

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Gwen Wright, Planning Director

VIA:

Robert Kronenberg, Chief PAK

Elza Hisel-McCoy, Supervisor ()

Area 1 Division

FROM:

Stephanie Dickel, Planner Coordinator,

Area 1 Division

RE:

Alexander House

SITE PLAN AMENDMENT No. 81989071A

DATE:

June 9, 2015

Section 59.7.7.1.B.3 of the Zoning Code addresses Amendments for Plans approved or pending before October 30, 2014. Section 7.7.1.B.3.a states that until October 30, 2039, an Applicant may apply to amend any previously approved application under the development standards and procedures of the property's zoning on October 29, 2014, subject to certain limitations.

Section 7.7.1.B.3.b of the Zoning Ordinance, however, allows Applicants to apply to amend a site plan approved before October 30, 2014, to take advantage of the parking requirements contained in Sections 6.2.3 and Section 6.2.4 of the Zoning Ordinance that went into effect on October 30, 2014.

Under Section 59.7.3.4.J.2, the Planning Director may approve in writing certain applications for an amendment to a Certified Site Plan. Such amendments, which are considered minor in nature and do not alter the intent and objectives of the plan, specifically include an amendment "to reduce the approved parking to satisfy Article 59-6."

Neither a Pre-Application meeting with the community/public/parties of record nor a Pre-Submittal meeting with the DARC Intake Section is required. However, submittal of the application to DARC is required. In addition, applicants must provide public notice under Division 7.5.

The Planning Board approved the original Site Plan No. 819890710, on December 19, 1989. On May 21, 2015, the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County (HOC), ("Applicant") filed a site plan amendment application designated Site Plan No. 81989071A ("Amendment") for the following modifications:

1. New windows and balconies on the exterior of the building;

- 2. Reducing the number of dwelling units from 311 to 300 (the 11 units will be relocated to future Elizabeth House IV, part of the Elizabeth Square Project);
- 3. Reprogramming the interior of levels 1 and 2 (replacing the 11 relocated units) to incorporate publicly operated government facilities that support county or state government programs or services and therefore will qualify as public use space including:
 - a. Digital Media Lab
 - b. Digital Medical Technical Lab
 - c. Senior Technical Lab
 - d. Dance Studio
 - e. Ancillary Lounge
 - f. Administrative Offices
 - g. Lobby for Interior Public Space;
- 4. Renovations to the interior of the building in order to accommodate the reprogramming of interior levels 1 and 2 to incorporate publicly operated government facilities supporting government programs and services and functioning as the interior public use space;
- 5. Reducing the number of parking spaces to reflect the relocation and reduction in dwelling units; and
- 6. Revising the distribution of units.

A notice of the subject site plan amendment was sent to all required parties by the Applicant on May 22, 2015. The notice gave the interested parties 15 days to review and comment on the contents of the amended site plan. Staff did not receive any correspondence regarding the application.

The proposed amendment is consistent with the provisions of Section 59.7.3.4.J.2 of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance for Minor Plan Amendments. The amendment does not alter the intent, objectives, or requirements of the Planning Board in approving the site plan.

This Amendment shall remain valid as provided in Montgomery County Code § 59.7.3.4.H. The Applicant is responsible for submitting a certified site plan after approval by the Director for the specific modifications.

ACCEPTED & APPROVED BY:

Want

Gwen Wright, Planning Director

6/12/15



Attorneys at Law 3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 460 Bethesda, MD 20814

Tel. (301) 986-1300 www.lerchearly.com



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKAND PLANNING COMMISSION

November 6, 2014

Mr. Casey Anderson, Chair Montgomery County Planning Board Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

RE: Elizabeth Square; Project Plan # 920150010;

Preliminary Plan Amendment # 120150030

Dear Chairman Anderson:

This letter is written on behalf of Lee Development Group, Inc., a private company, and the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, a public agency, co-applicants for development of a mixed-use optional method of development project (residential and ground level retail) (the "Project") to be constructed on the block bordered by Second Avenue on the east, Fenwick Lane on the north, Apple Avenue on the south, and the railroad right-of-way on the west, in the Silver Spring CBD. The purpose of this letter is to request that the Planning Board consider any mandatory referral review that may apply to the "public" agency component of this Project (under Section 20-301 et seq. of the Land Use Article of the Md. Ann. Code) as part of the Planning Board's review of the above-referenced project plan application and preliminary plan amendment application (together, the "Applications").

The co-applicants believe that it would be in the public interest and would further "administrative economy" for the Applications and any mandatory referral review to be considered at the same time as part of the Applications because: (1) the submission requirements for project and preliminary plan applications are very comprehensive (more comprehensive than the requirements for mandatory referral review); (2) the development proposals contained in the Applications are the same as the development proposal that would be considered under a separate mandatory referral review; and (3) the time allowed for the Planning Board to review the Applications is longer than the time allowed for the Planning Board to review a project under mandatory referral review. The co-applicants agree to waive the 60 day review period required under Section 20-304 of the Mandatory Referral Review statute, in order to allow the Applications and any required mandatory referral review to be considered and acted upon at the same time by the Planning Board as part of the review of the Applications.

We have discussed this request with Carol Rubin from the M-NCPPC Office of the General Counsel and she supports proceeding in this manner.

Mr. Casey Anderson November 6, 2014 Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

Jusan M. Reutushan

Milliani Commers.

William Kominers

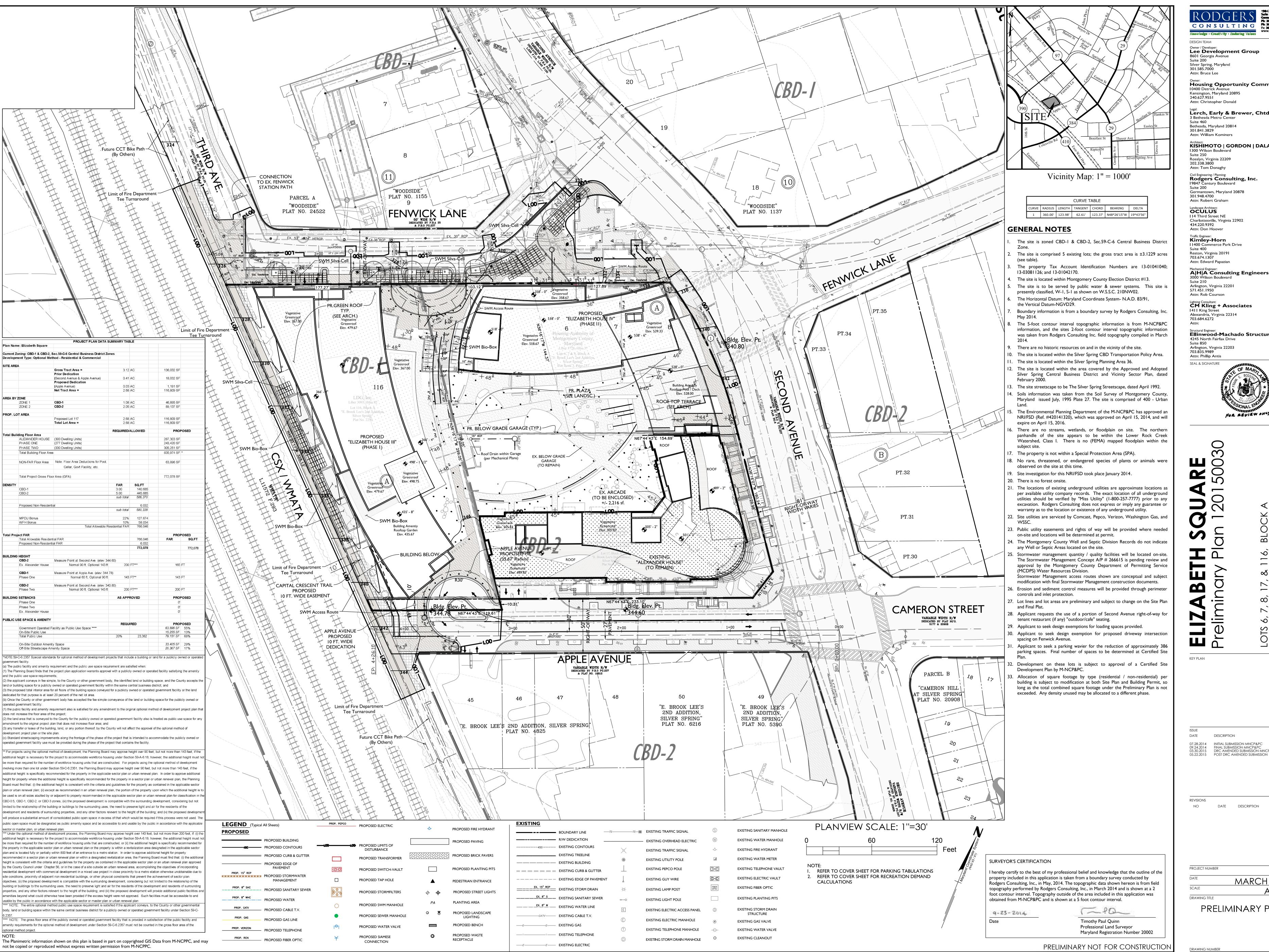
Susan M. Reutershan

SMR/pm

cc:

Carol Rubin, Esq.
Robert Kronenberg
Elza Hisel-McCoy
Stephanie Dickel
Bruce H. Lee

Christopher Donald



CONSULTING nowledge • Creativity • Enduring Value

Owner / Developer:
Lee Development Group 860 I Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, Maryland 301.585.7000 Attn: Bruce Lee

Housing Opportunity Commission Kensington, Maryland 20895 240.627.9551 Attn: Christopher Donald

Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Attn: William Kominers KISHIMOTO | GORDON | DALAYA PC

Attn: Tom Donaghy Civil Engineering / Planning:
Rodgers Consulting, Inc

Germantown, Maryland 20878 Attn: Robert Graham

Charlottesville, Virginia 22902 434.220.9392 Attn: Don Hoover

Traffic Engineer:
Kimley-Horn 11400 Commerce Park Drive

Reston, Virginia 20191 703.674.1307

Attn: Edward Papazian

Mechanical Engineer:

A|H|A Consulting Engineers
3000 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22201

Attn: Rob Courson CM Kling + Associates 1411 King Street

Structural Engineer: Ellinwood-Machado Structural

4245 North Fairfax Drive Arlington, Virginia 22203

703.835.9989 Attn: Phillip Antis SEAL & SIGNATURE

.82)

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/ F

DESCRIPTION 07.28.2014 INITIAL SUBMISSION MNCP&PC FINAL SUBMISSION MNCP&PC
DRC AMENDED SUBMISSION MNCP&PC

PROJECT NUMBER MARCH 30, 2015 As Shown

PRELIMINARY PLAN

N:\MD-Montgomery\Fenwick Professional Park\autocad\Plot Plans\Preliminary Plan\PP-004 Preliminary Plan.dwg



APR 1 1 2013

MCPB No. 13-46 Project Plan No. 92010001A 8621 Georgia Avenue Date of Hearing: April 4, 2013

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, under Montgomery County Code Division 59-D-2, the Montgomery County Planning Board is authorized to review project plan applications; and

WHEREAS, by MCPB Resolution No. 09-144, on December 14, 2009, the Planning Board approved Project Plan No. 920100010 for a mixed-use development of 191,281 square feet of space, consisting of 6,209 square feet of ground floor retail/restaurant uses below 185,072 square feet of office at 8621 Georgia Avenue, approximately 75 feet west of the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Colesville Road ("Subject Property") on 0.69 acres of land comprised of one CBD-2 zoned lot located in the 2000 Silver Spring Central Business District ("CBD") Sector Plan ("Sector Plan") area: and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2012, 8621 Limited Partnership ("Applicant") filed an application to amend Project Plan No. 920100010 to change the primary use of the Subject Property from high-rise commercial to high-rise residential as a mixed-use development of 263,356 square feet of space, consisting of 1,619 square feet of commercial uses and 261,737 square feet of residential uses with 292 dwelling units, including 12.5% moderately priced dwelling units ("MPDUs") and 17 workforce housing units ("WFHUs"); and

WHEREAS, Applicant's project plan amendment application was designated Project Plan No. 82011001A, 8621 Georgia Avenue ("Application" or "Project Plan"); and

WHEREAS, following review and analysis of the Application by Planning Board Staff ("Staff") and other governmental agencies, Staff issued a memorandum to the

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

8787 Georgia Avenue Legisl Benarting Mand 20910

Phone: 301.495.4605 Fax: 301.495.1320

www.montgomeryplanningboard.org E-Mail: mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org

Planning Board, dated March 20, 2013, setting forth its analysis and recommendation for approval of the Application, subject to certain conditions ("Staff Report"); and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2013, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the Application, and at the hearing, the Planning Board heard testimony and received evidence submitted for the record on the Application; and

WHEREAS, at the hearing, the Planning Board voted to approve the Application subject to certain conditions, by the vote as certified below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Planning Board APPROVES Project Plan No. 82011001A, 8621 Georgia Avenue, for a mixed-use development consisting of no more than 263,356 square feet of gross floor area, with 1,619 square feet of commercial uses and 261,737 square feet of residential uses consisting of no more than 292 dwelling units, including12.5% MPDU's and 17 WFHUs on the Subject Property, subject to the following conditions: ¹

1. Development Ceiling

The development is limited to 263,356 square feet of gross floor area and a maximum 5.5 FAR including a maximum 1,619 square feet of commercial uses and 261,737 square feet of residential uses consisting of no more than 292 dwelling units. The delineation of the total area into 261,737 square feet of residential uses and 1,619 square feet of retail is recognized as preliminary and will be finalized at Site Plan.

2. Housing

The Applicant must provide a minimum of 12.5% of the total number of units onsite as MPDUs, consistent with the requirements of Chapter 25A of the Montgomery County Code; and at least 17 units as WFHUs, consistent with the requirements of Chapter 25B, Article V.

3. Building Height and Mass

The development is limited to the building footprint as delineated on the Project Plan drawings submitted to MNCPPC dated February 22, 2013, unless modified during site plan review. The development is limited to a maximum building height of 161

¹ For the purpose of these conditions, the term "Applicant" shall also mean the developer, the owner or any successor(s) in interest to the terms of this approval.

feet as determined by the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services ("MCDPS") approved building height measurement point.

4. Architecture

The exterior architectural character, proportion, material, and articulation must be substantially similar to the schematic elevations shown on Sheets A1-A4 of the submitted architectural drawings, as determined by Staff, unless modified during site plan review.

5. Public Use Space and Amenities

- a) The Applicant must provide a minimum of 4,225 square feet of public use space (13.8% of net lot area) on-site.
- b) In lieu of providing the 1,844 remaining square feet (6.2%) of the required 20% of the net lot area as on-site public use space, the Applicant must contribute to M-NCPPC no less than \$251,497 towards development of Gene Lynch Urban Park as the amenity site, in the Silver Spring CBD. The payment must be submitted to the M-NCPPC prior to release of the first building permit.
- c) At the time of site plan review, the Board may approve an alternative amenity site, as recommended by Staff, to satisfy the Applicant's public use space requirement. The alternative site must be in the public interest and consistent with the Amenity Fund Guidelines. Board approval of this alternative would not require an amendment to the Project Plan.
- d) The Applicant must provide public art on-site, integrated into the overall site design.
- e) Final design of the public art must be selected by the time of certified site plan.
- f) As a public amenity, the Applicant must provide streetscape improvements per the Silver Spring Streetscape Standard along the Subject Property's frontage on Georgia Avenue.

6. Staging of Amenity Features

a) The development will be completed in one phase. A detailed development program will be required prior to approval of the certified site plan.

- b) The Applicant must complete the on-site public use space improvements prior to issuance of use and occupancy permits unless modified by the site plan development program.
- c) The Applicant must install the landscaping no later than the next growing season after completion of the building and site work.

7. Maintenance

Prior to issuance of use and occupancy permits, the Applicant must create and implement a maintenance plan for all on-site public use space or make alternative arrangements for on-going maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all elements of Project Plan No. 82011006A, 8621 Georgia Avenue, stamped received by The M-NCPPC on February 22, 2013, are required except as modified by the above conditions of approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all conditions Project Plan application 920130020 are superseded by this approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, having considered the recommendations and findings of its Staff as presented at the hearing and as set forth in the Staff Report, which the Planning Board hereby adopts and incorporates by reference (except as modified herein) and having considered the entire record, all applicable elements of § 59-D-2.43, and the relevant provisions of Section 59-D-2.42, the Planning Board, with the conditions of approval, FINDS:

(a) The development complies with all of the intents and requirements of the CBD-2 zone as applied comprehensively to the Project.

Although the maximum FAR permitted in the CBD-2 zone is 5.0, and maximum building height in the CBD-2 zone is 143 feet, the Zoning Ordinance provides for developments with WFHUs to exceed those limitations in certain circumstances. This Application provides 292 residential units (including 12.5% MPDUs and 17 WFHUs), and 1,619 square feet of street front commercial uses with a maximum building height of 161 feet, and a FAR of 5.5. Section 59-A-6.18.2(c) states:

To allow the construction of workforce housing units on site, the Planning Board must permit:

- (1)any residential density or residential FAR limit of the applicable zone to be exceeded to the extent required for the number of workforce housing units that are constructed, but not by more than 10 percent of the total FAR or number of dwelling units;
- (2) a residential density or residential FAR limit established in a master or sector plan to be exceeded to the extent required for the number of workforce housing units that are constructed, but not to more than the maximum density and FAR of the zone, except as provided in paragraph (1); and
- (3) any building height limit established in a master or sector plan to be exceeded to the extent required for the number of workforce housing units that are constructed, but not to more than the maximum height of the zone.

Furthermore, Section 59-C-6.2 (footnote 11) allows the Planning Board to approve a height that exceeds 143 feet, but not more than 200 feet in the CBD-2 zone under the optional method of development process if the additional height is necessary for the project to accommodate workforce housing under Section 59-A-6.18. However, the additional height must not be more than required for the number of workforce housing units that are constructed.

Seventeen units are proposed on the uppermost floor of the building in concert with the number of workforce housing units provided. An 18 foot height increase for an additional floor is necessary to accommodate the seventeen dwelling units and rooftop building amenities including a swimming pool, pool lounging and sitting areas, and an indoor community room. Additional height of the community room will provide a more varied roof line and a clubroom that takes advantage of the best vista from the site. Pedestrians walking up Fidler Lane will be able to see a more interesting building façade and residents will enjoy sweeping views of downtown Silver Spring from a glass enclosed rooftop space that offers a superior amenity to all residents of the building. The additional height for the community room provides for amenities to benefit not only the market rate units but the greater number of affordable units being proposed with the Application and provides the opportunity for more below market units in this project. The site is narrow and deep and the Planning Board finds the location of the clubroom is appropriate and the height of the room is justified to provide a superior amenity on a site where options for placing such amenities are very limited. Furthermore, the value added to the building through the upgraded amenities will translate into higher market rate rents to support the added cost to the project to provide the 17 WFHUs. Therefore, the Planning Board finds that the 161 foot building height is necessary for the project to accommodate the number of workforce housing units that are being constructed.

The CBD-2 zone is the area of land lying generally between the core area and the areas of the lowest density within the CBD. More specifically, Section 56-C-6.212 outlines the intent of the CBD zones by:

- (a) Encouraging development in accordance with an adopted and approved master or sector plan by permitting an increase in density, height, and intensity where such increase is approved on review by the Planning Board.
- (b) Permitting a flexible response of development to the market, and to provide incentives for the development of a variety of land uses and activities in CBDs to meet the needs and requirements of workers, shoppers, and residents.
- (c) Encouraging designs which produce a desirable relationship between the individual buildings in the CBD, between the buildings and the circulation system and between the CBD and adjacent areas.
- (d) Promoting the effective use of transit facilities in the CBD and pedestrian access thereto.
- (e) Promoting improved pedestrian and vehicular circulation.
- (f) Assisting in the development of adequate residential areas for people with a range of different incomes.
- (g) Encouraging land assembly and the most desirable use of land in accordance with a sector plan.

For the reasons discussed below, the Planning Board finds that this Application meets the intents of the zone. The increased density and amenities for this project achieved through the optional method of development implement recommendations of the Sector Plan. The Amendment is a flexible response by the Applicant to market conditions. Following extensive marketing of the site as a commercial project, the Applicant concluded that a residential building with street front retail was more suitable in today's economy. A residential building within close walking distance to the metro and retail offerings of downtown Silver Spring is a viable use for this location. The residents of the building and customers of the street front retail use will further enliven this block of Georgia Avenue with more pedestrian traffic. A new retail use in this location will likely complement the existing retail uses on the north side of the block.

The MPDUs and WFHUs mixed in with market-rate units will assist in the development of residences for people with a range of different incomes.

(b) The development conforms to the Sector Plan and the Master Plan.

The Amendment is consistent with the 2000 Silver Spring CBD Sector Plan's vision for Silver Spring's future "to create a development environment that invites revitalization." The Subject Property is being developed under the optional method of development to achieve higher density and provide greater amenities on a vacant stretch of Georgia Avenue. The Sector Plan outlines themes of a transit oriented downtown, residential downtown, commercial downtown, green downtown, civic downtown and pedestrian friendly downtown to achieve this vision. With the addition of residential units, the theme of residential downtown is supported. The mixed use building will offer pedestrian access from Georgia Avenue, vehicular access from a service alley and will also be within walking distance of the Silver Spring Transit Center. The Application minimizes the role of vehicular traffic and maximizes pedestrian access to Georgia Avenue and bus and rail transit infrastructure south of the site.

This project redevelops a site currently used as a parking lot into an active residential building. The ground level retail use will help activate the sidewalk area in front of the building. Residents of the multi-family dwelling units will shop and dine within the core area of Silver Spring and will most likely reach such destinations by foot. The project will contribute to a pedestrian friendly downtown environment as envisioned by the Sector Plan.

(c) Because of its location, size, intensity, design, operational characteristics and staging, the development would be compatible with, and not detrimental to, existing or potential development in the general neighborhood.

Because the building lies within the core area of the Silver Spring CBD, this 16 story building with 5.5 FAR density will complement existing development and provide a catalyst for future redevelopment within this block. To the northeast of the site are existing two story retail buildings, which include the recently completed Fillmore performing arts venue. The Montgomery Center Building located directly north of the site is a 13-story mixed use building with 12 stories of commercial square footage and ground floor retail uses on the first floor. The Twin Towers building across Georgia Avenue to the south is a 15-story mixed use building with ground floor retail along Georgia Avenue and 14 stories of dwelling units above. The seven story Verizon building across the street to the south is a substation for the utility provider. To the east is the Lee Building, a 10 story commercial building which frames the corner of the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Colesville Road and acts as an anchor building for

the block. Directly to the west is the three story Encore Building occupied by offices and a financial institution.

The new building will have balconies visible from Georgia Avenue and a modern building design similar to other recent redevelopment projects in Silver Spring. The garage levels will not be visible from Georgia Avenue and will not degrade the viewshed of surrounding buildings. The "filling in" of the property will help create a more cohesive building line along Georgia Avenue and will enhance the east-west pedestrian corridor within Silver Spring. In short, the addition of a residential building on this block will enhance the present mix of uses and not be incompatible or detrimental to existing or future development.

(d) As conditioned, the development would not overburden existing public services nor those programmed for availability concurrently with each stage of construction and, if located within a transportation management district designated under Chapter 42A, is subject to a traffic mitigation agreement that meets all the applicable requirements.

The additional units proposed under this Amendment will not overburden existing public facilities. The development will be built in one phase. The previously approved Site Plan No. 820110060 satisfied all relevant APF tests for commercial uses. This Amendment will generate fewer trips in both the a.m. and p.m. peak hours and, therefore, will not change the APF findings from the previously approved site plan. The total number of students generated by the 292 multi-family high rise units is projected to be approximately 13 elementary, 10 middle, and 12 high school students. The project is located in the service areas of Woodlin Elementary School and Sligo Middle School, and in the base area of Albert Einstein High School. The current FY 2013 Subdivision Staging Policy does not require a school facility payment for approvals in the Albert Einstein cluster schools.

(e) The development is more efficient and desirable than could be accomplished by the use of the standard method of development.

The Amendment continues to develop the site using the optional method of development, which allows greater densities at key locations, such as proximity to mass transit, in exchange for greater public amenities and facilities. The Amendment increases the overall density on the site from 4.0 to an overall 5.5 FAR, and at the same time, it expands the amount of on-site space available for public use.

Construction of a standard method project would yield a building constructed to a maximum of 2.0 FAR with a maximum 60 foot building height. A building constructed to standard method requirements would have little public amenities or open space, and would be insufficient to reach the critical mass and density envisioned for the core of Silver Spring and areas within close proximity to a Metrorail Station. Additionally, the greater number of affordable housing units provided far exceeds what could be achieved under the standard method.

(f) The development will include moderately priced dwelling units in accordance with Chapter 25A of the Montgomery County Code.

The Amendment includes 35 of 292 units (12.5%) MPDUs, in accordance with Chapter 25A. Additionally, this project is providing 17 WFHUs.

(g) The development satisfies applicable requirements for forest conservation under Chapter 22A of the Montgomery County Code.

The Amendment does alter the Forest Conservation Plan exemption granted on September 27, 2007.

(h) The development satisfies applicable requirements for water quality resources protection under Chapter 19 of the Montgomery County Code.

The storm water management concept for the site was approved by MCDPS on January 22, 2013, and consists of Environmental Site Design to the maximum extent practicable by using green roof technology and a micro-bioretention planter box. Additional treatment will be provided through the use of a structural proprietary flow-through underground filter. Due to site conditions, full Environmental Site Design volume cannot be provided and MCDPS granted a waiver of the water quantity portion of the requirement.

(i) Any public use space or public facility or amenity to be provided off-site is consistent with the goals of the applicable master or sector plan and serves the public interest better than providing the public use space or public facilities and amenities on-site.

For the on-site public use space, in addition to upgrading the streetscape in front of the site to the Silver Spring Streetscape standards, the outdoor seating area and

public art component will enliven an area along Georgia Avenue in a manner that is consistent with the recommendations in the Sector Plan. The Applicant is providing a fee-in-lieu payment for 6.2% of the public use space requirement that cannot be provided on-site. The payment for \$251,497 will be contributed to the Amenity Fund that is being directed to the implementation of Gene Lynch Urban Park in the Silver Spring CBD. The Applicant's contribution to the amenity fund for 6.2% of the public use space is consistent with the goals of the Silver Spring CBD Sector Plan because it contributes to the creation of a civic downtown. A larger urban park within the Silver Spring CBD will have substantially more visibility than public use space on the Subject Property and will serve as a communal gathering space for visitors and residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution incorporates by reference all evidence of record, including maps, drawings, memoranda, correspondence, and other information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Project Plan shall remain valid as provided in Montgomery County Code § 59-D-2.7; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution constitutes the written opinion of the Planning Board, and that the date of this Resolution is **PR 1 1 203** (which is the date that this Resolution is mailed to all parties of record); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any party authorized by law to take an administrative appeal must initiate such an appeal within thirty days of the date of this Resolution, consistent with the procedural rules for the judicial review of administrative agency decisions in Circuit Court (Rule 7-203, Maryland Rules).

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Montgomery County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on motion of Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Presley, with Chair Carrier, Vice Chair Wells-Harley, and Commissioners Anderson, Dreyfuss, and Presley voting in favor at its regular meeting held on Thursday, April 4, 2013, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Françoise M. Carrier, Chair

Montgomery County Planning Board



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Clarence J. Snuggs

Director

May 29, 2015

Ms. Stephanie Dickel Area 1 Division Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Re:

Elizabeth Square

Preliminary Plan No. 120150150

Dear Ms. Dickel:

The Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) has reviewed the applicant's revisions to the above referenced Preliminary Plan and recommends Approval with the following conditions:

- 1) The unit and bedroom mix on the plan must be adjusted as indicated in the enclosure to this letter.
- 2) The note regarding Workforce Housing Units at the bottom of the unit and bedroom mix tables needs to be deleted, with the following note substituted: Final MPDU and Workforce Housing Unit locations will be determined at site plan with review and approval by DHCA.

In addition, please note the following:

- The MPDU requirement for the project is 15%; however, per Section 25A-5(c) of the County Code, Workforce Housing Units are not included in the total when determining the required number of MPDUs. Therefore, DHCA has calculated the required number of MPDUs as 123 (907 91 = 816; 15% of 816 = 122.4, which rounds up to 123).
- When Alexander House was built in 1992, Workforce Housing Units had not yet been added to the zoning code, but are being added into the new unit mix as a reflection of the new zoning code.

Sincerely,

Lisa S. Schwartz

Senior Planning Specialist

Enclosure

cc: Christopher Donald, Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC)

Susan M. Reutershan, Lerch Early & Brewer

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Division of Housing

Affordable Housing Program FAX 240-777-3709 Multifamily Housing Programs FAX 240-777-3691

Landlord-Tenant Affairs FAX 240-777-3691 Licensing & Registration Unit

240-777-3666 FAX 240-777-3699

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Elizabeth Square Campus							
Unit Type	Market	MPDU	WFHU	Other Aff	Total		
Eff	124	23	19	28	194	21%	
1 BD	309	62	49	80	500	55%	
2 BD	129	24	20	14	187	21%	
3 BD _	9_	14	3	<u> </u>	<u> 26</u>	3%	
	571	123	91	122	907		

Alexander House						
Unit Type	Market	MPDU	WFHU	Other Aff	Total	
Eff	16	4	3	6	29	10%
1 BD	91	21	15	31	158	53%
2 BD	73	16	12	12	113	38%
3 BD		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u></u>		0%
	180	41	30	49	300	

EH III						
Unit Type	Market	MPDU	WFHU	Other Aff	Total	
Eff	14	6	5	22	47	17%
1 BD	118	29	21	49	217	78%
2 BD	7	2	2	2	13	5%
3 BD _	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	-		<u>-</u>	0%
	139	37	28	73	277	

EH IV						
Unit Type	Market	MPDU	WFHU	Other Aff	Total	
Eff	94	13	11	-	118	36%
1 BD	100	12	13		125	38%
2 BD	49	6	6	-	61	18%
3 BD	9	14	3		26	8%
	252	45	33	-	330	



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Isiah Leggett

County Executive

June 19, 2015

Clarence J. Snuggs Director

Ms. Stephanie Dickel Area 1 Division Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Re:

Elizabeth Square

Preliminary Plan No. 120150150

Dear Ms. Dickel:

By letter of May 29, 2015, the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) recommended Approval with Conditions of the above referenced Preliminary Plan. At your request, I am providing the following additional clarifying information.

As is the case with Chapter 25A, Chapter 25B (the Workforce Housing law) permits developers to fulfill Workforce Housing requirements with affordable housing constructed under other federal, state or local programs. Following is the specific language from the Chapter 25B Executive Regulation (COMCOR 25B.24.01.02, Section 2.3(f)):

(f) A Developer may fulfill the Workforce Housing Program requirement for a particular development through the construction of housing under other federal, state, or specific local programs to assist low and moderate income families. In such a case, the income limits and other requirements of that particular housing program must apply rather than the requirements set forth herein.

There is also precedent for Planning Board approval of additional building height for a development that met Workforce Housing requirements with other affordable units. The Workforce Housing Units in the Silver Spring Library Residential development (aka The Bonifant) are financed with Low Income Housing Tax Credits and are affordable to households at 50 percent (50%) to 60 percent (60%) Area Median Income.

Division of Housing

Affordable Housing Program FAX 240-777-3709 Multifamily Housing Programs FAX 240-777-3691

Landlord-Tenant Affairs FAX 240-777-3691

Licensing & Registration Unit 240-777-3666 FAX 240-777-3699

100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-0311 • www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dhca



Ms. Stephanie Dickel June 19, 2015 Page 2 of 2

I hope this information is helpful to the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Lisa S. Schwartz

Senior Planning Specialist

cc: Christopher Donald, Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) Susan M. Reutershan, Lerch Early & Brewer

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September 23, 2014 Revised April 8, 2015 Supplemented May 26, 2015 **R**evise**d** June 4, 2015

Montgomery County Planning Department Attn: Marco Fuster 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 210910

Re: Elizabeth Square Tree Variance

Project Plan #920150010
Preliminary Plan #120150030
RCI Project No.:714-B3

Dear Mr. Fuster,

Please accept this letter and the accompanying exhibits as a comprehensive and complete formal written request for a variance from Section 22A-12(b)(3) of the Montgomery County Code. As requested, this application includes a compilation of all previously submitted materials relating to this matter, which were dated September 23, 2014, April 8, 2015, and May 26, 2015 as well as the requested information related to the SWM concept and required T-turnaround for emergency access.

The project that is the subject of this request is located along the western side of 2nd Avenue between Apple Avenue and Fenwick Lane in Silver Spring (the "Property"). The referenced Section concerns the requirement to not disturb *any tree with a diameter, measured at 4.5 feet above the ground, of (i) 30 inches or more; or (ii) 75% or more of the diameter, measured at 4.5 feet above ground, of the current State champion tree of that species.* Since the implementation of the Project Plan for Elizabeth Square (the "Project") requires the disturbance to two (2) trees that are 30" or greater, a variance is necessary under Section 22A-21 of the Code.

As background, the Property is presently developed and contains multi-family housing and commercial buildings in an office townhouse configuration. This important Project is a smart growth, transit-oriented development that is also a public-private partnership between the Housing Opportunities Commission and Lee Development Group. The plan proposes 907 residential units, comprised of approximately 10% workforce housing units and 30% moderately priced dwellings units and other affordable units, including housing for seniors who qualify for public housing. The Project will also include approximately 60,000 square feet of publicly operated government facilities to support government programs and services. The Project is also designed in coordination with planned improvements for the Capital Crescent Trail that are a master planned improvement in conjunction with the Purple Line.

The implementation of the Project requires a variance under Section 22A-21 for the disturbance to trees with a diameter at breast height of 30" or more ("specimen trees"). As illustrated in the enclosed tree variance exhibit (Exhibit 1), there are two (2) specimen trees, ST-1 and ST-7, located in the southwestern edge of the Project by Apple Avenue that are proposed for removal with this application. ST-1 is a 44" Mockernut Hickory in fair condition located in the Apple Avenue right-of-way. ST-7 is a 33" Pin Oak in poor condition located in the Purple Line right-of-way. In response to concerns over the size and condition of ST-1, an independent ISA-certified arborist from Ashton Manor Environmental evaluated ST-1 on May 19, 2015 and reported the findings in the enclosed arborist report (Exhibit 2). The assessment identified several tree defects, including a dead main central leader, a co-dominant structure, significant injuries/vertical cracking in the lower truck, and root flare. The report concludes that these defects are indicative of declining tree health.

The requirements for the granting of a variance are set forth below, followed by the applicant's explanation of why the enforcement of Section 22A-12(b)(3) would result in an unwarranted hardship.

(1) Describe the special conditions peculiar to the property which would cause the unwarranted hardship;

Situated in an urban environment, this 2.7 acre developed and occupied Property contains buildings of various sizes, above and below ground infrastructure, sidewalks, parking lots and small lawn areas. The Property is bounded to the west by the WMATA Metro Line, which is also the future alignment of the Purple Line and the Capital Crescent Trail.

The Property is the subject of a Preliminary Plan (120150030) which sets forth the density and general layout of the redevelopment of the Property. Two (2) specimen trees are located in the southwest corner of the site, adjacent to the WMATA Metro Line right-of-way. The trees are also located within or immediately adjacent to overhead power wires. In order to implement this Project as well as improvements independent of this Project, both trees will need to be removed due to the necessary building and infrastructure demolition and construction in the area where these trees are located.

As described below and illustrated in the enclosed color-coded critical root zone impact exhibit (Exhibit 3), there are numerous construction activities that already have or will in the future impact the critical root zones of ST-1 and ST-7. The following outlines at least eleven individual impacts that: a) have occurred from recent construction activities; b) are proposed as part of the Elizabeth Square Project; or c) are planned as construction activities independent of the Elizabeth Square Project that are special conditions peculiar to this property that make phasing and tree save measures infeasible and cause unwarranted hardship. Given the concern for ST-1, the following also quantifies how each activity has or will impact the critical root zone (CRZ) of ST-1. Collectively, these construction activities will impact approximately 89 percent of ST-1's CRZ; making preservation unviable.

Recent Construction Activities

- 1. Courthouse access **dr**ive an**d** parking lot: The construction of an access drive and part of the parking lot of the courthouse occurred approximately 5 years ago. This construction impacted approximately 694 square feet (5%) of the CRZ of ST-1.
- 2. Water line / fire hydrant construction: The construction of a water line and fire hydrant within the right-of-way of Apple Avenue and within the critical root zone of ST-1 occurred at approximately the same time as the courthouse access drive and parking lot improvements. The impacts associated with this construction account for 580 square feet (4%) of the CRZ.

Elizabeth Square Proposed Construction Activities

3. **Proposed** 15-story building & 3 level, underground parking garage: The wall and edge of the proposed 3 story underground parking garage and the closest edge of the 15-story proposed building are each located approximately 25' from the base of ST-1. Construction of the garage and building is expected to be ongoing for 27 months. One of the first steps in the construction process will be to demolish the existing buildings and some of the infrastructure within the proposed building/garage's footprint, which is also within the CRZ of ST-1. The next step involves the installation of sheeting and shoring outside the limits of the proposed walls to accommodate the excavation and garage/foundation construction. The sheeting and shoring would be installed 5-10' beyond the face of the garage, which would only be 15' from the base of ST-1. Installation of the sheeting and shoring is done using a drill rig, which if the tree had not yet been removed, would require significant removal of large canopy limbs or could otherwise damage them as part of the sheeting/shoring installation. The impacts to the CRZ associated with the construction of the garage, building and associated over dig, sheeting and shoring, is approximately 30% of the CRZ. Given that the underground parking

garage extends under the building to the property line under the Apple Avenue drop-off/culde-sac, modifying the design of the 15 story building to cantilever by the drop-off area would not reduce any of the impacts to ST-1's CRZ. Furthermore, critical project/building features, such as an egress staircase and government operated public use space, are located in this section of the building and would be negatively impacted.

- 4. Apple Avenue drop-off / cul-de-sac / emergency access: Presently, the terminus of Apple Avenue is an abrupt and informal end of the asphalt and travel way with informal parking adjacent to ST-1 within the CRZ. With the redevelopment associated with Elizabeth Square, the terminus of Apple Avenue will become a modified cul-de-sac that allows the continuous movement around the cul-de-sac while also serving as a pick up / drop off function and emergency access. The proposed cul-de-sac and sidewalk abut the proposed ground-level plaza next to the proposed 15-story building, as well as the ground level plaza that will serve as an access to the Capital Crescent Trail. The design proposes a modified and reduced-diameter cul-de-sac for which MCDOT has expressed its consent. The cul-de-sac has been designed as small as it can be to accommodate turning movements and serve as the required emergency access, as illustrated in the enclosed fire access plan (Exhibit 4). To accommodate the existing road grades of Apple Avenue and to provide for adequate subsurface conditions, 2-3' of cut is required beneath the proposed footprint of the cul-de-sac and adjacent sidewalk. The total amount of impacts associated with this improvement is 16% of the CRZ (this is in addition to CRZ impacts already associated with other activities).
- 5. **Sewer** service connection: Given the locations of existing sewer infrastructure in the area, the sewer service to the proposed buildings is via a proposed lateral that is constructed at a depth of between 6' (where it exits the building) and 8' (where it connects to an existing manhole). This existing manhole is located 10-15' from the base of ST-1. This activity is also located within the footprint of the impacts associated with the Apple Avenue drop off. However, the excavation for this improvement is at a much greater depth, which would have additional impacts to other roots not directly impacted by the construction of the cul-de-sac.
- 6. Water service connection: Approximately 5 years ago, a water line was extended within Apple Avenue, which is the same water line discussed in number 2 above. This water line will also serve as the domestic and emergency water supply for the proposed building. The proposed fire pump and water service room is located in the southwest corner of the underground garage. This water line is proposed to be extended along Apple Avenue, passing within several feet of the location of ST-1 and then connecting into the southwest corner of the proposed garage. The construction of the water line would require excavation at a depth of 4-6'. The area of impacts to the CRZ associated with this impact is within the footprint of the proposed trail access and emergency access, although the excavation associated with the water line installation would be deeper.
- 7. Capital Crescent Trail: The Capital Crescent Trail is proposed to be constructed parallel to the railway, partially on top of the proposed parking garage and along the new 15 story building. The trail was originally planned to be located at the same grade as the railway tracks, which would have required a ramp and staircase up to Apple Avenue. Those plans have evolved and the design now proposes to bring the trail grade up to Apple Avenue, using a new crash wall as a retaining wall to support the trail. The construction of the trail and crash wall will impact 28% of ST-1's root zone.
- 8. Capital Crescent Trail pedestrian access, emergency access and T-turn around: The area between the Capital Crescent Trail and the Apple Avenue turn around serves several important purposes; including: pedestrian access, utility access, emergency access and a turn around that require the removal of both specimen trees. First, the area will serve as a critical pedestrian link between Apple Avenue and the trail. To accommodate the pedestrian activity within this area and to transition the trail users to the Apple Avenue corridor, and vice

versa, a hardscaped plaza is proposed within this area. Second, both of the sewer and water connections are also proposed to be installed within this area. To maintain a common-grade surface without steps or walls and to install an adequate subsurface, 1-3' of cut is proposed within the CRZ at this location. In addition, due to potential bicycle and emergency vehicle conflicts on the Capital Crescent Trail, MCDOT has rejected a proposal to provide an emergency access loop that would pass through this area and utilize the CCT bike lanes for access (see enclosed email coordination with MCDOT and MCFR in Exhibit 5). Instead, the alternative emergency access solution that has been required by MCDOT and accepted by Fire and Rescue is for a 'T-turnaround' utilizing part of the trail and the pedestrian access plaza between the trail and Apple Avenue (illustrated in Exhibit 4). To accommodate the construction of this plaza and to provide free and clear access for an emergency vehicle to turn around, ST-1 and ST-7 would need to be removed because they are directly affected by both parts of the "T" movements in the right-of-way. This area accounts for 10% of the impacts within the ST-1's CRZ.

<u>Planned Construction & Maintenance Activities (Independent of the Elizabeth Square Project)</u>

- 9. Capital Crescent Trail & Pedestrian Access: The trail is a master planned improvement in conjunction with the Purple Line, contract number T-1042-0240, prepared by the Maryland Transit Administration. Attached is Sheet 97 of 425 of the Contract Drawings for the Purple Line (Exhibit 6). The limits of disturbance (LOD) associated with the improvements extends well into Apple Avenue, beyond where ST-1 is located.
- 10. **M**aintenance of Utilities: Many utilities are located within the drip line and critical root zone of ST-1, including overhead wires, underground electric, sewer, and water, and possibly others. At any time, any of these utilities could be maintained, upgraded or replaced, which would impact ST-1.
- 11. Apple Avenue activity, maintenance and repairs: As discussed previously, ST-1 is located within the public right of way of Apple Avenue. Numerous formal and informal parking spaces and travel aisles are located beneath the drip line of this tree. In fact, as noted in the arborist's assessment of this tree, the tree contains numerous scars likely caused by vehicles that ran into the trunk of the tree. Additionally, the ongoing maintenance and repairs to Apple Avenue within the CRZ of this tree will continue to deleteriously impact the tree.

Due to these special conditions that are peculiar to this Property, requiring the applicant to retain these specimen trees, especially given the existing and planned construction activities are independent of the Project, would cause an unwarranted hardship.

(2) Describe how enforcement of this Chapter will deprive the landowner of rights commonly enjoyed by others in similar areas;

Given the location of these two (2) specimen trees on this Property, combined with the future development of the Capital Crescent Trail pedestrian connection from the Purple Line to Apple Avenue, failing to grant the requested variance will seriously impact the applicant's ability to redevelop the Property. It also would prevent the Applicant from providing the County with a smart growth, transit-oriented community on the Property that will serve many senior residents and others who need affordable housing near public transportation, as proposed in the Silver Spring CBD Sector Plan. If the applicant is not allowed to remove the trees to implement this Project, the MTA, State or County would have to remove them to accommodate the Capital Crescent Trail pedestrian connection and improvements.

(3) Verify that State water quality standards will not be violated and that a measurable degradation in water quality will not occur as a result of granting the variance, and

The proposed activity and the future implementation of the Site Plan is subject to Chapter 19 of the Montgomery County Code, which controls Sediment Control and Stormwater Management consistent with State water quality standards. Since this Property was previously developed prior to most modern stormwater management practices and standards, the redevelopment of the Property in compliance with Chapter 19 will result in an improvement in water quality. The Project's SWM concept plan demonstrates that runoff volume captured and treated in specific environmental site design practices (ESDv) meets the State requirements and the post-developed runoff from the site will be reduced below that of existing conditions; thereby improving water quality. The Department of Permitting Services (DPS) reviewed the concept stormwater management plan and provided three comments. The applicant has resubmitted a revised plan that addresses all of these comments (see enclosed May 26, 2015 response letter in Exhibit 7). The SWM Concept will be approved as part of the approval of this plan.

(4) Provide any other information appropriate to support the request.

As concluded in the enclosed independent arborist report, given ST-1's location in an urban setting with regular vehicle and pedestrian traffic, there are concerns for tree failure and hazards. The report also concludes that given the current health, intense urban setting, and existing and planned impacts, there are virtually no viable mitigation or tree preservation options available (including the design and implementation of paving) that would be sufficient to preserve ST-1. Additionally, if there were viable tree preservation options, they would only be addressing a small portion of the ST-1's CRZ and would not have a significant positive impact.

Given the unique circumstances of this property, a variance is warranted to implement this important public-private Project. In order to mitigate for the removal of these two (2) trees, the applicant is proposing to follow staff's recommended specimen tree mitigation guidelines and will be planting seven (7) shade trees that have a caliper of at least 3" in diameter.

In addition to meeting the criteria of subsection (a), the granting of this variance:

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

Granting the variance to remove the trees will not confer a special privilege on the applicant as the critical root zones of the trees would be disturbed by the ongoing maintenance and management of the Property, independent of the proposed redevelopment. As noted above, the planned construction and maintenance activities independent of the Project relating to the Capital Crescent Trail, existing utilities, and Apple Avenue are within the critical root zones. These trees will need to be removed when the Capital Crescent Trail pedestrian connection from the Purple Line to Apple Avenue is made. As the trees continue to age, shed limbs, and are subjected to inclement weather conditions, the Property owner will need to manage the trees to protect the property and the residents and tenants, which could include removing the trees, if necessary.

(2) Will not be based on conditions or circumstances which result from the actions by the applicant

The requested variance is based upon the nature of the existing site and the location of the subject trees and are not based on conditions or circumstances resulting from the actions of the applicant. In fact, the removal of these trees will ultimately be necessary for the construction of the pedestrian improvements by the MTA, the State or the County; for the maintenance of the overhead utility lines; or for the ongoing management of the Property to provide safety for pedestrians and tenants. All of these items are unrelated to the actions of the applicant.

(3) Will not be based on a condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or nonconforming, on a neighboring property.

The requested variance is based upon the nature of the existing site, health and location of the subject trees, and not on a condition relating to land or building use on a neighboring property. Additionally, ST-1 is in fair condition located in the Apple Avenue right-of-way. ST-7 is in poor condition located in the Purple Line right-of-way. As reported in the enclosed independent arborist's assessment (Exhibit 2), ST-1 has several tree defects, including a dead main central leader, a codominant structure, significant injuries/vertical cracking in the lower truck, and root flare. These defects are indicative of declining tree health. Given the tree's declining health and location in the right-of-way, it presents potential risks to vehicles and pedestrians. Therefore, the arborist recommended that the tree must strongly be considered for removal.

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

The redevelopment of this Property and the directly associated need for a variance will improve water quality conditions on site and downstream through the removal of unmanaged impervious surfaces and the ultimate integration of Environmental Site Design (ESD). The redevelopment is subject to Chapter 19 of the Montgomery County Code, which has been determined by the Maryland Department of the Environment to be in conformance with the State's water quality standards. As described above, the Project's SWM concept plan demonstrates that runoff volume captured and treated in specific environmental site design practices (ESDv) meets the State requirements and the post-developed runoff from the site will be reduced below that of existing conditions; thereby improving water quality. The SWM Concept will be approved as part of the approval of this plan.

We hope that this comprehensive application provides the essential information to conclude that a variance is necessary and we request that this package be transmitted to the County Arborist for her review. Thank you for your time and feel free to call or email with any questions. I can be reached at (240) 912-2137 or ghubbard@rodgers.com.

Sincerely, Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

Graham T. Hubbard, PLA ISA Certified Arborist Senior Environmental Planner

Encl: Exhibit 1: Forest Conservation Variance Exhibit

Exhibit 2: Independent ISA-Certified Arborist's Assessment of Specimen Tree #1

Exhibit 3: Color-Coded Critical Root Zone Impact Exhibit

Exhibit 4: Fire Access Plan

Exhibit 5: MCFR and MCDOT Correspondence regarding T-Turnaround

Exhibit 6: MTA Purple Line / Capital Crescent Trail Contract Drawing; Sheet 97 of 425

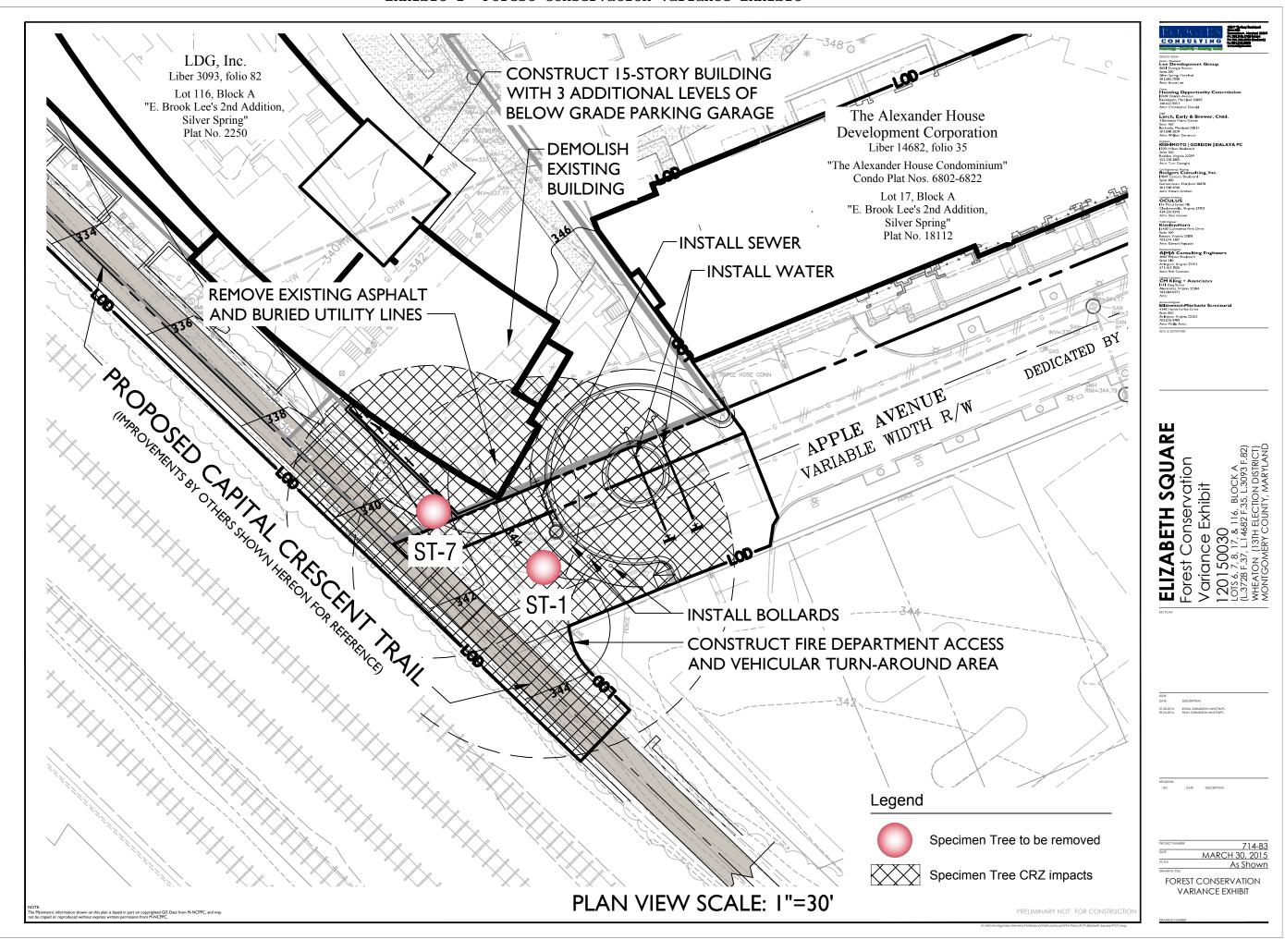
Exhibit 7: SWM Concept Resubmission Letter Responding to DPS Comments

Cc: Laura Miller, MCDEP

Christopher Donald, Housing Opportunities Commission

Elizabeth Square Rodgers # 714B3 June 4, 2015

> Bruce H. Lee, Lee Development Group Bill Kominers, Lerch, Early & Brewer Bob Graham, Rodgers Consulting Dusty Rood, Rodgers Consulting





May 19, 2015

Lee Development Group 8601 Georgia Ave, Ste. 200 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Tree evaluation @ the terminus of Apple Ave, west of 2nd Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910

44" dbh, Carya tomentosa, Mockernut Hickory

Dusty,

Per your request, I visited this site on 5/19/2015 to perform a complete and thorough evaluation of the above referenced Carya tomentosa, Mockernut Hickory tree.

For background purposes, I am an International Society of Arborist Certified Arborist and ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor (MA-4993A), a Maryland Licensed Tree Expert (License No. 825), and I also have a M.S. in Environmental Science from Johns Hopkins University.

Health/Condition of tree/defects, species

The Mockernut Hickory is the most common Hickory species on the eastern half of the U.S.. The species name comes from the Latin word tomentum, meaning "covered with dense hairs", which is a characteristic found on the underside of the leaves of this tree. This species is known for its strong wood, and deep taproot. While on first glance from afar this tree does have a relatively full leafed out canopy, there are still several significant defects in canopy, the trunk/structure, and the root flare. As shown in the photo below, the tree measures 44" DBH, by caliper tape.







Defect #1: dead central leader/misc. deadwood throughout canopy

The main central leader is dead on this tree. (Photo A) There is also other deadwood of smaller sizes throughout the canopy and extending out to the laterals that are directly over parking and pedestrian areas. (Photo B). This deadwood is related to the severe urban environment conditions, as well as the recent root disturbances associated with the waterline/hydrant construction and courthouse parking lot projects. This accumulated effect of this deadwood increases the hazard-risk associated with this tree, along with the high volume and frequency of activity within the canopy/drip line.

Photo A



Photo B



Defect #2: Co-dominant Structure

The Mockernut hickory species, is normally found to have a straight, single leader trunk. This particular specimen has multiple co-dominant leaders. At the base of the main leaders, there appears to be the start of a cavity which has begun to hold water and has early stages of rot. This is likely as result of early disturbances to the canopy, again, due to the Urban setting. At this age of this tree, and the size of these co-dominant leaders, the tree is much more prone to a wind throw breakage event, where one or more of the co-dominants fails.









Defect #3: prior injury-damages & vertical cracks

There are multiple old, compartmentalized prior wounds on the lower trunk. While several of them appear to be "closed", it is likely there is residual rot/decay and cavity areas in these locations, and there are several higher up in the canopy, that appear to still be open. There are 2-3 significant vertical cracks along the lower trunk and lower sections of the co-dominant leaders. 1-2 of these cracks are showing signs of included wood growth, which further creates weak wooded areas.











Defect #4: root flare

This species normally has one major deep tap root. In this case, this charateristic has help sustain this tree over the many years in this location. However, even with the tap root, the flare and buttress roots, serve an important stablizing and overall nutrient exchange benefit to the tree. In this case, due to the severe compaction around the CRZ, the root flare and overall root mattress has been significantly impacted and reduced. The heavy vehicular traffic and parking in this area, have limited the continued growth, and stability of the overall root flare.











Potential Targets

When I assess targets, I make the assumption that the tree or tree part would fail. With this, there are several critical targets that would be impacted if any type of failure occurred in this tree. These include regularly parked vehicles, and pedestrians. With the *proposed* connection to the Capital Crescent Trail, there will be a substantial increase in the pedestrian traffic within the drip line of this tree, and of course a significant increase in the risks related to the deadwood throughout the canopy.

Mitigation Options

Current conditions:

Unfortunately, with the intense urban setting of this tree, there are virtually no viable mitigation or tree preservations options available that would dramatically increase the odds of being able to save this tree, or improve its declining health. It is not feasible to remove large portions of the pavement, which would give the opportunity to drastically improve aeration, lessen compaction, and improve overall nutrient exchange.

Proposed conditions:

The defects noted above are all significant indicators that this tree is in a highly stressed condition, and is in declining overall health. Based on it's current condition, any proposed additional impacts or stresses to this tree, are likely to lead to it's continued to decline and complete mortality. Even if there were viable tree preservation options, they would only





be addressing a small portion of the trees CRZ, hence they would not have a significant positive impact.

Based on all of the detailed information outlined above, and the underlying concern about the increased pedestrian traffic in this area, it is my professional opinion that this tree must be strongly considered for removal and NOT preservation.

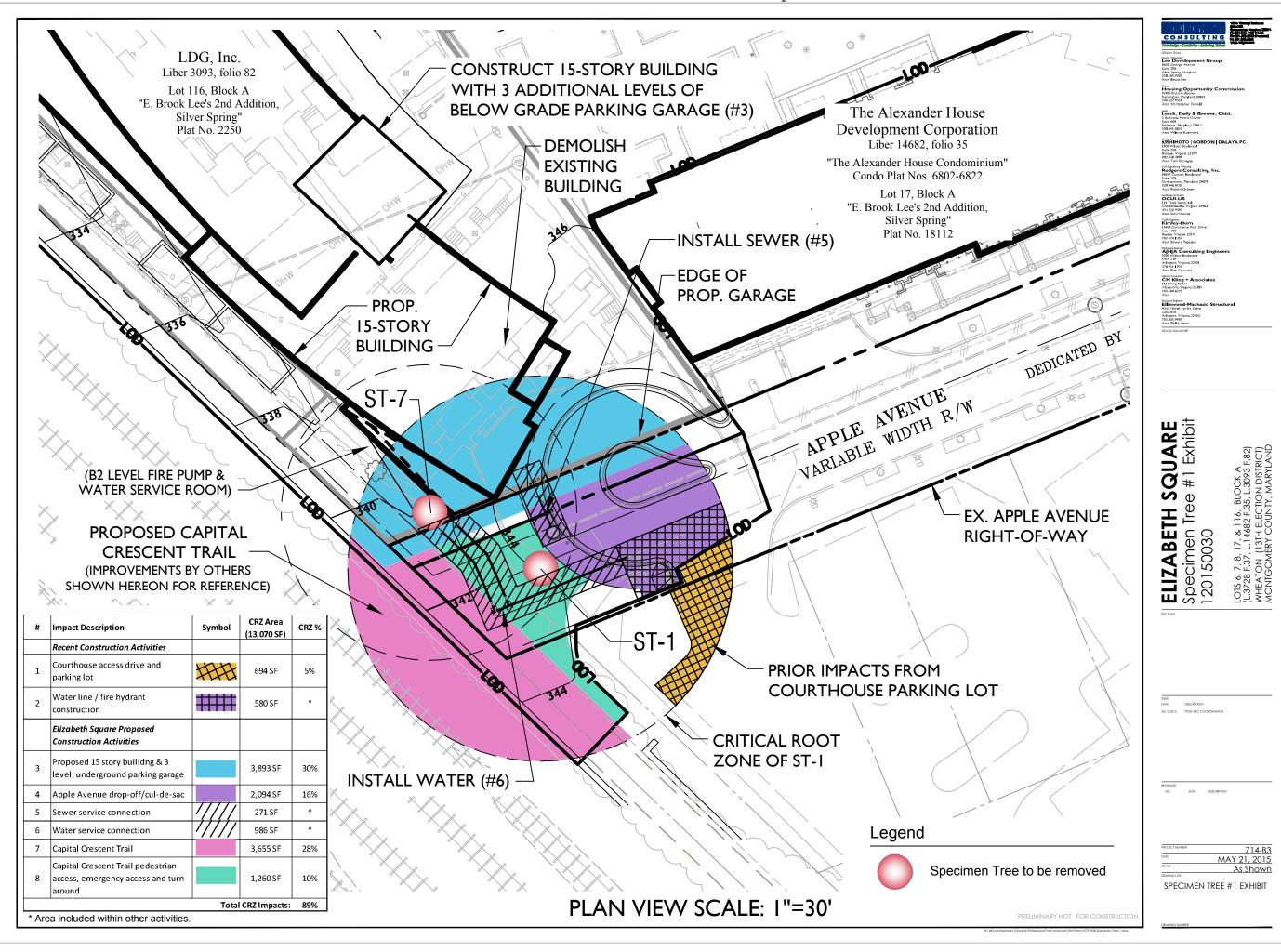
Regards,

D Tree Expert Lic: 825

ISA Arborist-Tree Risk Assessor: MA-4993A

MS Env. Science





RODGERS

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DESIGN TEAM Owner / Developer:
Lee Development Group

860 | Georgia Avenue Suite 200 Silver Spring, Maryland 301.585.7000 Attn: Bruce Lee

Housing Opportunity Commission
10400 Detrick Avenue
Kensington, Maryland 20895
240.627.9551

Attn: Christopher Donald Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd. Suite 460 Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Attn: William Kominers Architect:
KISHIMOTO | GORDON | DALAYA PC
I 300 Wilson Boulevard

Suite 250 Rosslyn, Virginia 22209 202.338.3800 Attn: Tom Donaghy

Civil Engineering / Planning:

Rodgers Consulting, Inc.
19847 Century Boulevard

Suite 200 Germantown, Maryland 20878 301.948.4700 Attn: Robert Graham

Landscape Architect:
OCULUS
114 Third Street NE Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

434.220.9392 Attn: Don Hoover Traffic Engineer: **Kimley-Horn** 11400 Commerce Park Drive

Reston, Virginia 20191 703.674.1307 Attn: Edward Papazian

Mechanical Engineer:

A|H|A Consulting Engineers
3000 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22201 571.451.1950

Lighting Consultant:
CM Kling + Associates 1411 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703.684.6272

Structural Engineer:
Ellinwood-Machado Structural
4245 North Fairfax Drive Suite 850 Arlington, Virginia 22203 703.835.9989

Attn: Phillip Antis SEAL & SIGNATURE

F.82)

, BLOCK A .35, L.3093 F

DATE DESCRIPTION 07.28.2014 INITIAL SUBMISSION MNCP&PC
09.24.2014 FINAL SUBMISSION MNCP&PC
03.30.2015 DRC AMENDED SUBMISSION MNCP&PC
05.22.2015 POST DRC AMENDED SUBMISSION

REVISIONS

PROJECT NUMBER MARCH 30, 2015 SCALE As Shown DRAWING TITLE

FIRE ACCESS

ALTERNATE EXB-2

Ryan White

From: Ryan White

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 1:25 PM **To:** 'Somarajan, Deepak'; LaBaw, Marie

Cc: Leck, Gregory; Melvin Tull (mel@leedg.com); Robert Graham; 'Kominers, William'

(wkominers@lerchearly.com); Bruce H. Lee (bruce@leedg.com)

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Deepak,

Ok, we can remove the loop fire apparatus access on CCT. We will only provide the (2) T-turnarounds at Fenwick & Apple within the trail, and the trail between the T-turnarounds will <u>not</u> be fire department accessible.

Thank you for the clarification, we will submit plans with fire access as indicated above.

Ryan D. White Senior Planner / Senior Associate / PLA Rodgers Consulting, Inc

240-912-2148 Direct 301-948-4700 Main 540-327-7435 Mobile 301-948-6256 Fax Knowledge Creativity Enduring Values

www.rodgers.com

Unless expressly indicated, nothing contained in this e-mail is intended to be an offer to commit Rodgers Consulting, Inc., to any purchase, sale, contract, or other course of action.

From: Somarajan, Deepak [mailto:Deepak.Somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 1:13 PM

To: Ryan White; LaBaw, Marie

Cc: Leck, Gregory; Melvin Tull (mel@leedg.com); Robert Graham

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Ryan,

Why do we still need a fire access loop from Apple Ave to Fenwick? Full T-turnaround at Apple Avenue should serve the purpose. The whole email coordination was to avoid the Fire Access loop.

Thank you

Deepak Somarajan

Deepak Somarajan, P.E, LEED AP BD&C

Engineer III

Department of Transportation

Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations

100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor

Gaithersburg, MD 20878 Phone: 240-777-2194

deepak.somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: Ryan White [mailto:RWhite@RODGERS.com]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:13 AM **To:** LaBaw, Marie; Somarajan, Deepak

Cc: Leck, Gregory; Melvin Tull (<u>mel@leedg.com</u>); Robert Graham

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

All,

I believe we have resolved the issue regarding fire access and the capital crescent trail.

For clarification, the proposed Fire Access will be provided by the following:

- Full T-turnaround at Fenwick Lane's termination, within CCT.
- Fire Access "loop" from Apple Ave. to Fenwick. Varying width (20ft wide at T-turnaround's) and (14ft wide between T-turnarounds)
- Full T-turnaround at Apple Ave. termination, within CCT.

The above noted details will be made part of our re-submission to MNCPPC responding to the DRC comments.

Should you have any question or comments, please advise.

Thank you,

Ryan D. White Senior Planner / Senior Associate / PLA Rodgers Consulting, Inc. 240-912-2148 Direct 301-948-4700 Main 540-327-7435 Mobile 301-948-6256 Fax

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Unless expressly indicated, nothing contained in this e-mail is intended to be an offer to commit Rodgers Consulting, Inc., to any purchase, sale, contract, or other course of action.

From: LaBaw, Marie [mailto:Marie.LaBaw@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:54 AM To: Ryan White: Somarajan, Deepak

Cc: Leck, Gregory; Melvin Tull (mel@leedq.com); Robert Graham

Subject: Re: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

I am sorry, I thought I had already responded. If DOT is more comfortable with the double-t tunaround that still uses the bike path, I am ok with that. I would like to see a plan to confirm my impression of the details.

S Marie LaBaw, PhD, PE Office of the Fire Marshal Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services 100 Edison Park Dr, 2nd Floor Gaithersburg, MD 20878

(240) 773-8917 Office (240) 777-2465 FAX

e-mail address: Marie.LaBaw@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: Ryan White < RWhite@RODGERS.com> Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:42 AM To: Somarajan, Deepak; LaBaw, Marie

Cc: Leck, Gregory; Melvin Tull (mel@leedg.com); Robert Graham

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Marie,

I just spoke with Deepak. It appears that MCDOT is awaiting a response from you, regarding the Elizabeth Square Fire access along the CCT bike trail.

Based on my discussion with Deepak this morning, MCDOT does not recommend the "loop" access from Apple to Fenwick along the CCT trail, due to bicycle and emergency vehicle conflicts, however it seemed that if MCFRS deemed the fire access loop necessary along the CCT to serve the proposed high rise tower & is recommended by your office, then the "loop" access may be acceptable by MCDOT.

If you could please provide direction on which option for fire access MCFRS would prefer.

Thank you,

Ryan D. White Senior Planner / Senior Associate / PLA Rodgers Consulting, Inc 240-912-2148 Direct 301-948-4700 Main 540-327-7435 Mobile 301-948-6256 Fax Knowledge Creativity Enduring Values

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From: Somarajan, Deepak [mailto:Deepak.Somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:29 AM

To: LaBaw, Marie

Cc: Ryan White; Leck, Gregory

Subject: Re: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Marie,

Yes that is correct.

Deepak Somarajan, P.E, LEED AP BD&C

Engineer III

Department of Transportation
Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor

Gaithersburg, MD 20878 Phone: 240-777-2194

deepak.somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: LaBaw, Marie

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2015 11:25 AM

To: Somarajan, Deepak

Cc: RWhite@RODGERS.com; Leck, Gregory

Subject: Re: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

I do not have a plan in front of me: does this mean that the turnarounds will still utilize part of the bike path?

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

[&]quot;Somarajan, Deepak" < <u>Deepak.Somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov</u> > wrote:

Ryan,

Based on our discussion internally MCDOT would like to see the fire access T-turnaround at Apple Avenue (similar to the one shown on Fenwick Lane & Third Avenue) instead of using the bike lanes. I know there are some steep grades to work with. I have copied Marie Lebaw in this email as well.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Thank you

Deepak Somarajan

Deepak Somarajan, P.E, LEED AP BD&C

Engineer III
Department of Transportation
Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Phone: 240-777-2194

deepak.somarajan@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: Torma, Rebecca

Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2015 1:16 PM

To: Ryan White

Cc: Somarajan, Deepak

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Hi Ryan,

We did discuss this project; however, it wasn't until Friday. I believe we are willing to allow the full use of the bike path. Deepak will be handling the project; therefore, I am having him respond to you directly.

Thank you.

Rebecca Torma | Senior Planning Specialist
Development Review Team
Montgomery County Department of Transportation
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
office 240.777.2118 | Rebecca.Torma@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: Ryan White [mailto:RWhite@RODGERS.com]

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 10:42 AM

To: Torma, Rebecca **Cc:** Robert Graham

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Rebecca,

As a follow up to your meeting with Greg on the 24th, do you have any feedback to provide us regarding Elizabeth Square?

Please let us know.

Thank you,

-Ryan

From: Torma, Rebecca [mailto:Rebecca.Torma-Kim@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 3:07 PM

To: Ryan White

Subject: RE: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

Ryan,

I plan on meeting with Greg on Tuesday, February 24 to discuss this project. I hope to get back to you after that meeting.

Rebecca Torma | Senior Planning Specialist
Development Review Team
Montgomery County Department of Transportation
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

office 240.777.2118 | Rebecca.Torma@montgomerycountymd.gov

From: Ryan White [mailto:RWhite@RODGERS.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 11:48 AM

To: LaBaw, Marie; Torma, Rebecca; matthew.folden@montgomeryplanning.org

Cc: Bruce H. Lee (bruce@leedg.com); Christopher Donald (christopher.donald@hocmc.org); Melvin Tull

(mel@leedg.com); Leck, Gregory; Dickel, Stephanie (Stephanie.Dickel@montgomeryplanning.org); 'Kominers, William'

(wkominers@lerchearly.com); Alexandra Parris (AParris@kgdarchitecture.com); 'Tom Donaghy'

(<u>TDonaghy@kgdarchitecture.com</u>) (<u>TDonaghy@kgdarchitecture.com</u>); Robert Graham; 'Reutershan, Susan M.'

(smreutershan@lerchearly.com)

Subject: Elizabeth Square - Meeting Fire Access w/ MCFRS/MCDOT/MNCPPC

All,

As a follow up regarding our meeting with MCFRS, please find attached PDFs containing the documents presented at the meeting and meeting minutes:

- Meeting minutes from 01/27/2015 meeting.
- Fenwick Lane
- Apple Avenue
- Fire Access Plan

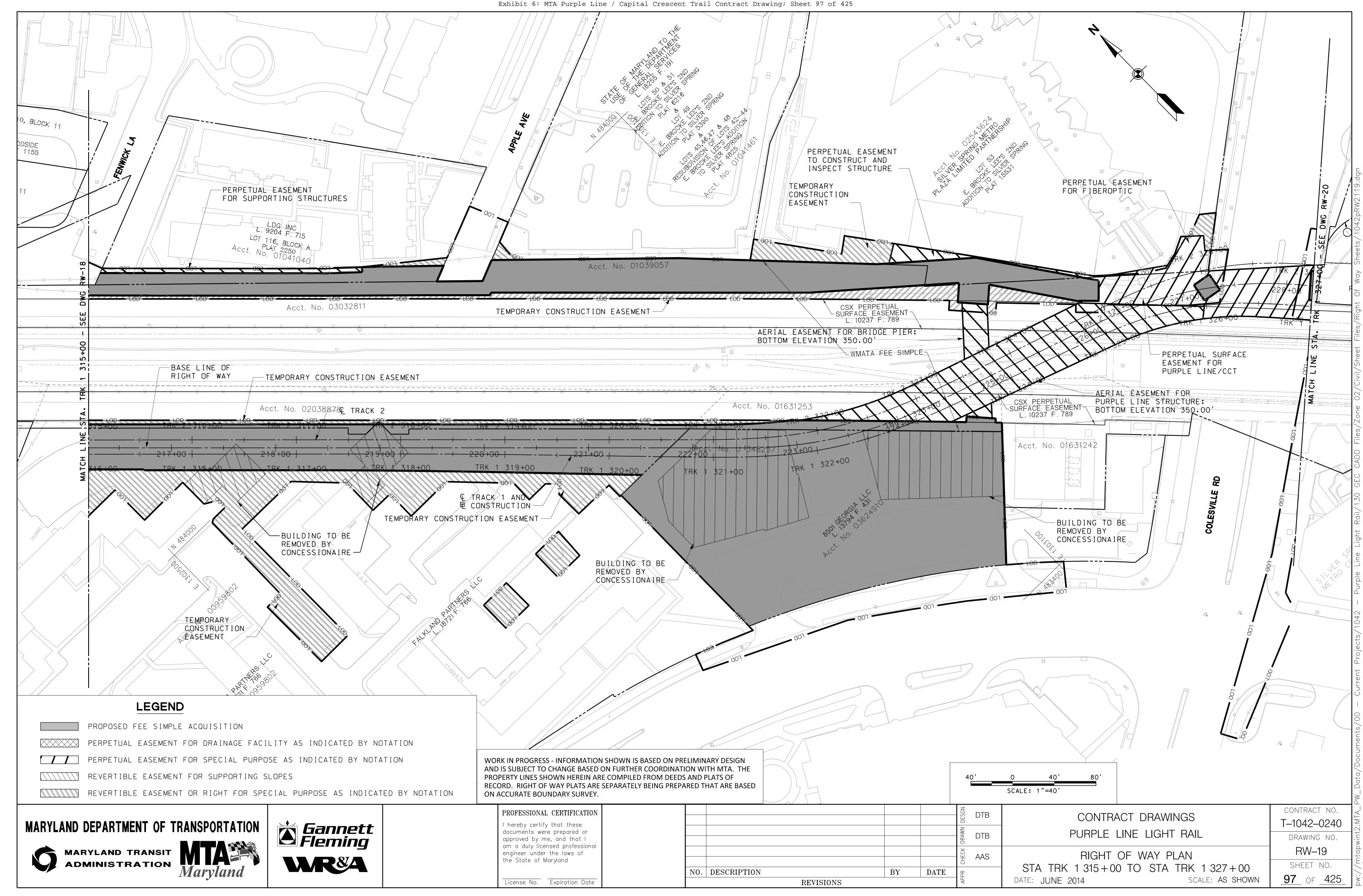
The applicant will be preparing revisions to the attached plans, per our meeting with MCFRS staff. Once completed we will provide updates.

Should you have any questions or comments, please let us know. Thank you,

Ryan D. White Senior Planner / Senior Associate / PLA Rodgers Consulting, Inc 240-912-2148 Direct 301-948-4700 Main 540-327-7435 Mobile 301-948-6256 Fax Knowledge Creativity Enduring Values

www.rodgers.com

Unless expressly indicated, nothing contained in this e-mail is intended to be an offer to commit Rodgers Consulting, Inc., to any purchase, sale, contract, or other course of action.



May 26, 2015

Montgomery County DPS Water Resources Section 255 Rockville Pike 2nd Floor Rockville, MD 20850

RE: Elizabeth Square SWM Concept SM #266615

Dear Mr. Kuykendall -

On behalf of the Lee Development Group, please find attached a revised submittal of the Stormwater Management Concept for Elizabeth Square. The plans and computations have been revised to address comments dated May 4, 2015.

The SWM Concept continues to provide ESDv treatment meeting the required volume, and further verifies that the post-developed runoff from the site has been reduced below that of existing conditions. No waivers are requested with this re-submittal.

This submission includes the following documents:

- Concept Application for Plan Resubmittal
- Two Copies, Revised SWM Concept Plans (3 sheets) Reflecting Existing Conditions, Proposed ESD Facilities and ESD Facility Drainage Areas.
- Two Copies, Revised SWM Concept Computations (updated for correct ESD volume depth)
- Two Copies, Storm Drain Drainage Maps (MCDOT Sheets) for Reference
- One Copy, List of Project's Liber/Folio Data (Supports Application Sheet)

Below please find our responses to comments provided on the prior submittal.

- 1. Silva Cells under the reinforced fire access must be approved by Marie LaBaw with MCG Fire & Rescue before I can final the concept.
 - RCI RESPONSE: The reinforced fire access routes from Apple Avenue and Fenwick Lane terminate with turnarounds outside the areas of Silva Cells.
- 2. You need to show on the plan and site plans how you propose to access the micro-bioretention. Are you going to have curb cuts/driveway aprons/depressed curbs?
 - RCI RESPONSE: Access along the trail is provided through collapsible bollards; the two bio-facilities adjacent to the steps between the buildings are adjacent to the temporary drop-off spaces at the turnaround and can be accessed by parking there; and the facility along new building #2/Fenwick Lane is accessed through depressed curb at the loading entrance. All have been labeled on the plans.
- 3. In your comps the maximum depth for micro bioretention volume in the filter is 4.5 feet (4foot of media and 6 inches of sand). Please see our design standard.

RCI RESPONSE: Computations have been updated to maximum depth allowance for volume of 4.5'

If you should have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at 301-948-4700 or upasternak@rodgers.com

Sincerely, Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

Uri Pasternak, P.E. Senior Engineer Enclosures

cc: B. Lee, LDG R. Graham, RCI

File



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Al R. Roshdieh Acting Director

June 16, 2015

Mr. Neil Braunstein, Planner Coordinator Area One Planning Division The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760

RE:

Preliminary Plan No. 120150030

Elizabeth Square

Dear Mr. Braunstein:

We have completed our review of the preliminary plan submitted on May 23, 2015. An earlier version of this plan was reviewed by the Development Review Committee at its November 10, 2014 meeting. We appreciate the cooperation and additional information provided by the applicant and their consultant. We recommend approval of the plan subject to the following comments:

All Planning Board Opinions relating to this plan or any subsequent revision, project plans or site plans should be submitted to the Department of Permitting Services in the package for record plats, storm drain, grading or paving plans, or application for access permit. Include this letter and all other correspondence from this department.

Design Exception Requests

- 1. Design Exception Request to modify the sixty (60) feet for Fenwick Lane pavement:
 - a. Station 0+25 thru 1+08: Applicant proposes to reduce the pavement width from 29.5 feet per section MC-2002.02 to twenty nine (29) feet of pavement width which includes eight (8) feet of on-street parking.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> the reduced pavement width per County Council Expedited Bill 33-13 "Streets and Roads-Urban Road Standards and Pedestrian Safety Improvements."

b. Station 1+08 thru 1+08: Applicant proposes to reduce the pavement width from 29.5' per section MC-2002.02 to 24.5' of pavement width consisting of 13.5' westbound lane and an 11' of eastbound lane.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> the reduced pavement width per County Council Expedited Bill 33-13 "Streets and Roads-Urban Road Standards and Pedestrian Safety Improvements."

2. Design Exception Request to provide the fifty (50) feet of Right of Way in lieu of sixty (60) feet Right of Way as required per section MC 2002.01: Applicant proposes to maintain existing 50' Right of Way width for Fenwick Lane in lieu of sixty (60) feet of Right of Way as required per section MC 2002.01.

Response: Existing Right of Way is fifty (50) feet for Fenwick Lane; MCDOT <u>approves</u> the reduced Right of Way width for Fenwick Lane based on the design exception package.

3. <u>Design Exception Request # 3 to reduce Baseline Radius</u> Applicant proposes to reduce the Baseline Radius for Fenwick Lane from one hundred and fifty (150) feet as per section MC 2002.01 to eighty (80) feet.

Response: MCDOT defers this finding to the planning board.

- 4. Design Exception Request # 4 to reduce driveway spacing:
 - a. Spacing distance between Second Avenue and the loading access for Phase II: Applicant is proposing to reduce driveway be located seventy eight (78) feet from the required one-hundred (100) feet tangent distance from adjacent and/ or opposite driveways and intersections.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to the reduced the driveway spacing from one hundred (100) feet to seventy eight (78) feet based on the design exception package.

b. Spacing distance between loading access for Phase II building and the eastern drop-off exit: Applicant is proposing to reduce driveway be located thirty eight (38) feet from the required one-hundred feet tangent distance from adjacent and/ or opposite driveways and intersections.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to the reduced the driveway spacing from one hundred (100) feet to thirty eight (38) feet based on the design exception package.

c. Spacing distance between eastern drop off exit and the western drop-off entry: Applicant is proposing to reduce driveway be located forty four (44) feet from the required one hundred (100) feet tangent distance from adjacent and/ or opposite driveways and intersections.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to the reduced the driveway spacing from one hundred (100) feet to forty four (44) feet.

d. Spacing distance between western drop off entry and the loading access for Phase-I Building: Applicant is proposing to reduce driveway be located thirty seven (37) feet from the required one hundred (100) feet tangent distance from adjacent and/ or opposite driveways and intersections.

Response: MCDOT *approves* to the reduced the driveway spacing from one hundred (100) feet to thirty seven (37) feet based on the design exception package.

e. Spacing distance between the loading access for Phase-I building and the garage entrance for the Phase-I building: Applicant is proposing to reduce driveway be located four (4) feet from the required one-hundred (100) feet tangent distance from adjacent and/ or opposite driveways and intersections.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to the reduced the driveway spacing from one hundred (100) feet to four (4) feet based on the design exception package.

- 5. Design Exception Request to place obstruction within Right of Way for Fenwick Avenue: Applicant is proposing to install the following obstructions within Right of Way:
 - a. Stormwater Management Facility Infrastructure, to include flow splitter structure for the proposed Silva Cells:

Response: MCDOT <u>does not object</u> to place Stormwater Management Infrastructure within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to DPS on this issue.

- b. Electrical Facility Infrastructure to include below grade transformer and bus vaults: **Response:** MCDOT <u>does not object</u> to place Electrical Infrastructure within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to DPS on this issue.
- c. Collapsible Bollards **Response:** MCDOT <u>approves</u> to place Collapsible Bollard within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to Office of Fire Marshall on this issue.
- d. Bicycle Rack:

 Response: MCDOT *approves* the proposal to place a Bicycle Rack within Right of Way.
- e. Grasscrete; manufactured by Grass Concrete. Specifically the Grasscrete for Fire Access: **Response:** MCDOT <u>approves</u> to place Grasscrete within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to Office of Fire Marshall and DPS for approval of the construction details.
- 6. Design Exception Request to modify the pavement width for Apple Avenue: Applicant requests to reduce the roadway pavement width for Apple Avenue from 29.5 feet to twenty seven (27) feet consisting of ten (10) feet of west bound lane, ten (10) feet of east bound lane and seven (7) feet of parking:

Response: MCDOT *approves* to reduce pavement width per County Council Expedited Bill 33-13 "Streets and Roads-Urban Road Standards and Pedestrian Safety Improvements."

- Design Exception Request to reduce Cul-De-Sac Right of Way radius: Applicant requests to reduce the Cul-De-Sac Right of Way radius from the 72 feet to 35.67 feet.
 Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to provide Cul-de-sac Right of Way radius from 72 feet to 35.67 feet.
- 8. Design Exception Request to provide non-standard Cul-De-Sac: Applicant requests to reduce the Cul-De-Sac outside radius from the sixty (60) feet to thirty (30) feet and offset the cul-de-sac from the centerline of Apple Avenue.

Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to provide non-standard cul-de-sac having the outside radius of thirty (30) feet per design exception package. Public Improvement Easement (P.I.E.) is required for the Cul-De-Sac at the end of Apple Avenue.

- 9. Design Exception Request to place obstruction within Right of Way for Apple Avenue: Applicant is proposing to install the following obstructions within Right of Way of Apple Avenue:
 - a. Collapsible Bollards:
 Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to place Collapsible Bollard within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to Office of Fire Marshall on this issue.
 - b. Grasscrete; manufactured by Grass Concrete. Specifically the Grasscrete for Fire Access: Response: MCDOT <u>approves</u> to place Grasscrete within Right of Way however; MCDOT refers to Office of Fire Marshall and DPS for approval of the construction details.
- 10. Design Exception: "Reducing curb return radii from thirty (30) feet to fifteen (15) feet:

 Response: Although the applicant did not submit an official design exemption request, per County Council Expedited, Bill 33-13, Section 49-32 (h), MCDOT <u>approves</u> of the use of fifteen (15) feet curb return radius on this project.

Preliminary Plan: Significant Plan Review Comments

- 11. Sight distance certificates have been accepted. A copy of the accepted Sight Distances Evaluation certification forms are enclosed for your information and reference
- 12. The Traffic Impact Study (TIS) was previously approved by MCDOT and MNCP&PC.
- 13. If the applicant is required to install Silver Spring CBD streetscaping amenities along the site frontages. Prior to approval of the record plat by DPS, execute and record a Declaration of Covenants (for Maintenance and Liability) or enter into an agreement with the Silver Spring Urban District for the maintenance of those items.
- 14. Truck Circulation plan submitted by the applicant is acceptable by MCDOT.
- 15. The applicant must maintain a minimum five (5) foot wide continuous open sidewalk along all streets; no grates are permitted in this area.
- 16. Upgrade pedestrian facilities at all intersections along the site frontage to comply with current ADA standards.
- 17. Record plat to reflect a reciprocal ingress, egress, and public utilities easement to serve the lots accessed by each common driveway.

Preliminary Plan: Significant Plan Storm Drain Comments

18. Study POI Existing 53:x34" HERCP from E-1 to E-2: Based on the storm drain report the existing 53"x34" HERCP RCP storm drain pipe has a negative slope. We recommend applicant be required to replace the existing pipe and adequately sized based on the flow under proposed conditions.

Preliminary Plan: Standard Plan Review Comments

19. Grant necessary slope and drainage easements. Slope easements are to be determined by study or set at the building restriction line. Public Improvement Easement (P.I.E) is required for the Culde-sac at the end of the Apple Avenue. Public Access Easement (P.A.E) is required for the north

- sidewalk along Apple Avenue for the pedestrian access.
- 20. Grade establishments for all new public streets and/or pedestrian paths must be approved prior to submission of the record plat.
- 21. For safe simultaneous movement of vehicles, we recommend a driveway pavement width of no less than twenty four (24) feet to allow vehicles to enter and exit the site without encroaching on the opposing lanes. This pavement width will permit an inbound lane width of fourteen (14) feet and an exit lane width of ten (10) feet.
- 22. For any parking facility containing more than fifty (50) parking spaces, the applicant needs to furnish bicycle parking facilities as required Section 59 E-2.3 of the Montgomery County Code. Accordingly, the applicant should provide either bike lockers or inverted "U" type bike racks.
- 23. Relocation of utilities along existing roads to accommodate the required roadway modifications shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
- 24. Trees in the County rights of way spacing and species to be in accordance with the applicable MCDOT standards. Tree planning within the public right of way must be coordinated with DPS Right-of-Way Plan Review Section.
- 25. If the proposed development will alter any existing County-maintained street lights, signing, and/or pavement markings, please contact Mr. Dan Sanayi of our Traffic Engineering Design and Operations Section at 240-777-2190 for proper executing procedures. All costs associated with such relocations shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
- 26. If the proposed development will alter or impact any existing County-maintained transportation system management component (i.e., traffic signals, signal poles, handboxes, surveillance cameras, etc.) or communication component (i.e., traffic signal interconnect, fiber optic lines, etc.), please contact Mr. Bruce Mangum of our Transportation Systems Engineering Team at 240-777-2190 for proper executing procedures. All costs associated with such relocations shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
- 27. At or before the permit stage, please coordinate with Ms. Stacy Coletta of our Division of Transit Services to coordinate modifications to the RideOn bus facilities in the vicinity of this project. Ms. Coletta may be contacted at 240-777-5800.
- 28. Prior to submission of the Site Plan, we recommend that the applicant coordinate with Mr. Mike Madden of the Maryland Transit Authority with the Purple Line project. Mr. Madden can be reached mmadden@mta.maryland.gov.
- 29. Prior to the submission of the site plan, we recommend that the applicant coordinate with Ms. Joana Conklin, the Rapid Transit Development Manager for Montgomery County. Ms. Conklin can be reached at joana.conklin@montgomerycountymd.gov or at 240-777-7155.
- 30. At or before the permit stage, please coordinate with Mr. Benjamin Morgan of our Division of Parking Management to coordinate the impacts on public parking facilities in the vicinity of this project. Mr. Madison may be contacted at 240 777-8704.
- 31. Prior to the issuance of any building permits by MCDPS, the applicant will need to enter into a Traffic Mitigation Agreement (TMAg) with the Planning Board and this Department. The applicant should coordinate with Ms. Sandra Brecher, Chief of the Division of Transit Services/Commuter Services Section. Ms. Brecher may be contacted at 240-777-8383. Facilitate

TMAg review and revisions by submitting an MSWord file redlined against the TMAg template. The final TMAg may include but not be limited to the following:

- a. <u>Electric Car Charging</u>. Provide at least two (2) electric car charging stations on site and comply with all applicable laws.
- b. <u>Bicycle Facilities</u>. Significant bicycle activity will likely occur at this site due to its proximity to the bicycle trails. Locate some bicycle racks for use by the public in the outside public use space in addition to those provided within the parking facility. Provide bike racks/lockers in weather-protected, highly visible/active locations. Consider providing secure bicycle storage area in garage for resident use (bike cage) as well as a small bicycle repair station for resident use.
- c. <u>Bikesharing Station</u>. Provide space in the Project for a bikesharing docking station for use by residents, employees and visitors at the Project. Consider locating a bikeshare station at the corner of 2nd Avenue and Apple Street to take advantage of proximity to bike trail. The final location will be selected by the Applicant with approval of MCDOT, based upon the requirements of the bike sharing system and in a highly-visible, convenient and well-lit location on the Project. The Applicant will pay the capital cost of such station and twelve years of operating expenses. Applicant will need to take other actions in concert with MCDOT to promote use of bikesharing among residents, employees and visitors at the Project, in order to accomplish the objectives of the TMD.
- d. Real Time Transit Information: Provide opportunity and connections for electronic (LCD) display screens providing Real Time Transit Information Signs in the residential lobby to enable information to be readily accessed by building residents, employees, visitors, etc. Applicant will reimburse the County for the cost of County-provided monitors. Alternatively, Real Time Transit Information display can be incorporated into planned lobby display monitors/software system for building(s). Applicant will pay for five years of maintenance for County-provided sign(s); if Real Time Transit Information is incorporated into the building's planned monitor systems, there would be no additional maintenance costs.
- e. We recommend the following design elements be incorporated in the building design to facilitate the use of non-auto modes of transportation be incorporated in the building design:
 - 1. Design building frontage/lobby to provide two-way visibility for transit vehicles, shuttles and taxis
 - 2. Provide kiosks in busy outdoor areas to provide opportunity for information displays and assistance.
 - 3. Provide concierge/reception desk with an area where transit information and pass sales can be transacted e.g., obtaining transit information, loading of SmarTrip cards.
 - 4. Provide space in residential lobby and parking garage for information on alternative modes of transportation to be displayed.
 - 5. Provide water and electricity connection in outdoor public amenity space to facilitate transit marketing and outreach events.

32. Permit and bond will be required as a prerequisite to DPS approval of the record plat. The permit will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following modifications:

NOTE: the Public Utilities Easement is to be graded on a side slope not to exceed 4:1.

- A. Street grading, paving, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and pedestrian ramps, storm drainage and appurtenances along Apple Avenue. Terminate Apple Avenue in an offset cul-de-sac. Terminate Apple Avenue in a hammerhead (Fire Department-compliant) turnaround.
- B. Street grading, paving, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and pedestrian ramps, storm drainage and appurtenances, and street trees along Fenwick Lane. Terminate Fenwick Street in a hammerhead (Fire Department-compliant) turnaround.
- C. Pedestrian ramps and appurtenances along Second Avenue.
- D. Grading, paving, storm drainage and appurtenances along Capital Crescent Trail between Fenwick Lane and Apple Avenue.
- E. Enclosed storm drainage and/or engineered channel (in accordance with the MCDOT Storm Drain Design Criteria) within the County rights-of-way and all drainage easements. Improvements to the downstream public storm drain system may be required to resolve comments in this letter regarding the storm drain study.
- F. Permanent monuments and property line markers, as required by Section 50-24(e) of the Subdivision Regulations.
- G. Erosion and sediment control measures as required by Section 50-35(j) and on-site stormwater management where applicable shall be provided by the Developer (at no cost to the County) at such locations deemed necessary by the Department of Permitting Services (DPS) and will comply with their specifications. Erosion and sediment control measures are to be built prior to construction of streets, houses and/or site grading and are to remain in operation (including maintenance) as long as deemed necessary by the DPS.
- H. Developer shall provide street lights in accordance with the specifications, requirements, and standards prescribed by the Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the design exception requests. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Avinash Dewani, our Development Review Engineer for this project, at avinash.dewani@montgomerycountymd.gov or (240) 777-2132.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Leck, Manager Development Review Team

Enclosures (3)

M:\Correspondence\FY15\Traffic\120150030 Elizabeth Square - Preliminary Plan Letter 06.16.2015.doc

cc:

Bruce Lee

Lee Development Group

William Kominers

Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

Susan Reutershan

Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

Robert Graham

Rogers Consulting, Inc

Ryan White

Rogers Consulting, Inc

Edward Papazian

Kimley Horn & Associates

Preliminary Plan folder

Preliminary Plan letters notebook

сс-е:

Atiq Panjshiri

MCDPS RWPR

Sam Farhadi

MCDPS RWPR

Marie LaBaw

MCFRS

Gary Erenrich

MCDOT DTEO

Avinash Dewani

MCDOT DTEO

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Matthew Folden

MNCP&PC

Stephanie Dickel

MNCP&PC

Robert Kronenberg

MNCP&PC

> Bruce Lee Lee Development Group 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite # 200 Silver Spring MD 20910

Ryan White Rodgers Consulting, Inc 19847 Century Boulevard Germantown MD 20847

Robert Graham Rodgers Consulting, Inc 19847 Century Boulevard Germantown MD 20847

William Kominers Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd. 3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite # 800 Bethesda M D20814

Edward Papazian Kimley Horn & Assiciates 1440 Commerce Park Dr. Suite # 400 Reston VA 20191



RECEIVED

DEC 0 3 2014

MONTGOMERY PLANNING/Area 1

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

November 24, 2014

Arthur Holmes, Jr. *Director*

Mr.Matthew Folden, Planner Coordinator Area 1 Planning Division The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

RE:

Preliminary Plan No. 120150030

Elizabeth Square Traffic Impact Study

Dear Mr. Folden:

We have completed our review of the Local Area Transportation Review and Transportation Policy Area Review dated July 28, 2014, and prepared by Kimley Horn. Total development evaluated by the analysis includes:

- 436 net new multi-family dwelling units
- 30,000 square feet of recreational community space consisting of a wellness center, swimming pool, fitness, locker rooms, multipurpose room and bistro kitchen.

We offer the following comments:

Local Area Transportation Review (LATR)

- 1. We defer to the Maryland State Highway Administration for comment regarding state-maintained roadways, including Georgia Avenue (MD 97) and Colesville Road (MD 384).
- 2. We accept the consultant's conclusion that post-development Critical Lane Volumes for the studied intersections will not exceed the congestion level threshold for the Silver Spring CBD policy area.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Impact Statement (PBIS)

- 3. Bicycles / Pedestrians: With regards to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Impact Statement (PBIS):
 - a. In its inventory of existing pedestrian accommodations, clarify whether the signals within the study network are equipped with Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS), Countdown Pedestrian Signals (CPS), and/or to-standard ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps. These are necessary to meet ADA standards for pedestrian crossings.

Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations

100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor • Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878 Main Office 240-777-2190 • TTY 240-777-6013 • FAX 240-777-2080 trafficops@montgomerycountymd.gov Mr. Matthew Folden Preliminary Plan No. 120150030 November 24, 2014 Page 2

- b. Show the location of bus stops and associated infrastructure (i.e., benches, shelters).
- c. Mention whether bike facilities (i.e., racks, lockers) are intended to be provided on-site.
- d. Indicate the Master Plan of Bikeways designations for the corridors within the study network. The project impacts cannot be accurately assessed without consideration of these classifications.
- e. Discuss the potential impact of the lead-in sidewalks along [Second Avenue]on pedestrian operations.

Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR)

1. The site is located within the Silver Spring CBD policy area. This policy area is exempt from the transit test and considered adequate under the roadway test. Therefore, no TPAR payment is required for this development.

SUMMARY

- 1. The findings of the study have not yet been accepted. We concur with the vehicular-related findings of adequacy, but request additional information relating to pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure.
- 2. We concur with the applicant finding that no TPAR payment is required.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this report. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Rebecca Torma, the Development Review Area Senior Planning Specialist for this project, at rebecca.torma@montgomerycountymd.gov or (240) 777-2118.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Leck, Manager Development Review Team

Mr. Matthew Folden Preliminary Plan No. 120150030 November 24, 2014 Page 3

m:\subdivision\tormar01\developments\silver spring CBD\TIS Review.docx

cc: Bruce Lee; Lee Development Group

Ryan White; Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

Ed Papazian; Kimley Horn

Bill Kominers; Holland & Knight Scott Newill; MDSHA AMD Preliminary Plan folder

Preliminary Plan letters notebook

cc-e: Seifu Kerse; MCDOT DTEO

Bruce Mangum; MCDOT DTEO Rebecca Torma; MCDOT DTEO

Braunstein, Neil

From: Folden, Matthew

Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 1:48 PM

To: Braunstein, Neil

Subject: FW: Elizabeth Square TIS Comments Responses (120150030)

The forwarded e-mail, below, serves as MCDOT's acceptance of the consultant's revised TIS submittal. Please append the original TIS comment letter to this e-mail.

From: Dewani, Avinash [mailto:Avinash.Dewani@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 2:34 PM

To: rwhite

Cc: Folden, Matthew; Braunstein, Neil; Leck, Gregory; <u>Ed.Papazian@kimley-horn.com</u>; deepak.somarajan

Subject: Elizabeth Square TIS Comments Responses (120150030)

Ryan,

The responses provided on 05/13/2015 for the TIS letter dated 11/24/2014 for the above referenced project are acceptable. We do not require any further analysis.

Let me know should you have any questions/concerns.

Thanks,

Avinash Dewani, P.E. LEED AP Development Review Department of Transportation 100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Phone: 240-777-2132



FIRE MARSHAL COMMENTS

DATE: 01-Jul-15

TO: Ryan White - rwhite@rodgers.com

Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

FROM: Marie LaBaw

RE: Elizabeth Square

920150010 120150030

PLAN APPROVED

1. Review based only upon information contained on the plan submitted **09-Jun-15** .Review and approval does not cover unsatisfactory installation resulting from errors, omissions, or failure to clearly indicate conditions on this plan.

2. Correction of unsatisfactory installation will be required upon inspection and service of notice of violation to a party responsible for the property.

Condition: GC2s is not an acceptable surface. Alternative surface to be reviewed and approved prior by MCFRS Office of the Fire Marshal prior to installation.

*** See Statement of Performance Based Design on plan sheet FRS-1 ***



DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

Isiah Leggett County Executive Diane R. Schwartz Jones Director

July 2, 2015

Mr. Robert Graham Rodgers Consulting, Inc. 19847 Century Blvd., Suite 200 Germantown MD. 20874

Re:

Stormwater Management CONCEPT Request

for Elizabeth Square

Preliminary Plan #: 120150030

SM File #: 266615

Tract Size/Zone: 2.71 Ac./CBD-1 & CBD-2

Total Concept Area: 2.7

Lots/Block: 6, 7, 8, 17 & 116 / A Watershed: Lower Rock Creek

Dear Mr. Graham:

Based on a review by the Department of Permitting Services Review Staff, the stormwater management concept for the above mentioned site is acceptable. The stormwater management concept proposes to meet required stormwater management goals via ESD by the use of green roof, microbiofiltration/planter boxes, and Silva Cells.

The following items will must addressed during/prior to the detailed sediment control/stormwater management plan stage:

- 1. Prior to the Site Plan going to the Planning Board a Site Development Concept Plan must be submitted and approved. You must to provide tentative sizing and profiles of all stormwater structures at this time.
- 2. A detailed review of the stormwater management computations will occur at the time of detailed plan review.
- 3. An engineered sediment control plan must be submitted for this development.
- 4. All filtration media for manufactured best management practices, whether for new development or redevelopment, must consist of MDE approved material.
- 5. Landscaping shown on the approved Landscape Plan as part of the approved Site Plan are for illustrative purpose only and may be changed at the time of detailed plan review of the Sediment Control/Storm Water Management plans by the Mont. Co. Department of Permitting Services. Water Resources Section.
- 6. Green roof is to be designed by a professional with green roof experience.
- 7. You are providing 19,376 square feet of 8 inch green roof. At time of plan submittal try to provide additional green roof area.

255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-6300 • 240-777-6256 TTY

- 8. Provide copy of roof drain schematic to show how they drain to stormwater management structures.
- 9. All underground parking is to drain to WSSC. Provide copy of mechanical schematics showing where garage drains go.
- 10. Provide easements and covenants for all stormwater management structures including the green roof.
- 11. Must provide pretreatment for the Silvia Cells and use 20% void space for design. Provide additional landscaping for these areas where possible.

This list may not be all-inclusive and may change based on available information at the time.

Payment of a stormwater management contribution in accordance with Section 2 of the Stormwater Management Regulation 4-90 is not required at this time.

This letter must appear on the sediment control/stormwater management plan at its initial submittal. The concept approval is based on all stormwater management structures being located outside of the Public Utility Easement, the Public Improvement Easement, and the Public Right of Way unless specifically approved on the concept plan. Any divergence from the information provided to this office; or additional information received during the development process; or a change in an applicable Executive Regulation may constitute grounds to rescind or amend any approval actions taken, and to reevaluate the site for additional or amended stormwater management requirements. If there are subsequent additions or modifications to the development, a separate concept request shall be required.

If you have any questions regarding these actions, please feel free to contact David Kuykendall at 240-777-6332.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Etheridge, Manager

Water Resources Section

Division of Land Development Services

MCE: me CN266615 Elizabeth Square.DWK

C. Conlon CC:

SM File # CN266615 Elizabeth Square.DWK

ESD Acres:

STRUCTURAL Acres:

0.0

WAIVED Acres:

0.0