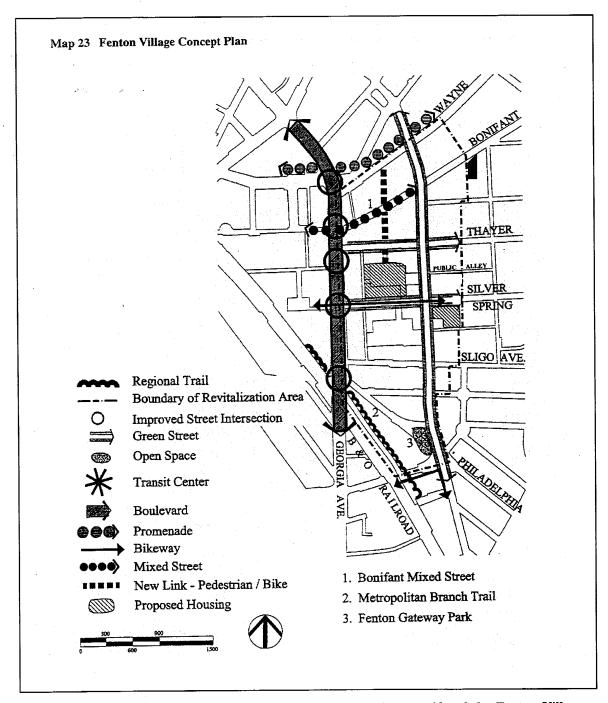
# ANALYSIS: Conformance to the Zoning Ordinance

836 BONIFANT STREET 8-05036		CBD-0.5 Std. Method	Enterprise Zone §59-C2353 Permit/Reqd	Site Plan 8-05036 Proposed & Binding
Development Standard: Lot 3 B	§59-C23 ppment Standard: Lot 3 Block U Permit/Reqd			
Street Dedication 10959	5,445 sf [0.125 acres] Concurrent Preliminary P 4,882 sf [0.11 ac]	N/A lan 1-05094	N/A	5,445 sf [0.125 acres 553 sf 4,882 sf [0.11 ac]
Building Area Existing Building Area [net area] New Building Addition [net area] 1st Floor Addition 2nd Floor Addition 3rd Floor Addition Total Building Area proposed	2,036 sf 3,409 sf 734 sf 1,550 sf 1,120 sf 5,445 sf		<b>4</b>	2,036 sf 3,409 sf 5,445 sf
Density [Non-residential] Floor Area Ratio [§59-C-6.23] Floor Area Ratio [§59-C-6.2353] Building Coverage [§59-C-6.232] Building Coverage [§59-C-6.232] Bldg Ht. [§59-C-6.23]	- CBD-0.5 Enterprise zone CBD-0.5 Enterprise zone CBD-0.5	0.5 FAR 50% max net lot 45 feet	 1.00 FAR [5,445 sf]  75% max net lot 	 1.0 FAR [5,445 sf]  2,484 sf [51% =/-] 38 feet
Public Use Space Public Use Space (on site) Off-site Improvements	Standard Method	10% [488 sf] min		17% +/- [866 sf] 21% [1,034 sf]
Setbacks From public ROW [§59-C-6.236(b)] Proposed bldg with windows - SB		1ft. Per 3 ft. ht> 30 ft.		17 feet
	from west property line	N/A 15 feet min		11 feet 18 feet min 15 feet min
New addition [§59-C-6.236(c)]  Proposed bldg w/out windows - SE  New building addition	from rear property line  3 from adjoining lots: east property line	15 feet min 0 feet		0 feet
Parking General Office [2.4 spaces/1,000sf]   1 The Project is located within the Parking Lot District. Park		12 spaces		2 spaces

# ANALYSIS: Conformance to Sector Plan

The proposal meets the requirements of the Silver Spring Central Business District and Vicinity Sector Plan. The Sector Plan recommends CBD 0.5 zoning for this site, which was applied through the Sectional Map Amendment (SMA), adopted July 18, 2000 per County Council Resolution 14-600. The property lies within the Enterprise Zone (§59-C-16.2353), which allows flexibility of development standards, including density of 1.0 FAR, to encourage innovative design solutions and increased commercial uses and housing.



The Site lies within the Fenton Street Revitalization Area, just outside of the Fenton Village Overlay zone. The Sector Plan recommends a pedestrian friendly environment.

## **SECTOR PLAN CONFORMANCE:**

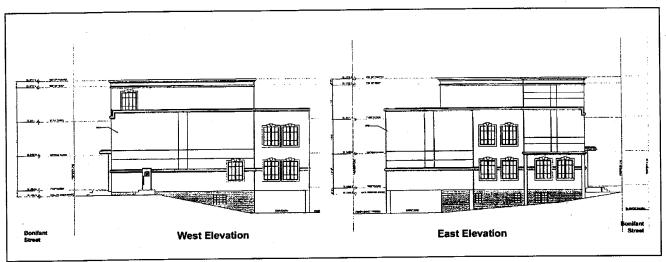
The Silver Spring Central Business District and Vicinity Sector Plan, approved by the County Council on February 1, 2000, outlines six themes that articulate the shared goals and vision for a revitalized Silver Spring. Three of these themes (i.e. a commercial downtown; a green downtown; and a pedestrian-friendly downtown) apply to this proposed project. The proposal will improve an existing building and add additional new commercial space. This project is being developed under the Standard Method of Development and provides opportunities for landscaped public open spaces and streetscapes. The proposed plan encourages the development of active urban streets by providing the public space along Fenton Street and improves the quality of the pedestrian environment by providing the Silver Spring streetscape treatments and the addition of six street trees.

Sector Plan Street Rights-of-Way

The Sector Plan recommends an 80-foot street right-of-way for Fenton Street. The existing street right-of way for Fenton Street is 80 feet (40 feet measured from the centerline of the street).

**Streetscape** 

The Applicant proposes to improve the Bonifant Street streetscape with a brick sidewalk within the right-of-way, and six Little Leaf Linden street trees. Staff recommends that the streetscape improvements be in accordance with the Silver Spring Streetscape (April 1992) technical manual or as amended.



At left: elevation drawing showing the building as seen from the west facing the existing 4-story commercial building. Note the elevated portion of the building at the rear that provides covered parking. The windows as seen on the west façade addition are set back 15 feet, except for one existing window retained on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

At right: elevation drawing showing view of the proposed construction as seen from the public parking lot. The windows as seen on the east façade remain from the exiting residential structure.

Note also the change in grade that allows covered narking and more efficient use of the site.

# FINDINGS for Site Plan Review:

- 1. The site plan is consistent with an approved development plan or a project plan for the optional method of development, if required. Not Applicable.
- 2. The site plan meets all of the requirements of the zone in which it is located.

The proposal conforms with the special regulations for properties within the Central Business Districts zoned CBD-0.5 and designated as an Enterprise Zone area: The plan is proposed under the standard method of development; the density proposed comprises 1.0 FAR, as allowed under the §59-C-6.2353 Special Regulations (Enterprise Zone); building coverage proposed is 51% +/- of the lot area and conforms to the maximum building coverage limit of 75% as allowed under the Enterprise Zone. The site plan application conforms to the submission requirements of §59-C-6.2353, that is, the site plan application must be submitted prior to August 24, 2005.

See also: Project Data Table above.

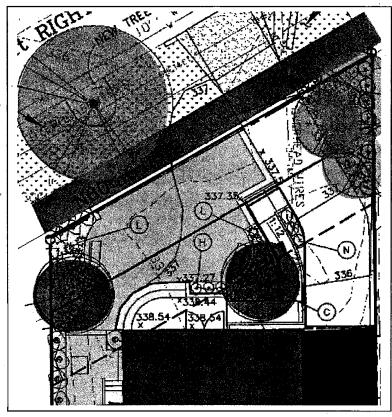
- 3. The locations of the buildings and structures, the open spaces, the landscaping, recreation facilities, and the pedestrian and vehicular circulation systems are adequate, safe and efficient.
  - a. Location of Buildings

The proposed building fully utilizes the existing residential structure as a starting point, complementing its form by the application of a new U-shaped structure placed on the top, east side and rear of the existing building. This new form offers skillful, varied massing that visually shifts the volumes from floor-to-floor, side-to-side, and front-to-back, augmenting the existing structure in three dimensions.

This study in massing succeeds in using, to maximum efficiency, the existing footprint, while expanding only to the extent necessary, the new footprint, which preserves the existing vehicular driveway, now improved with covered parking. The building's maximum height of 38 feet is featured at the streetfront with the addition of the 3rd story that steps down at the rear, respecting the back building line of the old house, and creating an outdoor terrace accessible from the 2nd floor. Interior natural lighting is accommodated for the top story via skylights, allowing the building's additions on the 2nd & 3rd floors to reach, sans fenêtres, to the east property line.

# b. Open Spaces

Staff has encouraged the applicant to pursue enhancement of the public realm, that is, Fenton Village Streetscape with usable public space for this standard method project. The plan provides 886 square feet of on-site public use space along the Bonifant Street ROW, adjoining the public sidewalk. The little plaza will feature special paving, perimeter ground planting, and ornamental trees, and two benches. The placement and design of this European-style, "mini-plaza" will extend the public realm through the use of the Silver Spring streetscape.



Diagrammatic plan showing the location of the public use space with special paving, the landscaping surrounding the public seating areas, and the Silver Spring brick sidewalk.

#### c. Landscaping and Lighting

The landscaping and lighting is adequate, safe and efficient.

The plan proposes to provide streetscape improvements featuring a brick sidewalk and the addition of six street trees, distributed on both sides of the Bonifant Street ROW.

Special paving, along with ground cover and ornamental trees, will identify the public use space that is featured along the ROW and along the west side of the lot. Both sides of the vehicular entrance drive are amply landscaped, and successfully identify the vehicular travel lane and shared pedestrian path. The proposed amenity features are consistent with the specifications of the *Silver Spring Streetscape* technical manual (April 1992).

## d. Recreation

Recreation facilities are not required for this application.

#### e. Vehicular and Pedestrian Circulation

The site is approximately ½ mile from the Silver Spring Metro, allowing residents to walk to public transportation, which is encouraged in the CBD.

Pedestrian passage will be enhanced along the south side of Bonifant Street with the development of this site and the provision of the public mini-plaza. The extension of

the public realm by the creation of public use space adjoining the sidewalk will encourage pedestrian activity. The building accommodates handicapped access safely and efficiently through the placement of the entrance ramp.

Vehicular circulation to the two parking spaces at the rear is maintained by the building design that straddles, structurally, the existing driveway and provides covered parking at the rear. The site is located within the CBD Parking District; hence, there is no parking required on site.

The improvements associated with this development will enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety by the following means:

- Creating a clearly identified public sidewalk, paved in brick, that continues across the driveway curb cut;
- Increasing the separation of pedestrians and vehicles by means of a grass panel with street trees along the curb;
- Marking the pedestrian public use space by special brick paving;
- Providing handicapped access.

Staff recommends that the special paving be extended to mark the shared pedestrian-vehicular portion of the drive aisle that connects to the handicapped ramp.

4. Each structure and use is compatible with other uses and other site plans and with existing and proposed adjacent development.

The proposed re-development provides compatible, attractive treatment of a CBD infill site. The structure proposed and its commercial use is compatible with other uses and site plans, for both existing and proposed development. The building proposed establishes a compatible relationship with its adjacent structure to the west and others within the block, with respect to height, access, massing, orientation, and materials. Furthermore, the design of the building with its creative massing and the addition's windowless walls on the east façade offer adjoining properties greater potential for redevelopment in the future—that is, the ability to build to the lot line.

The proposed design takes advantage of the additional density allowed under the special regulations for the Enterprise Zone. The height and additional square footage achieved through building design that accommodates the change in grade remains well below the development envelope envisioned for the Fenton Village revitalization effort. The activity associated with the proposed development will not cause any negative effect on adjacent residential or commercial uses.

5. The site plan meets all applicable requirements of Chapter 22A regarding forest conservation.

The property has been granted an exemption (4-04379E) from Forest Conservation requirements because the property is less than one acre in area.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Memorandum from MNCPPC Community Based Planning dated November 1, 2005
- 2. Memorandum from MNCPPC Environmental Planning dated November 3, 2005.

Below: Photo optical scans of drawing revisions, Site Plan, at top, Landscape and Lighting Plan, at bottom, both dated October 28, 2005, per MNCPPC stamp. The staff report is based upon these drawing revisions.

