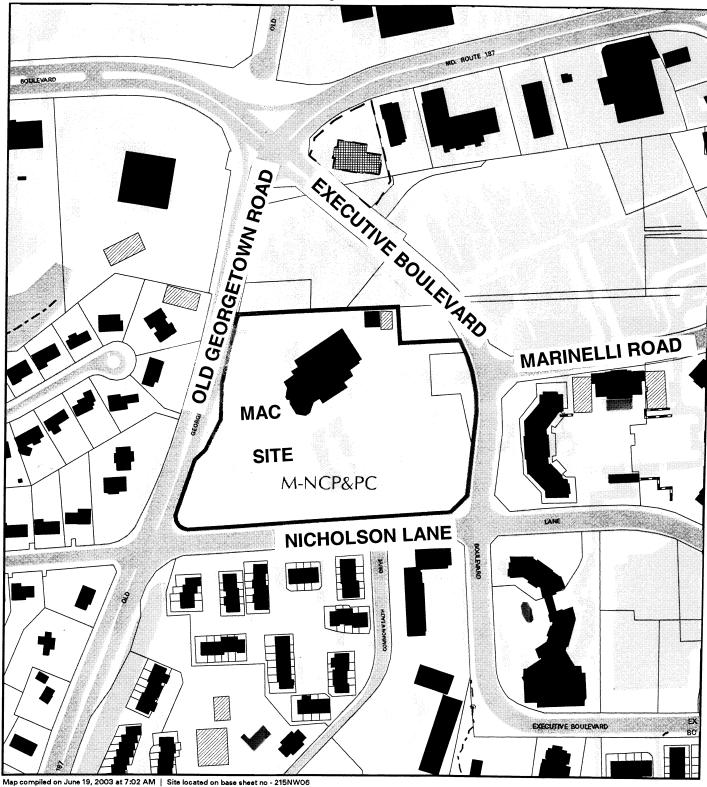
MONTGOMERY COUNTY AQUATIC CENTER



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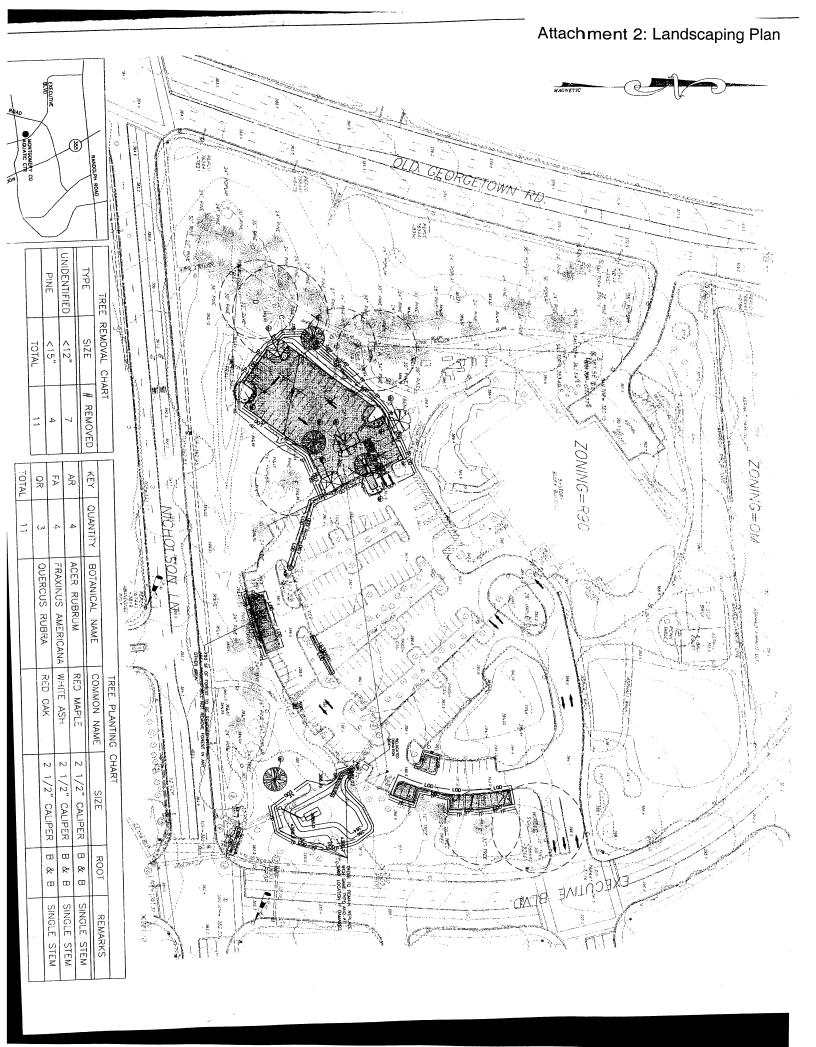


MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

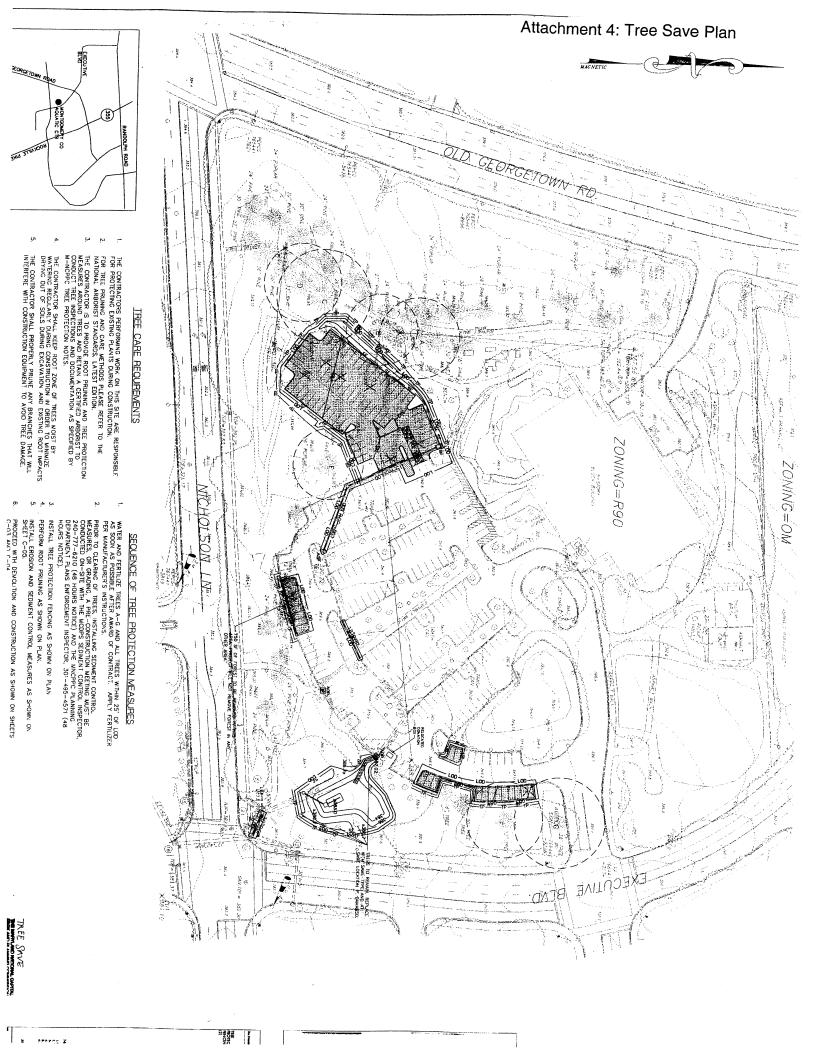
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 2091 0-3760













MEMORANDUM

DATE:

June 13, 2003

TO:

Kristin O'Connor, Community Based Planning

VIA:

Mary Dolan, Environmental Planning, CWP

FROM:

Marion Clark, Environmental Planning, CWP

SUBJECT:

Environmental Review for MR 03201-DPW&T-1

Montgomery County Aquatic Center

Recommendation

Environmental Planning staff recommends approval of this mandatory referral.

Forest Conservation Law

The application is exempt from providing a Forest Conservation Plan because it is a modification of an existing developed property with no more than a total of 5,000 square feet of forest cleared; no forest clearing within a stream buffer or on property subject to Special Protection Area Water Quality Plan requirements; and does not require a new subdivision plan.

A Tree Save Plan has been submitted and approved. There are seven specimen trees that will be impacted by the expansion of the parking lot. None of these trees will have more than 30% of the critical root zone impacted by construction, however.

Storm Water Management

This application has a stormwater management concept plan approved by the Department of Permitting Services.

Water Quality

This site is located in the Upper Old Farm Branch subwatershed of the Cabin John watershed. Identified by the County Stream Protection Strategy (CSPS) as an Urban Watershed Management Area, this subwatershed has fair stream and good habitat conditions. It is designated Watershed Restoration Area by the Countywide Stream Protection Strategy with headwaters impacted by impervious conditions, inadequate buffers, and in-stream habitat problems.

Noise

There are no adverse noise impacts resulting from or presented to this proposal.

Air Quality and Dust

This application poses no increased air quality or dust concerns.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK & PLANNING

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

June 16, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Kristin O'Connor, Planner

Community-Based Planning Division

VIA:

Daniel K. Hardy, Supervisor DKH

Transportation Planning

FROM:

Ed Axler, Planner/Coordinator

Transportation Planning

SUBJECT:

Mandatory Referral No 03201-DPW&T-1

Montgomery County Aquatic Center

North Bethesda Policy Area



This memorandum is Transportation Planning staff's adequate public facilities (APF) review of the subject mandatory referral case to construct a new 62-vehicle parking area and to add 22 more spaces within the existing parking area within the site.

RECOMMENDATION

Transportation Planning staff recommends the following transportation related comments for this mandatory referral case:

As stated in Brian Casto's (the project engineer) letter dated May 16, 2003, the mandatory referral will not result in expanding the existing aquatic center or changing the hours of operation.

DISCUSSION

Site Location & Vehicular Access and Circulation

1. <u>Location</u>: The existing Montgomery County Aquatic Center is located in the southwest side of Executive Boulevard with Nicholson Lane to the south and Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) to the west.

- 2. <u>Site Vehicular Access</u>: The existing site public access is from Executive Boulevard. A second rear access exists for deliveries from Old Georgetown Road.
- 3. <u>Circulation Associated with the New Parking Area</u>: The access to this new parking area is directly from the end of an existing main southwest-northeast drive aisle. Motorists using the new parking area would not adversely impact the internal vehicular circulation.
- 4. <u>Circulation Associated with the Other New Parking Spaces</u>: Additional parking spaces are proposed in two areas within the existing parking area on an existing main southeast drive aisle and where other existing spaces are now located. Motorists using the new parking spaces would not adversely impact the internal vehicular circulation.

Pedestrian Facilities

Lead-in asphalt walkways exist on the site from Executive Boulevard and Nicholson Lane to the main entrance of the aquatic center. The existing parking area has marked pedestrian pathways to delineate vehicular and pedestrian movements.

Availability of Public Transit

Ride-On Routes 5, 26, and 81 run along Executive Boulevard or Old Georgetown Road. The Aquatic Center is also approximately 1,500 feet from the White Flint Metrorail Station. The availability of transit is beneficial in providing alternative non-auto modes of transportation rather than making a vehicular trip that requires on-site parking.

Master Plan Roadways and Bikeways

According to the *North Bethesda/Garrett Master Plan*, the nearby roadways and bikeways are classified as follows:

- 1. Executive Boulevard from Old Georgetown Road to Huff Court is classified as a north-south, four-lane undivided business street, B-7, with an 80-foot right-of-way and a Class 2 bikeway.
- 2. Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) from the Capital Beltway (I-495) to Rockville Pike (MD 355) is classified as a north-south to east-west, six-lane divided major highway, M-4, with a 120-foot right-of-way and no bikeway.
- 3. Nicholson Lane is classified as an east-west, four-lane arterial, A-69, with an 80-foot right-of-way and a Class 3 bikeway.
- 4. Marinelli Road is classified as an east-west, four-lane business street, B-6, with an 80-foot right-of-way and a Class 2 bikeway.

A Class 1 bikeway is extended through the site between Executive Boulevard and Old Georgetown Road.

Local Area Transportation Review

The extra parking spaces are needed because the parking demand exceeds the available on-site spaces at certain times of the day. The site-generated traffic is not generated by the parking area, but by the actual land use. A traffic study is not required to satisfy Local Area Transportation Review because the applicant proffered not to expand the existing aquatic center or change the hours of operation as discussed in the Recommendation.

Policy Area Review/Staging Ceiling Condition

The White Flint (Metrorail Station) Policy Area has is positive 1,228 jobs remaining in the staging ceiling as of May 31, 2003, under FY03 Annual Growth Policy.

EA:ct

mmo to o'connor re acquatic ctr.doc