPB

Item No.:

Hearing Date: 3/15/12

Supplemental Staff Report for 7206 Meadow Lane Preliminary Plan 120100270

Neil Braunstein, AICP, Area 1, neil.braunstein@mncppc-mc.org, (301) 495-4532

Robert Kronenberg, Supervisor, Area 1, robert.kronenberg@mncppc-mc.org, (301) 495-2187

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Date of Report: 3/2/12

Description

Location: Located in the northwest quadrant of the

intersection of Meadow Lane and Oak Lane

Zone: R-60

Master Plan: Bethesda/Chevy Chase

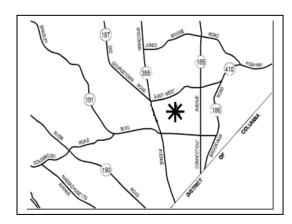
Property size: 1.33 acres

Application to subdivide 1.33 acres of land into two

lots for two one-family detached dwellings.

Applicant: CC Green Vision, LLC

Filing date: April 8, 2010



Summary

Staff Recommendation: Approval with Conditions

The public hearing was opened on February 2, 2012, and deferred to March 15, 2012.

The purpose of the upcoming hearing is to address the staff-recommended conservation easement. At the previous hearing, staff was directed to work with the applicant to develop appropriate language for a conservation easement document and associated forest management plan that would protect the subject property's steep slopes while affording the applicant and future property owners some measure of independence with respect to property maintenance.

During the intervening weeks, staff prepared a modified Category I easement document and an associated forest management plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Approval under this preliminary plan is limited to two lots for two one-family detached dwelling units and one outlot.
- 2) The applicant must comply with the conditions of approval for the preliminary forest conservation plan. The applicant must satisfy all conditions prior to recording of plat(s) or Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (MCDPS) issuance of sediment and erosion control permits, as applicable. Specific conditions include:
 - a. Show a Category I easement, as modified by the proposed easement document, over the steep slopes and associated large trees.
 - b. Revise the plan, worksheet, notes, tables and legend to reflect the forest retained and/or planted in the modified Category I Easement.
 - c. Include a provision to install all underground utilities for proposed Lot 38 and Outlot A by directional boring to be performed in manner minimizing any disturbance to the roots of saved trees. Air spading (instead of boring) may be performed in areas outside of the forest boundary.
 - d. Revise the legend symbols and plan views for existing vs. proposed root protection matting so they match actual existing and proposed conditions.
 - e. Delete miscellaneous tree note #1.
 - f. Provide appropriate plan notes for the careful removal of tree #6, and update miscellaneous tree note #2 accordingly.
 - g. Revise miscellaneous tree note #7 (regarding tree #17) to retain tree protection fencing at the curb line throughout construction and install additional fencing along the proposed sidewalk edge. Alternately, temporary root protection matting can be used instead of installing fencing in the street right-of-way.
 - h. Remove the plan note and graphics related to "LOD previously recommended by M-NCPPC-EPD" or show the LOD which was actually recommended by M-NCPPC.
 - i. Shift the LOD away from tree #2/23 to an east-west line that is no closer than 15' from the tree.
- 3) Prior to any clearing, grading, demolition, or issuance of any building permit, the applicant must submit for review and obtain approval of a Final Forest Conservation Plan (FFCP). Specific conditions include:
 - a. Replace the arborist's report, dated December 13, 2011, with a table or chart on the plan that concisely highlights all necessary tree protection measures.
 - b. Specify the reforestation requirements and how they will be met.
 - c. The project arborist must supervise all tree care work, including the directional boring of
 - d. Provide details and locations of permanent boundary monuments to appropriately delineate the conservation easement.
 - e. Provide details for applications of root protection and/or aeration matting.
 - f. Provide plan notes, details, specifications and/or exhibits to clearly demonstrate how the roots of saved trees will be preserved underneath of proposed structures such as the driveway, walls, and the garage. This condition particularly applies to trees 1/22, 2/23, 18, 23, 24 and 25.
- 4) The applicant must submit the final drafts of the sediment and erosion control plan and stormwater management plan with the revised Final Forest Conservation Plan to ensure consistency with the LOD and the associated tree and forest preservation measures.

- 5) The applicant must submit for review and approval a financial security for any planting requirements which may be specified in the FFCP, prior to any land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 6) The modified Category I conservation easement must be recorded by plat prior to any land disturbing activities or clearing occurring onsite. The record plat must reflect a modified Category I easement over all areas of steep slopes and forest conservation.
- 7) The certificate of compliance for any off-site forest mitigation must be submitted by the applicant, then approved by M-NCPPC Associate General Counsel Office, prior to land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 8) Any applicable maintenance and management agreement must be submitted by the applicant and then approved by M-NCPPC Associate General Counsel Office. The final document must be recorded in the land records prior to any land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 9) The applicant must comply with the conditions of the MCDPS stormwater management approval dated September 8, 2011. These conditions may be amended by MCDPS, provided the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the preliminary plan approval.
- The applicant must comply with the conditions of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) letter dated June 18, 2010. These conditions may be amended by MCDOT, provided the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the preliminary plan approval.
- 11) The applicant must satisfy provisions for access and improvements as required by MCDOT prior to recordation of plat(s).
- Before any building permit is issued, the applicant must make school facilities payments to MCDPS at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- The record plat must show building restriction lines at the top and bottom of the steep slope area, as depicted on the preliminary plan. Building foundations must not be placed on the steep slope area between the two building restriction lines.
- The certified preliminary plan must contain the following note: "Unless specifically noted on this plan drawing or in the Planning Board conditions of approval, the building footprints, building heights, on-site parking, site circulation, and sidewalks shown on the preliminary plan are illustrative. The final locations of buildings, structures and hardscape will be determined during the building permit process. Please refer to the zoning data table for development standards such as setbacks, building restriction lines, building height, and lot coverage for each lot. Other limitations for site development may also be included in the conditions of the Planning Board's approval."
- 15) The record plat must show necessary easements.
- The Adequate Public Facility (APF) review for the preliminary plan will remain valid for eighty-five (85) months from the date of mailing of the Planning Board resolution.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject property, shown below, is a platted lot and is 57,726 square feet (1.33 acres) in area. The property is zoned R-60. It is located in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Meadow Lane and Oak Lane, within the Town of Chevy Chase. The property has frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane to the east and on a public alley to the west. There are currently no buildings on the property, but parts of the lot have been graded in a previous attempt to construct a one-family detached dwelling. The partially completed dwelling has been demolished. Surrounding properties to the north, south, east, and west are developed with one-family detached dwellings in the R-60 zone.

The subject property is located within the Lower Rock Creek watershed. Steep slopes, with gradients of 25% or greater, exist in a band in the center of the property. An area that exhibits some of the characteristics of a wetland exists on the lower portion of the property, near Meadow Lane. This area was ultimately determined not to be a wetland. There are no streams or floodplains on the site. The subject property contains 0.32 acre of forest.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant proposes to resubdivide the existing lot into two lots for two one-family detached dwellings and one outlot. Proposed Lot 37 is 30,442 square feet and proposed Lot 38 is 24,210 square feet in area. The lots are proposed to be perpendicular to the street and the public alley to the west of the property, similar to other lots in the area. Despite having frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane on one side and the alley on the other side, the lots are not considered to be through lots per the zoning ordinance because the alley is not considered to be street frontage. As such, they will have front and rear yards and not two front yards for each lot. Access to the lots is proposed via individual driveways from the alley. Although both lots will have frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane, no vehicular access is proposed from those streets. A 2,447 square-foot outlot is proposed along the frontage of Oak Lane, north of proposed Lot 38.

Previous Hearing

A hearing for this application was held on February 2, 2012. At the hearing, the Planning Board heard the staff presentation and applicant and citizen testimony before deliberating on the application. The Planning Board then directed staff to work with the applicant to prepare a draft conservation easement for the steep slope area.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Staff's recommended findings with respect to conformance to the Master Plan, public facilities, the environment, the zoning ordinance, and the subdivision regulations, including the resubdivision criteria, can be found in the staff report for the previous hearing, dated January 20, 2012 (Exhibit 1).

This staff report will address the proposed conservation easement document and associated forest management plan.

Conservation Easement

Staff prepared a draft conservation easement document with an associated forest management plan. The document was revised numerous times based on discussions with the applicant. The draft presented with this staff report is the final result of our discussions with the applicant, and it is our recommended language. The draft conservation easement and associated draft forest management plan can be found in Exhibit 2. A plan showing the extent of the easement area on the property is shown in Exhibit 3. As outlined in the forest management plan, the applicant will be permitted to conduct initial work on the property prior to approval of the final forest conservation plan and recordation of the plat, including removal of tree #6, installation of plant material within the easement, and pruning and removal of dead plant material within the easement area.

The applicant is also proposing to remove approximately 18 trees outside of the easement area. These trees have been approved for removal by the Town of Chevy Chase. Staff recommends that the applicant be permitted to remove these trees prior to approval of the final forest conservation plan. This approval should be conditioned on a pre-construction meeting, demonstration that the trees can be removed without adverse impacts to the saved trees, and demonstration that the work can be carried out without the need for a sediment control permit. Although tree removal is not typically permitted prior to approval of a final forest conservation plan, it is recommended in this case to accommodate deadlines imposed by the Town's approval process.

The proposed grading area at the bottom of the steep slope area is not included in the easement area, and will be permitted to be graded and filled in compliance with sediment and erosion control plans and the final forest conservation plan. However, this area may optionally be added to the easement if the applicant wishes to have this area credited towards reforestation.

Citizen Correspondence and Issues

The applicant conducted a pre-submission community meeting on February 27, 2010. No significant subdivision issues were raised at the meeting. In addition, written notice of the plan submittal and the public hearing dates was given by the applicant and staff. Citizen correspondence was

received for the previous Planning Board hearing held on February 2, 2012. As of the date of this report, no citizen correspondence has been received relative to the current hearing.

CONCLUSION

Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations specifies seven criteria with which resbudivided lots must comply. They are street frontage, alignment, size, shape, width, area and suitability for residential use within the existing block, neighborhood or subdivision. As set forth above, the two proposed lots are of the same character as the existing lots in the defined neighborhood with respect to each of the resubdivision criteria, and therefore, comply with Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations. The proposed lots meet all requirements established in the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinance and substantially conform to the recommendations of the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Master Plan. Access and public facilities will be adequate to serve the proposed lots, and the application has been reviewed by other applicable county agencies, all of whom have recommended approval of the plan. Therefore, approval of the application with the conditions specified above is recommended.

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – Previous staff report, dated January 20, 2012

Exhibit 2 – Draft conservation easement and associated forest management plan

Exhibit 3 – Plan showing proposed conservation easement area

Exhibit 4 – Proposed preliminary plan and forest conservation plan

MCPB

Item No.:

Hearing Date: 2/2/12

7206 Meadow Lane Preliminary Plan 120100270

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Rose Krasnow, Chief, Area 1, rose.krasnow@mncppc-mc-org, (301) 495-4591

Date of Report: 1/20/12

Description

Location: Located in the northwest quadrant of the

intersection of Meadow Lane and Oak Lane

Zone: R-60

Master Plan: Bethesda/Chevy Chase

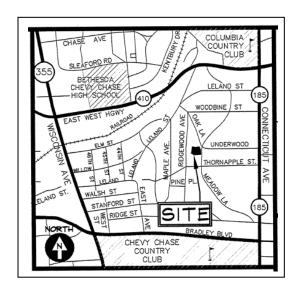
Property size: 1.33 acres

Application to subdivide 1.33 acres of land into two

lots for two one-family detached dwellings.

Applicant: CC Green Vision, LLC

Filing date: April 8, 2010



Summary

Staff Recommendation: Approval with Conditions

Staff is recommending that a Category I conservation easement be placed on areas of forest retention and steep slopes. The applicant is requesting that either no conservation easement be placed on the property or that it be limited to a category II easement.

The application is a resubdivision. A finding that the proposed lots are of the same character as existing lots in the neighborhood is necessary for approval.

This application is in the Town of Chevy Chase and the Town has reviewed the current application and provided comments.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Approval under this preliminary plan is limited to two lots for two one-family detached dwelling units.
- 2) The applicant must comply with the conditions of approval for the preliminary forest conservation plan. The applicant must satisfy all conditions prior to recording of plat(s) or Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (MCDPS) issuance of sediment and erosion control permits, as applicable. Specific conditions include:
 - a. Show a Category I easement over the steep slopes and associated large trees.
 - b. Shift the proposed limits of disturbance (LOD) and the associated root zone impacts for trees 5, 6, 7 and 12 to areas outside of the forested steep slopes.
 - c. Revise the plan, worksheet, notes, tables and legend to reflect the forest retained and/or planted in the Category I Easement.
 - d. Include a provision to install all unground utilities for prosed Lot 38 by directional boring to be performed in manner minimizing any disturbance to the roots of save trees. Air spading (instead of boring) may be performed in areas outside of forest boundary.
 - e. Revise the legend symbols and plan views for existing vs. proposed root protection matting so they match actual existing and proposed conditions.
 - f. Delete miscellaneous tree note #1.
 - g. Update miscellaneous tree note #2 to reference the project arborist's pending explicit recommendation on whether or not tree #6 is to remain. Provide appropriate plan notes for the care/monitoring or the careful removal of the tree as applicable.
 - h. Revise miscellaneous tree note #7 (regarding tree #17) to retain tree protection fence at curb line throughout construction and install additional fencing along the proposed sidewalk edge. Alternately, temporary root protection matting can be used instead of fencing installation in the street right-of-way.
 - i. Remove the plan note and graphics related to "LOD previously recommended by M-NCPPC-EPD" or show the LOD which was actually recommended by M-NCPPC.
 - j. Remove the proposed "bump out" of the wall (near trees #4 and 41) on lot 38. Relocate the wall outside of the high priory forest and steep slope areas.
 - k. Shift the LOD away from tree #2/23 to an east-west line that is no closer than 15' from the tree.
- 3) Prior to any clearing, grading, demolition, or issuance of any building permit, the applicant must submit for review and approval a Final Forest Conservation Plan (FFCP). Specific conditions include:
 - a. Replace the arborist's report dated December 13, 2011, with a table or chart on the plan that concisely highlights all necessary tree protection measures.
 - b. Specify the reforestation requirements and how they will be met.
 - c. The project arborist must supervise all tree care work including the directional boring of utilities.
 - d. Provide details and locations of permanent boundary monuments to appropriately delineate the forest conservation easement.
 - e. Provide details for applications of root protection and/or aeration matting.
 - f. Provide plan notes, details, specifications and/or exhibits to clearly demonstrate how the root of saved trees will be preserved underneath of proposed structures such as the driveway, walls, and the garage. This condition particularly applies to trees 1/22, 2/23, 18, 23, 24 and 25.

- 4) The applicant must submit the sediment and erosion control plan and stormwater management plan with the revised Final Forest Conservation Plan to ensure consistency with the LOD and the associated tree and forest preservation measures.
- 5) The applicant must submit for review and approval a financial security for any planting requirements which may be specified in the FFCP, prior to any land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 6) The Category I conservation easement must be recorded by plat prior to any land disturbing activities occurring onsite. The record plat must reflect a Category I easement over all areas of steep slopes and forest conservation.
- 7) The certificate of compliance for any off-site forest mitigation must be submitted by the applicant, then approved by M-NCPPC Associate General Counsel Office, prior to land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 8) Any applicable maintenance and management agreement must be submitted by the applicant and then approved by M-NCPPC Associate General Counsel Office. The final document must be recorded in the land records prior to any land disturbing activities occurring onsite.
- 9) The applicant must comply with the conditions of the MCDPS stormwater management approval dated September 8, 2011. These conditions may be amended by MCDPS, provided the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the preliminary plan approval.
- The applicant must comply with the conditions of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) letter dated June 18, 2010. These conditions may be amended by MCDOT, provided the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the preliminary plan approval.
- 11) The applicant must satisfy provisions for access and improvements as required by MCDOT prior to recordation of plat(s).
- Before any building permit is issued, the applicant must make school facilities payments to MCDPS at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- 13) The record plat must show building restriction lines at the top and bottom of the steep slope area, as depicted on the preliminary plan. Building foundations must not be placed on the steep slope area between the two building restriction lines.
- 14) The certified preliminary plan must contain the following note: "Unless specifically noted on this plan drawing or in the Planning Board conditions of approval, the building footprints, building heights, on-site parking, site circulation, and sidewalks shown on the preliminary plan are illustrative. The final locations of buildings, structures and hardscape will be determined during the building permit process. Please refer to the zoning data table for development standards such as setbacks, building restriction lines, building height, and lot coverage for each lot. Other limitations for site development may also be included in the conditions of the Planning Board's approval."
- 15) The record plat must show necessary easements.
- The Adequate Public Facility (APF) review for the preliminary plan will remain valid for eighty-five (85) months from the date of mailing of the Planning Board resolution.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject property, shown below and in Attachment A, is a platted lot and is 57,726 square feet (1.33 acres) in area. The property is zoned R-60. It is located in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Meadow Lane and Oak Lane, within the Town of Chevy Chase. The property has frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane to the east and on a public alley to the west. There are currently no buildings on the property, but parts of the lot have been graded in a previous attempt to construct a

one-family detached dwelling. The partially completed dwelling has been demolished. Surrounding properties to the north, south, east, and west are developed with one-family detached dwellings in the R-60 zone.

The subject property is located within the Lower Rock Creek watershed. Steep slopes, with gradients of 25% or greater, exist in a band in the center of the property. An area that exhibits some of the characteristics of a wetland exists on the lower portion of the property, near Meadow Lane. This area was ultimately determined not to be a wetland. There are no streams or floodplains on the site. The subject property contains 0.32 acre of forest.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant proposes to resubdivide the existing lot into two lots for two one-family detached dwellings. Proposed Lot 37 is 30,442 square feet and proposed Lot 38 is 24,210 square feet in area. The lots are proposed to be perpendicular to the street and the public alley to the west of the property, similar to other lots in the area. Despite having frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane on one side and the alley on the other side, the lots are not considered to be through lots per the zoning ordinance because the alley is not considered to be street frontage. As such, they will have front and rear yards and not two front yards for each lot. Access to the lots is proposed via individual driveways from the alley. Although both lots will have frontage on Meadow Lane and Oak Lane, no vehicular access is proposed from those streets. A 2,447 square-foot outlot is proposed along the frontage of Oak Lane,

north of proposed Lot 38. This outlot was requested by the Town of Chevy Chase to prevent further resubdivision of proposed Lot 38. Creation of the outlot limits the width of proposed Lot 38 to 100 feet. Without the outlot, the width of proposed Lot 38 would have been approximately 135 feet, wide enough to provide for two lots that are at least 60 feet wide, which is the minimum width for the R-60 zone.

(Attachment B – proposed plan)

Previously Scheduled Hearing

A hearing for this application was scheduled for February 17, 2011. At that time, the preliminary plan included three lots. After the hearing was noticed but before the hearing date, the applicant requested that the hearing be postponed so that the application could be revised by reducing it to two lots. The two-lot subdivision is now under consideration at today's hearing. The staff report for the previous three-lot subdivision can be found at:

http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda/2011/documents/20110217 Meadow Lane CORR ECTED_000.pdf

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Conformance to the Master Plan

The Bethesda/Chevy Chase Master Plan does not specifically address the subject property. The Master Plan recommends retention of existing zoning throughout the Master Plan area in the absence of a specific recommendation for change on a particular property. Thus, in the case of the subject property, the Master Plan calls for retention of the existing R-60 zoning. In the Land Use and Zoning section of the plan, the property and surrounding development is identified as suitable for one-family detached housing. The proposed subdivision complies with the recommendations adopted in the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Master Plan in that it proposes one-family detached housing consistent with the current density of the neighborhood and the current zoning designation. The proposed lots will be similar to surrounding lots with respect to dimensions, orientation, and shape, and the proposed residences will have a similar relationship to the public street and surrounding residences as do existing residences in the area. The proposed subdivision will not alter the existing pattern of development or land use, which is in substantial conformance with the Master Plan recommendation to maintain the existing land use.

The Master Plan also recommends the preservation, wherever possible, of wetlands and steeply sloping areas (25 percent and greater slopes) that may lie outside of floodplains or stream buffers as defined by existing regulations and guidelines (page 137). The preliminary plan, as conditioned in the staff recommendation, would be in substantial conformance with this recommendation of the Master Plan by placement of a category I conservation easement on the steeply sloped portion of the property.

Public Facilities

Roads and Transportation Facilities

Access to the proposed lots is proposed via individual driveways from a public alley, which is accessed from Ridgewood Avenue. This access will be safe and adequate for pedestrian and vehicular

access. Because fire and rescue vehicles cannot safely negotiate a 90 degree turn in the existing alley, those vehicles will serve the two proposed lots by entering the alley and stopping at the turn in the alley. Rescue vehicles will be able to serve the proposed lots from that point.

The proposed subdivision does not generate 30 or more vehicle trips during the morning or evening peak hours. Therefore, the application is not subject to Local Area Transportation Review. In addition, the proposed subdivision does not generate more than three new vehicle trips in the morning or evening peak hours. Therefore, the application is also not subject to Policy Area Mobility Review.

Proposed vehicle and pedestrian access for the subdivision will be safe and adequate.

Other Public Facilities and Services

Public facilities and services are available and will be adequate to serve the proposed development. The property is proposed to be served by public water and public sewer. The application has been reviewed by the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service who has determined that the property will have appropriate access for fire and rescue vehicles. Other public facilities and services, such as police stations, firehouses, and health services are operating according to the Growth Policy resolution currently in effect and will be adequate to serve the property. The application is within the Bethesda Chevy Chase School cluster area which is currently operating between 105-120% of capacity at the elementary and middle school levels, and a school facilities payment is required. Electrical, telecommunications, and gas services are also available to serve the Property.

Environment

Background And Project History

The site is within the Coquelin Run sub-watershed of Lower Rock Creek, which is a use-class I watershed¹. Three distinct topographic areas characterize the property. The western portion contains the area of highest elevation, which has a number of individual trees, and an open lawn area, which was created after the stabilization of a former home site. The central portion of the site contains a forested area associated with mature trees and steep slopes in excess of 25%. All onsite forest is considered a high priority for retention due to the presence of specimen trees and association with steep slopes. At the bottom of the steep slopes there is relatively flat area that contains low-lying ground. The area is lower in elevation than the adjacent land associated with the Meadow Lane right-of-way

According to Town records, a previously-existing house was constructed in 1947. Most of the adjacent homes in the community were built in the 1920s through 1940s. Forest conservation exemption #42001045E was granted on August 18, 2000, for the demolition of the original house and the construction of a new home. The work included high-end construction for the new home and extensive tree care and stress reduction measures to preserve trees during the demolition of the original structure and the construction of the new home. The most significant item of the tree

Waters that are suitable for: water contact sports: play and leisure time activities where the human body may come in direct contact with the surface water; fishing; the growth and propagation of fish (other than trout); other aquatic life, and wildlife; agricultural water supply and industrial water supply.

¹ Use I: WATER CONTACT RECREATION & PROTECTION OF AQUATIC LIFE

care/preservation measures at the Meadow Lane site included extensive use of protective matting that was installed over the existing undisturbed soil surface and overlaid with stone or mulch. The matting and its cover allowed heavy construction equipment to access the site with only minimal disturbance to the adjacent trees and the root systems. A sediment control fence was also lapped into the matting and was not trenched in to the ground (which would otherwise sever the roots of adjacent trees).

However, the construction of the large home was not completed, and it was ultimately demolished in 2007 under an updated forest conservation exemption granted on April 11, 2007. The demolition was also conducted under the supervision of an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist in a manner which continued to protect the saved trees.

The applicant originally submitted an application for a 3-lot subdivision. At some point during the review process, staff was asked to evaluate the property for possible acquisition. Parks staff assessed the property but did not express interest in acquiring the property. Planning Department Staff ultimately recommended approval with conditions of the proposed three-lot development and a staff report was posted for the scheduled hearing. However, the applicant requested that the hearing be postponed in order to resolve issues with the Town of Chevy Chase. (Refer to the link provided at front of this report for a copy of previous report).

Three major circumstances have changed since the three-lot plan was submitted. First, the limits of disturbance (LOD) for the project have expanded, and this additional disturbance is not supported by staff. Second, staff and the Planning Board has expressed higher expectations for appropriate and strong justifications to make the findings necessary to grant a forest conservation variance. Third, additional trees affected by the plan were determined to be subject to the variance.

Existing Forest and Environmental Setting

Currently, large native trees dominate the existing on-site forest. The shrub layer and groundcover of the forest area include both native species and non-native landscape plantings. The definition of forest requires that only one half of its trees measure 2" diameter or greater; no minimum size is specified for the other half of the trees. Although the forest on the subject property (measuring 13,980 square feet or 0.32 acres) contains landscape shrub plantings (which are not specifically precluded in the forest definition), there are also numerous native trees interspersed throughout, which contribute to the total tree counts. Numerous native tree species less than 2" diameter identified in the NRI/FSD and observed by M-NCPPC staff include dogwood, elm, ash, holly, beech, sycamore, and tulip tree, in addition to the larger trees that are greater than 2" diameter. The forest area still meets the definition of forest even if the landscape plantings are not included in the stem counts.

Wetland Delineation

The U.S. Department of Agriculture 1961 Soil Survey of Montgomery County shows the downslope side of the property as part of the bottomland of a stream valley. The soil survey shows the soils in the bottomland area as Worsham silt loam. Such soils are hydric and poor draining and are typically associated with floodplains. The current Master Plan (page 137) strongly discourages development on these soils. However, as development took place, fill was placed over portions of the low-lying areas and some flow was diverted to the storm drainage system installed along Meadow Lane.

During the Natural Resources Inventory / Forest Stand Delineation (NRI/FSD) review process, staff noted the apparent wetland on the site and issued the following comment on February 1, 2010 (a similar comment was previously made on October 19, 2009):

1. M-NCPPC considers the wetland to exist on the subject property based on staff observations of standing water and associated plant species such as New York ironweed, in addition to soils exhibiting low chromas and mottling/oxidation (which were in some instances also associated with sulfidic odor). The NRI/FSD cannot be conditionally approved. Therefore prior to approval of the plan the wetland must either be shown as existing or otherwise proven to be absent from the site (would require further information which disputes the presence of the wetland for consideration by staff, and staff would have to agree with findings). Update related plan notes, labels, legend datasheets and reports accordingly. Note: include the wetland buffer on the plans as applicable.

In response to the comment, the applicant's consultant (CAS Engineering) revisited the site and delineated the wetland boundary in the field. The NRI/FSD 420100470 approved on February 23, 2010, contains a note stating "The wetland delineation shown hereon is based on a field study performed by James W. Witmer on December 18, 2009.

The applicant had also been coordinating with a separate consultant specializing in wetland delineations and believed that he could ultimately prove that the wetlands did not technically exist on the property.

Ultimately, MDE determined that the site does not contain jurisdictional wetlands.

Slope Protection and Conservation Easement

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Master Plan (page 137) emphasizes the following recommendation:

This plan supports the preservation, wherever possible, of wetlands and steeply sloping areas (25 percent and greater slopes) that may lie outside of floodplains or stream buffers as defined by existing regulations and guidelines. This recommendation will prevent extensive hillside erosion which can result in large amounts of sediment runoff into streams.

A major goal of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Master Plan (on Page 5) states:

A goal of this Plan is to protect the natural resources and environmental qualities which are important to the quality of life for Bethesda-Chevy Chase. Steeply sloped and heavily wooded areas are distinctive features of the Palisades area and portions of the Chevy Chase area. Throughout B-CC, residential areas are heavily wooded. Environmental concerns with those areas include loss of mature woodlands, stream quality...

...Recommendations to protect the natural resources of B-CC include:

1. Preserve wetlands, steeply sloping areas...

The plan and associated worksheet shows the removal of the entire onsite forest, even though most of the areas are not affected by the proposed work. The clearing figures are reflected in the

submitted forest conservation worksheet, which identifies all of the forest as being cleared. The plan proposes offsite mitigation for the clearing of the high priority onsite forest. Staff does not support the clearing and proposes a condition to more appropriately protect the existing forest and environmentally sensitive steep slope areas.

If the plan were approved as submitted, any tree contained within the forest could be cleared in the future with no further input from M-NCPPC. The forest areas shown as cleared also contain trees which are 30" in diameter or greater and would, therefore, be subject to a forest conservation variance (since they are part of the forest proposed as cleared). Therefore, the condition to show additional areas of conservation easement is necessary to consider the application as complete, since the variance request does not mention the tree clearing beyond the LOD and the variance request must be consistent with the plan. Refer to the variance section of this staff report for additional information on the forest conservation variance.

There is disagreement between staff and the applicant over which type of conservation easement should be placed on the subject property – a Category I easement or a Category II easement.

A Category II Easement would partially meet the requirements of the variance request in terms of physically protecting individual trees. However, a Category II Easement will not ensure stabilization of the slope, which is necessary to make the finding of no adverse impacts on water quality.

The proposed development excessively encroaches into environmentally sensitive areas (slopes over 25%) in conflict with the subdivision regulations. 50-32(c) of the Subdivision Regulations allows for the Planning Board to restrict the subdivision of land to achieve the objectives of Chapter 22A relating to conservation of tree and forest resources and to protect environmentally sensitive areas. Section 50-32(c) states:

For purposes of this subsection, environmentally sensitive areas are limited to critical habitats for wildlife or plant species, slopes over 25% or over 15% with highly erodible soils, wetlands, perennial and intermittent streams, and stream buffers.

A Category I Easement would satisfy the requirements of the above referenced code and is also required to comply with the Forest Conservation Law (Chapter 22A-12(b). Furthermore, the Category I Easement area would ensure the stability of the steep slope, which presently shows no signs of erosion in the areas associated with the forest. Erosion is occurring in the grassy slope outside of the forest footprint. The applicant has indicated he would be agreeable to a Category II Easement over the steep slopes, but not a Category I Easement. The less stringent Category II Easement would allow the removal of groundcover and understory, which would destabilize the slope contrary to the Master Plan language, Environmental Guidelines, Forest Conservation Law, Subdivision Regulations and forest conservation variance provisions. Staff is, therefore, recommending a condition that onsite areas of existing forest and slope be placed in a protective Category I Forest Conservation Easement.

Forest Conservation and Tree Save

The Forest Conservation Plan covers approximately 1.57 acres that includes the offsite limits of disturbance (LOD). The plan shows clearing of the entire 0.32-acre high priority forest, which generates a reforestation requirement of 0.63 acres. The plan proposes to meet the reforestation requirements either by a payment of a fee-in-lieu or through an offsite forest conservation easement. The onsite

conservation easement area and associated LOD proposed by staff would retain enough forest to comfortably meet the forest definition. A minor planting requirement may be generated under the scenario recommended by Staff. However, the minor planting requirement could be accommodated on site, along the southern and northern sides of the slope, which would expand the existing forest boundary and further protect the slope.

The proposed plan includes substantial impacts to a number of trees. An arborist report was provided to address the proposed impacts (Attachment D). The report contains recommendations for extensive use of a handheld air-jet tool for excavation (air-spading). For example, on page 25 of the arborist report (under the hardscape section for tree #3/25) the recommendation is to carefully excavate the piers for the garage and porch and have the structure built over the retained root systems. Such intensive measures require extremely careful coordination of all construction personnel. Staff has included conditions for the plan to provide the necessary details, notes and specifications to implement the tree save plan.

Note: the applicant has stated that the driveway could be re-designed further away from the tree which would simplify the preservation measures proposed near the northwest portion of the site.

Forest Conservation Variance

Section 22A-12(b) (3) of Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law provides criteria that identify certain individual trees as high priority for retention and protection. Any impact to these trees, including removal of the subject tree or disturbance within the tree's CRZ, requires a forest conservation variance. An applicant for a variance must provide certain written information in support of the required findings in accordance with Section 22A-21 of the County Forest Conservation Law. The law requires approval of a variance for impact to trees that measure 30 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) or greater; are part of a historic site or designated with a historic structure; are designated as National, State, or County champion trees; are at least 75 percent of the diameter of the current State champion tree of that species; or are designated as Federal or State rare, threatened, or endangered species. The applicant submitted a complete variance request on December 16, 2011, for the impacts to and removal of trees as a result of the proposed subdivision (Attachment E). The applicant proposes to remove two trees that are 30" DBH or greater, and to impact, but not remove, 15 other subject trees. In total, 17 trees are that are considered high priority for retention under Section 22A-12(b) (3) of the County Forest Conservation Law are proposed to be affected.

Note: As stated in previous sections of this staff report, the submitted application and associated variance request contain inherent conflicts regarding the forest clearing declared and appropriate protection of specimen trees. The only means of correcting the existing application is to condition that an easement be established to protect the subject trees. Otherwise, the application would have to be considered incomplete and could not be acted on by the Planning Board.

Variance Request

Table 1: Trees ≥ 30" DBH to be removed or potentially removed

Tree #	Species	Diameter (inches)	Condition	Status	CRZ Area (sf)
6	Tulip Tree	51" DBH	Poor	Remove*	18,386
9	American Beech	34.5" DBH	Hazard	Remove	8,414

^{*}The variance request and arborist report do not clearly indicate whether or not tree #6 is to be removed; the submitted documents state minor impacts and retention with monitoring should occur.

Table 2: Trees ≥ 30" DBH to be impacted but retained

Tree #	Species	Diameter (inches)	Condition	Status	CRZ Area (sf)	CRZ Impacts (%)
5	Tulip Tree	41" DBH	Good	Save	11,883	53.2*
8	American Beech	31" DBH	Good	Save	6,793	27.7
11	American Beech	31" DBH	Good	Save	6,793	43.0
13	American Beech	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	4.1
14	American Beech	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	7.9
15	American Beech	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	12.4
16	American Beech	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	16.8
17	Tulip Tree	32" DBH	Poor	Save	7,238	60.0
18	Red Oak	37" DBH	Good	Save	9,678	11.7
19	Tulip Tree	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	2.2
23/2	Red Oak	32" DBH	Good	Save	7,238	25.0
25/3	White Oak	32" DBH	Good	Save	7,238	32.5
53	American Beech	32" DBH	Good	Save	7,238	7.8
55	White Oak	30" DBH	Good	Save	6,362	5.6
56	American Beech	33" DBH	Good	Save	7,698	4.2

^{*} The proposed fill (not supported by staff) would increase the impact to tree #5 to 63%.

As required, the applicant has presented a variance request and justification letter to the following four questions (see Attachment E for applicant's response):

(1) Describe the special conditions peculiar to the property which would cause the unwarranted hardship; (2) Describe how enforcement of these rules will deprive the landowner of rights commonly enjoyed by others in similar areas; (3) Verify that State water quality standards will not be violated or

that a measurable degradation in water quality will not occur as a result of the granting of the variance; (4) Provide any other information appropriate to support the request.

Although staff does not agree with all of the justifications made by the applicant, staff has made its own determinations to support the findings of the variance. Staff agrees that some level of impact would be required and that a plan meeting the general intent of the application can be approved. However, staff believes that some of the impacts proposed are unnecessary and recommends that additional tree preservation methods be provided on the plan, and that certain reductions in the LOD occur. As conditioned in the staff recommendation, staff agrees that there is an unwarranted hardship in not granting the variance. Based upon consideration of the existing site features, and the proposed conditions of approval, staff agrees that enforcing the rules would deprive the landowner of rights enjoyed by others in similar areas.

Variance Findings

Section 22A-21 of the County Forest Conservation Law sets forth the findings that must be made by the Planning Board or Planning Director, as appropriate, in order for a variance to be granted. Staff has made the following determinations in the review of the variance request and the proposed forest conservation plan:

Variance Findings - Staff has made the following determination based on the required findings that granting of the requested variance:

1. Will not confer on the applicant a special privilege that would be denied to other applicants.

The site previously contained a large residential structure. The current proposal, as conditioned, occupies roughly the same area of disturbance that would be needed to replace a similar structure.

As conditioned, the plan will avoid a number of unnecessary impacts to subject trees.

2. Is not based on conditions or circumstances which are the result of the actions by the applicant.

The requested variance, modified by the conditions in the staff recommendation, is not based on conditions or circumstances which are the result of actions by the applicant. Some level of impact is required to redevelop the site, and some of the disturbance corresponds to existing disturbed conditions. Staff concurs with the removal assessment of tree #9; and assuming the project arborist provides an explicit recommendation for removal of tree #6, staff would also concur with the removal of that tree. Staff believes that the variance can be granted under this condition and no mitigation for the two removals would be necessary. As conditioned, the proposed plan avoids and minimizes disturbances to the subject trees. The variance request would be granted to any applicant in a similar situation.

3. Is not based on a condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or non-conforming, on a neighboring property.

The requested variance is a result of the proposed site design and layout on the subject property and not as a result of land or building use on a neighboring property.

4. Will not violate State water quality standards or cause measurable degradation in water quality.

On September 8, 2011, MCDPS has approved a stormwater management concept (Attachment J) for the proposed project. As conditioned, a Category I easement will be placed to protect the forest on the steep slopes in an undisturbed/stable condition. State water quality standards will not be violated and measurable degradation in water quality will not occur.

County Arborist's Recommendations

In accordance with Montgomery County Code Section 22A-21(c), the Planning Department is required to refer a copy of the variance request to the County Arborist in the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection for a recommendation prior to acting on the request. The County Arborist must make a recommendation on the variance request to the Planning Board within 30 days from the receipt of the request. If there is no recommendation from the County Arborist, the response is presumed to be favorable. The request was forwarded to the County Arborist on December 19, 2011. The County Arborist issued a response to the variance request on December 23, 2011 and will not provide a recommendation since she believes that the tree variance provision does not apply to development applications submitted before October 1, 2009 (Attachment F).

Staff Recommendation on the Variance

Based on the above findings and conditions of approval, staff recommends that the Board approve the applicant's request for a variance to the Forest Conservation Law to remove two subject trees, and to impact 15 subject trees associated with the site. The trees subject to this variance (to be impacted but retained) will receive adequate tree protection measures, as conditioned. No mitigation is recommended for trees impacted but retained.

Stormwater Management

The MCDPS Stormwater Management Section approved the stormwater management concept on September 8, 2011. The stormwater management concept consists of environmental site design through the use of nonstructural devices including drywells and micro-bioretention.

Compliance with the Subdivision Regulations and Zoning Ordinance

This application has been reviewed for compliance with the Montgomery County Code, Chapter 50, the Subdivision Regulations. The application meets all applicable sections, including the requirements for resubdivision as discussed below. The proposed lot size, width, shape and orientation are appropriate for the location of the subdivision.

The lots were reviewed for compliance with the dimensional requirements for the R-60 zone as specified in the Zoning Ordinance. The lots as proposed will meet all the dimensional requirements for area, frontage, width, and setbacks in that zone. A summary of this review is included in attached Table 1. The application has been reviewed by other applicable county agencies, all of whom have recommended approval of the plan.

Conformance with Section 50-29(b)(2)

A. Statutory Review Criteria

In order to approve an application for resubdivision, the Planning Board must find that each of the proposed lots complies with all seven of the resubdivision criteria, set forth in Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations, which states:

Resubdivision. Lots on a plat for the Resubdivision of any lot, tract or other parcel of land that is part of an existing subdivision previously recorded in a plat book shall be of the same character as to street frontage, alignment, size, shape, width, area and suitability for residential use as other lots within the existing block, neighborhood or subdivision.

B. Neighborhood Delineation

In administering Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations, the Planning Board must determine the appropriate "neighborhood" for evaluating the application. In this instance, the Neighborhood selected by the applicant, and agreed to by staff, consists of 28 lots (Attachment G). The neighborhood includes platted lots in the R-60 zone on and in the vicinity of Meadow Lane. The lots share several points of access on Meadow Lane, Oak Lane, Ridgewood Avenue, and Thornapple Street. The designated neighborhood provides an adequate sample of the lot and development pattern of the area. A tabular summary of the area based on the resubdivision criteria is included in Attachment H.

C. Analysis

Comparison of the Character of Proposed Lots to Existing

In performing the analysis, the above-noted resubdivision criteria were applied to the delineated neighborhood. The proposed lots are of the same character with respect to the resubdivision criteria as other lots within the defined neighborhood. Therefore, the proposed resubdivision complies with the criteria of Section 50-29(b)(2). As set forth below, the attached tabular summary and graphical documentation support this conclusion:

Frontage:

In a neighborhood of 28 lots, lot frontages range from 50 feet to 224 feet. Six of the lots have frontages of less than 60 feet, 15 lots have frontages between 60 and 100 feet, and the remaining seven lots have frontages of 100 feet or more. The two proposed lots have frontages of 100 and 104 feet, respectively. The proposed lots will be of the same character as existing lots in the neighborhood with respect to lot frontage.

Alignment:

Twenty-one of the 28 existing lots in the neighborhood are perpendicular in alignment, and the remaining seven are corner lots. The two proposed lots are perpendicular in alignment. The proposed lots are of the same character as existing lots with respect to the alignment criterion.

Size:

The lots in the delineated neighborhood range from 5,007 square feet to 27,913 square feet. Twelve of the lots are smaller than 7,000 square feet, 11 are between 7,000 and 10,000 square feet, and five are between 10,000 and 28,000 square feet. Proposed Lot 37 will be 30,442 square feet in size, and Proposed Lot 38 will be 24,210 square feet in size. Proposed Lot 37 will be the largest lot in the neighborhood, and proposed Lot 38 will be larger than all but one of the existing neighborhood lots. This is an unavoidable consequence of the plan being revised from three lots to two lots, which the applicant did at the request of the Town of Chevy Chase. In addition, the existing lot that comprises the subject property is currently the largest lot in the neighborhood by a large margin. The proposed resubdivision into two lots creates smaller lots that are closer in size to existing neighborhood lots. Staff recommends that the Planning Board find that the proposed lot sizes are in character with the size of existing lots in the neighborhood.

Shape:

Fourteen of the existing lots in the neighborhood are trapezoidal, eight are rectangular, and six are irregular. Two of the proposed lots are irregularly shaped, and one is rectangular. The shapes of the proposed lots will be in character with shapes of the existing lots.

Width:

The lots in the delineated neighborhood range from 50 feet to 139 feet in width. Six of the lots have widths of less than 60 feet, 14 lots have widths between 60 and 80 feet, and the remaining eight lots have widths of more than 80 feet. Both of the proposed lots have widths of 100 feet. The proposed lots will be in character with existing lots in the neighborhood with respect to width.

Area:

The lots in the delineated neighborhood range from 1,083 square feet to 11,132 square feet in buildable area. Fifteen of the lots have a buildable area less than 3,000 square feet, nine are between 3,000 and 5,000 square feet, and four are between 5,000 and 11,500 square feet. Proposed Lot 37 has a buildable area of approximately 11,684 square feet, and proposed Lot 38 has a buildable area of approximately 10,679 square feet. Proposed Lot 37 will have the largest buildable area in the neighborhood, and proposed Lot 38 will have a buildable area larger than all but one of the existing neighborhood lots. This is an unavoidable consequence of the plan being revised from three lots to two lots, which the applicant did at the request of the Town of Chevy Chase. In addition, the existing lot that comprises the subject property currently has the largest buildable area in the neighborhood by a large margin. The proposed resubdivision into two lots creates smaller buildable areas that are closer in size to existing neighborhood lots. Staff recommends that the Planning Board find that the proposed lots will be of the same character as other lots in the neighborhood with respect to buildable area.

Note: The resubdivision data table submitted by the applicant indicates that proposed Lot 37 has a buildable area of 21,950 square feet, and proposed Lot 38 has a buildable area of 16,065 square feet. These figures include portions of the lots that are not actually buildable because they are behind a building restriction line and within a forest conservation easement that are recommended by staff to protect the steep slopes on the subject property, as discussed in this report. Staff estimated the buildable area figures used in the analysis by measuring on the plan

the remaining buildable area after excluding the area behind the building restriction line and within the forest conservation easement.

<u>Suitability for Residential Use:</u> The existing and the proposed lots are zoned residential and the land is suitable for residential use.

Conformance with Section 50-32(b)

Section 50-32(b) of the Subdivision Regulations states that "the board must restrict the subdivision of any land which it finds to be unsafe for development because of possible flooding or erosive stream action, soils with structural limitations, unstabilized slope or fill, or similar environmental or topographical conditions."

The band of steep slopes, which exceed 25% gradient, that crosses the central portion of the subject property constitutes unsafe land in the meaning of Section 50-32(b). As such, staff recommends that that portion of the subject property be restricted by means of building restriction lines, as authorized by Section 50-32 of the Subdivision Regulations. The preliminary plan submitted by the applicant shows a building restriction line at the bottom of and near the top of the steep slope area. The staff recommendation includes a condition that requires that the building restriction line be shown on the certified preliminary plan and that no building foundation may encroach beyond the building restriction line.

Town of Chevy Chase

The subject property is located within the Town of Chevy Chase. As provided in Article 28 of the Maryland Code, the Montgomery County Planning Board exercises subdivision power within the Town. The Town provided three letters to the Planning Board, dated June 9, 2010, October 28, 2010, and November 15, 2010, respectively, that recommend denial of the application.

However, the applicant worked with the Town and ultimately revised the application to a two-lot subdivision (instead of three lots), and the Town withdrew its recommendation of denial. The Town is now recommending approval of the two-lot subdivision, as stated in its letter of August 25, 2011 (Attachment I). Although the Town recommends approval of the preliminary plan, it continues to express concerns regarding tree preservation, stormwater management, and pedestrian safety.

With regard to tree preservation, the letter states it must issue a tree removal permit before any grading or clearing can take place. Although the letter states that a permit was denied by the Town, subsequent to the date of the letter, a permit was issued by the Town.

With regard to stormwater management, the letter states that the applicant must comply with Section 28 of the Town Code, which requires the installation of stormwater management facilities. The applicant has received approval of stormwater concept from MCDPS, and the applicant will obtain any necessary Town stormwater approvals prior to the Town's issuance of building permits.

With regard to pedestrian safety, the Town is concerned that the proposed lots will greatly increase vehicular traffic in the alley, putting pedestrians at risk. However, the addition of two one-family detached dwellings will not generate a significant amount of traffic. The alley provides primary vehicular access apparently to six existing lots; with the two proposed lots the total would be eight. The

Planning Board has approved other preliminary plans for subdivisions on streets with no sidewalks, based on a determination that the low traffic volume allows pedestrians to safely travel in the roadway. Many of these subdivisions have been on streets with more dwellings accessing them than the eight lots that will access the alley if this subdivision is approved. Moreover, the alley is posted with a maximum speed of ten miles per hour, further ensuring pedestrian safety. Finally, the applicant has agreed to work with the Town to address pedestrian safety concerns.

Citizen Correspondence and Issues

The applicant conducted a pre-submission community meeting on February 27, 2010. No significant subdivision issues were raised at the meeting. In addition, written notice of the plan submittal and the public hearing dates was given by the applicant and staff. As of the date of this report, no citizen correspondence has been received relative to the current, two-lot preliminary plan.

CONCLUSION

Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations specifies seven criteria with which resbudivided lots must comply. They are street frontage, alignment, size, shape, width, area and suitability for residential use within the existing block, neighborhood or subdivision. As set forth above, the two proposed lots are of the same character as the existing lots in the defined neighborhood with respect to each of the resubdivision criteria, and therefore, comply with Section 50-29(b)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations. The proposed lots meet all requirements established in the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinance and substantially conform to the recommendations of the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Master Plan. Access and public facilities will be adequate to serve the proposed lots, and the application has been reviewed by other applicable county agencies, all of whom have recommended approval of the plan. Therefore, approval of the application with the conditions specified above is recommended.

Attachments

Attachment A – Vicinity Development Map

Attachment B – Proposed Preliminary Plan and Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan

Attachment C – MDE Wetland Letter

Attachment D – Arborist Report

Attachment E – Applicant's Variance Request

Attachment F – County Arborist Letter

Attachment G – Resubdivision Neighborhood Map

Attachment H - Resubdivision Data Table

Attachment I – Recommendation of the Town of Chevy Chase

Attachment J – Agency Correspondence Referenced in Conditions

Table 1: Preliminary Plan Data Table and Checklist

Plan Name: 7206 Meadow Lane Plan Number: 120100270 Zoning: R-60 # of Lots: 2 # of Outlots: N/a Dev. Type: Residential **Zoning Ordinance PLAN DATA** Proposed for Verified Date Development Approval by the Standard **Preliminary Plan** 24,210 sq. ft. NB 1/20/12 Minimum Lot Area 6,000 sq. ft. minimum Lot Width 60 ft. 100 ft. minimum NB 1/20/12 100 ft. minimum Lot Frontage 25 ft. NB 1/20/12 Setbacks Front 25 ft. Min. Must meet minimum¹ NB 1/20/12 Side 8 ft. Min./18 ft. total Must meet minimum¹ NB 1/20/12 Must meet minimum¹ Rear 20 ft. Min. NΒ 1/20/12 May not exceed NB 1/20/12 Height 35 ft. Max. maximum¹ Max Resid'l d.u. per NB 1/20/12 9 2 Zonina **MPDUs** N/a NB 1/20/12 TDRs 1/20/12 N/a NB Site Plan Req'd? No NΒ 1/20/12 **FINDINGS** SUBDIVISION Lot frontage on Public Street Yes NB 1/20/12 Road dedication and frontage improvements Yes Agency letter 6/18/10 **Environmental Guidelines** Yes Staff memo 1/10/12 Forest Conservation Staff memo 1/10/12 Yes Master Plan Compliance Staff memo 12/15/10 Yes ADEQUATE PUBLIC FACILITIES Stormwater Management Yes Agency letter 9/8/11 9/30/10 Agency Water and Sewer (WSSC) Yes comments Agency 5/24/10 Yes 10-yr Water and Sewer Plan Compliance comments Well and Septic N/a 5/24/10 Agency letter Local Area Traffic Review Staff memo 5/24/10 N/a Policy Area Mobility Review Staff memo 5/24/10 N/a Transportation Management Agreement No Staff memo 5/24/10 School Cluster in Moratorium? No NB 1/20/12 School Facilities Payment NB 1/20/12 Yes Fire and Rescue Agency letter 6/16/11 Yes

¹ As determined by MCDPS at the time of building permit.

CONSERVATION DEED OF EASEMENT ("Easement") Category I (For Purposes of Forest Conservation and Slope Retention)

DEFINITIONS

<u>Grantor</u>: CC Green Vision, LLC, or the fee simple owner of the Property (as defined below) subject to a:

- 1) Plan approval conditioned on compliance with a FCP, whether or not the applicant is the fee simple owner of the property; or
- 2) Plan approval conditioned on compliance with a conservation easement agreement (issued pursuant to Chapter 50 or 59, Montgomery County Code).

<u>Grantee</u>: Montgomery County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("Commission").

<u>Forest Management Plan</u>: The pre-approved activities and conditions for the Grantor, as part of the FCP, to manage that portion of the Property subject to this Easement.

<u>Property</u>: Lots 37 and 38, Block 5, Subdivision: 7206 Meadow Lane, to be recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland together with the Plat consistent with and as noted on the Plan.

<u>Planning Board</u>: Montgomery County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

<u>Planning Director</u>: Director of the Montgomery County Planning Department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Montgomery County, or the Director's designee.

<u>Plan:</u> Preliminary Plan 120100270 approved under Montgomery County Code Chapter 50.

Forest Conservation Plan ("FCP"): Forest Conservation Plan approved as part of Preliminary Plan 120100270 approved by the Planning Board or Planning Director pursuant to Chapter 22A, Montgomery County Code.

Exhibit A:

FCP approved as a condition of receiving any of the Plan approval noted above.

Exhibit B:

Description and sketch of the easement over and across property to be developed.

Grantor Initials

WITNESSETH

The Easement reflects a grant of easement by Grantor to the Grantee.

WHEREAS Grantor has obtained authority to develop the Property pursuant to a Plan in accordance with Montgomery County, Maryland laws; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board or other approving authority approved Grantor's Plan conditioned upon a requirement that development occur in strict accordance with an FCP approved by the Planning Board after full review of the FCP pursuant to the provisions of Montgomery County Code Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation); Chapter 50 (Subdivision Regulations); and/or Chapter 59 (Zoning Ordinance); and/or

WHEREAS, the Planning Board approved Grantor's Plan conditioned upon Grantor subjecting the Property, or a portion of the Property to a conservation easement pursuant to the provisions of Montgomery County Code Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation Law), Chapter 50 (Subdivision Regulations), and/or Chapter 59 (Zoning Ordinance); and

WHEREAS, Section 22A-12 of the Forest Conservation Law states that the primary objective of a forest conservation plan is to retain certain vegetation and specific areas in an undisturbed condition, including steep slopes; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 50-32(c) and (d) of the Subdivision Regulations, in order to protect environmentally sensitive areas, the Planning board may restrict the subdivision of land by the establishment of building restriction and land disturbance limit lines, and other protective measures or conditions, including conservation easements, deed restrictions, or covenants over portions of lots or parcels to be recorded; and

WHEREAS, the location of this Easement is as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated by reference into the terms of this Easement; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Easement is to protect steep slopes on the Property from degradation and erosion by maintaining existing natural conditions; existing and future forest cover; individual trees; and other sensitive natural features; and

WHEREAS, the purpose also includes the protection and preservation of natural features within the area of the Easement which efforts are consistent with the terms and conditions of the approved Plan and applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the Grantor and Grantee (collectively referred to as the "Parties") intend for the conditions and covenants contained in this Easement to run with the land in perpetuity and to be binding on all subsequent owners and occupants of the Property; and

Grantor	Initials	

WHEREAS, the Grantor intends that a servitude be placed upon the Property to create a conservation benefit in favor of the Planning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Grantor has executed this Easement for no monetary consideration but for the purpose of ensuring compliance with development standards imposed in accordance with Montgomery County law as a condition of development approval. The Grantor does hereby grant and convey unto the Planning Board, in perpetuity, an easement on the Property of the size and location described in Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated by reference into the terms of this Easement, and further described on the applicable record plat(s), of the nature and character described herein. This Easement constitutes a covenant real running with the title of the land, and is granted to preserve, protect and maintain the general topography and natural character of the land. The Grantor does hereby waive any challenge to the validity of this easement whether or not shown on a plat. Grantor, its heirs, successors and assigns covenant to abide by the following restrictions within the Easement:

- 1. The foregoing recitals are agreed to and incorporated herein and shall be binding upon the Grantor.
- 2. Unless undertaken pursuant to the Forest Management Plan, no living trees or shrubs (of any size or type), shall be cut down, removed or destroyed without prior written consent from the Planning Board Diseased or hazardous trees or limbs may be removed to prevent personal injury or property damage after reasonable notice to the Planning Board, unless such notice is not practical in an emergency situation or removal of trees is undertaken pursuant to the Forest Management Plan.
- 3. To prevent erosion and maintain the integrity of the forest floor, unless undertaken pursuant to the Forest Management Plan, no plant materials (including, but not limited to brush, saplings, undergrowth, non-woody vegetation, groundcover, or leaf litter) shall be mowed or cut down, dug up, removed or destroyed. Noxious weeds (limited to those weeds defined as "noxious" under Maryland State or Montgomery County laws or regulations and "exotic or invasive plants" in the Montgomery County *Trees Technical Manual*) may be removed, but the method of removal must be consistent with the limitations contained within this Easement, and protective measures must be taken to protect nearby trees and shrubs. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantor may remove understory vegetation less than two inches (2") in diameter at breast height within any path or trail as shown on the FCP and the Grantor shall be required thereafter to mulch such areas, in accordance with the Forest Management Plan, where understory was removed in accordance with this paragraph.
- 4. No mowing, agricultural activities, or cultivation shall occur. Grantor may replace dead trees or undergrowth provided that new plantings are characteristic of trees or undergrowth native to Maryland and other new plantings indicated on the final forest conservation plan.

- 5. Nothing in this Easement precludes activities consistent with the Forest Management Plan, or necessary to implement an afforestation or reforestation efforts pursued pursuant to the FCP or a maintenance agreement implemented under Chapters 19 or 22A of the Montgomery County Code.
- 6. Unless undertaken pursuant to the Forest Management Plan or the FCP, the following activities may not occur at any time within the Easement area:
 - a. Construction, excavation or grading (except for the following activities conducted in compliance with the FCP i) afforestation/reforestation, ii) utility installation, and iii) landscape lighting along the paths).
 - b. Erection of any building or structural improvements on or above ground, including (but not limited to) sheds, dog pens, play equipment and retaining walls.
 - c. Construction of any roadway or private drive.
 - d. Activities which in any way could alter or interfere with the natural ground cover or drainage (including alteration of stream channels, stream currents or stream flow).
 - e. Industrial or commercial activities.
 - f. Timber cutting, unless conducted pursuant to an approved forest management plan approved by the Planning Director and the Department of Natural Resources for the State of Maryland.
 - g. Location of any component of a septic system or wells.
 - h. Excavation, dredging, or removal of loam, gravel, soil, rock, sand and other materials.
 - i. Diking, dredging, filling or removal of wetlands.
 - j. Pasturing of livestock (including horses) and storage of manure or any other effluent.
 - k. Alteration of stream.
- 7. Nothing in this Easement shall prevent construction or maintenance of stormwater structures and/or facilities, including, but not limited to water and sewer lines, on, over, or under the easement area, <u>if</u> said structures, facilities or utilities are (i) required to implement the Plan,

Grantor	Initials	

and (ii) approved by the appropriate governing bodies or agencies in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

- 8. No dumping of unsightly or offensive material, including trash, ashes, sawdust or grass clippings shall occur. Natural biodegradable materials may be allowed in a properly located, designed, managed and maintained compost pile, provided the activity does not damage adjacent trees. In accordance with the Forest Management Plan, suitable heavy fill and other stabilization measures may be placed to control and prevent erosion, provided that the fill is covered by arable soil or humus and properly stabilized.
- 9. Fences may be erected or relocated within the Easement area if approved by the Department of Permitting Services and after written approval from the Planning Director. It is understood and agreed that the existing wood picket fence on proposed Lot 38 may be repaired and maintained in its current location.
- 10. Except the paths (one for each of Lots 37 and 38 as shown on the FCP), 3-feet in width, unpaved paths or trails consistent with the purposes of the Easement may only be created after written approval from the Planning Director. Unpaved paths as identified and shown on the FCP may be continued and maintained.
- 11. All rights reserved by or not prohibited to Grantor shall be exercised so as to prevent or minimize damage to the forest and trees, streams and water quality, plant and wildlife habitats, and the natural topographic character of the land within the Easement.
- 12. Grantor authorizes Planning Board representatives to enter the Property and easement area at their own risk and at reasonable hours for the purpose of making periodic inspections to ascertain whether the Grantor, its heirs, successors or assigns have complied with the restrictions, conditions, and easements established herein. This Easement does not convey to the general public the right to enter the Property or easement area for any purpose. This Easement does not restrict or enlarge access to the general public in common open space held under community or homeowner association control beyond any access rights created by applicable community or homeowner association covenants and by-laws.
- 13. The Grantor does hereby waive any challenge to the validity of this Easement in the event it is not shown on a plat, and Grantor agrees to make specific reference to this Easement in a separate paragraph of any subsequent deed, sales contract, mortgage, lease or other legal instrument by which any possessory or equitable interest in the Property is conveyed.
- 14. No failure on the part of the Planning Board to enforce any covenant or provision herein shall waive the Planning Board's right to enforce any covenant within this Easement.
- 15. Upon finding a violation of any of the restrictions, conditions, covenants and easements established by this Easement, the Planning Board shall have the right to enforce such provisions in accordance with any statutory authority (including, if applicable, the imposition of

Grantor	Initials	

civil monetary fines or penalties in amounts and by such means as may be promulgated from time to time),. The Planning Board also may seek injunctive or other appropriate relief in any court of competent jurisdiction, including the right to recover damages in an amount sufficient to restore the property to its original natural state, and Grantor agrees to pay for court costs and reasonable attorney fees if the Planning Board successfully seeks judicial relief.

16. All written notices required by this Easement shall be sent to the Planning Director, M-NCPPC, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto the Planning Board, its successors and assigns forever, this Grant shall be binding upon the heirs, successors and assigns of the Grantor in perpetuity and shall constitute a covenant real running with the title of the Property.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Approved for legal sufficiency
Office of the General Counsel, MNCPPC

Grantor	Initials	

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has caused itself or its duly authorized officer as of this		
WITNESS:	GRANTO	R:
	Ad	me ganization (if applicable) dress ntact phone number
STATE OF MARYLAND		
COUNTY OF	to wit:	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this	foresaid, persor nown to me (coing and annex urposes therein	nally appeared or satisfactorily proven) to be the ked instrument and acknowledged contained.
My Commission Expires:		
[NOTARIAL SEAL]		
ATTORNEY O	ERTIFICATIO	<u>ON</u>
I certify that this instrument was prepared unde admitted to practice before the Court of Appeal		n of the undersigned, an attorney
		Grantor Initials

Meadow Lane Forest Management Plan:

Qualifications of personnel

- A Maryland licensed tree care expert (LTE) with an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
 certification must perform and/or supervise all tree care/removal work within the easement area for
 the initial Site Work. Initial site work is defined as removal of tree #6 with the easement area, removal
 of invasive or noxious plant material, installation of supplemental native plantings, and removal of
 dead shrubs.
- In the event that spraying in the easement area is necessary, a Certified landscape or forest pesticide applicator will be required.
- A Maryland licensed tree care expert with an ISA certification must direct the planting and invasives
 control work, to ensure appropriate protection of existing plant material and slope stability for all of
 the Site Work.
- The LTE/ISA certified arborist shall provide a final memorandum / report to the M-NCPPC forest conservation inspector within 10 businesses days after completion of all Site Work shown on the forest conservation plan and as outlined in the forest management plan, documenting that the work performed within this plan has been appropriately performed.
 - The report must include photographic documentation of the process and include certification that the work was appropriately performed.

Removal of hazard tree(s)

- Perform work in manner which will minimize impacts to existing vegetation and slope stability.
- Stabilization/replanting of affected areas as needed.
- Removal of existing tree(s) ≥ 24" DBH (for any purpose) shall be replaced with a minimum ratio of 1" DBH for every 4" DBH removed, using trees that are a minimum of 2" caliper. (Even if the tree(s) die by natural causes, the replacements are needed to ensure continuation of slope cover/protection).
 - The replanting must occur within the easement area.
 - Appropriate care and maintenance of the plantings is required to sustain the forest cover and maintain slope stability.
 - 50/4 = at tree 6 (50" dbh) equates to 12.5 rounded up to 13 inches. Using the 2 inch minimum tree rounded up equals 7 total trees. It is agreed and understood that these 7 trees can be disbursed throughout the easement area and not limited to lot 38 where tree 6 currently resides.
 - The applicant its successor and assigns is required to maintain at least the minimum 200 stem count noted above and in the easement document.

Plant removals and invasives control:

- Provide a list of target species
 - New species occurring in future or invasives not otherwise listed may be removed if the species are defined as "noxious" under Maryland State or Montgomery County laws or regulations and "exotic or invasive plants" in the Montgomery County *Trees Technical Manual*). Approval for the removal of certain species may also be granted by the M-NCPPC forest conservation inspector.
- Specify the phasing of the removal. Applicant shall prune, and plant slope prior to occupancy of second house.
 - o Address method, number and extent of removals:
 - hand pulling or cutting/spraying combinations
 - o Provide for the protection of existing plants, water quality and slope stabilization.
 - Mark vegetation to be removed with flagging tape. Obtain inspector approval during the preconstruction meeting before treatment/removal occurs.

Demolition of existing retaining walls near southern property line:

- To occur prior to clearing and grading or before issuance of building permit
- Under direction of project arborist/LTE
- Hand work only, to be performed in a manner minimizing adverse impacts to slope stability and adjacent trees.
- Stabilization/replanting

Path Installations (two per lot):

- To be located /installed in manner minimizing adverse impacts/removal of trees over 2" caliper.
- Field adjustments may occur in coordination with M-NCPPC (and Town of Chevy Chase) inspection staff
- Do not disturb the fibrous surface roots within the conservation easement. Mulch over the existing undisturbed surface may be installed.
- Any installation of wires for lighting must not adversely impact vegetation or slope stability.

Mulching

• The natural leaf litter shall be the primary means of mulching.

- Leaf litter that falls from the existing on-site and neighboring trees and shrubs shall remain in place in
 order to retain the natural characteristics of the forest floor and to maintain the stability of the slope.
 A minimum layer of 3 inches of hardwood mulch may be applied as needed to stabilize any bare area
 which occurs though approved work such as native planting installations and invasives control; or to
 stabilize any bare areas caused by usual weather conditions such severe winds or water flows.
- When needed per above conditions, hardwood mulch to be applied by hand work only, to be performed in a manner minimizing adverse impacts to slope stability and existing vegetation.
- Hardwood mulch shall not be placed in contact with the bases of trees or otherwise bury any native vegetation within the easement area.

Woodchips are not an acceptable form of mulch for sloped areas, as the chips do not bind together and will not provide a stable cover.

Planting techniques

- Supplemental native and non-invasive herbaceous, tree and shrub species may be planted by the owner to enhance the understory and future canopy which provide additional slope stabilization.
- Hand work only, to be performed in a manner minimizing adverse impacts to slope stability and existing vegetation.
- Do not disturb the fibrous surface roots within the conservation easement with the exception that disturbance which is necessary to plant the additional vegetation.
- Provide planting details and notes which minimize the size of planting pits within easement areas to decrease the general disturbance and also protect the roots of existing save trees. Include a provision to shift the location of planting pits if significant roots are encountered during the installation (to be performed by hand).

Final grade within the existing access route (through the northern portion of steep slope area)

- The previously established access route may be used for the proposed construction of the new homes on condition that appropriate root protection matting is installed or restored in a manner which will protect the adjacent trees during the construction process (maintenance of access will be required).
- Upon completion of the construction, careful removal of the matting, stone and fences shall occur to the fullest extent possible, without adversely affecting the protected trees.
- Stabilization of the access road shall be performed immediately.
- Planting of the access road shall occur immediately after stabilization or within the earliest possible planting window.

Erosion

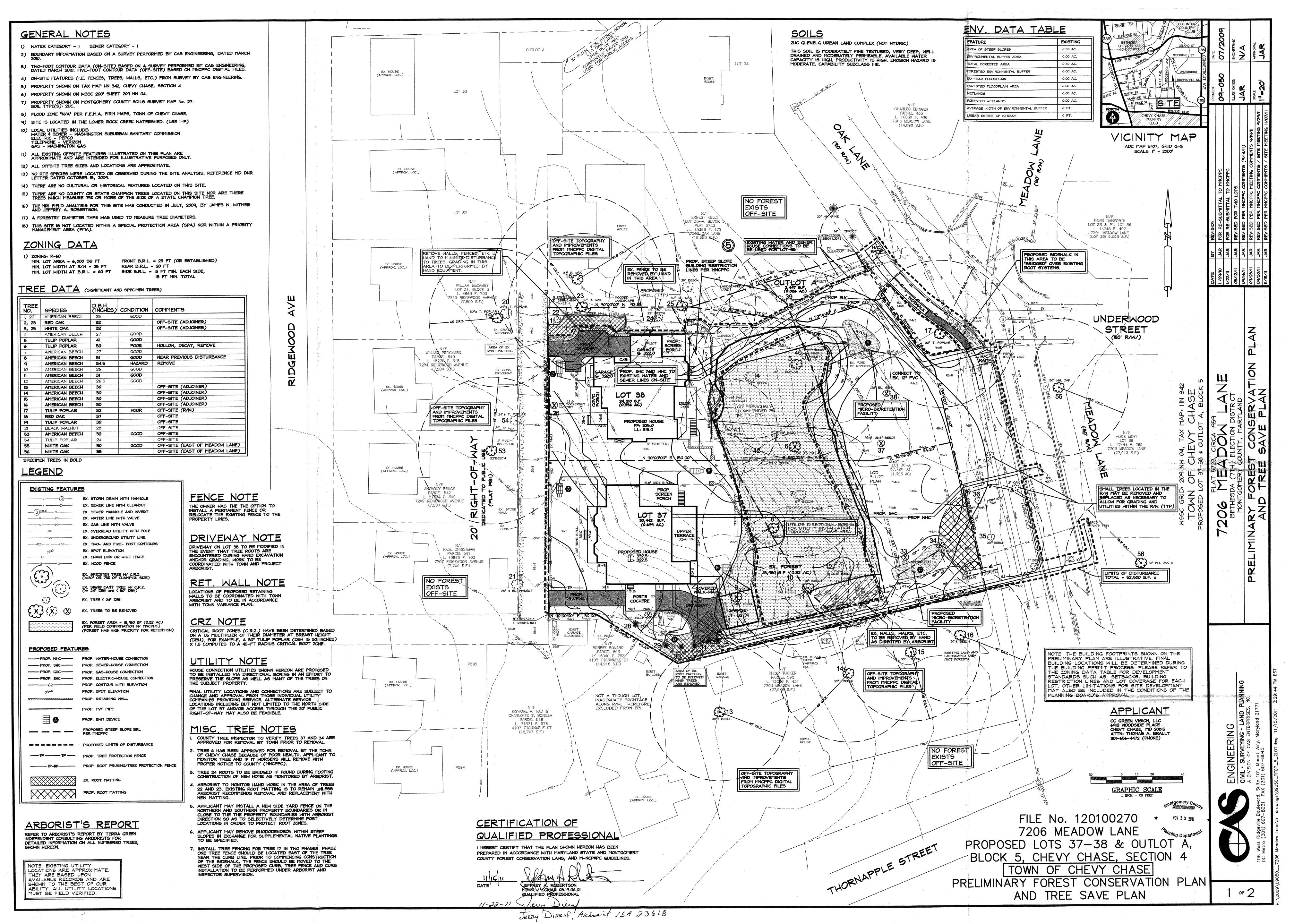
If erosion occurs within the conservation easement area appropriate steps must be taken to stabilize the area:

- Coordinate with M-NCPPC (and Town inspectors); techniques inside the easement area may include the following or a combination:
 - Suitable heavy fill and other stabilization measures may be placed to control and prevent erosion, provided that the fill is covered by arable soil or humus and properly stabilized and is installed in a manner which does not adversely impacts adjacent vegetation.
 - Planting of supplemental groundcovers and/or shrubs
 - Water diversion with logs or stone.
 - o Mulching or placement of supplemental cover of leaf litter
 - O Diversion of drainpipes channels which are outside of the easement area (assuming the pipes/channels are contributing to the erosion).

Proposed Easement Boundary

Must contain at least 10,000 SF of retained/planted forest

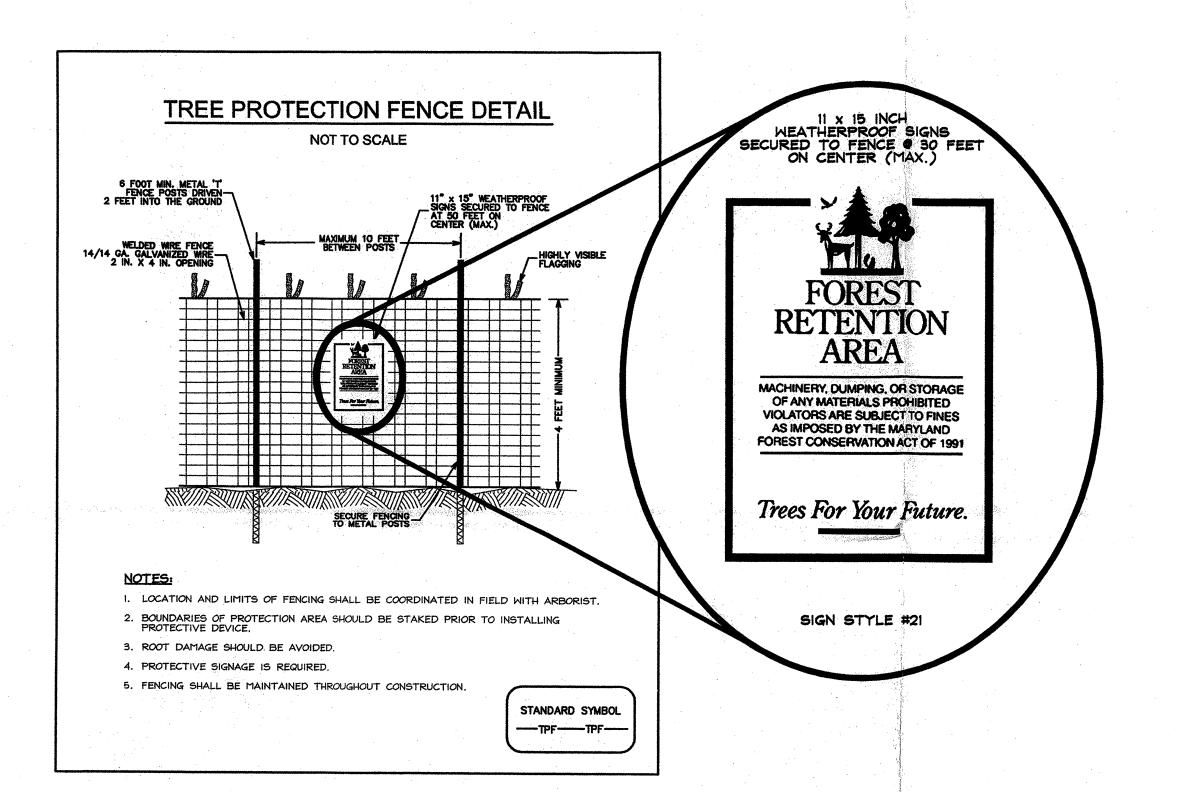




DETAIL - ROOT PRUNING - LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE TRENCH WITHIN 12" (±) OF LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE ROOT PRUNING / TREE PROTECTION FENCE (SAME TRENCH) ROOT PRUNING TRENCH 6" MAXIMUM WIDTH CRITICAL ROOT ZONE ----1. Retention Areas to be established as part of the forest conservation plan review process. 2. Boundaries of Retention Areas to be staked, flagged and/or fenced prior to trenching. 3. Exact location of trench to be determined at pre-construction meeting w/ Forest Conservation Inspector. 4. Trench should be immediately backfilled with soil removed or organic soil. 5. Roots must be cleanly cut using vibratory knife or other acceptable equipment. NO SCALE

FOREST CONSERVATION TABLE

1.57 ACRES (INC	LUDES OFF-SITE	LOD)
0.00 ACRES		
0.00 ACRES		
0.32 ACRES		
0.00 ACRES		
0.24 ACRES; AFI	FORES. THRESHO	
0 FEET LONG ± 0 FEET WIDE	•	
AREA RETAINED	AREA CLEARED	AREA PLANTED
0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES
0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES
0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES
0.00 ACRES	0.21 ACRES	0.00 ACRES
0 FEET	O FEET	O FEET
	0.00 ACRES 0.00 ACRES 0.32 ACRES 0.00 ACRES HIGH DENSITY R 0.24 ACRES; AFI 0.31 ACRES; CON 0 FEET LONG ± 0 FEET WIDE AREA RETAINED 0.00 ACRES 0.00 ACRES 0.00 ACRES	0.00 ACRES 0.32 ACRES 0.00 ACRES HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 0.24 ACRES; AFFORES. THRESHO 0.31 ACRES; CONSERV. THRESHOI 0 FEET LONG ± 0 FEET WIDE AREA RETAINED AREA CLEARED 0.00 ACRES 0.00 ACRES



FOREST CONSERVATION WORKSHEET

(INCLUDES OFF-SITE LOD)

		PROPO	SED LOT	S 37-29, B	LOCK 5		
NET TRACT	AREA:						5-Aug-
A. Total trac	ct area						1.5
B. Land dec	dication acres (pa	arks, county	/ facility, e	tc.)			0.0
C. Land ded	dication for roads	s or utilities	(not being	onstructe	ed by this p	lan)	0.0
	emain in comme		itural prod	uction/use	•••		0.0
	ductions (specify						0.0
F. Net Tract	Area	•••••			••••••	=	1.5
LAND USE	CATEGORY: (fro Input the num limit to only o	nber "1" un			and use,		
	ARA	MDR	IDA	HDR	MPD	CIA	
	0	0	0	1	0	0	
G. Afforesta	ition Threshold				15%	x F =	0.2
	ation Threshold .				20%	x F =	0.3
EXISTING F	OREST COVER	:					
I. Existing fo	orest cover	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	=			0.3
J. Area of fo	rest above affore	estation thre	eshold	=			0.0
K. Area of fo	orest above cons	servation the	eshold	=			0.0
BREAK EVE	N POINT:						
	tention above thr						0.2
M. Clearing	permitted withou	ıt mitigation		= .			0.0
PROPOSED	FOREST CLEA	RING:					
	a of forest to be						0.3
O. Total are	a of forest to be	retained	••••••	=			0.0
	REQUIREMENT	S:					
PLANTING I			servation t	threshold			0.0
P. Reforesta	ation for clearing						
P. Reforest	ation for clearing	below con	servation				0.6
P. Reforest Q. Reforest R. Credit for	ation for clearing r retention above	below conscrvati	servation on thresho	old blc	=		0.6 0.0
P. Reforests Q. Reforests R. Credit for S. Total refo	ation for clearing r retention above prestation require	below conscruation below conservation	servation on thresho	old	= :=		0.6 0.0 0.6
P. Reforesta Q. Reforesta R. Credit for S. Total refo T. Total affo	ation for clearing r retention above prestation require prestation require	below conservationd	servation on thresho	bk	= = .=		0.6 0.0 0.6 0.0
P. Reforesta Q. Reforesta R. Credit for S. Total refo T. Total affo U. Credit for	ation for clearing r retention above prestation require	below conservation below conserv	servation on thresholder	old f "S")	.= ,= ,=		0.6 0.0 0.6

FOREST CONSERVATION WORKSHEET

0.63 ACRES OF REFORESTATION WILL BE PROVIDED EITHER THROUGH FEE-IN-LIEU OR THROUGH AN OFF-SITE FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT, TO BE DETERMINED DURING THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN.

EASEMENT, THEREFOR IT IS CONSIDERED TO BE REMOVED. IT WILL BE PROTECTED DURING CONSTRUCTION BY THE LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE

MDE WETLAND LETTERS

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.

TTY Users 1-800-735-2258 Via Maryland Relay Service

CERTIFICATION OF

QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PLAN SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN

JEFFREY A. ROBERTSON MONR / COMAR 08.19.06.01

JERRY DIERUF, ARBORIST 15A23618

2081 Clipper Park Road Baltimore, Maryland 21211

PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MARYLAND STATE AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY FOREST CONSERVATION LAWS, AND M-NCP&PC GUIDELINES.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT 1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230 410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101

January 27, 2011

Anthony G. Brown

Mr. Tom Brault CC Greenvision LLC c/o Woodside Ventures 6912 Woodside Place

> Nontidal Wetland Application #10-NT-0215/201060887 Project: CC Greenvision, LLC/Meadow Lane/Lot Fill & Outfall

Dear Mr. Brault,

Recycled Paper

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Nontidal Wetlands Division has determined that the parcel located at 7206 Meadow Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland does not contain any jurisdictional wetlands as defined in the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and corresponding Regional Supplement. For an area to be considered a jurisdictional wetland, you must individually verify the presence of all three criteria (hydrology, hydric soil, and hydrophytes). These criteria were not met.

On May 24, 2010, the Department conducted a pre-application meeting with the consultant, Mr. Mike Thompson (Biohabitats), Mr. Hira Shrestha (MDE's Waterway Division), and myself. During this meeting, the Department determined there was no need for Mr. Brault to submit a Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or Nontidal Wetland in Maryland for the proposed project.

In August of 2010, the Department did in fact receive a Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or Nontidal Wetland in Maryland for the proposed project. This reviewer contacted Mr. Thompson on why an application had been submitted to the Department. Mr. Thompson stated that the wetland indicated on the plans were designated by Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). Verbally and in a letter dated August 18, 2010, this reviewer stated that the site does meet the criteria to be considered a jurisdictional wetland.

After being contacted this January by the consultant, Mr. Thompson, an additional site visit was conducted. On January 19, 2011, the additional site visit took place Mr. Thompson (Biohabitats), Ms. Sara Roberts (Biohabitats), Ms. Pavla Cervova (MDE's Nontidal Wetland

www.mde.state.md.us

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT Water Management Administration Nontidal Wetlands Division 1800 Washington Boulevard • Suite 430 • Baltimore MD 21230 (Phone) 410-537-5745 • (Fax) 410-537-3751 Covernor Anthony G. Brown Mr. Michael Thompson

> RIC Nontidal Wetland Application # 10-NT-0215/201060887 Project: CC Greenvision, LLC/Meadow Lane/Lot Fill & Outfall County: Montgomery

Mr. Thempson, The Nontidal Wetlands Division has completed the review of the Joint Federal State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or Nontidal Wetland in Maryland for the project referenced above. Based on the information received and the site visit conducted on May 24, 2010. I have concluded that the area delineated on the plans as nontidal wetlands did not contain all three parameters (hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytes) to be considered a nontidal wetland by it's legal definition and, therefore, will not be regulated as such. No authorization is needed from the Nontidal Wetland Division.

If you have any questions regarding the above comments, please contact me via phone at 410-537-3788 or by e-mail pcarlson@mdc.state.md.us.

> Paula Carlson Natural Resources Planner Nontidal Wetlands Division

CC: Mr. Tom Brault, CC Greenvision LLC



contain jurisdictional wetlands. The Department advised Mr. Thompson to submit data sheets using the US Army Corps of Engineers regional supplement known as the Eastern Mountains and Piedmont Supplement. The Department became in receipt of these data sheets on January 26, 2011. These data sheets

Division), and myself. During this site visit, the Department reaffirmed that the site does not

are representative of what was at the site and further demonstrates that no jurisdictional wetlands are located at 7206 Meadow Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland. In conclusion, the Department would like to see any representation of a nontidal wetland

If you have any questions regarding the above comments, please contact me via phone at 410-537-3788 or by e-mail <u>pcarlson@mde.state.md.us</u>.

removed the existing plans since the site does not contain any.

Paula Carlson Natural Resources Planner Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Division

www.mde.state.md.us

CC: Mike Thompson, Biohabitats

APPLICANT CC GREEN VISION, LLC 6912 WOODSIDE PLACE CHEVY CHASE, MD 20815 ATTN: THOMAS A. BRAULT

301-656-4472 (PHONE)

FILE No. 120100270 7206 MEADOW LANE PROPOSED LOTS 37-38 & OUTLOT A, BLOCK 5, CHEVY CHASE, SECTION 4 TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

PRELIMINARY FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN AND TREE SAVE PLAN

2 of 2