

# Transcript of Administrative Hearing

**Date:** August 20, 2019

Case: 1784 Capital Holdings, LLC

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OFFICE OF ZONING AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
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                                                                             ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS:
   1784 CAPITAL HOLDINGS, LLC, : Case No.: CU 19-03
                                                                                  MARTIN L. GROSSMAN. HEARING EXAMINER
                                                                             FOR THE APPLICANT:
                                                                                  ERIN E. GIRARD
                                                                         8
                              HEARING
                                                                                  7200 WISCONSIN AVENUE
                        Rockville, Maryland
                                                                                  SUITE 800
                      Tuesday, August 20, 2019
                                                                                  BETHESDA, MD 20814
12
                             9:31 a.m.
                                                                                  PHONE (301) 961-5153
13
                                                                          14 FOR THE RESPONDENT:
15
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22
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23 Job: 259525
24 Pages: 1 - 315
25 Transcribed by: Christian Naaden
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PROCEEDINGS
                                                                                  ERIN GIRARD: Erin Girard with Linowes & Blocher on
   [Part 1]
                                                                               behalf of the applicant.
                                                                                  MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Michele Rosenbaum on behalf of the
                                                                           3
              (On the record at 9:32:51 a.m.)
                                                                              town of Kensington. With me is the mayor, Tracy Furman.
        HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You all ready to
                                                                                  HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Good morning, Mayor Furman.
   proceed? Court reporter? All right. Then I'll call the case.
                                                                              Okay. Are there anybody -- are there any people here who wish
        This is the resumption of the public hearing begun on
                                                                               to be heard who are not witnesses to be called by either of
   August 9, 2019 in the matter of CU1903, an application by
                                                                               the parties who've announced themselves, either the applicant
   1784 Capital Holdings, LLC pursuant to zoning ordinance
                                                                               or the town of Kensington?
  section 59.3.6.8.D.2.B for a conditional use to allow
                                                                           10
                                                                                  All right. I see no hands today. Okay. Let me explain a
  construction and use of a 126,955 square foot self-storage
                                                                           11 little bit about the nature of the proceedings. I did this
12 facility known as Kensington Storage at 10619 Connecticut
                                                                           12 last time but it's always a good idea to a public hearing to
13 Avenue on the southeast corner of the intersection of
                                                                           13 do so.
14 Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill Road in Kensington,
                                                                           14
                                                                                  We proceed pretty much the way a courtroom does.
15 Maryland.
                                                                              Witnesses are all sworn in. There's a court reporter who
                                                                           15
         The applicant's revised plan would also include a
                                                                           16 takes everything down. The last -- the transcript of the
17 restaurant and artist studio space. The site which is
                                                                              August 9 proceeding is available on our website.
18 identified as part of lot two Lorainer Nol's [ph] Estate
                                                                           18
                                                                                  We post our transcripts and -- on our website so that
19 consists of 1.06 acre property owned by Mountain View
                                                                               people can view them at their leisure. The rules of evidence
20 Burleson, LLC.
                                                                              are similar to, although not identical to, a courtroom.
        The applicant is the contract purchaser and the site is
                                                                           21
                                                                                  This is an application for a conditional use, which is a
22 in the CRT2.5 C2.0 R2.08 H75 commercial residential town
                                                                           22 permitted use if certain specified standards are met that is
23 zone. It's subject to the 2012 Kensington sector plan.
24
        This hearing is conducted by the officer's zoning and
                                                                              spelled out in the zoning ordinance. It's not a variance. It
25 administrative hearings. My name is Martin Grossman. I'm the
                                                                               is a use that is permitted if these conditions are met.
                                                                                  All right. Let me turn to some preliminary matters and
                                                                                                                                               8
1 hearing examiner and I will write a report and decision in
                                                                               to eliminate the need for counsel to frantically take notes,
   this case.
2
                                                                               I've actually made copies for counsel of the preliminary
                                                                               matters I'm about to read off.
       The hearing was begun on August 9, 2019 because the
  continuance motion from the town of Kensington arrived too
                                                                                  So Ms. Girard? Thank you very much, if you would hand
   late to get notice out to the community.
                                                                               this to counsel, as well. This is essentially identical to
       And the hearing examiner addressed some preliminary
6
                                                                               what I'm about to read.
   matters, took testimony from four community members present
                                                                                  MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Thank you.
   who wished to be heard and without objection, and after oral
                                                                                  HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know I can't read my notes
9 argument granted the motion of the town of Kensington to
                                                                               at 10 minutes after I've taken it and if it gets a little
10 postpone the bulk of the hearing to today so that Michele
                                                                               warm in here, I understand that might be a problem with the
11 Rosenbaum who entered her appearance for the town of
                                                                              thermostat and we'll try to reset that because I know it's
12 Kensington can get up to speed on the case.
                                                                              going to be quite hot out today.
       Attorney Sue Ellen Ferguson agreed that her law firm
                                                                                  All right. First matter. A, does the applicant agree to
14 counsel Barrett L would pay reasonable costs of about $7,000
                                                                           14 the findings by technical staff and the planning board other
15 for transportation and appearance of the applicant's experts.
                                                                           15 than with regard to the master plan compliance issues and
       All counsel agreed to resumption date of August 20, 2019
                                                                           16 access and circulation issues?
17 that is today, which was announced on the public record so
                                                                           17
                                                                                  ERIN GIRARD: So the general findings -- I'm sorry, I
18 written notice was not needed.
                                                                           18 just want to clarify exactly.
       The hearing examiner allowed the receipt of the town's
                                                                                  HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes.
20 late file pre-hearing statement after the applicant's counsel
                                                                           20
                                                                                  ERIN GIRARD: Because obviously I think you've what we
21 conceded that postponement of the bulk of the hearing mooted
                                                                           21 take issue with, but the general findings; yes?
22 her objection.
                                                                           22
                                                                                  HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm not sure exactly
       The hearing examiner posed some legal questions for the
                                                                               what you mean in general is, are there any findings other
24 parties to address at the resumed hearing. Will the parties
                                                                              than those that pertain to master plan interpretation? That
```

is in this case sector plan interpretation and the question

25 identify themselves please for the record?

of access and circulation.

- Other than those, are there any findings that you take
- 3 issue with in this case by technical staff? If you want, I'll
- let you think about that.
- ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. If you could just --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I have more specific
- questions as you go down the list here.
- ERIN GIRARD: Sure.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: B, what's the applicant's
- 10 position on technics -- technical staff's opinion?
- That's exhibit 59, page 12, that only 15 percent of the
- 12 gas station trips can be used to offset new trips from the
- 13 proposed use. And you can have your traffic engineer address
- 14 that, but I'm--
- 15 ERIN GIRARD: And he's prepared to do so.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Fine. 16
- 17 ERIN GIRARD: So yes. We did read -- and -- and just so
- 18 the hearing examiner knows, we didn't know any of these
- 19 issues until the staff approach was posted.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see.
- 21 ERIN GIRARD: I think in a typ- -- and I'll get into
- 22 that in my opening statement, but in a typical case, a lot of
- 23 these issues would have been vetted before we got here.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 25 ERIN GIRARD: But in this case, we didn't see any of

- 1 circulation plans?
- And they're spelled out in exhibit 59 pages 10 to 11 and
- I've summarized them in items one through nine on this list
- of preliminary matters. I'll just briefly read them.
- Number one, locating access on Canada -- Connecticut
- Avenue is not ideal and that it introduces a conflict point
- for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists with a high volume 35
- minute mile per hour state road. The angled exit introduces
- safety concerns.
- The posed access and Connecticut Avenue exceeds what --
- 11 exceeds what is allowed by the zoning ordinance for a two way
- 12 access in the CR zone by approximately three feet.
- The proposed entry is too wide and increases the
- 14 potential for a future bicycle vehicle and pedestrian vehicle
- 15 conflict. So that's number one.
- Number two, they reckon they discuss the applicants
- 17 should evaluate the feasibility of alternative options such
- 18 as moving the proposed curb cut to Plyers Mill Road or
- 19 examining separate points dedicated to ingress only or egress 20 only.
- 21 The applicant could additionally explore serving the
- 22 site via the proposed shared access only. However, the
- 23 existing curb cut on Metropolitan Avenue is too close to the
- 24 intersection of Metropolitan Avenue and Plyers Mill Road.
  - Existing left turns out of the site are challenging and

- 1 this until the staff report issues, so we didn't have a
- 2 chance to address it. So I feel like there's more issues than
- 3 there typically would be, but that's one of them and we will
- 4 address that.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Where in your
- submission C, where in your submissions do you address the
- specific requirements for the general development standards
- under zoning ordinance article 596, on which I must make
- 9 findings per section 59731E1B?
- For example, which of your submissions shows me how your 10
- 11 proposal satisfies section 5961 on site access? I didn't see
- 12 anything in your materials that addressed the specific
- 13 requirements for site access and they laid -- laid out in
- 14 that section?
- 15 ERIN GIRARD: We'll -- we'll find that.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 16
- 17 ERIN GIRARD: I'm sorry.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.
- 19 ERIN GIRARD: I wasn't ready for some of these, so I
- 20 didn't have them --
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I understand.
- 22 ERIN GIRARD: Prepared.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Does the applicant, and this
- 24 is D, does the applicant degree to staff's various
- 25 recommended -- recommendations for changing your access and

- trucks attempting to make this movement would obstruct
- traffic. The proposed use is problematic from a -- from a
- traffic safety perspective.
- 4 ERIN GIRARD: Would you like me to address them each as
- you go?

10

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm going to allow you to --
- to address it through your witnesses if you like, because
- really that's what I'm going to be relying on. But these are
- issues raised by the technical staff and I didn't see
- 10 addressed in your materials.
- ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. Our -- our engineer has -- we -- he
- 12 will be prepared, trust me.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 14 ERIN GIRARD: I'll go over it with him.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Number three is 15
- 16 the applicants should provide a truck circulation plan for
- 17 staff review. Any modifications to adjacent intersections
- 18 should account for the needs of the design of vehicle.
- By the way, I mean, I realize that if this is approved,
- 20 this preliminary plan, sketch, plan review and so on; so some
- 21 of the more technical details would await that if this
- 22 conditional use is approved.
- On the other hand, I have to make certain findings. I
- 24 don't have to make a finding on the adequacy -- adequacy of
- 25 public facilities because since they'll be preliminary plan,

11

16

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the zoning ordinance requires that that finding be made not

by the hearing examiner but by the planning board.

However, I do have to make a certain findings about

access, safety, and traffic safety. So I do need some

evidence regarding that.

The less important is the, you know, something like the

local area transportation review because once again, I'm not

making a finding on -- on adequacy of -- of public facilities

or services.

10 Number four, no clear pedestrian path is defined

11 fronting Connecticut Avenue within applicants Hardscape

12 Plaza.

13 The applicants should show clearly the delineated

14 pedestrian paths in its preliminary plan submission. These

15 paralleled partway and should include an adequate buffer

16 separating pedestrians from traffic.

Number five, the applicant proposes one curb ramp at the

18 northwest corner of its property to facilitate pedestrian

19 crossings over Plyers Mill Road as shown the curb ramp

20 orients pedestrians into the corner of the intersection,

21 which is unsafe individuals with visual impairments.

In order to be acceptable, the applicant should provide

23 a curb ramp perpendicular to Plyers Mill Road. These are all

24 comments once again and suggestions by technical staff. They

25 may become requirements by technical staff, but in any event

right now they are suggestions and observations.

Six, consult with SHA State Highway Administration to 2

determine whether additional pedestrian crossing

infrastructure is required. Considering that Connecticut

Avenue is one of the bordering -- budding roads.

Seven, pedestrian access to this site would be improved

by tightening the curved radius at the northeast corner of

the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill Road.

This would allow -- this would slow turns, reduce

10 crossing distances, and allow space for the installation of

11 separate curb ramps.

That kind of detail of course is more a question of

13 preliminary plan, but I -- I do -- just to be complete about

14 what they -- they've indicated, I've put that -- put that in

15 this -- in summary.

Number eight, as shown on the plan, the applicant's

17 driveway crossing is not acceptable. The applicant should

18 eliminate the curb ramps, detectable warning strips and high

19 visibility markings shown and instead provide a flush

20 concrete sidewalk across the site's driveway with a maximum

21 cross slope of two percent.

And nine, internal pedestrian circulation is provided in

23 the parking lot via a seven foot wide striped corridor

24 between the proposed surface parking spaces in the building.

25 The carter is at grade of the parking lot to facilitate the

1 movement of items into and out of storage facility.

Because the carter is adjacent to vehicle parking, if

the conditional use is approved, the applicant should provide

wheel stops to protect pedestrians from cars backing into

5 spaces.

So that -- that summarizes those observations on those -

- those pages. So you know, I would like to know what the

applicant's plans are in regard to those comments. All right.

Moving to a different -- the legal question, which I

10 raised initially at the August 9 proceeding. Don't I have to

11 give significant deference to the planning board's

12 interpretation of its own sector plan? And you can address

13 that question now if you'd like.

ERIN GIRARD: So as the hearing examiner's aware, under

15 section 59712, planning staff makes a review -- reviews and

16 recommends on the conditional use. The planning board also

17 reviews and makes a recommendation and the hearing examiner

18 has the decision.

So our -- our -- our position is that the hearing

20 examiner's on equal footing with the planning board with

21 regard to make -- having to make a finding of compliance with

22 the sector plan.

23 Although the planning board and staff do drafts sector

24 plans, the -- the district council ultimately is the one that

25 proves it and it's not at all unusual for the district

14

council to make significant changes to a master plan sector

plan when it's before them.

The -- so the hearing exam, as I noted the -- big --

once the district council approves a sector plan, the

planning board has no choice but to adopt it. So in its final

form, it is very much a function of what the district council

wants, even more so than what the planning board wants.

And then once it comes into effect, as I noted for

conditional use, the planning board reviews and makes a

recommendation and then defers it to the -- or recommends to

11 the hearing examiner what should happen.

I would also argue that the -- like the planning board

13 relying on a staff report, and this is clear in Maryland law,

14 the hearing zone -- examiner should only rely on a planning

15 board's recommendations if it's thorough well-conceived and

16 contain adequate findings of fact.

17 And for that we're citing Park and Planning versus

versus the greater Baden-Aquasco Citizens Association. So I

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You have a citation for that? 20

21 ERIN GIRARD: I do, 412, Maryland 73. So I think that --

22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's the -- what's the name

23 of it again?

24 ERIN GIRARD: MNC PPC et al versus greater Baden, B-a-d-

25 e-n hyphen Aquasco, A-q-u-a-s-c-o, Citizens Association, et

19 As you can see in the planning board's letter, they talk al. 2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And what's the date of that about why we relied on staff saying there is a need for decision? residential in this area, even though there's a moratorium. ERIN GIRARD: 2009. And we, you know, we think that there will be patient HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. and -- and wait for something that is more -- I don't have ERIN GIRARD: And similar to that, the hearing examiner the exact language but perfectly in line with the sector must weigh the evidence as noted in -- now I got to get this 8 cite. So it really wasn't -- the planning board itself didn't 8 That opinion testimony of -- opinion testimony is of no get into the sector plan analysis as -- as relied or as -- as 10 greater probative value than is allowed by the soundness of 10 set forth by staff. They really went into other territory and 11 its foundation of reason and fact. And that is --11 that's reflected in their letter. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, that is -- I agree with HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And I mean, a 13 that general proposition. And I -- that's well -- well 13 connected question before we get into the legal issues 14 founded. 14 surrounding that, the Maryland code provisions, is whether or 15 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. I can give you a citation. 15 not those legal provisions in Section 24 201 of the land use HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It's okay. 16 16 article in the Maryland code, whether those provisions also ERIN GIRARD: Okay. So -- so our position is that if you 17 give a heightened need to pay attention to what the town of 18 actually look at the staff report, it's deficient, the staff 18 Kensington said in its resolution. 19 report and the planning board's letter, it's deficient in a Doesn't that have, in addition to the -- to the -- the -20 number of ways. It analyzes the sector plan. 20 - the right amount of case law saying one should allow --21 And in fact, at the end of the day, the planning board 21 should give great deference to the interpretation of an 22 was split as to whether or not to recommend approval of the 22 agency of its own regulations. 23 conditional use and did not actually adopt staff's rationale 23 Here we have an additional code provision which asks us 24 as contained in this report. 24 to give some deference; does it not? To the opinions of the As you know, usually the staff report or the planning 25 town of Kensington above and beyond what would normally be 18 1 board would adopt the rationale and the reasoning of the considered in the evidence. staff and it did not do so here. So I think that's in very --ERIN GIRARD: It does in that it requires the a very important factor. supermajority vote. I don't -- I don't know that it HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You mean, it didn't necessarily -- I mean, it requires deference in that way, but specifically state we adopt it or -not in the way we actually have looked at the cases, the case that you're citing to with the -- you know, you have to give ERIN GIRARD: Correct. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You mean that they took -deference to -- deference to an agency's interpretation of ERIN GIRARD: They didn't incorporate by reference, they its own rules. didn't -- it really -- their letter goes through the And we think that that's actually very distinguishable 10 discussion that was had during the hearing. 10 from what's happening here. I mean, under the code, the And as I'll flush out more in my opening statement, I 11 hearing examiner has -- has the requirement to make a finding 12 think that much of the criteria that they talked about as far 12 of sector plan, master plan compliance. 13 as the recommendations were irrelevant to the findings that HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. 14 need to be made for conditional use. But at the end of the ERIN GIRARD: And it's not -- it's not akin to the case 15 day, they did not actually adopt staff's position regarding 15 law that talks about the reviewing court that's looking at an 16 sector plan compliance. 16 agency and how it interprets its rules. So we -- we think 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Didn't they reach essentially that that's actually a different line of case law. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Do you have 18 the same conclusion for essentially the same reason that it 19 didn't fulfill -- I mean, the 3-2 majority didn't fulfill the 19 anything else to say on that specific point about the 20 goals and recommendations of the sector plan? 20 deference thing before I ask counsel for the town Kensington? ERIN GIRARD: It does in a different way. Basically what ERIN GIRARD: Only that, and again, I'll hit this more 22 it says -- what the planning board said and which is 22 in my own opening statement, that -- that really in our 23 reflected in their letter is we want to wait. We don't really 23 opinion again, that the -- that even if deference was owed, 24 like this. We don't -- we're going to wait for something 24 it can only be owed to the extent that the planning board's

25 conclusions are -- are sound and we intend to prove through

25 better.

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our experts that the weight of the evidence actually goes the

2

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Ms. Rosenbaum?

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Thank you. With respect to the

question of whether or not you need to give significant

deference to the board's interpretation of its own sector

plan, I submit that you do.

I think that in particular, given the provisions of the

land use code of 24 201B and C, that in fact it's required

10 that you give difference.

11 And so those code provisions provide that absent of

12 planning board vote overturning the town's resolution, that

13 really their determination on this issue, I think as we'll

14 argue later is -- is dispositive. I think even --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: When you say dispositive, you

16 mean that I don't have authority to have a different -- reach

17 a different decision or do you mean that it's influential or

18 persuasive?

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: I -- I -- I submit that you

20 don't have the authority to reach a different decision and

21 we'll get into that in more -- more detail as we move

23 But even -- even assuming for argument's sake that you

24 don't agree with that conclusion, I do think that the fact

25 that the planning board's is really the keeper of the master

22

plans at the end of the day, the planning board, they draft

them, they submit them to the district council.

The district council adopts it in its final form that

it's sent back to the planning board for approval.

And the planning board, I think under general case law,

is considered to be the entity that really carries great

weight in terms of a master plan is sec- -- sector plan

recommendations.

That does not mean absent the operation of the land use

10 code, which I'll talk about later, that under ordinary

11 circumstances you would not have the discretion to find in

12 manner different from the planning board.

I think generally speaking you would give their

14 testimony and their findings weight, but I don't think you're

15 bound by them. But I do think that in this particular case,

16 that's not the outcome.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Do you have any

18 case law about that to cite on this decision?

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: I would cite you to Archer's Glen

20 and I'm -- I'm sorry, I don't have the citation with me at

21 the moment, but I will provide that to you after we have a

22 break and I have an opportunity to pull it up.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's fine.

24 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: With -- with respect to giving

25 deference to planning board interpretation of sector plans.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Fair enough. All right.

Let's go on to the other legal questions and I know this is F

and on my list and on the legal question addressed to both

the applicant and the town of Kensington.

Kensington is Maryland code land use [inaudible] we just

talked about Section 24 201D requires a two-thirds council

majority of ruling against the position of the town of

Kensington in a zoning matter, but does not require counsel

action and other land use matters under Section 24 201C.

10 As a legal matter, is the conditional use decision a

11 zoning matter or a land use matter within the meaning of this

13 And as I asked the last time, I'd like to see some

14 legislative history on this question because conditional uses

do not generally go to the counsel.

Well, they did not go to the counsel not even generally,

17 but by as a matter of zoning ordinance provision that decided

18 by the hearing examiner subject to appeal to the board of

appeals on the hearing examiner record.

And then after that if there's a disagreement, it goes

21 to the circuit court. So that still leaves this question that

22 I posed, is this a land use matter or a zoning matter within

the meaning of the Maryland code? Ms. Girard?

ERIN GIRARD: Yes. We looked at this quite extensively

25 and attempted to find the legislative history that you were

looking for. We tracked it all the way back to 1939. And

that's where we hit a wall.

We couldn't find -- we know that as of 1939, the

district counsel had -- had referred to the board of appeals,

the power over special exceptions, conditional uses.

But we weren't able to find any -- and that doesn't mean

we won't keep looking, but as in the last week, we haven't

been able to find anything that sheds any light as to -- as

to whether -- whether the -- the district council gave it to

10 the board of appeals because it was a land use matter, not a

11 zoning matter.

So in that regard, we're referring to Maryland code

13 annotative land use 22 301, which provides the district

14 council may adopt zoning laws and authorize the board of

15 appeals, the district counsel, or an administrative office or

16 agency designated by the district counsel, to grant special

17 exceptions on conditions that are necessary to carry out the

18 purposes of this division.

So that's -- that's the relevant code provision. But

20 again, that's been in effect since at least 1939. I would

21 note that the Maryland code defines zoning law as zoning

22 ordinance, zoning regulations, zoning code in any similar

23 legislative action to implement zoning controls in a local 24 jurisdiction.

25 And that's land use article 14-101Q. In contrast, if you

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look at the case law, County Counsel versus Prince George's ERIN GIRARD: I'm simply saying someone else agrees with 2 County versus Zimmer Development Company, 444 Maryland 490, that's a 2015 case. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's -- give me the --ERIN GIRARD: Not saying you're controlled by it. I'm start slowly with the name again. just citing it based on someone else's --ERIN GIRARD: Sorry. County Counsel at Prince George's HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: They seem to assume just versus Zimmer Development Company. That's 444 Maryland 490 -didn't really justify --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 444 Maryland --ERIN GIRARD: Why there was no discussion. ERIN GIRARD: 490. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: But they seem to assume that 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 2015 --10 it was a land use rather than zone. 11 ERIN GIRARD: 2015 case. ERIN GIRARD: Right. I would also draw the hearing 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okav. 12 examiner's attention to Anna Rundle County v. Bell and that's 13 ERIN GIRARD: It defines land use planning, planning is 13 442 Maryland --14 the broader term planning concerns, quote the development of HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold -- hold on. 15 a community not only with respect to the uses of lands and 15 ERIN GIRARD: Sorry. I tend to get carried away. 16 buildings, but also with respect to streets, parks, civic HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I can't write too fast and I 16 17 beauty, industrial, etc. 17 certainly can't read it after I do it if I write it down and 18 If you then compare that language to section 7.3.1.A.1 18 Anna Rundle County versus --19 of our zoning ordinance that refers to conditional use as 19 ERIN GIRARD: V. Bell. 20 being a use of any property for a conditional use. So the 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Say that again? 21 language actually tracks quite nicely. 21 ERIN GIRARD: V. Bell. We also note that under chapter seven of the zoning 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: V. Bell? Okay. 23 ordinance, conditional use approvals are noted under 23 ERIN GIRARD: 442 Maryland 539. 24 regulatory approvals and in that way are akin to a site plan 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's the year of that? 25 and are separate and distinct from zoning and rezoning 25 ERIN GIRARD: 2015. 26 1 actions such as local map amendments. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's that stand for? 1 We also wanted to draw your attention to the fact --ERIN GIRARD: On page 554 it says administrative land HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So let me -- so your position 3 use actions, whether reached via quasi-judicial or special or is, in answer to my question, aside from the justification executive processes encompass a wide variety of things, for your position, your position is that this is a land use including dot, dot, dot, special exceptions. manner and not a zoning matter? So again, that is categorizing in -- in our minds ERIN GIRARD: Correct. special exceptions as land use rather than zoning. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Is that what you're saying? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. For anybody that ERIN GIRARD: Yes. And again, just looking at the doesn't know it in the audience, these conditional uses used 10 definitions, we also want to draw your attention to the fact 10 to be called special exceptions. 11 that on page one of the staff report, it references 24 201C They're the same thing except that the counsel felt, and 12 as the applicable provision that is also categorizing it as 12 I agree, that the term special exception was somewhat 13 land use planning. 13 misleading because it's really not an exception to the -- to HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm not sure. I mean, once 14 the zoning ordinance. 15 again, I -- I do think that there's a deference required to 15 It's a use permitted in the zoning ordinance. So that's 16 agency interpretation of its own rules. 16 why they substituted the term conditional use. 17 However, the court, the -- the case law is very clear ERIN GIRARD: And then one more citations. I'll read it 18 that in terms of legal interpretations, that is what the law 18 slower. Mayor and Counsel of Rockville versus Rylns, Inc. R-19 y-l-n-s., that's 372 Maryland 514, a 2002 case. 19 is. The agency is not entitled to that deference. The -- the reviewing judicial equates as judicial 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 21 authority should decide the law as what the law means. So I'm 21 ERIN GIRARD: And that actually cites to Stan Abrams, 22 not sure that the staff's opinion on whether which section 22 who I'm sure you're familiar with. 23 applies really should influence. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know him. 24 ERIN GIRARD: I don't disagree at all. 24 ERIN GIRARD: And his writings that his special 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 25 exception or conditional use refers to a permissive land use

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category authorized by a zoning or administrative body

2 pursuant to the existing provisions of the zoning laws.

So in that case, it's seems to be distinguishing it --

4 putting it more in a land use category than in a zoning

category.

6

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

7 ERIN GIRARD: And then finally, I would just know as a

8 matter of statutory interpretation, the fact that the -- that

9 section B of that land use article refers to the district

10 council and planning board, both of whom clearly under the

11 code have jurisdiction over local map amendment, sectional

12 map amendments, and etc. in zoning actions as we typically

13 think of them.

It refers to it specifically, whereas C which refers to

15 the land use planning refers only to the County planning

16 board.

So we think as a matter of statutory interpretation, the

18 fact that the district -- the fact that the district council

19 is involved in B and not involved here, that this would put

20 the conditional use under the land use planning category.

21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Before it turn to

22 Ms. Rosenbaum, the legislative history I was actually seeking

23 was something that showed how these code provisions in the

24 Maryland code were derived. You've given me some history

25 about the conditional uses --

1 and C is a vote to overturn a land use resolution.

2 And as you'll note, the zoning resolution requires a

3 two-thirds majority vote of both the district council and the

4 County planning board. And if it's a land use resolution,

5 then it's only a vote of the planning board.

So as you know, there has been a resolution adopted by

7 the town and that resolution specifically opposes a

8 conditional use 19-03 and any related zoning and land use

9 authorizations.

10 So the resolution adopted by the town is specific to

11 both zoning actions and land use actions.

12 And in going back through the transcript and when I

13 first was thinking about this, it does seem as if the

14 question really turns on whether or not the district counsel

15 has a role in this, but I really think that the outcome is

16 the same regardless of whether you determine that this is a

17 zoning action or a land use action.

8 And I think that once you look at the case law and the

19 statutory construct that you will -- or we concluded that

20 it's actually both.

It is both a zoning action and a land use action. And I

22 will explain why. I do have a legal memo that I will hand

23 into you and we did -- I did some legislative research with

24 respect to 24-201 given time, I was only able to do it online

25 and I will tell you that it's very sparse.

30

ERIN GIRARD: Oh, as far as why the town of Kensington

2 and --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. I mean, what did the --

4 why did they make the distinction they did? Why did the --

the legislature, the Maryland legislature make the

6 distinction it did between zoning matters and land use

7 matters?

8 I -- I wondered how that provision arose and that would

9 perhaps tell me whether or not they intended to include

10 special exception/conditional use matters within zoning

11 matters or within the land use matters.

2 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. We can take another look at what

13 we've pulled and see if there's any light on that.

14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Ms. Rosenbaum?

15 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yes. Thank you. Before I start, I

16 actually would like to hand out a copy of 24 201, just so you

17 can have it for reference while --

18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I have it here so you can.

19 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Oh, you do. You have it printed?

20 Okay. And an answering this, I think I'm going to be

21 answering both of the legal questions that you had -- have --

22 have in your memo here because I think they're -- they're

23 directly related.

And when you look at the -- the structure of 24 201,

25 there's B is the vote to overturn a zoning res- -- resolution

I will give you a copy of the house bill 708 as it was

originally introduced. It was amended in non-substantive way.

3 It really was the purpose provision that was amended. And

4 then there was a fiscal note. And --

5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There was no committee

6 report?

7 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Not online that I was able to find.

8 So I don't know if that means a trip to Annapolis, but in any

9 event I was unsuccessful in finding any more information than

10 that on the general assembly website.

11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sure that whatever exists

12 in the world is somewhere online.

13 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: It may well be. It may well be.

14 So in looking at this and trying to evaluate whether

15 this conditional use is a zoning or a land use action, I

16 actually had been highlighting the provisions that Ms. Girard

17 has cited and I will say that the two of us were looking in -

18 - in the same -- same areas for -- for an answer to this and

19 we clearly come up with different answers, but land use code

20 22-301, which Ms. Girard cited, authorizes the district

21 council to adopt zoning laws that authorize the board of

22 appeals, the district counsel or an administrative office or

23 agency designated by the district counsel to grant

24 conditional uses on conditions that are necessary to carry

25 out the purpose of this division.

36

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And actually the state law still says special

- 2 exceptions, but I'm going to use the term conditional uses
- just for consistency.
- And that's land use code 22-301A1. And then if you go on
- 22-301 2 goes on to state that any zoning law adopted under
- this subsection shall contain appropriate standards to ensure
- that any conditional use that is granted is consistent with
- the general purpose and intent of the zoning laws.
- So looking at this, not only are the code provisions
- 10 that establish the way that a conditional use would be -- the
- 11 process by which a conditional use is established under
- 12 County law, but the authority of the hearing and the of the
- 13 hearing examiner and the board of appeals both come from
- 14 these zoning laws.
- The general conditions are in the zoning law. The
- 16 application processes in the zoning law and the authority of
- 17 the hearing examiner and the board of appeals is established
- 18 under the zoning law.
- When I read Mayor and Counsel of Rocklin -- of Rockville
- 20 vs Rylns also cited by Ms. Girard, what struck me is the fact
- 21 that the courts have recognized the conditional use as a
- 22 zoning mechanism administered by an administrative entity.
- 23 And I'll quote, the special exception use is a valid
- 24 zoning mechanism that delegates to an administrative board
- 25 limited authority to allow enumerated uses, which the

reading the cases there is some fluidity between zoning and

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And -- and -- and I -- and I do

- understand that and appreciate that because, you know, in
- land use planning and the courts struggle with it on a
- regular basis. But --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's why I wondered whether
- -- whether, you know, whether the code provisions -- whether
- the Maryland legislature thought about it that way, why did
- they make this unusual distinction between zoning and -- and
- other land use?
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: That's correct. And -- and it seems
- 12 to me that the reason why they did is because even though
- 13 they are related, they are separate functions and in support
- 14 of that, I cite the Zimmer case also referenced by Ms.
- 15 Girard.
- 16 So my -- my position on this is that the authority for
- 17 the grant of special -- of conditional uses, the enabling
- 18 legislative authority that establishes the hearing examiner
- in the office of the board of appeals, all derive from the
- 20 zoning code and from zoning law at the state level. And so
- 21 this is in fact a zoning action.
- 22 And even though it seems counterintuitive, I think
- 23 conditional use also falls under the umbrella of a land use
- 24 action

- 25 A conditional use approval is subject to an affirmative
- 1 legislature has determined to be permissible absent any fact
- or circumstance negating presumption. And that's the Rylns
- case, 372 Maryland 514. So --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 514 is the page reference?
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Is not the page reference. I will --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's the page reference?
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Get you the page reference. It's 814
- A second, 469, and the page references 485.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So it's 814 -- 814
- 10 A second --
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: 469. 11
- 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 469.
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: At 485. And I -- there's -- they
- 14 cite Schultz versus Peretz [ph] in support of that concept.
- 15 So --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: The only thing is that I'm
- 17 never quite sure that they're using it --
- 18 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: In the same way that I'm --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: In the same way we were
- 20 talking about here as the distinction between zoning and land
- 21 use. They --
- 22 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Right.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It's easy to have to have
- 24 loose language, you know, when the context is completely
- different.

- finding that the application substantially conforms with the
- recommendations of the applicable master plan and is
- disharmonious with and will not alter the character of the
- surrounding neighborhood in a manner inconsistent with the
  - master plan.
- And that's zoning code 7.3.1.E.1.B and C. The courts
- recognize that when there's a statutory requirement for
- consistency with a master plan including as part of a
- conditional use or special exception proceeding, it's one of
- the planning tools placed in the County hands by the assembly
- to provide for orderly growth of the County.
- 12 And that's Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County
- 13 versus Gaster 285 --
- 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold on one second. Board of
- 15 County Commissioners --
- 16 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Gaster.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold on. Of Cecil?
- 18 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Right.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Versus --
- 20 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: G-a-s-t-e-r. And that's 285 Maryland
- 21 233 at 250 and that's a 1979 case. And I'll also refer you to
- 22 Coffee versus Park and Planning, which is an 82 case, which
- basically expanded the same principle to the counties in the
- 24 regional district. So the planning board --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There's a cite to that?

39 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yes. It is 411 A second, 1041 and article about the authority of the hearing examiner being so that's a 1982 case. So the planning board did spend limited, it says the planning board cannot. considerable time evaluating the sector plan. They sent you a 3 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: It says any two -- a two-thirds letter. majority vote of the planning board is required to take any I -- I disagree with Ms. Girard as to the strength of action related to land use planning. And so it's a passive voice. I don't see that as being that letter and we'll talk about that more in a little while. But the board's determination with respect to consistency an action by the -- an action limited to a planning board with the master plan is a quote action related to land use determination. It's an action of any type related to any land planning. use -- land use action or zoning action within the town of 10 So I think that the condition -- and you also generally 10 Kensington. 11 need to make a determination with respect to that. So I think 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I think you'd go too far with 12 this is an action related to land use planning. Now, why does 12 that -- that concept. I don't think there's any --13 the land use code apply in this case? It doesn't limit act --13 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, are you saying that HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I don't think there's any 15 it's not a zoning matter? I mean, you --15 evidence of that intent by the legislature to say that if 16 it's just a land use matter that it required -- that the 16 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: I'd say this a zoning matter and a 17 land use. 17 hearing examiner is bound by the -- by the town of 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So it's both. 18 Kensington's resolution. But there's a serious question, I think, you know, if in 19 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: About matter, so it's both. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, maybe you could --20 fact it's a zoning matter, whether or not the hearing 21 21 examiner is bound unless the counsel then somehow gets a MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Under that --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Maybe you could -- one could crack at it and says, and two-thirds of the council vote to 23 certainly argue that every zoning matter is also a land use go against the town of Kensington, which is why I raised the 24 matter, but perhaps not every land use matter is a zoning 24 question. Because --25 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Certainly. 25 matter. 38 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: I --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: If I -- if I decide that the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So I think that's the -- the applicants entitled to a condition conditional use here, where does it go? And then we'll turn to that in next distinction. So but you would say that a conditional use is both a land use matter and a zoning matter. - next question, I guess. MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Well, and -- and by the same token, 5 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: I -- I do think that it's both. 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And the applicant says no. under the -- under the zoning, it does say two-thirds it's just the land use matter. Is that right Ms. Girard? majority vote of both the district council and the planning -MICHELE ROSENBAUM: That's -- that is their position. - planning board is required to take any action. And I have some additional statutory analysis that I really And again, the -- the action is -- it's a passive, it's 10 am not going to take the time to go through at the moment. I 10 any -- so in that respect, I do think that it's applicable to 11 do have a written memorandum that I'll submit --11 this -- this proceeding at the administrative level because 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 12 it doesn't specify that it's an action by the district MICHELE ROSENBAUM: But here's the -- here's the bottom counsel or an action by the planning board. 14 line. I'll cut to the chase, whether it is a zoning matter, a 14 And I recognize that you -- you don't agree with me, at 15 zoning action, or a land use action -- under a land use 15 least at the moment. 16 action, a two-thirds majority vote of the County planning But it also makes sense in this respect if the planning 17 board is required to take any action related to land use 17 board does not vote to override the town resolution and it 18 planning within the town of Kensington. 18 comes here, and then if you vote against the -- the town, The planning board did not vote by two-thirds majority 19 then perhaps it does go to the district council. 20 to overturn the town's resolution. And so under state law, 20 But assuming the planning board has not adopted a 21 absent that supermajority vote, I think the town's resolution 21 supermajority vote in opposition to the town's position, it 22 stands and you cannot take an action contrary to their 22 stops here. There is the -- the issue becomes moot.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: When you're saying I can, I 24 which this gets to the counsel because the planning board has

It does not matter whether or not there is a process by

25 already made that a dispositive determination.

23 opposition. By the same token, and using --

25 mean, it doesn't say anything in that -- in that land use

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HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Once again, I don't agree 1 it.

- 2 with that because clearly the zoning ordinance doesn't
- provide -- doesn't make the planning board a deciding entity
- It makes the hearing examiner after a due process
- hearing and a full record, makes the hearing examiner the
- determiner of whether the conditional use will be granted
- subject to appeal to the board of appeals.
- So clearly, it was not the intent of the zoning
- 10 ordinance to make the -- the planning board, the decider in
- 11 these cases. So I don't think that your -- the rationale that
- 12 you would suggest here --
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And -- and I would agree with you
- 14 that that was not the intent of the district counsel when it
- 15 adopted the zoning code in the process for the reviewing of
- 16 approval or denial of conditional uses.
- I -- but I will say that this provision was adopted by
- 18 the general assembly in 2007 and it's a matter of state law
- 19 and state law trumps the county code in that respect. And so 20 --
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It does when it's
- 22 inconsistent.
- 23 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And you're looking at the -- that's
- 24 --
- 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's --

42

- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And -- and my -- my position is that
- this does not mean that the hearing examiner doesn't go
- through the process and -- and render a decision.
- But I think with respect to a determination of
- consistency with the sector plan, and whether or not this
- should be approved, that the -- the state law provides that -
- that has been determined by the failure of the board to
- override the town resolution.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm certainly going to
- 10 go through with the process and make a decision because if
- 11 you're wrong in your interpretation, then -- and I would not
- 12 to make a decision, then it would lead the process truncated.
- 13 And --
- 14 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And -- and I'm not in any way
- 15 suggesting that this truncates the process.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, yes. You are. You're --
- 17 you're suggesting if I accepted your view today, then I would
- 18 end the process now and say, well, the planning board decided
- 19 and under state law, trumped the zoning ordinance, I don't
- 20 have to do anything else.
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Well, you know, on one level, I -- I
- 22 agree with you and since it's an unsettled question of law,
- 23 it seems to me we will go through the process --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. 24
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And you will make a determination on 25

- Regardless of the outcome of your conclusions with
- respect to this particular interpretation, I want to be
- absolutely clear that we think that the record, with respect
- to conformance with the sector plan, is very strong; that
- there should be deference given to the planning board's
- interpretation.
- Certainly great weight given to the towns
- interpretation, particularly in light of the provisions of
- 10 state code that give such deference to the town's views on
- 11 those issues.
- So I don't want you to leave with the impression that we
- 13 don't -- that -- that we don't also think that regardless of
- 14 your conclusions on this legal issue, that we're waiving in
- 15 any way the merits of [inaudible] --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: No. I certainly don't have
- 17 that impression.
- 18 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Okay.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So let's turn to
- 20 the next question on the list here, which is a related legal
- 21 question G, still another but related legal question.
- Even if Section 24 201B is the applicable section, would
- 23 it have to go to the counsel if I ruled against the town of
- 24 Kensington and was upheld by the board of appeals? Isn't the
- 25 OZAH acting as the counsel's appointee for this purpose under
- the zoning ordinance; Ms. Girard?
- ERIN GIRARD: Yes. I mean, yes. We believe that the --
- that the hearing examiner and board appeals are acting as the
- district councils appointee under land use 22 301.
- 5 This is just one of those cases where there's just no
- means under the code to get there. I don't know how you --
- what we do have is the delegation, what we don't have is any
- way for this to get kicked to the district council under the
- statutory framework in place right now.
- 10 So I think just as a matter of statutory interpretation,
- 11 in fact, it needs to stop here.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Ms. Rosenbaum? 12
- 13 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Well, I do think that it would need
- 14 to go to the district council.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: How does it get there?
- MICHELE ROSENBAUM: And again, I -- I note that this
- 17 state -- the state code provisions were adopted long after
- 18 the county special exception conditional use provisions were
- 20 And I don't think it's ever come up. And so it's never
- 21 been addressed procedurally. But it does say a two-thirds
- 22 majority vote of both the district council and the planning -
- 23 planning board is required.
- District council is a defined term. It is the county
- 25 counsel sitting as the nine members of the county counsel in

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their zoning capacity and it requires a two-thirds majority

45

1 gi

vote. I don't know how you get two-thirds of one person. So

3 it -- the -- the --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I have enough to spare.

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yeah. The -- the -- the two-thirds

6 requirement, the fact that the district counsel is the

defined term, I think that the state law requires that in

8 fact go to the dis- -- district counsel.

I'm in a conundrum. I don't have an answer as to how it

10 gets there because I simply think that the provisions of 24-

11 201 of the land use code have never been implemented as part

12 of the county code.

But notwithstanding that, I do think that that's what

14 the state law requires and it ultimately would require a vote

15 of district council to overturn.

16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. I don't know. And maybe

17 there's no satisfactory answer to all of this, but certainly

18 raises some unusual questions.

19 So I -- I did want to give the parties an opportunity to

20 be heard on these issues and I'm willing to listen to any

21 great suggestions that people may have on this, but I don't

22 see how it gets there exactly, procedurally, especially since

23 you have a code provision that says, goes to the board of

24 appeals and into court. So I think you -- it does raise

25 concerns.

1 give counsel for the applicant a copy and one to give her an

2 opportunity time to respond. Thank you.

You find the exhibit list buried under all of this. By

4 the way, you -- as you can see from the exhibit list, what

5 we've tried to do is break down the -- the many supporting

6 letters and the many opposing letters with the two separate

exhibits

So all of the letters of support are in Exhibit 60,

9 right now A through S and the letters of opposition are in

10 exhibit 70 A through four part KKK, KKKK. Four K's whatever

11 that is. All right.

This will be the memorandum from the -- I guess this is

13 from the town of Kensington in effect. Right, Ms. Rosenfeld,

14 would you --

15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes.

16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. It would be Exhibit 85,

17 memorandum of law [inaudible] land use article Sections 24

18 201B and C by the Town of Kensington. All right. Ms. Girard,

19 you have done your list of potential conditions.

20 ERIN GIRARD: Yes. And just -- just for context, what we

21 did is we went through a number of recent conditional uses,

22 what ones are standard. We tried to anticipate, just based on

23 what we've heard, some of the issues that we thought were

24 concerns as far as use of the ground floor, the number of

25 parking spaces.

46

MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.

3 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yeah. It seems like that this

perhaps raises the question, offers an opportunity for some

5 legislative cleanup regardless of the outcome of this case.

6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Well, hope---

hopefully this will never happen again.

Well, all right. Let's turn to H, and if I do grant the

9 conditional use, what conditions would the applicant and the

10 opposition think satisfactory to protect the community?

11 Recognizing of course that -- that whatever conditions

12 would be suggested by the opposition, would the understanding

13 that they still stick to their -- their opposition? I

14 understand that, but if in fact it is granted, are there

15 conditions that would be desirable and I turn first to Ms.

16 Girard.

17 I mean, you can submit a list if you want because --

18 okay. You have that with you? That's good.

19 ERIN GIRARD: Yes.

20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I also thought that Ms.

21 Rosenbaum, you said you had a -- a memorandum of law --

22 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yes.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That you wanted to submit.

24 MICHELE ROSENBAUM: Yes. I do.

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Why don't we submit that,

So you'll see some conditions dealing with that and then

some other ones, such as the access to Metropolitan is

3 through an easement of an adjacent property owner. So we've

4 put in that condition. We -- we tried to cover what we

5 thought were basic ones --

6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

ERIN GIRARD: -- you know, and -- and trying to

8 anticipate what the community may want to see, but obviously,

9 we're open to -- and -- and we did also hit, and that may

10 need to be modified, about some of the circulation issues in

11 the current [inaudible] and what have you, which we'll

12 address in greater detail per our conversation this morning -

13 -

14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

15 ERIN GIRARD: -- but we did try to address the fact that

16 our preliminary claim would be of plumbing and to deal with

17 some of those issues.

18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And this will be

19 Exhibit 86, which is applicant's suggested CU conditions. All

20 right.

21 Ms. Rosenfeld, do you have a list -- a similar list --

22 oh, I don't know if it's similar, but a list of conditions?

23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I -- I do have a list and I can talk

24 you through them. I had -- I do intend to submit them in

25 writing just for clarity, but I can go through them verbally

51 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I saw one sign on the colored if -- initially. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I -- I -- I prefer, I renderings, as pointed out by staff. It didn't say, I don't guess, to have them in writing. I think that would make it think, exactly what staff said it said, but it -- but there simpler rather than going through it all now. was a sign --MICHELE ROSENFELD: I agree. I'm -- I'm happy to submit ERIN GIRARD: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- depicted in -- in the 6 them. 6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. MICHELE ROSENFELD: We -- we do have -- we do have ERIN GIRARD: Right. So this is -- this adds more detail proposed conditions. to it. As you'll see in the conditions, I did include HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. All right. 10 something about, you know, if there's a variance required in 11 Turning to our next item. Oh, by the way, did either of you 11 -- signage is governed both by the County and by the Town of 12 locate any other self-storage special exceptions or 12 Kensington. So obviously, that's something that's going to 13 conditional uses? 13 need -- to need -- need to be worked through. ERIN GIRARD: No. And to be honest, when we first filed This is what we're proposing at this point and time, but 15 the application, we had done that exercise --15 I -- we've tried to craft the condition to govern that. We'll HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 16 obviously have to go through and get the necessary permits, 17 ERIN GIRARD: -- because we were looking for inherent, 17 variances as they're required and then submit the final plan. 18 non-inherent and all that --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. What I was getting at, 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. 19 in this question, is that your plans in general should say 20 ERIN GIRARD: -- and we couldn't find one either. 20 there's going to be a sign here, let's say a -- a -- an entry 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I could not find one in my 21 sign or a wall sign, something, as to the more technical 22 own search. How about you, Ms. Rosenfeld, did you find question of whether or not it meets all of the requirements. 23 anything? We would have to look at that, because that is one of the 24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I did not. 24 things we're required to review --25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. You know, maybe other -ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm. 50 1 - in other jurisdictions, I don't know, but -- all right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and also the com- -- the 2 Item I, if you think the technical staff and the planning question of compatibility, however, it also has to go through 3 board are wrong with regard to the master plan and access review by Department of Permitting Services. I'm not sure 4 issues, please have qualified expert or experts explain the about the Town of Kensington -basis for such opinions and/or adopt on what you said on 5 ERIN GIRARD: Right. 6 Pages 4 to 14 of your revised statement in supporting your HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- that you can deal with application. that, but as far as -- and -- and if it varies from what is Although, those really don't address access issues, but allowed by the zoning ordinance would have to have a sign 9 they do address your -- your master plan argument. I'm not variance, as they say --10 suggesting that your experts have to repeat everything 10 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. 11 they've said that you've said there, but they can adopt that HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- but -- which is different 12 in -- in part as what they say. 12 from an overall variance just as a tree variance --All right. J, how would the parties define the 13 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. 14 neighborhood? Do you agree with staff's definition, Exhibit 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- is different from -- in 15 59, Page 5? 15 any event. ERIN GIRARD: We do and I believe Ms. Phillips -- or Mr. ERIN GIRARD: Yes. So this is the signage as -- that 17 Phillips will testify to that one. 17 we're proposing now and I have a couple copies for you. And 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: We agree to it as well. 18 we understand that the Town will need to review this. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Okay. K, applicant's HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. All right. So this is 20 submissions do not appear to mention signage, signage plan. 20 Exhibit 87 and there appear to be numerous subparts. So it 21 Your plan should reflect it. So that was a question I raised 21 is, let's say, exterior signage plans and this is Exhibit 87. 22 22 with you the last time. What about that? All right. So we'll have 8- -- I'm going to keep them in 23 this -- I presume your copies are in the same order. ERIN GIRARD: So we did have a preliminary -- the 24 colored renderings reflected some signage. This [inaudible] -24 ERIN GIRARD: Yes. As far as -- they should be. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And then -- so there'll be 25 25

# Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

87A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L through M subparts. And

- 2 I'm not going to take the time here to label each of those --
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Uh, Mr. Grossman, I have --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- but it would be 87A
- through M. Yes. Are you missing a page?
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mine has different elevations and
- then I have several pages A, several pages B --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Your -- yours are actually
- labeled with an A and B.
- 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- several C and a D.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Wait a minute -- wait a
- 12 minute, where are you? Oh, you -- oh, you're talking about --
- 13 you're talking about the blue lettering on the -- on the
- 14 plans themselves or --
- ERIN GIRARD: I think he was -- I think --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm -- I'm labeling each page 16
- 17 as a different --
- 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I see. I got it.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- subexhibit, because that's 19
- 20 the way you generally do it.
- 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I got it.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So overall, this is Exhibit
- 23 87, exterior signage plans and then A through M are the each
- 24 page within that. Okay.
- All right. Turning to the next thing, item L, according

- ordinarily show exactly at the lot lines so that we can --
- ERIN GIRARD: And we can -- we're happy to add that, but
- -- but she is prepared to address it.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. The staff report

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- photometric plans

- mentions two existing special exceptions on the site TBA-1332
- and S-104 and I raised this question on August 9, are they
- still active and if the conditional use is granted, will the
- applicant take steps to have them revoked by the board of
- 10 appeal?
- ERIN GIRARD: You -- we have proposed condition number -11
- 12 I haven't looked at them long enough to have it burned in
- 13 my memory, but there's a condition that we are suggesting
- 14 that we would abandon those special exceptions upon approval
- 15 of a -- a new conditional use for the property.
- One was -- one was reaffirmed as -- as recently as 2005,
- 17 one is for automobile sales and another is for rental --
- 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.
- ERIN GIRARD: -- but obviously, those would go away with
- 20 approval of a conditional use.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. I think I've pretty
- 22 much covered the field here. Are there any other preliminary
- 23 or procedural matters, Ms. Girard?
- ERIN GIRARD: We, just this morning, got the final
- 25 number we needed for the fees.

1 to staff, Exhibit 59, Page 16, the parking lot does not

- 2 contain the required landscape areas nor does it show the
- minimum required tree canopy will be provided as required by
- 4 Section 5- -- 596.2.9.
- Staff also suggests that your open space should feature
- 6 art or amenities that highlight Kensington's character.
- Please address these issues or have somebody address these
- 8 issues.
- 9 ERIN GIRARD: Our landscape architect is prepared to do
- 10 so.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. M, staff reports
- 12 Exhibit 59, Page 16, that the photometric plan does not show
- 13 that lighting will be reduced to the 0.5 foot candle or less
- 14 along lot lines as required by Section 596.4.4D. Are you
- 15 correcting that?
- ERIN GIRARD: We don't think it needs correction. The --
- 17 the -- the number that staff seems to be -- it's quite a --
- 18 it's quite a number of feet off the property line. Our
- 19 architect can explain --
- 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- ERIN GIRARD: -- but -- but where that number is shown
- 22 you can -- she can explain how it will be .5 when it hits the
- 23 property line.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, ordinarily --24
- 25 ERIN GIRARD: It's a distance [inaudible].

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 2 ERIN GIRARD: So I wanted to -- it's broken down and
- we're happy to provide further information regarding any of
- these numbers.

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- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: These are the fees that you 5
- incurred as a result of the postponement -- the last-minute
- postponement?
- ERIN GIRARD: Correct.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So this is Exhibit 88,
- 10 applicant's fees resulting from last-minute postponement and
- 11 that's Exhibit 88.
- 12 And I note that the total here that -- on your list is
- 13 \$8,782, which is well above the -- the \$7,000, which was your
- 14 estimate on August 9, which was -- was itself above the
- 15 initial estimate of \$4,000 to \$5,000. And so let me look at
- 16 this for a second.
- 17 ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. And we apologize, we were doing it
- 18 back of napkin and then we tried to do a better back of
- 19 napkin, but we obviously needed to -- the architect and --
- 20 and the applicant, in particular, didn't have all those
- 21 numbers at the ready.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Now, well, all of these
- 23 experts were here, the landscape architect, the traffic
- 24 engineer, the architect --
- ERIN GIRARD: Correct.

1 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- civil engineer and the

2 land planner all were --

ERIN GIRARD: Present. We were anticipating moving -- we

4 were ready to move forward.

5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. Okay. And the legal

6 fees, those are your fees?

7 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. I did not include the fees of my

8 associate to try to keep the number down.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. We'll,

10 obviously, give the Town of Kensington an opportunity to

11 reply, because you might want to check with Suellen Ferguson

12 since --

13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Certainly.

14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- she indicated that her law

15 firm would pick up up to \$7,000 --

16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mm-hmm.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- but did not go over that.

18 So I'd --

19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Correct.

20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- like to hear back --

21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And --

22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- from Ms. Ferguson, Council

23 Baradel Law Firm --

24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Certainly. And --

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- about this.

1 await a response from Council Baradel or Ms. Ferguson on the

2 issue, but technically, it should also come from the Town of

3 Kensington, because technically, it's the Town of Kensington

4 that's before me, but as I indicated before, I have no

5 intention of imposing on any fees that will ultimately be

6 bore by the Town of Kensington. Okay. Any other preliminary

7 matters, Ms. Rosenfeld?

8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: No. Thank you.

9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right, Well, it wasn't

10 one of the shortest preliminary, but I -- I felt that I would

11 save you a little bit of scribbling time by at least printing

12 them out for you.

13 Okay. I guess that moves us on to the next question,

14 which is opening statements unless anybody has anything else.

15 Just make an opening statement, Ms. Girard?

16 ERIN GIRARD: I do.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.

18 ERIN GIRARD: As I alluded to a couple minutes ago --

19 and usually, I'm not one for long opening statements, because

20 I like to get right to the meat of matters, but I think in

21 this case, given the unusual fact pattern in -- in the case

22 here, it's worth reviewing how we landed here and why -- you

23 know, why everyone isn't in -- in better agreement.

The client began this process in March, 2018 meeting

25 with -- as -- as we always do, meeting with staff, meeting

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We met with staff on three occasions and the Town and

3 really understanding that a self-storage use is perhaps not

4 everybody's ideal, but we wanted to vet the issue to see if

5 it was worth moving forward, if we would be able to get a

6 level of support that would allow us to move forward.

7 And as I mentioned, three -- on three different

8 occasions, we met with staff that we redesign the building,

9 we added artist studio space on the ground floor and very --

10 felt very positive coming out of those meetings. In fact, if

11 you look at Exhibit 62F, that's a May 30th letter from the

12 Development -- Development Review Board out of the Town of

13 Kensington.

1 with the Town.

It refers to the fact that they un- -- were unanimously

15 in favor of the preliminary design acknowledging the fact

16 that we came out of those meetings feeling positive and that

17 we had a project that could be supportable by the -- by the

18 Town and the -- and the staff understanding, obviously,

19 there's still a lot of work to be done, but a preliminary

20 [inaudible].

21 We filed this conditional use site plan on September 21,

22 2018 and did not get comments. As I noted earlier, once you

23 file, there's back and forth with staff, you get technical

24 comments, is this curb cut right, those kinds of things and -

25 - and we did not get that, it was very quiet.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- and -- and my only question with

2 respect to legal fees, because I may get this question, is

3 was their work incurred in connection with the last hearing

4 that was -- my -- my question is --

5 ERIN GIRARD: That number was --

6 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- was preparation for that

duplicative of work that would've gone into today? We did

8 have a substantive hearing, at least on part of --

9 ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. And that number reflects that.

10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay.

11 ERIN GIRARD: I actually took out a couple hours that

12 were, you know, preparation and that obviously would carry

13 forward to today. So I did account for that.

14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: All right. Thank you.

15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. I would think that also

16 that Ms. Rosenfeld is referring to the fact that we had four

17 witnesses. So the time spent on those four witnesses was part

18 of the hearing that --

19 ERIN GIRARD: Right.

20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- that she -- they should be

21 charged for.

22 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. I did not include that.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.

24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Thank you.

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, in any event, I will

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We then got a letter in October from the Town noting that they were going to oppose the project due to lack of

3 retail and we know they were concerned about the re--4 reveals.

5 The preliminary design you could see through to the

6 storage doors and that was a real concern for them. We also

7 got a call from staff, there was a change in staff and the

new staff person called and said they also had concerns on

9 the same day, ironically. We then began a process of trying

 $10\,$  to address those issues working through from November,  $2018\,$ 

11 to March, 2019.

The record here does not reflect all of those changes,

13 because obviously, we want to minimize the number of times we

14 amend the conditional use plan, but there were significant

15 changes, I think, as you can see, just from comparing the

16 first rendition to the final one as far as architecture.

17 The architecture was significantly revised. The

18 incorporation of arti- -- artist studio and gallery space is

19 en- -- entirely new. The ground floor was revamped to

20 minimize the storage space and put in what will hopefully be

21 a single restaurant, again, to get --

2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, let me stop you for a

23 second. I -- I'm going to let you go on and -- and say

24 whatever you want to say, but -- but how does that really --

25 how does this history really affect what I -- I am willing to

1 improper statutory -- or a proper way to look at it from the

2 statutory framework.

We raised that issue in a response issue to the Town, on 62C in the record, where we laid that, you know, we've tried

5 to work with you, but this is what the Hearing Examiner and

6 the County actually needs to look at and we believe that

we're within that framework.

Then the staff report issued -- you know, we -- it

9 became apparent we weren't going to reach agreement. The

10 staff report issued on July 15th -- and as I noted, they --

11 that was the first time, unlike every other case that is a

12 conditional use that I've ever worked on, where you get

13 comments, it's an iterative thing, we got a staff report that

14 dumped all these comments that we're going to have to address

15 through today and were never given the opportunity, which I

16 think fairness would've dictated, to respond to a number of

17 these things.

18 So there's a lot more -- I don't want it to be

19 understood that this was a sloppy plan because all of these

20 issues were not addressed, it really was that it was not an

21 interactive process, as we believe it should've been, and we

22 weren't given the opportunity to, you know, modify the curb

23 cut and what have you.

So there's a lot more issues that we're going to have to

25 address through this and some of them, as you noted, can be

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look at the --

ERIN GIRARD: I understand.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- the plans that are before

4 me and the recommendations made by the Town of Kensington and

5 the -- the technical staff and the planning board as to what

6 the final -- and of course, other submissions by -- by others

on these final plans. The history doesn't really bear -- and

8 I -- I assume the bonafides of both sides, it's not that --

9 that's not really the question.

10 ERIN GIRARD: I understand. I -- I do think it's

11 important, because I think that the final product, it kind of

12 sheds some light on where we belie- -- why we believe the

13 Town and staff ended up where it was and why we think that

14 their analysis is faulty and perhaps not genuine.

15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. Well, I'll let you go 16 ahead.

17 ERIN GIRARD: So -- so just, you know, I'm going as

18 quickly as I can, but -- so we had consi- -- we got a to- --

19 an issu- -- a letter from the Town after having community

20 meetings, doing all this outreach, revising the plans. The

21 Town issued a letter on April 9th, this is Exhibit 62B, that

22 basically says they were not supporting the project for a

23 lack of community support.

24 And as the Hearing Examiner knows, we don't zone by

25 plebiscite, this is the -- the re- -- you -- that was an

pushed to preliminary plan.

But the staff report very much, you know, in our mind,

3 is one-sided. It -- it mentions sector plan compliance, but

4 really doesn't -- doesn't give a nod to anything that I think

5 any objective person would say does comply with the sector

6 plan, such as the plaza out front, bike lanes.

There's no discussion of the positives at all. It's --

it's very, very negative and just goes after -- goes after

9 their -- their theories about why it doesn't meet the sector

10 plan and we'll address those with our experts here today.

Then on July 25 -- 25th, as we noted, there was the

12 planning board hearing and it was described in the letter,

13 which is in the record at 64A, the planning board's

14 discussion included a number of issues that we believe are

15 completely relevant to these proceedings, including who owns

16 the property and whether it could be combined with the

17 adjacent property, other potential locations for the self-

18 storage facility, could it be moved to somewhere else, the

19 likely success of the facility and if it was successful, it

20 would remain for a very long time.

21 The planning board also relied on staff's repre---

22 representations that there was a demand for residential uses

23 in the Town even though the area is a residential moratorium

24 and as the Hearing Examiner knows, we're not looking at

25 alternate uses here, we're looking at the proposed use and

its impacts and doesn't meet the criteria of the code. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Your point is they didn't use HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I think wasn't that the words, we adopt staff's -stated in -- in reference to the -- there is a -- there is ERIN GIRARD: As they typically would. language in the -- the sector plan about --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. ERIN GIRARD: Mixed use. ERIN GIRARD: So we're here today in the hopes and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- about -- well, also about belief that, you know, it's unusual for an applicant to move residential uses. forward with a negative -- after having gotten a nega- --ERIN GIRARD: Wanting a resi- -- wanting residential negative recommendation from the Town, from staff and from generally -the planning board, but looking at this objectively and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. 10 looking at it in the statutory framework in which it belongs 11 we feel very strongly that this conditional use should be 11 ERIN GIRARD: -- but not to this property specifically. 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 12 approved and that taking an objective look at it and applying 13 ERIN GIRARD: And so, you know, as we'll get into again, 13 the correct standards we'll be able to get there. 14 staff has been very clear in our conversations with them and As I noted, we will have experts discuss such things as 15 it comes through in the sector plan that their interpre---15 the sector plan compliance and again, included in the record 16 interpretation of mixed use really has to be ground-floor 16 this, again, was in reference to our letter to the Town, the 17 retail and residential above and as you'll see, we -- we 17 Sienna court case, which is Exhibit 62E and we discussed this 18 completely disagree with that. The planning board majority 18 in front of the planning board as well it's not a reported 19 also found --19 decision, but the planning board was a party and it was a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I would like to hear -- by --20 very similar case in that they stretched the [inaudible] --21 by the way, I have a question of definition of mixed use. Do 21 well, sector plan to try to stop a self-storage use that they 22 you have some -- you say you disagree with -- with their 22 felt wasn't compliance and the --23 position on it and I would like to hear from both sides as to 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I wouldn't --24 definition of mixed use and where that definition comes from. 24 ERIN GIRARD: -- the court ultimately --ERIN GIRARD: We have an expert for that. 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I wouldn't go too far on -66 68 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 1 - on Sienna. I mean, I have read the case and it doesn't ERIN GIRARD: So we will get into that. So the planning apply here as far as I can tell. It's an unpublished circuit board majority ultimately found, and this is reflected in court decision -their letter on Page 3, that the sector plan did not ERIN GIRARD: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- not even an appellate contemplate self-storage on this property and that approval may preclude another use at this location that is entirely court decision and they can have unpublished opinions too. consistent with the sector plan and that's language that I Even their -- their unpublished opinions technically don't couldn't pull up precisely earlier, but again, there's no set a precedent. An unpublished circuit court decision really 9 reference to the -- to the actual standards other than the doesn't, but also it's inapplicable to a conditional use case 10 sector plan in saying it doesn't contemplate, which, as the 10 concerning the planning board rejection of a preliminary plan 11 Hearing Examiner knows, it's - it's rare for a sector plan to 11 and permitted use --12 say what should and should not go in a -- in a given 12 ERIN GIRARD: But the language in it was the same --13 location. 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- property. And importantly, as I noted before, the planning board ERIN GIRARD: -- sector plan compliance. That applies 14 15 did not incorporate staff's rationale or report in its 15 both to a preliminary plan and to a conditional use. 16 recommendation. So one thing that --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, what I would apply 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, that incorporated by 17 here are the standards set up in cases like Montgomery County versus Butler and other cases which discuss conditional uses 18 reference, specifically. 19 --ERIN GIRARD: By reference. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You might argue it 20 20 ERIN GIRARD: Yes. And we certainly will. 21 incorporated it by what it said in the letter, but -- but --21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- not -- not Sienna. ERIN GIRARD: I -- I --22 ERIN GIRARD: Yes. And we certainly will get to those HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I -- I understand your 23 and I will -- I will discuss those further, but --23 24 point. 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I also want to --

ERIN GIRARD: -- but the id- -- idea being -- and -- and

25

ERIN GIRARD: Yes.

1 -- and the Hearing Examiner is right, Butler saying that

2 these are -- this is a permissible use as long as certain

3 criteria are met and we feel like that was not the standard

4 that was applied by the planning board. In fact, there was a

discussion about it in front of the planning board.

It -- it was seen more as do we like it or do we not.

That was kind of the -- the standard that was applied.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- well, I also want to

9 mention one other thing, Sienna predated the Terrapin Run

10 case and the modifications for the land use article in the

11 Maryland Code, which emphasized following master plan

12 recommendations.

13 In other words, Terrapin Run came out and said that it

14 was the court's decision that came out and said, well,

15 consistent with, conforming to, other language that -- that

16 was more loosie-goosy than the State Legislature liked and

17 then came out with -- with modifications to the land use

18 article, which we were very specific about what a -- how to

19 follow master plan recommendations or not undercut them, in

20 any event.

There are legal questions that surround that point too,

22 because the way the -- the provisions were written in

23 the amendments to the land use article make it under --

24 unclear whether their specific interpretations apply to

25 conditional use -- individual conditional use decisions as

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, it doesn't have to be a

physical or operational characteristic of the use itself as

opposed to the site. I mean, the other provision you don't

mention there is that site conditions can yield non-inherent

adverse effects --

ERIN GIRARD: I --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and -- and here that --

isn't that the -- the basis for staff and the planning

board's reference there, that is that it's -- the site

10 condition is that where the site is located might have

11 significant adverse consequences or how this -- this use fits

12 on this site at this location could have adverse consequences

13 on the community.

ERIN GIRARD: Well, I think that the -- and we went back

15 through a number of OZAH opinions regarding what are inherent

16 and non-inherent and were having a hard time fitting what the

17 Town and staff said into any of those. I agree with you

18 completely that if there's an unusual shape of the site, if,

19 you know, we've had some with stream [inaudible] buffers,

20 there -- there's a number --

Usually, it is something that is a physical or

22 operational characteristic, but for instance, staff said the

use will potentially discourage neighboring property owners

24 from redeveloping in a manner consistent with deactivating

use envisioned in the plan. So again, it's speculative, at

1 opposed to legislative changes because of the way they

defined the word action in -- in these code provisions.

But in any event, all I'm saying is Sienna is -- is a

weak read for any of this. So I wouldn't go too far.

ERIN GIRARD: Actually, that was about all I was going

to touch on.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.

ERIN GIRARD: But, you know, our position is relevant to

9 some degree. And then finally, I just wanted to hit on a

10 sector plan compliance kind of -- is the elephant in the room

11 on this case, but I -- I did want to note that the inherent

12 and non-inherent analysis by staff and the Town was incorrect

13 and did not apply the correct standard.

I mean, the obvious language of Section 59142 refers to

15 adverse effects created by physical or operational

16 characteristics of the conditional use and the -- the effects

17 that both -- the Town noted that the project, "harkens" back

18 to the old Kensington albeit with newer architecture and not

19 the vision.

It creates an inherent and non-inherent adverse effect -

21 - impact and that's not -- I don't -- I don't think that you

22 can argue that harkening back to old architecture is a -- is

23 a physical or operational characteristic that rises to the --

24 a non-inherent adverse effect and obviously, we may get into

25 that throughout this case, but --

best and it --

70

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, no. But I mean, 2

developing is -- is one of the specific items that I have to

make a finding on, whether there is undue impacts and --

which might've been the very first one in that -- in that

code for which -- and let me read it so that we're not --

moving forward here on -- on different understanding.

This is in 59731E1G, well, I have to make a finding that

in order to improve the conditional use, it will not cause undue harm to the neighborhood as a result of non-inherent

11 adverse effect alone or in combination of an inherent and a

12 non-inherent adverse effect in any of the following

13 categories, the use, peaceful enjoyment, economic value or

14 development potential of abutting and confronting properties

15 of the general neighborhood.

ERIN GIRARD: Right.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So isn't that -- doesn't that

18 fit right into that category?

ERIN GIRARD: Again, I don't know -- if you're saying

20 the non-inherent, perhaps it's not spelled out appropriately,

at least in my mind in the staff report. You would have to

22 argue that the non-inherent characteristic is the location, I

guess, and that -- and that its impact, you know -- and

24 again, that will potentially discourage without, as -- as you

25 know, to -- to make a statement without any basis to that

_	Conducted on 1	10,	<u> </u>
	73		75
1	opinion is is legally insufficient in our minds, but	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	you had listed before, Shane Albers [ph], Michele Bach, Matt Clark
2	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.		ERIN GIRARD: Ke Kelly McKone will be here in in
3	ERIN GIRARD: you know, we we have and again,	3	place
4	we'll we'll get into this through the expert testimony,	5	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Pardon me?
5	but we have serious concerns about what staff and the Town	6	ERIN GIRARD: Kelly McKone will be here in place of
6	are characterizing as inherent and non-inherent adverse	7	Shane Albers. We had we had identified our other
7	impacts.	8	representation of 1784.
8	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.	9	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. I'm sorry, who is
9	ERIN GIRARD: And and to on that note and in	10	ERIN GIRARD: Kelly McKone to my right.
10	fact, we wanted to to note is anyone looking at the plans	11	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: in in place of?
11	we think could see the architecture of the building, the way	12	ERIN GIRARD: Shane Albers.
12	that the parking is screened, the way that the two floor	13	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And how does Mr. McKone
13	ground floors are used, the the massing and all of that.	14	spell his name?
14	To an incredible degree, this use actually ameliorates	15	ERIN GIRARD: M-c
	the typical adverse impacts associated with a typical self-	16	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: M-c
	storage facility.	17	ERIN GIRARD:k-o-n-e.
		18	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Then Michele Bach,
17	So in that regard, we think it's actually above and	19	Matt Clark, Brad Fox, Brian Biddle and Patrick Phillips?
	beyond and and not less.	20	ERIN GIRARD: Correct.
19	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Ms.	21	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
	Rosenfeld, did you wish to make an opening statement now,	22	ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. We understand Mary Means, she was
21	reserve it until you begin your case? How did you want to	23	the one who the Town wanted to cross-examine. She's not
22	proceed?	24	technically part of our case-in-chief, but she does want to
23	MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'd like to reserve until I begin my	25	speak and we had delayed her to today so that she would be
24	case. Thank you.		
25	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. How many witnesses		
	74	$\vdash$	76
1		1	76 under cross with by the Town.
	74	1 2	
1	do you have, Ms. Rosenfeld?		under cross with by the Town.
1 2	do you have, Ms. Rosenfeld? MICHELE ROSENFELD: Three.	2	under cross with by the Town.  HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So Mary Means is a witness to
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HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Okay. All right. I

- -- I think what we'll do is we'll take a -- a five-minute
- break here before we call the first witness and then I'll
- come back at about 11:15.
- ERIN GIRARD: Okay.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Calling maintenance now to
- see if we can get them to do something instantly about this
- temperature in the room.
- (Off the record at 11:05:54 a.m.)
- 10 (Back on the record at 11:19:02 a.m.)
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Ms. Girard, call 11
- 12 your first witness, please.
- ERIN GIRARD: I'm calling Brad Fox.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. [inaudible] at
- 15 that box.
- BRAD FOX: All right. 16
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would you raise your right
- 18 hand, please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- 19 whole truth and nothing but the truth under penalty of
- 20 perjury?

2

4 22A.

5

10

Ms. Girard.

if Michele --

- 21 BRAD FOX: I do.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Would you state

ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Mr. Fox's resume is in the record at

ERIN GIRARD: He has previously qualified as an expert

- 23 your full name and address, please?
- BRAD FOX: Bradford Lee Fox, work address of 16701
- 25 Melford Boulevard, Suite 310, Bowie, Maryland 20715.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed, 1 civil engineering analysis, please?
  - BRAD FOX: Yes. So I described the existing site
  - location. The current site is a gas station. So the -- there
- in civil engineering in the Starbucks case 17-06 and Walnut Hill 17-17. We can go through his expert qualifications, but
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: We -- we have no ex- -- no objection
- 11 to his designation as an expert. ERIN GIRARD: Then we'll move his admission in civil
- 13 engineering.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Let me see, this is 22A 14
- 15 you said?
- 16 ERIN GIRARD: 22A, I think.
- 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: 22A.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So you're licensed
- 19 as a civil engineer in Maryland, Mr. Fox?
- 20 BRAD FOX: Correct.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And it's -- your license
- 22 number is 37966? It's on your resume on 22A.
- 23 BRAD FOX: Yes.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And you previously testified
- as an expert in which cases?

- Burtonsville and a conditional use for a Bank of America at
- the Walnut Hill Shopping Center.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Based on

BRAD FOX: Conditional use for a Starbucks drive-thru in

- your licensing and credentials, as indicated in the -- your
- Exhibit 22A and you've been conceding that you are an expert
- in civil engineering, I accept you as such.
- ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Fox, are you familiar with the
- conditional use property, the surrounding area in application
- 10 number CU19-03?
- BRAD FOX: I am. I'll describe it a little bit exactly
- 12 where the site is located. This site sits at the corner of
- 13 Connecti- -- Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill Road. The --
- 14 it's bounded on the west side by Connecticut -- Connecticut
- 15 Avenue, the north side by Plyers Mill. It's adjacent to
- 16 Metro- -- Metropolitan Avenue, we'll talk about that in a
- 17 little bit, and then on the south side or the CSX railroad
- 18 tracks.
- 19 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And have you analyzed the
- 20 suitability of subject property for the proposed con---
- 21 conditional use from a civil engineering standpoint?
  - BRAD FOX: I have during the preparation of the
- 23 documents and the required research necessary for the
- 24 conditional use filing. We went through all those items.
  - ERIN GIRARD: And can you review the findings of your
- 78
- 80

- was some geotechnical work done on that from another firm
- that, you know, bounded some of the things that we could do
- from a stormwater perspective.
- Other than that the environmental constraints we looked
- at were the Forest Conversation Law, which this site
- qualified for a forest conservation exemption.
- 10 That's another exhibit in the -- in the record. And then
- 11 the site's pretty flat, but it falls off on all sides to the
- 12 neighboring properties. There's a sharp drop to the CSX
- 13 right-of-way to the south and also the neighbor to the east.
- ERIN GIRARD: Can you describe the existing public
- 15 facilities around the property?
- BRAD FOX: Yes. Site's served by water and sewer. It's
- 17 in an urban location. So we don't anticipate any issues
- 18 there. There's storm drainage that we're planning on tying
- 19 into along Plyers Mill, because we feel like that's the best
- 20 location. Currently, there's no stormwater management that 21 exists onsite.
- The -- the project is proposing to provide environmental
- 23 site design to the maximum extent practical, which is the --
- 24 the County standard and we'll be tying those stormwater
- 25 management facilities into that storm drain along Plyers

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# Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

Mill.

2 The -- on both frontages, there's also existing utility

3 poles that the applicant is not planning on -- on touching

4 and therefore, we've, you know, maintained the necessary

setbacks from those utility poles. It's a very large system

that serves a lot of the neighboring and surrounding areas.

7 ERIN GIRARD: And the -- I think you've touched on most

3 of the proposed public facilities, but stormwater, in

9 particular, has that been under review by the Department of

10 Permitting Services?

BRAD FOX: Correct. We've been working with the De---

12 Department of Permitting Services on that approval. You know,

13 as -- as DPS pointed out, it's not necessary for a

14 conditional use approval to have stormwater management at

15 hand, but we proactively went through that to make sure that

16 the proposed development would be able to comply with the --

17 the stormwater management requirements when we go forward to

18 the sketch prelim and site plan process.

19 ERIN GIRARD: Do you anticipate any -- any revisions to

20 the plans we needed as part of the stormwater review?

21 BRAD FOX: Minor revisions are always necessary as we go

22 through and work out the finer details with -- with DPS, but

23 I don't anticipate anything that's insurmountable.

24 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Can you review, from a civil

25 engineering standpoint, the proposed improvements and

1 only be addressed in the preliminary plan. I need to have

2 plans that can be approved for the conditional use if the

3 conditional use is approved and if the plans are going to

4 radically change because the access is completely different,

5 staff suggests pretty strongly that a Connecticut Avenue

6 accessway and an -- and an in and out on location is truly

7 problematic from a safety and traffic point of view. So what

8 are the alternatives?

9 BRAD FOX: The alternatives, other than Connecticut

10 Avenue, would be to put it on the frontage at Plyers Mill if

11 we were to maintain an access that was on one of the sites

12 frontages.

13 The issue of putting it on Plyers Mill, both Connecticut

14 Avenue and Plyers Mill are -- both have medians. So it would

15 be a right-in/right-out along Plyers Mill.

As we approach the intersection with Metropolitan

17 Avenue, I don't think we'd want to push all of the side

18 access closer to that intersection due to the already

19 confusing configuration of that intersection. So we would be

20 pushing the right-in/right-out away from that intersection

21 and closer to Connecticut Avenue.

22. That would lead to a site distance issue for vehicles

23 that were turning right at Connecticut Avenue and not being

24 able to see a vehicle pulling out of the right-in-/right-out.

25 That sit- -- that site distance issue is alle- -- alleviated

82

circulation patterns?

2 BRAD FOX: Yes. I'm going to flip through to another

3 exhibit. This would be, it looks like --

4 ERIN GIRARD: What exhibit number is that?

5 BRAD FOX: -- 40.A.3.

6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 40.A what?

7 BRAD FOX: .3.

8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

9 BRAD FOX: So currently, as it exists, the former gas

10 station has two depressed curb entrances along Connecticut

11 Avenue and two depressed curb entrances along Plyers Mill,

12 noting that that was likely not going to be possible to

13 maintain those, we've reduced it to one right-in/right-out

14 along Connecticut Avenue.

15 It's located as far as we could push it away from the

16 intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill and still

17 be on our frontage and also respect the large bridge that

18 goes over the -- the CSX railroad. So that's where our right-

19 in/right-out is located. There were some comments about the

20 configuration of that from staff.

Those comments can be addressed during the prelim site

22 and sketch plan phase and also it's a state highway right-of-

23 way. So we'll need to comply with state highway's

24 recommendations and requirements for that right-in/right-out.

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm not sure it can

1 if you go to the Connecticut Avenue frontage. It's a

2 straighter shot down Connecticut Avenue looking across the

3 bridge and down towards Howard.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So Mr. Fox, are you telling

5 me that there are no viable alternatives to a Connecticut

6 Avenue entrance that was critiqued by the staff?

BRAD FOX: I'm telling you that we located the entrance

8 in the best place we thought along the site's frontage. If --

9 if it was -- if Connecticut Avenue was deemed not appropriate

10 or, you know, there was an objection from state highway about

11 opening that, we'd be denying access to this property.

12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you're saying that the

13 answer to my question is, yes, that there are no viable

14 alternatives, in your opinion, to an entry on Connecticut

15 Avenue?

16 BRAD FOX: That's correct.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

BRAD FOX: And staff's notes about modifying the

19 entrance for width and -- and minimizing the -- the actual

20 openings there, that can be addressed during the preliminary

21 plan process, those -- those tweaks to the configuration.

22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

23 ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Fox, are you aware if there's been any

24 preliminary conversations with SHA about that access point?

BRAD FOX: I am. I believe there was an email received

87 from SHA. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Shown on -- you mean what's ERIN GIRARD: You can proceed. there -- I mean, on the pla- -- on the conditional use site 3 BRAD FOX: Okay. All right. So those are the -- that's plan? 3 4 BRAD FOX: No. It would've been shown on the initial 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry, Mr. Fox, I missed concepts and renderings of the site -your statement --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 6 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. BRAD FOX: -- and your meeting with staff prior to HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: - I was just writing a note. submitting the conditional use application. BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And you got no feedback, 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What did you say about the 10 you're saying, from staff regarding the critiques that are 11 con--con--connection with SHA? BRAD FOX: Yeah. SHA did provide an email that said that 11 outlined in their staff report, Exhibit 59? 13 -- I'm paraphrasing, that they -- they agreed with the BRAD FOX: Correct. Nothing about --14 location along Connecticut Avenue. 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And Mr. Grossman, I just want the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Okay. Do we have a copy 15 14 record to be clear we are talking about staff from park and 16 of that? 15 planning. That's -- that's --17 ERIN GIRARD: I do. I was going to submit it as part of 16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Oh, yeah. 18 the traffic, but I can submit it now. 17 BRAD FOX: Correct. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You might as well since it's 18 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. Yeah. [inaudible] 20 just been referenced. Yeah. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Is there another staff that 19 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And I'm going to need to ma--- have 20 we're talking about? 22 copies made. I apologize; I wasn't anticipating we were going 21 ERIN GIRARD: The Town of Kensington. 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Do you want to show it 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. Okay. Yes. Thank you -25 counsel first? 23 - thank you for the clarification. 24 BRAD FOX: All right. In addition to the entrance along 25 the site frontage along Connecticut Avenue, the developers 86 88 ERIN GIRARD: Sure. also approached the neighboring property owner for the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. This will be Exhibit 89 ability to have a secondary exit that would go out to and that is -- all right. Metropolitan and through their existing -- that site's So this is an email exchange of April 9, 2018 between existing exit onto Metropolitan. Phillip Hummel [ph] [inaudible] and Quesi Woodruff [ph] of 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And who is that owner? SHA regarding Connecticut Avenue access. Okay. Thank you. I'm BRAD FOX: The legal entity is the Kensington Joint 6 sorry, go ahead. Venture. ERIN GIRARD: And Mr. Fox, before you continue, I just 8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. wanted to ask did you have any conversations with staff about BRAD FOX: Okay. So to provide that secondary access, 10 any of their comments that were reviewed in the staff report? 10 we're opening a -- a drive aisle into their adjacent parking 11 Was there any back and forth regarding curb cut sizes, 11 lot and then utilizing their existing access onto 12 locations, any of that? 12 Metropolitan. BRAD FOX: No. We might've discussed it in passing some ERIN GIRARD: Just making sure it's [inaudible] --13 14 of the original architectural renderings that we took in 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 15 there, but it was largely focused on just the architectural 15 BRAD FOX: Okay. 16 layout. First, we saw the specific detail about the 16 ERIN GIRARD: -- on the list. 17 configuration of the entrances and the bike lanes was -- when 17 BRAD FOX: One other -- one other thing I'll note --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I don't think there's a 18 the staff report was issued. 18 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. You can proceed. 19 question pending. BRAD FOX: Oh, sorry. 20 BRAD FOX: Okay. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you're saying that you 21 ERIN GIRARD: Well, if there's other things you wanted 22 didn't get any feedback from staff at all regarding access 22 to -- that you forgot in your analysis, please --23 during your meetings? 23 BRAD FOX: Yeah. I'll continue going on the circulation. BRAD FOX: Mm-mm. It is shown on there the configuration 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 24

25

BRAD FOX: We've also looked at truck circulation and

25 and those --

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# Transcript of Administrative Hearing

Conducted on August 20, 2019 1 conflicting standard there is SHA wants to move a larger

the applicant likes to provide truck loading bays within

2 their property.

They're located about the midpoint in the building there

- and the turning radii coming out of that, those two recessed
- loading bays is sufficient to make that turn and exit the

6 site.

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you don't have a truck 7
- circulation plan that -- that technical staff was -- was
- calling for, but you're saying that your analysis is that
- 10 there is adequate room for trucks circulation?
- BRAD FOX: Correct. And we'll provide those circulation 11
- 12 diagrams at the time of preliminary plan.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Ms. Girard, is this
- 14 witness going to address the other circulation questions also
- 15 that we have?
- ERIN GIRARD: Yes. I'm trying to --16
- 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 18 ERIN GIRARD: -- half of them are for civil and half of
- 19 them are for traffic.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 21 ERIN GIRARD: So I'm just trying to peruse through
- 22 exactly who should address what. And I believe you already --
- 23 but going through them, Mr. Fox. So one of the issues was the
- 24 angled exit and the width. So it's your opinion that that
- 25 could be modified with minimal -- well, why don't you --

- volume of traffic through that intersection to keep traffic
- moving whereas park and planning seeks to narrow that down to
- slow down traffic and also to -- to shorten the pedestrian
- distances.
- Every finding that they list there, it's a -- it's a
- negotiation between those two parties to determine, you know,
- what state highway's vision is for this intersection and what
- they need it to perform at versus, you know, what can be
- 10 provided from an urban planning perspective and -- and the --
- 11 the narr- -- narrowing of that radius. So --
- ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And you're familiar with the staff
- 13 report; correct?
- 14 BRAD FOX: Correct.
- 15 ERIN GIRARD: And you're familiar with their comments
- 16 that were also discussed this morning about, for instance,
- 17 adding wheel stops to protect pedestrians -- illuminating a
- 18 curb ra- -- or adding detectable warning strips, high
- 19 visibility markings, flush concrete. Is it, in your opinion,
- 20 that these can be addressed with minimal impact to the --
- 21 with the current plan at the time of site plan or preliminary
- 22 plan?

90

- 23 BRAD FOX: Correct. Whether we add wheel stops or
- 24 provide ballers to protect the pedestrians along that flush
- 25 area does not represent a material change to the conditional

rather than --

- 2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.
- ERIN GIRARD: -- me telling you what your opinion is,
- how about you tell me what your opinion is?
- BRAD FOX: And just for clar- -- clarity, we're talking
- about the pedestrian access that goes across Plyers Mill Road
- to the north at the corner of Connecticut and Plyers Mill,
- I'll address that one.
- The -- the proposed conditional use plan sought to
- 10 maintain that existing condition.
- If it's deemed that from a pedestrian safety or from a
- 12 change in standards that the realignment of that would wor- -
- 13 work better, we'll address that with state highway during
- 14 their plan approval process for their work within the right-15 of-way.
- The reconfiguration of that pedestrian ramp is -- is not
- 17 a significant change. There will be a pedestrian access point
- 18 at that corner; it's just how do we configure it for -- best
- 19 for -- best for pedestrian safety.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- ERIN GIRARD: And I apologize if you were saying -- I
- 22 was reading earlier the -- so the pedestrian -- so the curb
- 23 radii turning from the intersection of Connecticut to Plyers
- 24 Mill Road could that be tightened, in your opinion?
- BRAD FOX: With the approval of SHA, the -- the

- use plans. The -- the at-grade crossing for the intersection
- is something that we can certainly work out with staff and
- state highway during the preliminary plan process.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you're saying that all of
- the circulation plans on the distinguished [inaudible] access
- issues --
- BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- all the circulation
- deficiencies that were noted by technical staff can be
- 10 resolved without any major changes?
- BRAD FOX: Yes. I don't anticipate the relocation of any
- 12 access points, pedestrian or vehicular. So therefore, the
- 13 rest is just minor configurations to either the grade, the --
- 14 whether the crosswalk is painted or not, whether we provide
- 15 truncated domes or not and then minor alignment changes.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. By the way, I have an
- 17 extra copy, if you want, of the list of preliminary matters
- 18 if you want your witnesses to have the -- access to that
- 19 which lists, in question D1 through 9, those comments. So I'm
- 20 going to give this.
- So you might le- -- leave this for the other witnesses
- 22 as well. That lists the comments on D1 through 9 that staff
- 23 had made on this general as to access and circulation.
- ERIN GIRARD: Thank you. And Mr. Fox, if you can just
- 25 take a minute, I -- by my count, I think we've hit all but

95 four, but if you could review and make sure that you -understanding of the size of trucks that would be accessing BRAD FOX: Certainly. this location? 3 ERIN GIRARD: -- have provided [inaudible]. BRAD FOX: Well, that might be a -- an operational HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any others that -- yeah, that 4 question. I can answer it from the zoning perspective. The you think you should address. zoning code requires us to either use a SU 30 truck, which is BRAD FOX: I think we touched on all of them. a long fixed-axle truck or WB --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And just --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry, which is a what BRAD FOX: I don't think there was anything else. 8 long? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- we've got a few more for BRAD FOX: I forget the exact length of it, but it is 10 the next witness, but thank you. 10 similar to the largest -- it's -- it's actually slightly ERIN GIRARD: Was there anything else you wanted to 11 largest -- larger than the largest U-Haul truck that's 11 12 offered. 12 cover from your analysis? 13 BRAD FOX: No. 13 That would be something that we would most likely see in ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Then Mr. Fox, in your opinion and 14 a self-storage facility. So a -- a U-Haul truck and that's 15 what we based the 10 -- yes, the 10 x 30 loading zone based 15 from an engineering perspective, will the proposed 16 conditional use cause any objectionable noise, odors, dust or 16 on that truck. 17 elimination? 17 The -- the zoning code also, for larger commercial, 18 BRAD FOX: No. The proposed use will not cause any 18 retail establishments, grocery stores, things like that, 19 objectionable noise, odors, dust or elimination. 19 could require a WB-40. That's not warranted in this case HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: On the elimination part, 20 based on the use. The WB-40 is a small, what you would call, 21 there was an observation --21 a semi-truck. BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 22. MICHELE ROSENFELD: So when I think of a tractor 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- oh, you're going to 23 trailer. I think 18-wheeler. 24 address that with another witness? 24 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. ERIN GIRARD: Correct, Architect. 25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: What would a small semi --96 94 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 1 BRAD FOX: The --ERIN GIRARD: From an engineering perspective, will the 2 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- like how would it correlate to 2 3 that? proposed conditional use cause undue harm to the use, 4 peaceful enjoyment or development potential of abutting or 4 BRAD FOX: Yeah. The -- the -- the tractor doesn't vary confronting properties or the general neighborhood? much; it's the trailer that varies. The WB-40 is a smaller BRAD FOX: No. From an engineering perspective, we're trailer. It's not going to be a large grocery store trailer. 7 taking a existing site with no stormwater management, we're That's a WB-67. The WB-40 would be a smaller tractor trailer 8 providing stormwater management for that site, we're not in that would serve a more urban environment, but I don't 9 violation of any of the setbacks the -- to the neighboring anticipate that here. 10 properties and we have -- we have worked to locate the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Let -- let me interrupt. You 10 11 entrances as they -- as they could best be located. 11 say you don't anticipate that. ERIN GIRARD: And finally, from an engineering sta---12 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 13 perspective, will the proposed conditional use cause any HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Do you mean that the -- the 14 undue harm to the health, safety or welfare of the 14 rules for use of this facility would prohibit it or do you 15 mean you don't think that somebody will show up with one of 15 neighboring residents, visitors or employees? BRAD FOX: No. From an engineering perspective, health, 17 safety or welfare, we are -- the -- the minor modifications 17 BRAD FOX: You'd be required to have a CDL so they'd 18 to the pedestrian access would be the only one from an 18 have a --19 engineering perspective and we'll work to address that during 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's a CDL? 20 the preliminary plan and make that to the current agreed-upon 20 BRAD FOX: Sorry, Commercial Driver's License. 21 standards with both SHA and park and planning. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 22 22 BRAD FOX: Okay. So they would -- they would need to --ERIN GIRARD: Nothing further. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Cross-examination? you know, it would have to be a private moving company or

24 something. It's not going to be a -- an individual, such as

25 myself driving one of those trucks.

24

MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Thank you. Mr. Fox, with

25 respect to the truck circulation on the site, what is your

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, yes, but wouldn't you MICHELE ROSENFELD: If you could approach the exhibit --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And that exhibit is solely anticipate that in a storage facility, you might have a private moving company come in with some stuff? conditional on the site plan, 40A3? MICHELE ROSENFELD: ABC is the site plan. Correct. BRAD FOX: I would leave that as an operational question for the owner just to explain how many times that they BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Would you please show me and actually see those larger trucks at the site. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I -- I guess it's not a describe geographically where that entrance to the adjoining property would be located? question of how many times. BRAD FOX: Yes. Between the applicant's property and the BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: The question I guess I would 10 neighboring property along the north-south property line. The 11 ask is is that loading area large enough to handle the WB-40, 11 drive aisle will go from the proposed se--- self-storage 12 if I got that number correct, trailer --12 property through and into the -- the existing. 13 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Why don't you use that, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- that you say is a 14 because you didn't actually touch the --15 possibility, although, not a frequent possibility? 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And if I can hand you a yellow --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah, Here's -- here's a --BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. That loading zone is drawn to the 10 16 17 x 30 standard in the zoning code. The zoning code allows you 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: All right. 18 to select either the SU-30 or the WB-40 from a zoning 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I don't want them --19 perspective and accommodate either one of those loading 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 20 spaces based on the use that you're proposing. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- to mark it up. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm not sure that 21 BRAD FOX: Right. It's [inaudible]. 22 answered my question. 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, that's the -- it's not 23 BRAD FOX: Yeah. 23 the exhibits from the file. So you can if you wanted to. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Is that area, the 10 x 30 24 BRAD FOX: Okay. 25 that you selected, large enough to accommodate the WB-40 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: But you can use a -- point it 98 100 -- show me where exactly you're talking about. trailer size? BRAD FOX: No. It's not. BRAD FOX: Yes. It's going to come through here where HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So it would have to be we've aligned the drive aisle access and out and through -a prohibited vehicle for this use unless you change that and into the Metropolitan access. loading area; correct? 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So that would be in the BRAD FOX: Correct. northeast section; right, at the access area that you've HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. indicated on it? MICHELE ROSENFELD: Are you aware of the fact that there BRAD FOX: Correct. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. is restaurant use potentially proposed at this location? 10 BRAD FOX: I am. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And how wide is that easement? Well. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And do you know whether or not 11 how wide is the entrance at the property boundary where it 12 larger trucks make deliveries to restaurants during the 12 would lead the subject property to the adjoining property? 13 course of making deliveries to several locations that receive 13 BRAD FOX: We had proposed a 20-foot drive aisle. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And doe- -- do you have an exhibit 14 food products? 14 BRAD FOX: That's largely dependent on the restaurant 15 that shows how that easement would be placed on the adjoining 15 16 property and where it would enter onto Metropolitan? 16 use. There are -- it -- it varies. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. But irrespective of the source BRAD FOX: These middle be- -- between the two property 18 of the trucks, whether it's the storage facility or a 18 owners and therefore, it could either be a blanket easement 19 restaurant, the parking area circulation will not accommodate 19 for joint access, they could request access to the other 20 the larger WB-40 trucks; correct? 20 property, we can request additional access through their 21 BRAD FOX: That's correct. 21 property. The boundary of that easement I have not

22 [inaudible].

MICHELE ROSENFELD: Is it your understanding that it

24 would be potentially a cross-easement that would allow

25 vehicular traffic from the adjoining property onto the

22

MICHELE ROSENFELD: You discussed an access easement

23 across the adjoining property. I believe you said the owner

24 was Kensington Joint Venture.

BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm.

103 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And have you done any truck radius subject property? 2 BRAD FOX: If Kensington Joint Venture requested that as analysis with respect to the ability of vehicles to -- I'm the [inaudible] party, I believe that they could request talking now about the largest vehicles to safely maneuver 4 through the adjoining property and then make a turn onto 5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And could you show me the traffic Metropolitan? BRAD FOX: No. [inaudible] intent that if the truck was circulation pattern for vehicle entering the subject property from Connecticut Avenue -visiting a loading area, [inaudible] loading area and then BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. come back out and turn onto Connecticut Avenue. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- through to the adjoining MICHELE ROSENFELD: So it's your testimony that all 10 property? How would -- what would that look like? 10 truck traffic would be diverted to Connecticut Avenue? BRAD FOX: You'd be taking a right in off of Connecticut BRAD FOX: It's not our plan to restrict it. What I'm 12 Avenue. Coming through here is the -- is the [inaudible] 12 saying is that a truck is going to seek the easiest path out. 13 visiting site. 13 And so the easiest path out would come back to Connecticut HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So through here, Connecticut, 14 Avenue. 15 you'd be entering going northbound on Connecticut Avenue --15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And why would that be the easiest 16 BRAD FOX: Correct. 16 path? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- make a -- a right-in at 17 BRAD FOX: Rather than negotiating through the drive 18 the southern -- southwestern side of the -- of the site --18 aisle and the neighboring parking lot, they went out to the 19 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 19 Metropolitan. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and then you'd proceed in MICHELE ROSENFELD: And is that because you anticipate 20 21 a southeasterly direction and then make a left turn going 21 that turning opportunities would be constrained, that they 22. wouldn't have the room to make those turns? 23 BRAD FOX: Correct. 23 BRAD FOX: Not a -- not a truck driver, but I would want 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 24 to get back out on the main road as soon as I could. So I 25 BRAD FOX: You would continue northeast until you got to 25 would get back onto Connecticut Avenue. 104 102 1 the drive-out, you would then turn back southeast --MICHELE ROSENFELD: And at that location leaving from northeast again and exit out to Metropolitan Avenue. the adjoining property onto Metropolitan, is that a -- a free HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you -- you'd make a right 3 left and free right? turn heading kind of southeast and then make a left turn --BRAD FOX: It is -- yes. You're able to make a left turn BRAD FOX: Left turn -into the intersection of Metropolitan and Plyers Mill or a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- heading northeast? right turn on Metropolitan. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And would the parking be -- do you MICHELE ROSENFELD: And do you anticipate any anticipate that the parking is going to be striped so that limitations on truck traffic entering the subject property that is the -- it's a one-way, you enter from Connecticut and from the adjoining site? 10 you have to go out on Metropolitan or could a vehicle turn Would -- would a truck be able to come down 10 11 around and then --11 Metropolitan, make a left into the adjoined property and then 12 BRAD FOX: A vehicle --12 access the subject property? 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- get back to Connecticut Avenue? 13 BRAD FOX: I don't know why that would be [inaudible]. BRAD FOX: Yes. A vehicle -- a passenger vehicle would 14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: One moment, please. 15 either be able to park in the -- in the parking spaces on 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. 16 site or if there were no parking spaces and they did not want MICHELE ROSENFELD: If a truck delivers and then is 17 to exit on the Metropolitan, they could turn around in the 17 ready to leave the site and is headed toward Connecticut and 18 loading area and then exit out of the right-out onto 18 wants to go south on Connecticut, how would that happen? 19 Connecticut Avenue. BRAD FOX: Depending on size of the truck, they have to MICHELE ROSENFELD: And at the moment, do you anticipate 20 make the U-turn on Connecticut. If they were not able to make 21 that the entry from the adjoining property is an 21 that, they'd have to go up and find a -- a network of service

24

23 around.

25 make a U-turn on Connecticut?

22 streets to -- to make a series of lefts or right to go turn

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And how far up do you have to go to

22 ingress/egress? Would somebody be able to enter the adjoining

23 property from Metropolitan and then use the easement --

24 future easement to enter the subject property?

BRAD FOX: Yes.

Conducted on August 20, 2019 107 BRAD FOX: I do not know if it's restrictive at this BRAD FOX: If you were trying to cut through the site and avoid the light at Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill, 2 light. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And you're saying that still would they're going to end up stopped at that same light making a 4 be preferable to going through the adjoining property and right, because the only way to go is -- is north on accessing Metropolitan? Connecticut Avenue. BRAD FOX: It all depends on the anticipated route HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any other requests? 6 [inaudible]. If any vehicle would want to head south on MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Thank you. Connecticut, they would most likely want to go out the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Question is restricted to Metropolitan entrance. those two. 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I have no further questions. Thank 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. If you were driving north on 11 Connecticut, would there be an advantage to cutting through 11 you. 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any redirect? 12 the subject property to get to the Metropolitan and avoid the 13 ERIN GIRARD: Just two points of clarification, so just 13 light at Connecticut and Plyers Mill? 14 to be crystal clear, because if I'm a truck and let's say BRAD FOX: You -- the existing site has two entrances 15 WAZE tells -- I go wherever WAZE tells me --15 and two -- on both Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill. When I BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 16 was out there, I didn't witness any cut-thru traffic in that. 16 17 ERIN GIRARD: -- WAZE says to come out to Metropolitan, I don't see a reason why if they were trying to make a 17 18 am I going to have any problems accessing from the loading 18 right from Connecticut Avenue to Plyers Mill that they would 19 dock onto Metropolitan as far as circulation is concerned? 19 take the circuitous route through the right and underneath BRAD FOX: The existing uses on that property have truck 20 our building and then out through the other parking lot just 21 traffic. They go in and out of that entrance and we're not 21 to avoid a right turn at that light. 22 proposing any modifications to that. So we would not 22. MICHELE ROSENFELD: But it's certainly feasible? 23 anticipate any issues. 23 BRAD FOX: Certainly feasible. ERIN GIRARD: As far as your studies of the site and 24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: No further questions, Mr. Grossman. 25 making that right-hand turn into the access, is there any 25 ERIN GIRARD: Me neither. 106 108 1 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Hold on one restrictions? second. The zoning ordinance poses some access requirement BRAD FOX: No. questions, this is from 596.1.3A1, any development must allow ERIN GIRARD: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right turn into which access? a vehicle, pedestrian or bicycle to enter and exit the ERIN GIRARD: In- -- in- -- onto the adjacent property. property to and from a street or an abutting site safely. In your opinion, would your present access allow that? I'm leaving the loading bay, I'm going northeast and I'm making that turn onto the adjacent property to access BRAD FOX: Yes. Metropolitan. I just --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And A2, must limit vehicle HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 9 access across a primary pedestrian, bicycle or transit route ERIN GIRARD: -- I'm asking if the -- if there's any 10 whenever feasible. Does this current plan allow that or limit 11 issues with a truck making that turn. 11 it so as such? 12 12 BRAD FOX: No. BRAD FOX: Yes. 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And 3, it must allow a 14 vehicle to enter and exit any onsite parking area in a 14 ERIN GIRARD: And in -- in your opinion, if there -- is 15 there any benefit for trucks, visitors, whatever to access --15 forward motion. Does your -- does your plan allow --16 so if I'm coming in from Metropolitan, is there a benefit to 16 BRAD FOX: Yes. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- it in that -- in that 17 going through the site to get to Connecticut? 17 18 fashion? BRAD FOX: I don't see any, because you'd be restricted 19 19 to the right turn heading north. BRAD FOX: Sorry, can you read it again? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Does your plan allow a 20 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. 20 BRAD FOX: So if they were trying to avoid the light, 21 vehicle to enter and exit any onsite parking area in a

23

24

22 forward motion?

BRAD FOX: Yes.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And 4, it requires that the

25 development must allow a vehicle to access any pad site from

22 they would end up back up at like --

ERIN GIRARD: That's fine.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'm sorry, if they were trying to

23

24

25 avoid the light --

109 111 within this site. I'm not sure if that applies here, but you you're accessing from a state road or not, in your practice? 2 can answer if it does. BRAD FOX: In my practice, state highway governs that BRAD FOX: Sorry, can you read the wording again? entrance. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any development must, and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And it doesn't matter that this is A4, allow a vehicle to access any pad site from the -- that it's wider than the -- the County zoning within the site. It may not apply, you can tell me. ordinance permits? BRAD FOX: Yeah. Yeah. By definition, I don't -- I don't BRAD FOX: The County will raise that question to state highway and state highway will evaluate whether or not they think that we meet the pad site. The -- the project is only want to reduce that entrance to the -- to the 30 feet. proposing a single building. 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. What about the 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, if it's reduced, would 11 driveway access dimensions that are required for the zone, 11 it still be feasible as an entry point? 12 there's some question raised about that by -- by staff. Did BRAD FOX: Yes. Yes. Right now -- let me just double-13 you expect this witness to address that or your other 13 check the numbers. Right now we're using a right-in lane 14 width of 12 feet and a right-out lane width of 12 feet. So it 14 witness? 15 BRAD FOX: Certainly. 15 simply comes down to how we configure those two 12-foot lanes HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. What about the -- the 16 within that 30 feet required referenced by staff. 16 17 width of the driveway? You said it was three feet too wide --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. I don't know about BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 18 how this applies, Section 6- -- 596.1.4E as in Edward, unless HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- on your Connecticut Avenue 19 the road is classified as a residential road a vehicle must 19 20 entry. 20 access a corner lot with only one driveway or a thru-lot from 21 BRAD FOX: Yeah. And the -- I'll -- I'll address this 21 the street with the lower roadway classification. Now, I 22 don't know if you'd classify Connecticut Avenue and Plyers 22 separately. The onsite layout is in accordance with the 23 zoning ordinance -- the current zoning ordinance. 23 Mill as a residential road, you tell me. And if it's not, this provision would indicate that a The entrance from Connecticut Avenue, that does fall 25 within the state highway right-of-way and will be subject to 25 vehicle must access a corner lot, which this is with only one 110 112 driveway, then it says from the street with the lower roadway their standards for a right-in/right-out entrance. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well -- but let's go back to classification. What about that provision? BRAD FOX: So in this case, Plyers Mill would likely the question posed by our zoning ordinance, does it -- does it meet the requirements of our zoning ordinance? The have the lower classification. It's certainly lower volume. technical staff says it's three feet wider than is allowed. The question would be are they both considered arterials? I was looking to see what the staff report referenced them as. BRAD FOX: Agreed. Yes. For that --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You don't think it has to The reason it's not -- the access is not located on meet because it's on a -- a state road? You don't think it Plyers Mill is due to the site distance issue that was referenced earlier and also the distance between the has to meet the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance 10 requirements? 10 Connecticut Avenue intersection and the Metropolitan Avenue BRAD FOX: There's a -- there's a couple of different 12 ways that we could measure it. If we provide a pedestrian 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I think those reasons 13 refuge in the -- the center island of the right-in/right-out, 13 are important, Mr. Fox, but I'm saying -- but I have a 14 does that then become two separate entrances? 14 statutory provision. If we're looking at the overall 30 feet between the curb 15 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So that's what I'm trying to 16 line for the right-in and the curb line for the -- for the 17 right-out, we can restrict that down, but then do we have to 17 find out how that -- that applies, assuming that your reasons 18 then give up some of the -- the concrete median or the 18 for it are -- are -- are important, but since this 19 pedestrian refuge to make that happen? So it's a balancing 19 presumably is not a residential road --20 act. 20 BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm not the expert, you HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- it does say a vehicle must

22 access a corner lot with only one driveway. So -- and it says 23 with the lower -- the one driver with a lower roadway

25 roadway classification. So is that not saying that you'd have

24 classification -- you know, from the street with a lower

22 have to answer me.

BRAD FOX: Okay.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: My question is do you have to

25 comply with the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance when

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to enter from Plyers Mill rather than from Connecticut ERIN GIRARD: Right. Avenue? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I haven't seen any of that I don't know which makes more sense. I mean, I justified. Would you -- would you say that given the understand your point about safety and that's really provision that I just read from Section 596.1.4E that you'd important, but -have to have alternative compliance? BRAD FOX: Yeah. ERIN GIRARD: If in fact they're both considered HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I just have a statutory residential roads, which I -- I just would need to check if provision here and no- -they're not [inaudible]. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: No. It says, unless the road BRAD FOX: Yeah. 10 is classified as a residential or -- so if it's not a res---10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and nobody has asked to --11 to vary from that, as far as I know. 11 if neither is a residential road --BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. My clarification would be would the 12 ERIN GIRARD: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- then this would apply and 13 ability to vary from that provision be part of the site plan 13 14 process or part of the conditional use process? 14 it says, a vehicle must access from the cor- -- and so on. So HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It'd be part of a variance 15 --ERIN GIRARD: Right. Do you think [inaudible] --16 process. It's a statutory provision, but I mean, one could 16 17 argue -- I mean, your counsel can argue about that. I'm just 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You can [inaudible] it and --18 saying that, you know, it wasn't addressed -- none of this 18 and --19 was addressed, as far as I could tell on paperwork, filed by 19 ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. 20 the applicant. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and file something at the 21 So I'm just -- when I went over all these statutory 21 end or -- or address it here with -- with another witness, 22 provisions, I said, gee, does that apply here? And if so, 22 but it seems to me you've got a -- an issue there --23 how? And that's why I'm asking you the question. You want to 23 ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm. 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- on how to comply with the 24 25 25 zoning ordinance. ERIN GIRARD: If I may, yeah --114 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- Ms. Girard --1 ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm. ERIN GIRARD: -- I just want to -- I -- I don't disagree HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Any cross-2 that it's not detailed. I don't -- the issue really hadn't examination based on my questions? I'll say Ms. Girard, you come up. I just want to clarify that under the zoning can go first based on my questions. ordinance, when one uses the term variance, in -- in our 5 ERIN GIRARD: I -- I don't have any. world, that has a very specific meaning --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Ms. Rosenfeld. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I just would ask if the witness ERIN GIRARD: -- but I think that there's an alternative knows the road classifications of both of those streets. 9 compliance section in Section 6 of the -- division 6 of the BRAD FOX: I didn't provide it here. Connecticut Avenue 10 zoning ordinance that allows for --10 is a -- designated as a 120-foot wide major highway and then HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's at --11 the Plyers Mill Road is a -- designated as a 100-foot wide 11 12 12 arterial. ERIN GIRARD: -- the planning board, at least at the 13 site plan --13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Thank you. 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- 6.8, I think, and --14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So none of them --15 ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. The site plan and preliminary plan 15 neither one of them fit within the residential road 16 stage typically and I've had this exact issue come up before 16 classification?

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. If you can meet, 19 would apply unless it's varied by either a variance or by 20 that's true and -- and I should've mentioned that. There are 20 alternative compliance? 21 -- there are -- there's a waiver provision for certain 21 BRAD FOX: Yes. And the reasons that I have [inaudible] 22 parking issues. 22 for safety and site distance would be part of the There's also a alternative compliance provision, which 23 justification for the alternative compliance.

17 where it is an alternative compliance request and grant of

18 the planning board.

24 has a -- a whole series of criteria which you must meet in HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. I -- I think 25 we're finished with poor Mr. Fox. Thank you, sir. Before we 25 order to qualify.

17

BRAD FOX: Correct.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: But this provision 6.1.4E

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1 go onto the next witness, if Ms. Means is here, it occurs to

- 2 me that we shouldn't keep a -- a citizen who wants to testify
- 3 sitting here while we go through the entire process. If
- 4 counsel both agree, we would have Ms. Means testify.
- 5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: That's acceptable to me, Mr.
- Grossman.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Ms. Means. Ms.
- 8 Means, would you state your full name and address, please?
- MARY MEANS: Mary Catherine [ph] Means. I live at 3419
- 10 Pendleton Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And did you write down,
- 12 on the sign-in sheet, your email address and so on --
- 13 MARY MEANS: Yes. I did.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Would you raise your
- 15 right hand, please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth,
- 16 the whole truth and nothing but the truth under penalty of
- 17 perjury?
- 18 MARY MEANS: I do.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.
- 20 MARY MEANS: I had a statement that I was prepared to
- 21 give when we first met.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.
- 23 MARY MEANS: So [inaudible] play on this. For -- I'm
- 24 Mary Means. I've lived, for 10 years, at the address I just
- 25 gave, about a mile from the site in question.

- 1 McKone, I learned that Kelly had been listening and
- 2 responding to the community input for months and was doing an
- 3 amazing amount of revising the initial concept multiple
- 4 times.
- 5 And I saw how the creative solution that had emerged for
- this site's challenging constraints would more than meet the
- 7 Town and County's desire to bring pedestrian level vitality
- 8 to this really important location.
- 9 I wasn't alone in responding with excitement that day,
- 10 but others in the room, representatives of a couple of nearby
- 11 civic associations could only see storage units and remained
- 12 adamantly opposed.
- 13 In fact, one person said, as long as there's a single
- 14 storage unit in it, I'm opposed. So believing as I do that
- 15 the project is a very good one with tremendous community
- 16 benefit is why I became involved.
- 17 I became involved as a private citizen, because I've
- 18 dealt with, not in my backyard, for my entire career and I
- 19 sometimes very much believe that the -- the correct response
- 20 should be yes, in my backyard and I consider the Kensington
- 21 area to be my backyard.
- Reading the staff report and particularly listening to
- 23 the staff's presentation to the planning board I was
- 24 surprised to hear them say, paraphrase in effect, the
- 25 restaurant and artist studios are permitted by the plan in

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- 1 I'm retired now, but by way of introduction, for 30 2 years, my small but mighty community planning firm helped
- 3 public interest clients, town, cities, counties, states,
- 4 universities and nonprofits create plans that enjoyed broad
- 5 community support and that moved easily into implementation.
- Part of this was because we were known for our
- 7 commitment to genuine community engagement and sometimes the
- 8 assignments we had, which were always for public interest,
- 9 were high conflict projects, such as extension of a light
- 10 rail line or a redevelopment of public housing.
- 11 These always brought out a -- a high level of emotional
- 12 concern by a small number of people who were passionately
- 13 opposed to it.
- 14 In these situations and for those clients, our goal was
- 15 really to widen the conversation to enable many voices to be
- 16 heard by the decision makers, not just those who are trying
- 17 to stop it from happening.
- A few months ago when I was asked to take a look at a
- 19 concept that involved a self-storage facility on the site in
- 20 question, like most people, my initial response was
- 21 incredulity, what a stupid idea.
- But I accepted my neighbor's invitation to a coffee to
- 23 meet the development, Mr. McKone and look at the project. In
- 24 her living room, with other neighbors from a number of
- 25 neighborhoods around and the development team, including Mr.

- zoning, so we'll focus on the self-storage units -- the self-
- 2 storage units, which is not.
- And so they did, but to excess. They proceeded to speak
- 4 of the deadening effect of self-storage facilities as though
- 5 the ground and second-floor uses of the building didn't
- 6 exist.
- 7 In fact, as though those two stories didn't exist. They
- 8 then cited the sector plan's recommendation that this site be
- 9 part of an assemblage of land for conventional mixed use
- 10 redevelopment.
- 11 They implied this was possible to assemble sites by
- 12 erroneously stating that the adjoining site was under the
- 13 same ownership, which it is not and the owner had already
- 14 said no to Mr. McKone's overtures about trying to do that
- 15 same thing. A plan can only spell out policies for desired
- 16 uses and conditions.
- 17 It can't dictate market forces. A plan cannot will
- 18 something to happen when it is not financially feasible. For
- 19 -- excuse me.
- 20 For a variety of well-documented reasons, neither
- 21 residential nor office uses on this site will generate enough
- 22 sufficient revenue to make the desired restaurant, artist
- 23 studios and generous public improvements financially
- 24 possible.
- The commitment that Mr. McKone has made to lessening the

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1 visual appearance of the upper stories has been demonstrated,

- 2 it's been quite impressive. Aside from the upper stories' use
- 3 being self-storage, the Town and County are getting exactly
- 4 what was envisioned in the plan. If those were tiny
- 5 apartments instead of storage units, we wouldn't be here
- 6 today.
- 7 The Town of Kensington would not be fighting to stop it,
- 8 yet those apartments would generate more traffic and consume
- 9 much more of the parking that's needed by a ground-floor 10 restaurant.
- 11 Civic associations under that circumstance would
- 12 probably vent about traffic and parking, but would probably
- 13 love to have a quality restaurant and artist studios.
- 14 I live a little over a mile from the site and I pass
- 15 through the Town of Kensington often during a typical week.
- 16 My neighbors and I shop in the hardware store, eat pizza,
- 17 enjoy the farmer's market and buy our groceries in the Town
- 18 of Kensington. All those businesses could not survive without
- 19 all of us patronizing them.
- 20 Though, technically, we're not citizens of the town,
- 21 it's our main street too and I know main streets and how they
- 22 work
- Forty years ago I led the team at the National Trust for
- 24 Historic Preservation that invented the Main Street Approach,
- 25 which is the conceptual framework and methods that have now

- 1 zoning ordinance --
  - MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm.
  - 3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- which includes a whole
  - variety of -- of provisions and -- and requirements, which
  - 5 include, of course, the sector plans a major part, but not to
  - 6 see whether or not there are alternative things here.
  - MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm.
  - HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Nor do I, as I've said
  - 9 earlier, count noses or letters or the volume or intensity of
  - 10 the feelings of people.
  - 11 MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm.
  - 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's not -- that's not part
  - 13 of what I perceive is my job on this. Cross-examination, Ms.
  - 14 Girard?
  - 15 ERIN GIRARD: Yes. Ms. Means, you -- you noted that you
  - 16 first became involved when you went to a community meeting
  - 17 that was held by a neighbor; correct?
  - 18 MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm. Yes.
  - 9 ERIN GIRARD: And you've had discussions with the then
  - 20 and -- and subsequently with the applicant, but has he --
  - 21 have they ever engaged you in a professional capacity to
  - 22 speak on behalf of the application?
  - 23 MARY MEANS: No. No.
  - 24 ERIN GIRARD: And so your testimony here is completely
  - 25 independent?

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1 been used by thousands of small towns and historic city

- 2 corridors to bring life back to their -- their downtowns and
- 3 their older commercial areas.
- In fact, Maryland's Main Street Program and D.C.'s Main
- 5 Street Program are both participating in that program today
- 6 40 years later.
- Recently, my work, particularly, my role with the Main
- 8 Street Revitalization Movement was given national recognition
- 9 by the American Planning Association, which cited me as
- 10 2019's planning pioneer.
- 11 I think the proposed development at 10619 Connecticut is
- 12 an excellent and possibly the only viable solution for
- 13 enlivening this important gateway to Kensington. I know from
- 14 experience that when brave officials say yes to good projects
- 15 and help them come to fruition. Within weeks of a ribbon
- 16 cutting, virtually no one remembers why people had been so
- 17 upset.
- 18 So I wanted to encourage decision makers here at the
- 19 County to be brave and embrace innovation for the good of 20 everyone.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. If it relieves
- 22 your mind, I don't consider alternatives as one of the items
- 23 here. My --
- 24 MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- my duty is to look at the

- 1 MARY MEANS: Correct.
  - ERIN GIRARD: And can you review, just in a little more
  - 3 detail, your professional and educational background?
  - 4 MARY MEANS: Okay. My first professional job was at the
  - 5 National Register for Historic Places where I was pretty much
  - 6 in charge of the review process for determining eligibility
  - 7 for listing of properties on the National Register. I went
  - 8 from there to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, a
  - 9 national nonprofit hired to open their regional office in
  - 10 Chicago for the Midwest.
  - While in that capacity, providing technical assistance
  - 12 to hundreds of towns and cities throughout the Midwest. I
  - 13 noted a couple of patterns that we're developing,
  - 14 particularly having to do with the impact of -- on small
  - 15 towns, their downtowns. So I started a demonstration project
  - $16\,$  that was supposed to end in three years and we'll do a book
  - 17 and a film.
  - 18 It took off like crazy and it's still going today 40
  - 19 years later. Many, many communities have found it helpful. I
  - 20 left the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the mid-
  - 21 '80s and spent some time at the American Institute of
  - 22 Architects Foundation heading their shift to a lot more
  - 23 public engagement.
  - I then went into consulting and became a partner in
  - 25 ultimately the o- -- the owner of a small consulting firm,

125 127 1 which I ran for 30-something years doing national work, 1 been some testimony -- I believe you were here on the first 2 almost always for towns and cities or public agencies. I day, some testimony and some exhibits put in your record as 3 retired about five years ago, although, I still accept the to the historic significance. Did you have an opinion of that occasional interesting place from an interesting person ---- of the existing building? ERIN GIRARD: So you're --MARY MEANS: Yes. Yes. That is a gas station and yes, it MARY MEANS: -- that doesn't involve multiple trips. 6 is an example of what is called the Googie style. I doubt if 6 ERIN GIRARD: -- so you're a planner by trade? it would -- if -- if I were still at the National Register of MARY MEANS: I -- I am a planner. Yes. I'm a -- a 8 Historic Places, the National Register accepts things of graduate of Michigan State University and the University of local significance as well as state or national and it might, 10 Delaware and had a little fellowship at Harvard School of 10 might, might be eligible as a contributing building to a 11 historic district. I can't imagine that it would go much 11 Design. ERIN GIRARD: And so you're familiar -- I imagine, over 12 farther than that. 13 your years of experience, you're familiar with sector plans, ERIN GIRARD: I figured that. You're not calling for it 14 master plans --14 sav- -- being saved? MARY MEANS: Yes. MARY MEANS: No. As a matter of fact, I -- my firm did 15 ERIN GIRARD: -- and how they inform --16 16 the plan for Arlington -- the historic preservation plan for 17 MARY MEANS: Yes. I've actually won several awards at a 17 Arlington and in it, we developed a -- a series of grading 18 national and state level for work on comprehensive plans and 18 buildings, because you're not going to be able to save 19 other forms of land use plans. 19 everything when you're in the crosshairs of this Metropolitan ERIN GIRARD: And you mentioned having been at the 20 area. 21 planning board hearing and reviewing the staff report? 21 And we developed a series of interventions that would be 22. MARY MEANS: Yes. 22 appropriate for the different categories. There was a 23 ERIN GIRARD: And what -- I know you mentioned you're 23 building that actually came up pretty soon after this was 24 surprised at how it was presented, but can you give us some 24 adopted that was a 1950s Lustron House made by the Lustron 25 more thoughts on -- on -- on the staff report and the -- and 25 Company. It was part of mass manufacturing. A developer was 126 128 1 the analysis that was performed on this project? going to remove it for a larger development. MARY MEANS: Well, I'm not really prepared to go into 2 2 It was -- according to the procedures, it was recorded the detail of the staff report. The part that really struck and dismantled and put in storage. It's now at the Ohio 4 me was the description -- the -- the kind of casual dismissal Historical Center as the centerpiece of their exhibit on the of the uses that are being proposed for the bottom two floors '50s of the Lustron Company in -- in Columbus. 6 of this building. So to me, an appropriate treatment for this is recording It was that those are perfectly okay, they -- they fall it and possibly dismantling it if sufficient funding is 8 within our -- our policies. So we're going to focus on the available to do that. 9 other and in doing so, the focus on it completely ignored --ERIN GIRARD: And you've reviewed the plans -- the 10 it -- it -- it is almost as though it disappeared them and 10 architectural plans and all? 11 just moved the storage units down to ground level and that 11 MARY MEANS: Yes. 12 struck me as, wait a minute, is this a hit job? 12 ERIN GIRARD: And you believe this would be an I don't want to put it quite that way, but I sort of 13 appropriate use for this section of Kensington? 14 felt that way emotionally is why is this happening this way? 14 MARY MEANS: Yes. 15 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And are you familiar with the sector 15 ERIN GIRARD: It would be harmonious with this area? MARY MEANS: Yes. I really do. 16 plan itself? 16

17 MARY MEANS: Yes. I am

ERIN GIRARD: And in your opinion -- I mean, just I'm

19 not trying to qualify her as an expert, but she does have a

20 long history in planning.

Would you -- is it your opinion that it complies with

22 the sector plan?

23 MARY MEANS: Yes.

24 ERIN GIRARD: And you -- you mentioned historic

25 preservation as well, that you started the his- -- there's

17 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. That's all I have.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: By the way, the reason why,

19 despite your credentials, you're not being qualified as an

20 expert is that that requires -- for due process, it requires

21 notice to the other side --

22 MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- that there's going to be

24 an expert testifying, give them an opportunity to -- to

25 prepare to respond. All right. Cross-examination.

131 MICHELE ROSENFELD: There are a series of -- of findings MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Grossman. During the course of your testimony, you offered your opinion that that the hearing examiner needs to make -the project is not financially feasible. 3 MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm. MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- in order to approve or deny this MICHELE ROSENFELD: What factual evidence in the record application. Is your financial testimony specifically related supports that conclusion? to any of those findings? MARY MEANS: I think I'd rather leave that for another MARY MEANS: I don't believe so. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I have no further questions. of the expert witnesses who is qualified --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Thank you MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 10 MARY MEANS: -- but all of my discussions with 10 very much, Ms. Means for coming down here --11 colleagues in development, with development firms that have MARY MEANS: Mm-hmm. 12 looked at this site and [inaudible] --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- and sharing your -- your HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, no. Let's not -- let's 13 views. All right. Before we go to the next witness, I have a 14 not give essentially what is hearsay. Hearsay is --14 question for the parties. MARY MEANS: Okay. Do you want to break now for lunch, it's 12:35, and come HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- is usually defined as an 16 back at -- at 1:15? I have a little concern, because the 17 extrajudicial declaration often to prove the truth of the 17 cafeteria sometimes runs out of food for folks. So --18 matter asserted therein. 18 ERIN GIRARD: We appreciate that. 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- so what's your pleasure, So this witness was about to say what somebody else had 20 said and that presumably would be then taken for the truth of 20 Ms. Girard? 21 what they've said. So in this kind of proceeding, a certain 21 ERIN GIRARD: I -- that's fine with me. 22 amount of hearsay is permitted, but it seems to me not on 22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Now would be fine. Thank you. 23 this type of thing. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So 24 24 we'll break now and let's say we'll come back at 1:15. All MARY MEANS: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So I won't let you answer 25 25 right. 130 132 1 that as to what somebody else tells you. (Off the record at 12:31:28 p.m.) 1 MARY MEANS: How about if I were to say that the common (Back on the record at 1:22:10 pm.) sense that I've developed in 30 years of planning and working HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Back on the record again. with developers, knowing the purchase price of this property, Thank you. Call your next witness. 5 the size of it, the permitted height of it and the income 5 ERIN GIRARD: I'll call Matt Clark. that can be generated by restaurants and artist studios HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Sir, would you there's a common sense side that says that those uses would state your full name and address please? not generate sufficient income to provide the level of MATT CLARK: Matthew Clark. Place of business is Land amenity. Design Incorporated. 200 South Peyton Street, Alexandria, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What -- what uses? What --10 10 Virginia. 11 MARY MEANS: Pardon? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would you raise your right HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- what uses would not 12 12 hand please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the 13 generate --13 whole truth, and nothing but the truth under penalty of 14 MARY MEANS: Residential or office. 14 perjury? 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 15 MATT CLARK: I do. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And have you reviewed any financial HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed. 16 17 pro formas or any financial analysis on this project? Aside 17 ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Clark, what's your occupation and how 18 from your common sense, have you reviewed any financial 18 long have you been engaged in that occupation? 19 background or data in developing your opinion? MATT CLARK: For the record, I am a landscape architect 20 MARY MEANS: No. I haven't. 20 originally licensed in Virginia 2000. Also licensed in MICHELE ROSENFELD: And are you -- with respect to the 21 Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New York. 22 financial feasibility project, are -- are you issuing an 22 ERIN GIRARD: And what's your professional and 23 educational background? 23 opinion with respect to any of the specific findings that the

MATT CLARK: I have an undergraduate degree from the

25 University of Vermont in urban forestry and a master's degree

24

24 hearing examiner needs to make under the zoning code?

MARY MEANS: Could you repeat that, please?

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in landscape architecture from the State University of New

- York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. I didn't
- want to say it that long, but --
- ERIN GIRARD: Can you review your work experience in the
- field of landscape architect?
- MATT CLARK: Yeah. I've -- as I said, I've been working
- in the area since approximately, well, June 1997. I work
- mainly on urban mixed-use with a focus on site design and
- construction documentation.
- 10 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Have you ever testified as an expert
- 11 witness before?
- 12 MATT CLARK: No.
- ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Mr. Clark's resume is Exhibit 55 in
- 14 the record. And we move his admission as an expert in
- 15 landscape architecture.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold on one second. Let me
- 17 pull that up. 55. Okay. And I've got a nice picture of
- 18 yourself in there, Mr. Clark.
- 19 MATT CLARK: Probably the only one.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And your Maryland 20
- 21 license is 3349 is that professional landscape architect;
- 22. correct?
- 23 MATT CLARK: Yes.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Ms. Rosenfeld, do you
- 25 have questions for this witness expertise?

- necessarily someone with a specific degree but somebody who
- can offer evidence that will be beyond the kind of laymen on
- the particular subject and will be of assistance to the
- factfinder in making a decision.
- And clearly based on Mr. Clark's resume and his
- testimony here today and his license by the state of
- Maryland, he is an expert in landscape architect, and I
- accept him as such.
- And now you can tell your wife that you're an expert in
- 10 something, or your significant other. Something I've never
- 11 had the -- the -- I -- I always claim -- I say to my wife,
- 12 you know, who knows more about medicine than I do? And she
- 13 says, everybody; you know? This happens with any field. So --
- MATT CLARK: Well, fortunately or unfortunately, she
- 15 works with me and is a landscape architect herself.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There you go. Oh. By the way, 16
- 17 before we go further, two things. One is on the -- the sign
- 18 plans that you handed me, have you given a copy to technical
- staff and the planning board?
- 20 ERIN GIRARD: No.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. You must do that.
- 22 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You should do that when you
- 24 leave here today or tomorrow if you can.
  - ERIN GIRARD: I can get a hard copy now. We were --

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- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. I do. Mr. Clark, when w- --
- when were you licensed in the state of Maryland?
- MATT CLARK: 2007.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And what projects have you worked on
- in the state of Maryland?
- MATT CLARK: King Farm, Fallsgrove, Crown Farm. Those
- are the -- the main ones that I can think of off the top of
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And about what percentage of your
- 10 annual practice would you say occurs in -- relates to project
- 11 in the state of Maryland?
- MATT CLARK: I'll answer this with a layered answer.
- 13 From approximately '97 to 2004 or so, I would say probably 60
- 14 percent of my work was here in Maryland. That dropped off
- 15 until probably two years ago or so. And I would say at this
- 16 point in the game, probably 30 percent, 30 to 40 percent.
- 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Grossman, I -- I have no
- 18 objection to this designation as an expert.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Let me just mention
- 20 something. But this is a process [inaudible] people don't
- 21 know that, called voir dire.
- That is when somebody is offered to testify as an
- 23 expert. Questioning is allowed, asked of his or her
- 24 credentials.
- And an expert in the law is not necessarily --

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- ERIN GIRARD: -- going to send everything electronically
- at the end of today.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. A hard copy would be a
- -- a start because the zon- -- zoning ordinance requires that
- any amendments to plans, any amendments to the application,
- which is in effect what this is, must go back to the -- to
- the -- actually, it says planning board, but staff can decide
- whether or not it's necessary to have it go back before the planning board for the review, and that they be given time to
- Although, strangely enough, it says not more than 30
- 13 days. I'm not sure exactly why it has it phrased that way.
- 14 Usually I give them 10 days for this kind of thing. But just
- 15 mentioning that.
- 16 The other thing is I printed out copies of the Division
- 17 6.8, Section 6.8.1 which is the alternative method -- method
- 18 of compliance. I have copies for both of you ladies if you
- 19 don't have code with you.
- 20 And if you plan to pursue this for the access or any
- 21 other provisions to which this is applicable in Division 6 --
- 22 or I should call that Article 6. It applies to certain
- specific divisions within it. Then that's another thing that
- 24 should be taken up and -- and run by staff as well as -- as
- 25 well as the hearing examiner.

	Conducted on A	1u	139
1	ERIN GIRARD: Sure.	1	that.
2	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Returning to		MATT CLARK: Absolutely. Approach the
3	Mr. Clark; you have questions?	3	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure.
4	ERIN GIRARD: Yes. Are you familiar with the conditional	4	MATT CLARK: the plan? I'll take the the first
5	use property surrounding [inaudible] application number CU19-	5	one, which was the I guess the landscape as it relates to
6	03?	6	the parking
7	MATT CLARK: Yes.	7	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.
8	ERIN GIRARD: Can you review your your design concept	8	MATT CLARK: particularly. It's it's worth noting
9	for the landscaping and open space proposed in the	9	on the plan here. Okay. So the the parking is generally
1	application?	10	
11	MATT CLARK: Okay. Is i it is okay if I read from	11	The building itself, although it's it's not exactly
	some notes? Okay.		easy to see here, actually extends to this this portion of
13	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure.	13	the covering essentially covers the parking; okay? So this
14	MATT CLARK: I'm going to talk about the the main	14	
	plaza at the corner of Connecticut and Plyers Mill as well as		parking spaces here [inaudible]
	the building orientation and some of the the balance of	16	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: By that you mean there's a
	the site. The building itself is oriented to the intersection		there's an overhang?
	of Plyers Mill and Connecticut Avenue roughly to the to	18	MATT CLARK: There is an o the building goes over.
	the northwest.		It is
20	Fronting onto Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill is an	20	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
21	approximately 8,000 square-foot plaza. It's a combination of	21	MATT CLARK: cantilevered over.
	hardscaping and landscaping with space for informal	22	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
23	gatherings.	23	MATT CLARK: And [inaudible]
24	The plaza is generally arranged with landscape fronting	24	
	onto the adjoining roadways with a more open interior section	25	MATT CLARK: Actually
-	138	-	140
1	immediately adjoining the building.	1	ERIN GIRARD: If you want to just draw that line
2	The plaza contains several pockets of landscape located	2	MATT CLARK: Yeah. Okay.
3	within planters, lawn areas, and street trees. Overall, the	3	ERIN GIRARD: it may be easier for everyone to see.
4	site has approximately 6,900 square-feet of planted area. The	4	MATT CLARK: Yeah. So that that is really the
5	façade along the plaza, which would be the one facing to the	5	building footprint for all practical purposes, with this
6	the northwest here is designed so the first-floor uses	6	parking and drive aisle going underneath the building.
7	will front directly onto and engage the plaza.	7	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So you've indicated
8	Further out from the plaza and running along the west	8	that in in yellow highlight.
9	and northern edge of the site is a dedicated bike lane that	9	MATT CLARK: Yes.
10	wraps the property between Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill	10	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And it extends much further
11	Road.	11	than I realized somehow, out from the from what's
12	The eastern, which would be this side down here, and	12	indicated as the building over the parking.
13	southern edges of the property, are perimetered, or bounded	13	I I read cantilevered but somehow I didn't realize it
	by, rather, with landscaped material. And that's the the	14	was that much. Can you also mark that let's make that an
	overall description of it.		exhibit and we'll say where are we on our exhibit list
16	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, what about questions	16	here?
17	raised by technical staff about landscape required for	17	MATT CLARK: Want me to just [inaudible]
18	parking areas, including tree canopy. I might mention while	18	ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. Just write it, like, at the bottom.
19	we're we're at this.	19	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right at the bottom there.
20	I don't know if it's your area. Parking setbacks I don't	20	It'll be Exhibit 90 and that is conditional use site plan.
21	recall being mentioned, but there are parking lot setback	21	Plan with highlight showing building coverage what would
22	requirements also in the zoning ordinance, and I wondered	22	you call that overhang? That that cantilevered overhang?
23	about that.	23	MATT CLARK: Yeah. I
24	And then there was the question raised about some	24	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What would you ca is
25	artwork or other things for the open-space area. I'd address	25	there a word for that in in the in the planning lingo?

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#### Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

MATT CLARK: I think it's overhand. I mean, --MATT CLARK: We can actually add -- well, I'm going to HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. grab another exhibit here. Pull this up here. MATT CLARK: -- I think that's -- I think you nailed it. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Which one is that? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: First time. All right. MATT CLARK: This is the -- it's the -- the site Including overhang. Okay. landscape plan [inaudible] MATT CLARK: Should I continue on that? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. That's -- that's --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes please. MATT CLARK: [Inaudible] which --MATT CLARK: I -- I did -- did a quick calculation of HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'll give you the -- the -the -- the total area of the parking lot from, you know, it'll be 40-something I believe. All right. Amended landscape 10 front to back, everything included, and it's about 18,000 10 plans, 40d and there are five subparts to it. Let's see. 11 square-feet. Of this, this area under the overhang --11 Which one are you looking at? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. MATT CLARK: L5101 is the sheet number. I don't know if 13 MATT CLARK: -- is approximately 8,428 square-feet or 46 13 that helps you at all. 14 percent of the parking is actually under a building. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: No. I -- I don't have that HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 15 designation but there's -- one is a materials plan, two is MATT CLARK: So the -- if -- if -- I haven't run the 16 hardscape details, paving, three is hardscape details site 16 17 numbers on this. If you were to take that out of the 17 furnishings, four is planting plan. 18 equation, the -- the -- the exposed parking, for lack of a 18 MATT CLARK: That's the one. 19 better word, the parking that can have water hit it, from --19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So it's -- it's 20 from above, is about 10,000 square-feet. 20 40d [inaudible] 4. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you -- so all right. You 21 MATT CLARK: 40d 4. 22 said 46 percent of the parking --22. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Mm-hmm. 23 MATT CLARK: Mm-hmm. 23 MATT CLARK: Right now, the -- the area immediately 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- is under the building? 24 adjacent to the parking lot both on the south, east, and to a 25 MATT CLARK: Yes. 25 lesser extent on the north [inaudible] we've got on the south 142 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And so -- and -side a fairly large massing of evergreen trees that are six to eight feet in height when they're installed, 15 feet or so MATT CLARK: Parking area. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Of the parking area. when they grow out to -- to full maturity. MATT CLARK: Correct. Along the eastern side, because of the proximity to the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So you're suggesting that -adjoining property, it's basically shrubs. So we -- we 6 I suppose that you can't have plantings there because they'd MATT CLARK: They're under -- yeah. They're under a 9 building. Absolutely. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's -- I've never faced 10 11 that issue before. I -- I guess that's a reason for varying 12 from, you know, planting requirements. But go ahead. You tell 13 me. 13 in this particular area to compatibility --14 MATT CLARK: Well, I think where I was going after that 14 MATT CLARK: Right. 15 was if you -- if you back that area out and -- and -- which I 15 16 did, you have about 10,000 square-feet of exposed parking 17 area. And the -- the code wants us to have 25 percent of that 18 applicant. 19 perimeter or area around that covered in landscape. And 20 that's something that we could absolutely work with -- with

22

24

25 issue?

23 for all I know.

couldn't f- -- fit any additional shade trees in here. That being said, I think on the south side or even possibly on the north side, if we need to trade some of these out and put in true shade trees, we could absolutely do that. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Well, it's a question 11 of compliance with statutory provisions. And once again, they 12 are subject to alternative compliance. They're also subject HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- evaluation. And so those 16 would be issues. They haven't really been addressed as I --17 as far as I know, in any of the papers submitted by the Have those -- Ms. Girard, have those issues been 20 addressed at all on the question of -- of whether or not if 21 staff on to make sure we've got. 21 you can't meet the statutory requirements for the amount of I haven't comped it right now. I mean, we may be there 22 planting and -- and the amount of tree cover, whether you are 23 seeking alternative compliance on that or you're seeking to HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What about the tree canopy 24 say it's compatible and therefore the hearing examiner has 25 the ability to --PLANET DEPOS 888.433.3767 | WWW.PLANETDEPOS.COM

145 147 ERIN GIRARD: Unfortunately, I'm going to have to add 1 -- later submission? 2 that to the list --MATT CLARK: I can talk about it now actually. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, here's the [inaudible] HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 3 ERIN GIRARD: -- of the other one. This just wasn't -the -- the -- ordinarily, everything has to be presented -it wasn't raised until we saw the staff report and --MATT CLARK: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- at a hearing so the other MATT CLARK: And -- and we haven't comped these 6 particular trees up, so I -- I don't have the answer for that side has an opportunity --MATT CLARK: Right. specifically. Okay. Okay. 8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- to respond to it. So the ERIN GIRARD: Okay. 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What about setbacks? I mean, 10 more you push off here into --11 that's another question. I -- I didn't actually see that MATT CLARK: Well then yeah. 12 mentioned in the staff report. Maybe it is, but parking lot 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- future submissions, the 13 more it raises the question of we're going to have to have 13 setback issues. The --ERIN GIRARD: I don't recall -- we can certainly have --14 another hearing. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There are specific --15 MATT CLARK: Oh no. I meant subsequent questions here. 15 16 ERIN GIRARD: -- for architects --16 But I can talk --17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- parking lot setback 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 18 [inaudible] 18 MATT CLARK: -- about that right now as a matter of 19 fact. 19 ERIN GIRARD: There are. I was always under -- I was 20 under the stand -- understanding that we complied with those. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 21 I can certainly have the architect speak to those. 21 MATT CLARK: The notion of incorporating public art. I HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You may have. I just don't 22 think this -- this is an early design. Obviously we're not at 23 remember seeing that in --23 the final site plan or anything like that. But there is a ERIN GIRARD: Right. Our architect can speak to that, 24 great opportunity within this plaza, both within some of 25 these plant beds, on this building, this area here to 25 unless you feel capable. 146 148 MATT CLARK: No. I definitely do not want to speak to incorporate public art. the --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And that's the northwest 2 2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 3 corner. MATT CLARK: -- setbacks [inaudible] 4 MATT CLARK: That would be the northwest. Yeah. 5 ERIN GIRARD: You were describing your landscape and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: The actual corner. open space design. MATT CLARK: Yeah. The northwest area. And I think given MATT CLARK: Right. the fact that the -- the uses, or the proposed uses within ERIN GIRARD: Did we sidetrack you? Are you done? the building would have artists. MATT CLARK: I think we -- we talked about the -- the 9 I think we can absolutely incorporate public art or even 10 parking landscaping --10 rotating art installations, that sort of thing. But --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 11 12 MATT CLARK: -- and you had two other points. Well, one 12 MATT CLARK: -- absolutely. 100 percent. 13 of them was the setbacks. ERIN GIRARD: And Mr. Clark, are you familiar with the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. Right. 14 approved and adopted Kensington Sector plan and its 15 MATT CLARK: The other one was the notion of public art. 15 recommendations with respect to the subject property and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 16 16 surrounding area? 17 MATT CLARK: And I -- if I can get to that in a follow-17 MATT CLARK: Yes. 18 up statement --ERIN GIRARD: Are you familiar with Kensington design 19 guidelines and its recommenda- -- and their recommendations HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. Absolutely. 20 MATT CLARK: We'll talk about that. For sure. 20 with respect to the subject property and surrounding area? 21 ERIN GIRARD: [Inaudible] 21 MATT CLARK: Yes.

22

ERIN GIRARD: Can you discuss how you think this project

23 complies with both the sector plan and the design guidelines?

25 the -- the notion of the sector plan first. I do believe that

MATT CLARK: Yeah. I think I'll -- I'll -- I'll speak to

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: When you say follow-up

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: [Inaudible] as part of a la-

23 statement, you mean not today or you -- you --

MATT CLARK: Well, I was -- as --

24

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# Transcript of Administrative Hearing

Conducted on August 20, 2019 1 this is supporting of -- of mixed-use development which was MATT CLARK: North. 2 one of the -- the comments directly under the analysis area 2 3 TC-5 which was -- was part of the sector plan. 3 MATT CLARK: North by --I think that it also located -- noted that parking, for 4 5 example, should be located to the rear, and -- and we've 5 talked about that. You all had hit on some of the earlier comments under the analysis, this particular analysis area of access to the site. So I won't go into that again. But I think as far as 10 these two other elements, absolutely.

With regard to the design guidelines, the -- they

12 basically hit on four kind of main goals, one of which is

13 Kensington character. The second is pedestrian connections.

14 The third is pedestrian-oriented development and the fourth

15 was transitions.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Let me just get 17 this down. Kensington character.

18 MATT CLARK: Yeah.

19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What was Number 2?

20 MATT CLARK: Pedestrian connections.

21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold on. Number 3?

MATT CLARK: Within each one of these kind of chapters

22. MATT CLARK: Pedestrian-oriented development.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Number 4?

24 MATT CLARK: And the fourth was transitions.

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

green swath around here, and to a lesser extent, on the

2 if you will, there are a set of objectives and supporting

guidelines to help achieve them. I think the -- the two that

4 are most applicable from -- from my perspective as a

5 landscape architect to this site are pedestrian connections

6 and the pedestrian-oriented development.

So I'd like to go through a couple of the objectives and 8 goals underneath that. Under the -- kind of the purview of

9 pedestrian connections, one of the -- the primary goals was

10 create a high-quality pedestrian network. And there were

11 several guidelines below that.

The first was create direct and safe routes for

13 pedestrian travel. The second was to use trees, plants to

14 complement the pedestrian character and the historic

15 neighborhood or historic district area and incorporate

16 amenities and visual interest for the -- for pedestrians.

I think the -- the plan that we've created right now as

18 far as safety for pedestrians, starting in the -- the

19 southwest corner of the site and touched the bottom of the

20 [inaudible] earlier. The main pedestrian pa- -- pathway comes

21 up and actually intersects into this plaza area here. At this

22 point --

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Proceeds north?

24 MATT CLARK: Proceeds north.

25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: North, northwest.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Northeast; right?

MATT CLARK: Northwest. Depending on where the

pedestrian goes at that point, they have an opportunity to

either engage the building directly going through kind of

what I call the main part of the plaza, or if perhaps they're

going across the intersection, to go outward and then across.

This -- this kind of tale of two paths here comes back

11 together at the northern part of the site and then continues

12 back along Plyers Mill.

13 I think what we've done here in terms of creating a -- a

14 safe pedestrian environment here is we're using certainly the

15 -- the bike lane, the proposed bike lane out there as kind of

16 an outboard buffer to both Connecticut and Plyers Mill.

And we're using landscape to further kind of define both

18 pedestrian zones and the plaza itself. So I think in terms of

19 creating direct and safe routes of pedestrian travel, I think

20 it's -- it absolutely check that box.

21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

MATT CLARK: The second one that I mentioned was the use

23 of trees and plants to complement pedestrian character.

24 Again, as I noted, we're kind of using this -- and again, I

25 apologize. I keep getting up. We're using essentially this

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So around here being --?

4 MATT CLARK: Oh. Yeah. I apologize. Along the -- the

western perimeter of the site and across the northern

[inaudible]

northeast corner.

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HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

MATT CLARK: And then the very northeastern section. In

9 all instances here, we have the -- the pathway, if you will,

10 is immediately approximate to landscape. So we're bringing

11 people close -- as close as we can to the landscape.

And I think that the -- the use particularly along the

13 western side and the northern side where you -- we have trees

14 and under plantings, everything, I think would create a -- a

15 very nice pedestrian experience; okay?

The third thing was incorporate amenities and visual

17 interest for pedestrians. And we -- we actually kind of

18 touched on this a little bit earlier, was the notion of

19 incorporating public art.

20 We got the use or proposed use right in the building

21 right there. So again, I think this becomes -- and this --

22 this would be a bad way to describe this, but a -- a canvas

23 for public art within this plaza area set back against the

24 landscape.

25 So from my perspective, I -- I think those three

guidelines help achieve the -- the high-quality pedestrian

network in this area.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

MATT CLARK: The second primary objective under

pedestrian connections was the notion of create a variety of public open spaces.

And I think the way it was -- was written in the design

guidelines was that for the whole Kensington sector plan, it

was create a variety of public open spaces, of which this

10 would be one.

There were a couple specific guidelines under that. The 11

12 first one was public open space on private property should be

13 accessible from sidewalk. The second was locate open space in

14 areas of high visibility. And the third was incorporating

15 seating at the public open spaces.

I believe that this first one, public open space on

17 private property should be accessible. We're absolutely

18 there. We can access it from the -- the south along

19 Connecticut Avenue.

20 We can access this site from the roughly northwest

21 across the -- the intersection and from the -- I guess the

22 due east along Plyers Mill.

23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: By the way, I have a pointer 23 really speaking to the notion of we want the users in this

24 if you want to use that. Would that help you at all?

MATT CLARK: You know what? I would love that actually.

Thank you. So I think from -- from that accessibility

2 standpoint, we're -- we're pretty good there. Locate open

space scenarios of high visibility. Clearly, we've heard

4 other speakers talk about this. This is a very visible

point, so we're kind of leaving that as a bit of a blank

canvas right now.

5 location.

We're at the corner of, you know, Connecticut and Plyers Mill. And then the notion of incorporating seating into

public open spaces.

This -- this plaza has a couple different types of

10 seating in it. We've got both movable seating or -- which

11 would be kind of -- or could be, rather, located immediate

12 approximate to the -- the building itself. So this might be

13 for the restaurant or some -- whatever users in there.

We've got fixed seating to the -- kind of the -- roughly

15 the south of it and over here to the -- I'll call it north,

16 northeast. And they have the seating in these locations, as

17 well as a -- another one back over there along the trail.

The selection for that seating is directly from the

19 Kensington design guidelines. They give a specific make and 20 model, so we've done that.

But I think the really interesting piece of this is

22 going to be with respect to the planters in here. And this is

23 not a final design by any s- --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: In the nor- -- in the

25 northwest corner.

MATT CLARK: Yeah. Roughly along that crescent there.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.

MATT CLARK: That -- that landscape crescent. What we've

planned conceptually is to have fixed seating there, but it's

not just going to be straight shots and -- fastened and stuff

like that.

We believe there's a real nice opportunity here to use

seating almost to become a kind of public art and have this

kind of respect and respond to these -- these planters. So

10 it'll become kind of an art form in and of itself.

So I think in terms of incorporating seating, we've --

12 we've done that as well. Those are kind of the -- the -- the

13 three guidelines and -- and -- that supported the objective

14 create variety in public open spaces.

The next kind of -- the big -- oh. And I'm sorry, there

16 was some other thing. I missed it. Was the notion of design

17 flexible spaces to accommodate variety of users. When you

18 look at this -- and I'm probably going to burn somebody's

19 eyes out. When you look at this, we have landscape out here,

20 certainly out along the roads.

21 Up against the building, we've really left this

22 primarily as hardscape. And -- and that, to our mind, is

24 building to inform how that space is used. So making a very

25 flexible space for -- for end users here.

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We don't really know what that's going to be at this

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Don't we know what it's going

5 to be?

4

MATT CLARK: I don't know how it'll work operationally

because I -- I don't understand who the -- for example, the -

- the specific restaurant is or anything like that. I'm

trying to basically build them a framework and let them fill

10 in -- give me some guardrails --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

MATT CLARK: -- and then work within that. So that

13 starts to -- to talk to the -- the flexibility of that space.

14 You know, the -- the balance of the site is -- is landscape

15 and some of the -- the utility [inaudible]. The other big

16 chapter was the notion of pedestrian-oriented development

17 under the design guidelines.

And the -- and the primary objective they listed there

19 was to enhance the pedestrian experience through careful

20 orientation of buildings. So I'm going to jump in some other

21 experts' areas here but I'll just kind of go through it.

The four guidelines that they had were orient buildings

23 to face sidewalks, vary building massing, reduce the visual

24 impact of parking structures, and reduce the in- -- visual

25 impact of parking stations or gas stations rather. Some of

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159 these clearly aren't applicable. 1 resources. 2 But in terms of the building orientation, with the way And two of the points in there, which -- which were this is set right now with the building facing to the touched on earlier, one the -- one part of the document northwest, absolutely orients the sidewalk, which in our case talked about street jurisdictions and we covered this, that is a really big sidewalk in terms of it being an open space. 5 it is Maryland State Highway going around this. So I won't The very -- the -- in terms of the building massing -belabor that point. and again, you'll -- you'll hear about this a little bit more But I will say that in this resource, there's a -- a when -- when Michele talks. The building is actually stepped 8 very specific section on street furnishings. Covers waste back so that the building itself that interacts with our open receptacles, benches, things of that nature. Bike racks. And 10 space -- and again, I see everything through the lens of my 10 our plans, preliminary though they may be, or early though 11 open space -- is actually only -- I think it's about 20 feet 11 they may be, we selected all those site furnishings straight 12 high or something. 12 from the design guidelines. So that should match up in that So it's not six stories or anything like that. But it 13 regard. So I think I've probably given you a really long 13 14 steps back to a higher structure. And again, Michele can talk 14 answer to your question. 15 about that in more detail. But I do believe that the building ERIN GIRARD: And it -- it did feel -- I know we 16 massing is varied and it's not oppressive. The third one was 16 reference the guidelines a lot. Is it your -- most of that is 17 the -- reduce the visual impact of parking structures. 17 also in the sector plan or --? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Before you --18 MATT CLARK: From what I read in the -- in the sector 19 plan as far as the -- what was it? The -- the TC-5, you know, 19 MATT CLARK: Oh. Sorry. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- you move the massing 20 designation or whatever, I only really saw two or three key 20 21 issue. One of the community witnesses testified on August 9 21 points. And I -- I might have missed some things. 22 that there was -- she had a concern about the impressions of The first one was the notion of the mixed-use 23 the back of the building from Howard Avenue. 23 development with street level shops on Connecticut and Plyers 24 MATT CLARK: Mm-hmm. 24 Mill. 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Do you have any response to 25 Parking should be to the rear and then the -- the third 158 160 1 that? one was the access of the site off Plyers Mill. So I -- I MATT CLARK: I can't speak to that. didn't dive much deeper into that [inaudible] 2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Let the architect --ERIN GIRARD: Those -- those are put together with the MATT CLARK: I've already --5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- address that. 5 MATT CLARK: Yeah. 6 MATT CLARK: -- jumped over the wrong line. ERIN GIRARD: More generally, is there language in the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. sector plan relating to what you just -- just discussed? MATT CLARK: Reduce the vi- -- the third one was reduce Defining public spaces. 9 the visual impact of parking structures. And I think, as we MATT CLARK: There is some reference back and forth, but 10 talked about it before, the f- -- the fact that, you know, 10 off the top of my head, I can't nail it down specifically. I 11 almost half of the parking is under cover; addresses that to 11 definitely stayed with the design guidelines as -- as my 12 a large degree. 12 guiding principle more than anything. And the fact that it is biased to the east side of the ERIN GIRARD: Which -- is it your understanding that the 14 site so that the building, in effect, becomes the -- the 14 design guidelines arised from the sector plan? 15 block for that. 15 MATT CLARK: Yeah. Absolutely. Now, it's true. There is parking visible on -- on the ERIN GIRARD: Oh. One issue that staff raised -- this is 17 south side of the site down by the tracks here. And we're --17 Number 4 on that sheet, which I believe it's still up there. 18 we're doing a level best there to mitigate that with 18 But that no clear pedestrian path is defined fronting 19 landscape and in terms of -- of screening. 19 Connecticut Avenue within the applicant's [inaudible] plaza. So I think that in large part, we've done what we can do 20 The applicant should show clearly delineated pedestrian paths 21 in terms of -- of meeting these -- these guidelines or 21 on its preliminary plan submission. East [inaudible] and 22 guidelines and objectives. 22 should include an adequate buffer separating pedestrians from One thing I -- I will note, there was a -- there was a 23 traffic. 24 fifth chapter in the -- the design guidelines and it wasn't 24 MATT CLARK: So are they -- they're -- again, our -- our

25 specifically oriented toward design aspiration. It was purely

25 pedestrian pathway -- as it comes along here, we get to this

163 decision point where we can either go that way or we can go substantial compliance with the Kensington sector planning out here and which would run parallel to the -design guidelines? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Once again, for -- for the | 3 MATT CLARK: From a landscape architecture perspective? record --Absolutely. MATT CLARK: Yes. I'm sorry. 5 ERIN GIRARD: And from a landscape architect standpoint, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- could you identify the do you believe the conditional use would cause any objectionable noise, odors or dust at the subject site? 8 MATT CLARK: Yeah. The pedestrian pathway, starting at 8 MATT CLARK: No. 9 the southeastern corner -- or southwestern corner of the site ERIN GIRARD: That's all I have. 10 10 proceeds in a northerly direction to about the midpoint of HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Cross-examination? 11 the building. At that point, we encounter the main part of 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Just a -- a general question. From 12 what I call the plaza. 12 the landscaping on the south side of the project --13 Pedestrians have the option then to go in a -- kind of a 13 MATT CLARK: Yes. 14 northwesterly direction and run parallel to the bike path MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- have you reviewed any of that 15 which also runs parallel to the street. And that wraps around 15 with CSX or do you know if they have any design restrictions 16 and continues on to the northern part of the site and 16 for landscape materials adjacent to the railway tracks? 17 [inaudible] grass is on the eastern side. 17 MATT CLARK: To my knowledge, we have not reviewed CSX. 18 18 The other option for a pedestrian is at that decision MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. So if they have limitations on 19 point to go through the plaza and match up the same way. We 19 the type of landscaping that you could locate there you're 20 don't have that specifically marked out on the plan, but that 20 not --21 was -- that was the idea. And I don't know if that answers 21 MATT CLARK: We would have --22 22. that question or not. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- aware of them? ERIN GIRARD: Do you think in working with staff you 23 MATT CLARK: Yeah. We would have to [inaudible] 24 could accommodate something --24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: But you would have to comply with MATT CLARK: Absolutely. 25 them. 164 162 ERIN GIRARD: -- that would --MATT CLARK: I don't know if there's an overlay easement 1 MATT CLARK: Yes. Absolutely. or anything like that. 2 ERIN GIRARD: -- satisfy the -- their concern there. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. MATT CLARK: Mm-hmm. 4 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, isn't that something ERIN GIRARD: Okay. So Mr. Clark, from a landscape you really have to know in order to -architecture standpoint, do you believe the proposed MATT CLARK: Well, I mean, insofar as the fact that it conditional use would be compatible with and in harmony with hasn't shown up on any survey basis and everything we've the character of the surrounding area? located is on our property at this point in the game. We MATT CLARK: I do. haven't --ERIN GIRARD: And from a landscape architect standpoint, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So maybe --10 11 would -- do you believe the proposed conditional use would 11 MATT CLARK: Yeah. We have --12 cause any undue harm to [inaudible] peaceful enjoyment, 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- you have to comply with 13 economic value or development potential rebutting or 13 it. 14 confronting properties for the general neighborhood? 14 MATT CLARK: Yeah. Well, yeah. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: They may not like it but we MATT CLARK: I do not. I think it would be completely 15 16 compatible and -- and not cause any undue stress on the 16 might have to lump it. I don't know. 17 neighbors. 17 MATT CLARK: They might have to accept it. 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And Mr. Grossman, I have no further ERIN GIRARD: And from a landscape architecture 19 standpoint, will the proposed improvements cause any adverse 19 questions for -- for this witness, but I do have a procedural 20 effects on the health, safety, or welfare of the neighboring 20 matter I'd like to take up when we're concluded with this --21 residents, visitors, or employees in the area? 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: With this testimony. MATT CLARK: I don't believe so.

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ERIN GIRARD: And I believe you already answered this,

24 but just to make it crystal clear, from a landscape

25 architecture standpoint, do you believe the project is in

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Anything further?

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you very

ERIN GIRARD: No. That's it.

167 1 witness stand again please. All right. I'll let you question much --2 MATT CLARK: Thank you. him, Ms. Rosenfeld. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- Mr. Clark. Once again, MICHELE ROSENFELD: All right. Mi- -- Mr. Fox, thank you congratulations on being an expert and -- and very clear for coming back. I appreciate it. well-organized --BRAD FOX: Mm-hmm. MATT CLARK: There's a first time for everything. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I don't know if you have a copy of 6 6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Clear, well-organized Exhibit 87 that you can look at. If not, I would be able to presentation. Thank you. Yes, Ms. Rosenfeld? What's the provide you a copy. procedural --? BRAD FOX: I -- I was just looking at it. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Like you, I was unaware until 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 11 Mr. Clark testified how deep the cantilevered portion of this 11 BRAD FOX: So -- in the audience. 12 building went into the site. 12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And comparing Page 87 Exhibit C with I candidly misread the plans and thought it was along --13 the site plan exhibit that you were referencing earlier, does 14 a few feet along the rear of the building, which may simply 14 the cantilever of the building go -- extend to the end of the 15 be a -- a sidewalk or a pathway. 15 parking spaces that abut the adjoining property? How -- how In looking at more detailed plans that were included in 16 far out does it extend? 17 Exhibit 87, there are issues that -- there -- there are BRAD FOX: Yeah. So this is the site plan that was 18 questions that I would have for Mr. Fox, if he could be 18 highlighted --19 called back. 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Correct. 20 And I call your attention particularly to Page C of BRAD FOX: -- by Mr. Clark. If you look carefully, there 21 Exhibit 87 where it's for the first time clear to me the 21 -- the columns that are shown on the renderings are actually 22 depth of this overhang. There is a post on the outer corner 22 shown on the site plan also. 23 of the overhang. 23 And similar to any parking garage or parking structure HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Let's just making sure that 24 that you have visited, we've located those columns and in 25 we're looking at the same one. Can you hold that up? coordination with the architect, at the ends of the parking 166 168 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Of course. It's called signage stalls. So they fall on the parking lines and outside of the outline north elevation. [inaudible] lines. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Got it. So they are -- they are shown on here. We -- we are MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mine looks like this. Oh. And there planning for that coordination. We do understand the are a couple of other pages that I would draw your attention cantilevered building and we're planning on accommodating. to. The ne- -- the next one is signage outline south MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so the -- is -- is there one elevation Page D which is essentially a flip of that. pole per parking space or is it -- does it span the width of And then E outli- -- signage outline east elevation. And more than one parking space? 9 if I'm I- -- looking at this rendering correctly, from the BRAD FOX: Currently -- and I don't know if you want to 10 rear it appears that there are vertical poles from the 10 take a closer look. 11 building into the parking lot. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I do actually. Thank you. 11 And to me, that raises questions, again, particularly BRAD FOX: I could -- I could better explain it. 12 13 with respect to trucks and larger trucks, with respect to 13 Generally speaking, we have a -- a column at every two 14 circulation, safety, the -- the ability for vehicles to 14 parking spaces. 15 maneuver within the site itself, and access to the building. 15 ERIN GIRARD: Along the rear of the parking spaces that So I -- I realize it's unusual, but it was only after 16 abut the adjoining parking. BRAD FOX: And also along the parking [inaudible] to 17 reviewing this and hearing the testimony that the -- that

18 line of questioning came to me. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. I'm sure Ms. Girard

21 ERIN GIRARD: I don't.

20 would not --

- 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- object to that. Okay.
- ERIN GIRARD: I'm just glad I told him to stay. I said,
- 24 you never know. And there you go.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Fox, would you take the

18 [inaudible] so there's additional columns there.

- MICHELE ROSENFELD: So there are a total of three rows
- 20 of columns underneath the cantilevered portion of the
- 21 building?
- 22 BRAD FOX: I would urge you to ask the architect about
- 23 the columns.
- 24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay.
- 25 BRAD FOX: But it is for site circulation and vehicular

171 circulation. The intent is to locate those columns where they address is 901 East Madison Street, Phoenix, Arizona, 85034. don't [inaudible] parking [inaudible] HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Would you raise your MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so with respect to the trucks right hand please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, that we were talking about earlier, the large trucks, would the whole truth and nothing but the truth under penalty of be they be able to pull out from under the building between 5 perjury? those columns? 6 MICHELLE BACH: I do. BRAD FOX: Yes. If we go back to where the loading areas HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed. are, the loading areas are recessed and so they have the ERIN GIRARD: Ms. Bach, what's your occupation? distance to pull out of the loading area before they even MICHELLE BACH: Architectural designer. 10 enter the perpendicular [inaudible] for the [inaudible] 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry. You have to speak 11 spaces. Those columns have been recessed out even further to 11 up because of the fan. 12 accommodate that loading. MICHELLE BACH: Sorry. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so is there only means of 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Architectural what? 14 [inaudible] through the end of the drive aisle into the 14 MICHELLE BACH: Designer. 15 adjoining property? 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Designer. Okay. BRAD FOX: No. They would be able to turn on demand. ERIN GIRARD: And how long have you been engaged in this 16 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Turn on demand. Okay. And then do 17 occupation? 18 you know with respect to the largest trucks that we were 18 MICHELLE BACH: Six years. 19 talking about [inaudible] you'll probably remember the number 19 ERIN GIRARD: And what's your professional and 20 faster than I'll find it. Oh. The WB -- not the WB-40s. 20 educational background? 21 ERIN GIRARD: SU-30s. 21 MICHELLE BACH: I have a bachelor's degree from MICHELE ROSENFELD: The SU-30s. Thank you. Do you know Washington State University in architecture and a master's 23 if the height of the cantilevered portion of the building is degree in architecture from the University of Nebraska at 24 high enough to allow them to enter the loading base. Lincoln. BRAD FOX: It is. The county also sets a minimum zoning 25 ERIN GIRARD: And are you a member of any professional 170 172 1 height on that. And what I would request that you ask the architectural societies or organizations? actual height of the cantilever from the architect. MICHELLE BACH: I am an active member of the Arizona MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. chapter of the APA, the Association for Planning. BRAD FOX: Once she's up here. ERIN GIRARD: And can you review your work experience in MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. I will do that. All right. the field of architecture? Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Fox. Thank you, Mr. MICHELLE BACH: In the last six years, I have worked Grossman. directly in a commercial architecture setting with four of HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Do you have any redirect? those years being specializing in self-storage, design and ERIN GIRARD: No. I don't. zoning cases associated with those self-storage, full zoning HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you, Mr. 10 cases, conditional uses, special uses. 11 Fox. I didn't -- I didn't realize even when we had to -- Mr. 11 And in the Maryland area, I did recently just work on a 12 Clark up there that the overhang was not just an overhang, 12 case in area 1 for Westbard Self-Storage. 13 but it's actually part of the whole building. It's -- the ERIN GIRARD: And y- -- have you ever had to testify as 14 whole building is cantilevered over. 14 an expert witness in the field of architecture? 15 ERIN GIRARD: Sits above it. 15 MICHELLE BACH: No. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Not just a -- a ledge out HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I'm going to stop you 16 17 there. 17 for a second. West part self-storage? Is that -- you said 18 ERIN GIRARD: Correct. 18 Maryland. On Westbard Avenue or --? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. All right. Are we 19 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. It's -- it's in Bethesda, Maryland. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. I'm familiar with 20 ready for the next victim? 20 ERIN GIRARD: The moment you've been waiting for, the 21 Westbard Avenue in Bethesda. 22 architect. We're calling Michele Bach. 22 MICHELLE BACH: So --

25 What -- what was your --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm just wondering -- it

24 didn't come across here as a conditional use or anything.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. All right. Ms.

MICHELLE BACH: Michele Alexandria Bach, and my work

24 Bach, would you state your full name and address please.

175 1 do. You've not been qualified as an expert in any ERIN GIRARD: It's an industrial zone. MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. administrative or judicial proceedings? ERIN GIRARD: It's [inaudible] right. 3 MICHELLE BACH: No. I have not. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I have no -- no further questions, MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. It's -- yeah. Just another self -but Mr. Grossman, I would object to Ms. Bach being admitted HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. as an expert architect. Her backgrounds in training and MICHELLE BACH: Closed self-storage case that I have to experience I would say carry some weight with respect to the testimony that she might give, but I -- I would object to her the area since -admission as an expert. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 10 MICHELLE BACH: -- I'm from Arizona. Most of my cases 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Respond to that? 11 are in Arizona. 11 ERIN GIRARD: I -- I -- as you noted previously, I -- I HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would be lo- -- logical. Yes. 12 don't think that licensure in Maryland is a -- is necessarily ERIN GIRARD: And your resume is in the record at -- as 13 dispositive as to whether or not you should be qualified as 14 Exhibit 22c. 14 an expert. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Let me take a look at 15 I think that Ms. Bach has been practicing in this 15 16 specific area of self-storage architecture design for a 16 that. 17 ERIN GIRARD: And we're moving her admission as an 17 number of years and that that in combination with her 18 expert architect. 18 master's and her participation in architect -- in societies HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All righty. Hold on a second. 19 would qualify her -- handily qualify her as an expert. 20 Now, are you licensed in Maryland? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: A- -- and as I stated before, 21 MICHELLE BACH: The firm that I work under is licensed 21 it's not even any particular educational degree that 22 in Maryland. qualifies somebody as an expert. Rather you can qualify as an 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And what firm is that? expert if you have knowledge that is beyond the account of a MICHELLE BACH: RKA, Robert Kubicek Architects. They're 24 laymen in a particular area and would help the factfinder in 25 the ones who have signed and sealed the drawings, the 25 making a decision. 174 176 1 architect of record for the project. Of course, these other questions about her background HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. and whether or not she's licensed, so on, goes to the weight MICHELLE BACH: I'm currently in the process of being to be given to the evidence. But -licensed, but education and internship hours, I haven't fully ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: But -- but I will accept her completed my licensure yet. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You haven't completed your as an expert in architecture with those qualifications. licensure in Maryland or even in Arizona? ERIN GIRARD: I mean, Ms. Bach, are you familiar with MICHELLE BACH: Even in Arizona. the conditional use property of the surrounding area in HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So you're not a application number 19-03? 9 10 licensed architect? 10 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. MICHELLE BACH: No. 11 ERIN GIRARD: Can you review the design concept for the 11 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 12 building proposed in the application? 13 MICHELLE BACH: I work under licensed architect. 13 MICHELLE BACH: I can. I'm going to walk through --14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And the -- so your -- I see 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. 15 on your resume Exhibit 22c, RKA Architects Inc. Is that the 15 MICHELLE BACH: -- the exhibit. 16 firm you're talking about? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would you like the -- the 16 17 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. 17 pointer. Oops. I'm sorry. 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 18 MICHELLE BACH: That's okay. 19 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There we go. MICHELLE BACH: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And they are licensed in MICHELLE BACH: I have several boards that I'd like to 20 20 21 Arizona. And are they licensed in Maryland as well? 21 walk through to --MICHELLE BACH: Yes. They are. 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Questions 23 MICHELLE BACH: -- to talk about --24 Ms. Rosenfeld? 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: sure. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I -- I have [inaudible] and -- and I 25 MICHELLE BACH: -- the exhibit. So I'll have to get up

179 to change them. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And what about the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. -- the restaurant area? Is that the entire first level? MICHELLE BACH: And I -- I do want to touch on the basis MICHELLE BACH: Yes. of the overhang since it has come up --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 5 MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm, yes. With the exception of the MICHELLE BACH: -- in the last few es- -- experts. So north. The very far northeast corner has the rental office just the -- the design of it and the function of it. I'm for the substorage. going to start with the site plan but only go briefly through HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. it since Brad Fox and Mr. Clark have already kind of gone MICHELLE BACH: But that's a small, 800-square feet of 10 through them. 10 the entire first floor. 11 As we know, we come off of Connecticut Avenue to -- into 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 12 the building or off the Metropolitan Ave. Those are our two MICHELLE BACH: So the reasoning behind having, 13 site accesses that we're going through. And that we are 13 splitting the second floor in the way we did -- I know back 14 defining the front of the building as the western elevation 14 on August 9th Judith with the Artisan Maker Studio spoke to 15 which faces Connecticut Avenue. It does have a tilted angle 15 there's a certain amount of square footage that she also can 16 to it that also faces Plyer Mill to gain the full landscape 16 have that would be viable for her. 17 of public plaza. So with that, I'm just going to switch So we've worked with her to -- to find that space. And 18 these. 18 then also putting on a front to activate the roof garden that 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know that's an exhibit we 19 we are -- the -- the second floor roof patio garden space for 20 already have. I've seen that one. Now, what's the number on 20 the Artisan Studio Makers to use that and use it as an 21 that one? What's --21 outdoor artist retreat, have yoga in the morning or whatever MICHELLE BACH: This is Exhibit 40C. 22 they see fit to activate that space. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Is that in the front of the MICHELLE BACH: Roman Number I. So this is the building 24 building --25 elevation, which faces the hard intersection on the northwest 25 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. 178 180 1 corner of Connecticut Avenue and Plyers Mill. Now, as we can 1 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- of the -- the open space 2 see, this is a three-year rendering of the graphical that you're talking about, the rooftop space? 3 representation that our landscape architect walked through of 3 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah, that's right. 4 the community plaza on the main floor, activating our retail 4 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. That's right along the 5 space; which, you know, in our plans has been defined as a edge -- edge of the front of the building. 6 restaurant. MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm. That -- that's this whole edge We also want to leave that open for retail use as it right here. 8 hasn't been completely defined who that end operator will be. 8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 9 But there is roughly just over 6,000 square feet dedicated to MICHELLE BACH: So and then the -- in our design, we 10 that, the whole first floor with the exception of the self-10 have these large expansive windows right here. That is our 11 storage office, which also is considered a business use, not 11 idea that they slide open and they're all operable. Again, on 12 --12 a storage use, that office. So that makes our whole first floor commercial use. As 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's the --14 we go up in the building, the second level is 8,000 square 14 MICHELLE BACH: -- nice days. 15 feet of it dedicated to the artist studio makers. To, again, 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's the -- what you were 16 it's all oriented on what we are considering the front, the 16 pointing to was the second floor --17 west elevation of Connecticut Avenue. 17 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Is that the whole second 18 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- where the artists --19 19 floor, by the way? MICHELLE BACH: On the second floor. MICHELLE BACH: It is the entire first -- the -- the 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- would have their space. 21 front half of the second floor. 21 MICHELLE BACH: The -- the same concept runs on the

22 first floor, again to activate in interior and exterior

space. Also plays into our landscape design of really

25 second. As -- another thing to note is -- is the setbacks.

24 creating an interactive pedestrian feel of the first and

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okav.

25 activation happens at the streetscape.

24 Avenue and half of what faces Plyer Mill. So that that whole

MICHELLE BACH: So everything that faces Connecticut

183 And I know we were talking about pedestrian scale. The be about six inches wide. So the --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry. What will be six first floor, including the -- the railing from the second floor does reach about 20 feet before the building steps inches wide? 3 MICHELLE BACH: The wall. The -- the thickness of the And the building steps back anywhere from 25 to 30 feet 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. from the second floor up to the sixth floor. This also helps 6 emphasize that when you're a pedestrian, you know, MICHELLE BACH: So half of that thickness is imbedded with those windows. interacting in the plaza or -- or walking by just as a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. traveler, that you're only interacting with essentially a 10 one-story building. 10 MICHELLE BACH: And the second half is backed with the 11 You're not interacting with a six-story building that's 11 structural framing --12 right in your face. The -- the step back helps emphasize a 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okav. 13 pedestrian scale. 13 MICHELLE BACH: -- and interior walls. Then as we move up, the third and -- third through sixth 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 15 floor is all dedicated, the entire footprint, to self-15 MICHELLE BACH: So you can't physically see through. So 16 storage. 16 nighttime lighting from any interior corridors we won't see 17 The second half of the second floor that's in what I 18 would consider the rear of the building, which would be the 18 And then the building -- in our past practices we like 19 east elevation, that faces Metropolitan Road, is also 19 to use black faux windows. It gives a better impression of a 20 dedicated to storage. This is not really an active elevation, 20 office building so that you have nice window glazing 21 which we felt was a -- a good use to fit the -- the rest of 21 throughout the whole building. The design of our upper floors is also playing into more 22 the self-storage and --23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What do you mean it's not an 23 of a residential feel to have as many windows, including the 24 active elevation? What does that mean? 24 types of amolian [ph] designs that we have to bring in this MICHELLE BACH: We don't have any pedestrian activity mixture of industrial and historic and modern kind of all 184 182 1 going on on the rear of our -- of our property. It -- it's mixed, where we have brick materials, metal siding panels and 2 parking and then faces the other existing uses adjacent to a stucco-fine finish elevation to -- to kind of bring in. us, which I believe is a -- it's just other commercial uses Again, we've also -- speaking on the materials, we've 4 and 7-11 gas station. So having -- we -- we're interpreting used the faux brick for the first and second floor to also 5 the west and north elevations as our -- our public activation highlight the community, commercial-activated space by changing the materials in that while we're recessing the spaces. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. One of the community metal panel and stucco materials behind that to help I witnesses testified that the windows above the second floor wouldn't want to say hide but not as emphasize the dower as were not really windows. What -- would you -we are the base. 10 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would -- would a pedestrian HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- expand on that? 11 on the street be able to tell the difference between those 11 12 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So going into our -- the third 12 windows that you plan, the faux windows, and real windows? 13 through sixth floor, as you can see there's a lot of window MICHELLE BACH: No. I mean, at nighttime yes, if the --14 because if the lights were on on the first or second floor 14 glazing in them. But they are all spandrel windows. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: They're all what? 15 obviously you're going to see into, unless there's blinds 16 drawn from a restaurant or something. 16 MICHELLE BACH: Spandrel. 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What is that? 17 During the day there's -- there's no difference between 18 MICHELLE BACH: So they're like faux windows. 18 the sun reflectivity on the faux windows and the real 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 19 storefront windows. 20 MICHELLE BACH: They -- they are faux glass. They are 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 21 recessed into the building, so that they're flush with the 21 MICHELLE BACH: So and the first and second floor are 22 building design. They are just backed with a certain color. 22 all real storefront windows. 23 And in a structural framing sense, the -- the wall is HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 24 anywhere from six to eight inches. We will be doing this 24 MICHELLE BACH: So I -- I want to flip around to the building in structural steel framing, so it will most likely 25 east side just to touch a little bit on the overhang.

187 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. which is missed on this information. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right here being against the MICHELLE BACH: Which I'm actually going to -- so just 3 real quick, because then I'm going to put this board up. This portion of the building that's not the [talking over each is Exhibit 40C, Roman Numeral II. other1? 5 And this is elevation taken further south on Connecticut MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. It's not against it. It's -- it's Avenue. This is the Connecticut Avenue entrance, where we can slightly away from it because we don't have -- back, if you start to see that this is the building overhang in the back. remember, on the site plan exhibit that Brad went through, we So here, and I don't think this has an exhibit number. do have that striped pedestrian walkway, so we don't -- we HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I think that does have an have -- that has to be clear of any obstructions so we don't 10 exhibit number. Let's see. Hold on a second while I give it 10 have any columns coming down from that. So it's right on just 11 to you. 11 past the sidewalk line on the parking petitions. MICHELE ROSENFELD: It's 40B but we're not sure between HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 13 whether it's 1 or 2, based on how it's described on the MICHELLE BACH: So all of these columns fall roughly 14 Exhibit list. 14 every two parking stalls, which is roughly 18 to 20 feet 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 15 apart. So we have three rows of them, which is really a 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: It does say double elevation forty -16 structural spanning issue. 17 -We're spanning our building 40 feet to reduce the load 18 MICHELLE BACH: Well, this is the second one, so --18 and the cost of the structural beams needed for that 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So we'll assume it's 2? 19 cantilever. The more columns we can fit in reduces the size 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 20 of beam that we need to have structurally. 21 MICHELLE BACH: So in particular the south elevation HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So only partially 22 here --22 cantilevered. The rest of it's supported from the outside --23 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. MICHELLE BACH: I would say --24 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- the -- the beams on the MICHELLE BACH: So this is what is facing --25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: CSX. 25 outside. 186 188 MICHELLE BACH: -- Howard Avenue and the railroad 1 MICHELLE BACH: Well, I would say that the whole entire 2 tracks. thing is being supported from the beams because we have three HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. rows of the beams. And the third row falls just on the inside MICHELLE BACH: So as you come in off of Connecticut line of the exterior finished wall. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Where is the middle row of Avenue here, you drive along this driveway. This is the full 5 building overhang. It is -- I don't have the exact number in beams? here, but I believe 14 feet 6 inches clear. That's actually a MICHELLE BACH: So that's what I was saying. 8 fire code standard, so that we can get a fire truck still HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. under there. MICHELLE BACH: There's -- there's an error in this 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So the overhang is 14 10 drawing. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. MICHELLE BACH: Fourteen feet six inches I believe. 12 MICHELLE BACH: We are missing some rows of columns. 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Six inches high off -- off 13 This one -- they're all -- they're all in a perfect line, so 14 the --14 you're going to see the one --15 MICHELLE BACH: That's clear -- clear space. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Clear? Clear, okay. MICHELLE BACH: -- that is on the further extent, but 16 17 MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm. Clear space. 17 there should be another column right here, and then another 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And how far out does it 18 one about 10 feet away from that. 19 extend? And then there's the span of the last couple feet of the 20 MICHELLE BACH: Just roughly 40 feet. 20 first row of parking stalls, plus the 24-foot wide driveway. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 21 And then there's this last row of columns in the second-MICHELLE BACH: I'm kind of noticing on here there's a 22 furthest east row of parking stalls.

25 called cantilevered?

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So if it's -- if there are

24 three layers of columns that would be actual support, why is

23 couple lines missing actually. But here is one column.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.

MICHELLE BACH: There should be another one right here,

24

191 MICHELLE BACH: It's actually called an overhang, not a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What is that? cantilever. MICHELLE BACH: It's the outline, which is this building HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. that runs all along here. And then further to the west I MICHELLE BACH: And the reason why we call it an believe it's an extra space self-storage. overhang is just because there's no physical building below HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. So -- so I didn't see 6 it. it on the -- it's not on the plans, per se. There's a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. building all the way along --MICHELLE BACH: It's all being supported by an open MICHELLE BACH: Along the -- the east elevation. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And that would not --10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know. It was just referred 10 MICHELLE BACH: It would be an adjacent property. 11 to in the staff report --11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That would not change, I take MICHELLE BACH: So --12 it? 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- as -- as cantilevered, so MICHELLE BACH: Correct. It's owned by a different 13 14 I --14 property owner. 15 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm going to take a minute, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- but that's not the case? 16 16 if you would, so -- to just look at something here. MICHELLE BACH: We would --17 MICHELLE BACH: That's, I believe, the Kensington Joint 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It's -- it's over --18 Venture property. 19 MICHELLE BACH: We would refer to it as an overhang. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And you say -- what is 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Which is better than a 20 the use of that building? 21 hangover, right? 21 MICHELLE BACH: I believe it's an extra space self-22 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. Yeah. 22 storage. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Yeah. I MICHELLE BACH: I'd also like to mention that there --24 mean, I see it on the technical staff report, but I didn't 25 there is two basement levels of this facility, which also 25 realize what it was until you just said this, that it would 190 192 plays into the sidewalk being designed the way that it is. shield the -- okay. For the waterproofing and landscaping, we can't put that MICHELLE BACH: So speaking on the shielding, that -on top of basement structures, so we can put, as Brad Fox has that is also a reason why our windows do not exist on that mentioned, bollards and parking stops to prevent any vehicle east Metropolitan Ave elevation. They start at the third from potentially overhanging onto the sidewalk space. But we floor, third level of the elevation because that's the can't put a fully-formed curb. elevation that will no longer be screened --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Now this back with all the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. columns there, that would be visible from Metropolitan, I MICHELLE BACH: -- by the building. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And are -- are those also all take it, and from whichever the streets were. 10 MICHELLE BACH: Connecticut. So actually there's only a 10 -- all faux windows there? 11 couple of those columns that will be visible, and those are MICHELLE BACH: Yes. On levels three through six, yes. 12 the ones on the end, which is why they're wrapped in the 12 Those ones will be. 13 brick to still follow the elevation materials from the HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. When you say third 13 14 streetscape. These ones that fall in the middle --14 through six --15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 15 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah, because the --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Three foot -- the -- the MICHELLE BACH: -- that are painted to match the 16 17 building, the structural steel will be painted to match the 17 others aren't windows? 18 building, are hidden by the adjacent property because these 18 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah, they --19 columns only go 14.5 feet tall. 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: There's no windows below the 20 So the adjacent building is actually screening these 20 third level? 21 from the street view. 21 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. The other two elevations are the -HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, which -- can you put up 22 - the back of house of the restaurant --23 the plan and show me what adjacent building is screening 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. 24 that? 24 MICHELLE BACH: -- and the -- the storage office. And 25 MICHELLE BACH: This building here --25 then the second level is the -- the remainder rear portion I

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#### Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

was mentioning about the artist studios are in the front west

- side of the elevation.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MICHELLE BACH: And the remainder is storage units, so
- that second back is -- is storage units, which --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 6
- MICHELLE BACH: -- what -- you know, we -- it has the
- same function as the three through six, but since you can't
- see the elevation because of the adjacent self-storage --
- 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 11 MICHELLE BACH: -- there was [talking over each other]
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And all those poles, the
- 13 three layers of support poles, they will not interfere with
- 14 the flow of traffic through that -- under the overhang?
- MICHELLE BACH: No. That's why we've purposely placed
- 16 them on the parking stripes. And they're every 20 feet, so it
- 17 doesn't happen every parking stall. And then we have made
- 18 sure that the 24-foot driveway width is clear of any
- 19 obstruction.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So -- so those -- each layer
- 21 of poles is at least 24 feet apart from the other layer
- 23 MICHELLE BACH: No the -- the poles going south to north
- 24 are roughly 20 feet apart from each other. And going east to
- 25 west, the second and third row is just over 24, because

- MICHELLE BACH: Then we have the just-over 24 feet,
- because it's not right at the end of the parking stall so
- it's a little more than 24 feet of clear space for the
- driveway.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MICHELLE BACH: So that's unobstructed. With the second
- -- or the third row, I'm sorry, of columns happening at the
- end of the east parking strip to help support the far eastern
- end of the building.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- ERIN GIRARD: One thing, so as was mentioned before that 11
- 12 the design, as it stands today, is not as it was submitted.
- 13 It's been revised, correct?
- 14 MICHELLE BACH: That's correct.
- 15 ERIN GIRARD: And can you briefly describe the design
- 16 evolution, particularly what suggestions were made by the
- 17 town that you tried to incorporate into the revised design?
- 18 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. So the biggest being the
- 19 orientation to Connecticut Ave and Plyers Mill. We started
- 20 off with a design that had our building a lot more recto-
- 21 linear, and didn't have that angle on it.
- Through several staff iterations, it came about in
- 23 design streets [ph] that they really wanted us to create this
- 24 open community plaza.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: They being?

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- 1 that's the driveway.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And how about the first to
- second, east to west?
- MICHELLE BACH: I believe -- I believe they're 10 feet 5

apart.

- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So that's just for the
- pedestrian path?
- MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see.
- MICHELLE BACH: Well, that's just in the parking stall
- 11 because it -- it runs on the parking strip. So --
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, as I understood, that
- 13 first row of columns is not right against the wall because
- 14 leaving -- leaving space for pedestrians, right? So --
- 15 MICHELLE BACH: Correct. That first row happens right 16 here.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Right at the -- right
- 18 at the eastern out thing of the pedestrian walkway?
- MICHELLE BACH: Correct, correct.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And then you have 20
- 21 another --
- MICHELLE BACH: So that this pedestrian walkway is
- 23 clear, and then roughly another 10 feet is the second row.
- 24 But they both fall on the parking stripe.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see.

- MICHELLE BACH: The Montgomery County staff, planning
- 2 staff.

- 3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 4 MICHELLE BACH: So we worked through several designs
- with them to help re-orient the building and pull it back in
- certain areas to create the angle that we see today, this
- angle right here, to help soften the edge of the northern
- portion of the building. Which then allowed for us to create
- this entire open plaza and -- and then really activate that
- 10 whole center with a commercial use on the first floor.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 11
- MICHELLE BACH: Along with that was following that
- 13 activation up, we had originally started on just activating
- 14 the first floor, which then through iterations brought us to
- 15 the second floor of activating that space as well.
- And then by adding the setback for again a more
- 17 pedestrian scale feeling of our building, that we added that
- 18 second-story roof part in to again bring people out from the
- 19 second floor to a street space and help to activate a second
- 20 floor as well as a first floor space.
- ERIN GIRARD: But as far as materials and such, was --
- 22 particularly with regard to the town, did they suggest that
- 23 you look at -- at a precedent to redesign the building?
- MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So originally our building was
- 25 using all brick materials to fit more in a historic character

199 of town. residential feel. And through some design meetings they had suggested that HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: How tall is that building we look at the recently-approved Solero Project. So we looked behind it? at that. MICHELLE BACH: The extra space, I'm not entirely sure. We went through some of the approved documents, and they I'd have to go back and measure that. do have a mixture of a contemporary industrial field, which HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Oh. Just to give me an idea, 6 is why we pulled some of those elements into our re-design, how many floors? 8 particularly in our [inaudible] design of our windows, and MICHELLE BACH: A two-story, two-story building. creating more of a warehouse look with those, and then mixing HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 10 both the -- a modern take on metal paneling with the -- the 10 MICHELLE BACH: Okay. So an idea --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: We can't really [talking over 11 brick. 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And this was the suggestion 13 of the town of Kensington, you say? MICHELLE BACH: It is lower than [talking over each MICHELLE BACH: Yes. Yes. 14 other] HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You can't [inaudible]. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 15 ERIN GIRARD: And the idea being that that -- the Solero MICHELLE BACH: It does sit lower. There is an elevation 16 17 Project was in relative proximity to the site and that they 17 change. It's only a couple feet though. So that building at a 18 would be compatible, that the architecture was similar? Is 18 two-story building, anywhere from 24 to 28 feet tall. But 19 that true? 19 then again taking into effect the elevation change. If you 20 MICHELLE BACH: That's true. The Solero Project, I 20 measured it directly across our building we'd be sitting at 21 believe, is on Metropolitan Avenue, I guess southeast of the 21 anywhere in the 20-foot mark. 22 site. So in the -- the same general neighborhood. 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 23 ERIN GIRARD: And you touched on this briefly, but just 23 ERIN GIRARD: And can you review for us the site 24 getting back to the hearing examiner's point about someone 24 lighting associated with the proposed use? 25 talking about the view of the building from Howard Avenue. I MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So our site lighting, we've done 198 200 1 know we talked about it a little bit from Metropolitan, but an exterior photometric analysis so far. We don't have an can you address what the building would look like? interior one as of yet. MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So as we -- Howard Avenue falls But again, the third through sixth floor is all faux windows, so you won't see any interior lighting from there 4 south of the railroad tracks here. So what they have antique 5 row in the town of Kensington on. protruding to the exterior of the site anyway. So from two angles we would have here on this southern The first and second floors are a combination of wall portion of the building would be this. So as you're coming up pack units, which are -- are small building lights faced to the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Howard, that downward and shielded, as well as decorative sconces around you would see this portion. the commercial store-front windows. And then under the If you are further east on Howard Avenue, not quite all 10 building overhang, there is ceiling-mounted lighting to light 11 the way to the intersection yet, Howard and Connecticut 11 up the parking lot. 12 Avenue, you would be looking this portion of the side. All lighting is LED and the boundaries, I know there's a I would also like to mention that there is a significant 13 comment in the staff report that there's a few spots where it 14 elevation change from Howard Avenue to our site. So Howard 14 hits a 0.7 and there's a 0.5 maximum. We are -- our 15 Ave is significantly lower in height. So you would see the 15 electrical engineer on the lighting exhibit, which Erin, you 16 top portion of our building. 16 might have renamed that exhibit. 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Top portion of the southeast HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 40E is your amended 18 facing it? 18 photometric plan. 19 MICHELLE BACH: Correct. MICHELLE BACH: 40E, okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And then you have various 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 20 21 MICHELLE BACH: Correct. 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Which is the windowed MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. Those are just the -- the cut 23 portion? 23 sheets for the lights --MICHELLE BACH: Yes, which is the windowed portion. So 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 25 25 you're going to see more of this elevation here for the MICHELLE BACH: -- for the lighting fixtures themselves.

# Transcript of Administrative Hearing

Conducted on August 20, 2019 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, you have a preliminary 1 but you'd want to make sure that -- that you're either -- 40E V, Roman Numeral V, is preliminary photometric plan, and then 40E VI is preliminary lighting. size, and I don't know if the overhang part of it makes a

MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So the -- the -- the V, the photometric plan.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right.

MICHELLE BACH: The preliminary photometric plan has the

lumen count numbers on it. The places where I've identified

that there is a 0.7 are actually anywhere from 5 to 10 feet

10 from the property line still.

So this is just a matter of us, we need to go back to 11

12 our electrical engineer and make sure that he shows the rows

13 of zeros along it. he just stopped it at the -- the number of

14 the lumen counts.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, zero, whatever it is --

16 MICHELLE BACH: Whatever it is --

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- at the property line.

18 MICHELLE BACH: -- at -- at the property line. And we

19 will adhere to what the code standard is of 0.5 and --

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

21 ERIN GIRARD: One thing I forgot to ask about. I know

22 you established word that -- that you were considering in

23 front of the -- of the building. Can you adjust the parking

24 step-backs?

MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So according to the Montgomery

meeting the setback requirements for parking lots of this

difference in that or not.

ERIN GIRARD: Right.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And make sure that you're

compliant with that.

MICHELLE BACH: Sure. We'll -- we'll definitely look

into that.

10 ERIN GIRARD: And you had referenced the Kensington

11 Sector Plan. Are you familiar with the approved and adopted

12 Kensington Sector Plan and -- and associated design

13 guidelines?

14 MICHELLE BACH: Yes.

15 ERIN GIRARD: And can you review for us why you believe

16 this project substantially complies with the Kensington

17 Sector Plan?

18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I don't know that she's

19 testified that it has.

20 ERIN GIRARD: Could you [talking over each other] --

21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You are leading us there.

22 ERIN GIRARD: -- review for us if you think the -- and

23 if and how the project might comply with the Kensington

24 Sector Plan and Design Guidelines?

MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. So just kind of touching, based on

1 County Zoning Code, the parking set-back is defined by the

2 Build 2 area, that it needs to -- parking needs to be behind

the Build 2 area on either the front set-back or the side

4 step-back.

And we are defining the western edge, Connecticut

Avenue, as the front of our building. On the site plan, all

of our parking falls behind that.

There is also on the Kensington sector plan a request

9 that all the parking happen in the rear of the building,

10 which we have designed the site for that to happen as well.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, there's more than that

12 in the Zoning Ordinance. There are specific sections that

13 deal with parking setbacks. I'd have to pull -- I don't have

14 it in front of me now, but --

MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. In -- in the CRT zone --15

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. 16

17 MICHELLE BACH: -- the -- the parking setback, at least

18 what I had looked up and I may have missed a section, was

19 that the requirements were, you know, behind the -- the VTA,

20 which is the Build 2 area for the front and side.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Well, yeah. I'm

22 not going to argue with you about it. I just don't -- I don't

23 remember.

24 MICHELLE BACH: Sure.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I would have to look it up, 25

some points that I've already mentioned, as well as both our

civil engineer, our landscape architect have also mentioned

one of the large points is orienting the building towards

sidewalks and creating a pedestrian-level orientation with

5 that.

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I believe by orienting it towards the active

7 intersection of Plyers Mill and Connecticut Avenue that we

have addressed that in the Sector Plan and the Design

Guidelines.

10 And as well as there is with the pedestrian level to

11 create signage and architectural details at the pedestrian

12 level, which we have also tried, in pulling, and you'll see

13 this in the signage package that was entered as an exhibit

14 today, that we have placed a large majority of our signage

15 all on the landscape planters, the friend and second story

16 building awnings, to keep that all at a pedestrian scale,

17 while pushing the monumental portion of the building by the

18 self-storage back, the 25 to 30 feet.

There is a comment about the -- the plan recommending

20 taller buildings in the core of the town's center. We believe

21 we're also meeting that by -- by creating the height of the

22 building we are.

We are staying within the zoning code. That's allowed

24 onsite. Also again creating setbacks and step backs in -- in

25 the building design to again enhance that -- that pedestrian

207 impacts on the health, safety or welfare of the neighboring level. 2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Let me interrupt you for one |2 residents, visitors or employees in the area? second. Do you have an electronic copy of these plans that MICHELLE BACH: No. you filed today? ERIN GIRARD: And just to reiterate, from an MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. We were going to submit them at | 5 architectural standpoint, do you believe the project is in the end of the day. We can submit them now if [talking over substantial compliance with the Kensington Sector Plan and Design Guidelines? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: No. The end of the day is MICHELLE BACH: Yes, I do. fine ,as long as I get an electronic copy. ERIN GIRARD: And from an architectural standpoint, do MICHELE ROSENFELD: You will by the end of the day. 10 you believe that proposed conditional use would cause any HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Thank you. And I think that 11 11 objectionable noise, odors, dust, elimination, glare or 12 something that might have been lost in your answer was the 12 physical activity on the site? 13 more general question that Counsel was asking you as to 13 MICHELLE BACH: No. 14 whether in your opinion the proposed design here meets the 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You have to speak up because 15 criteria architecturally of the Sector Plan and Design 15 --16 Guidelines. 16 MICHELLE BACH: Sorry. No. It's an overall question. I think that was what you were 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- we can't hear you over the 18 asking initially. 18 fan. MICHELLE BACH: Yeah. I -- I would say yes as a defined 19 MICHELLE BACH: No, I do not. 20 answer to that, for several reasons that, you know, have 20 ERIN GIRARD: That's all I have. 21 already been iterated by other expert witnesses. But just to 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Cross examination? 22 re-iterate that the orientation that's talked about in the 22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes, thank you. Ms. Bach, have you 23 Sector Plan, the pedestrian scale, the Kensington character 23 ever designed another building that combines both self-24 by falling into some of the same design characteristics as 24 storage and other uses, such as retail or commercial? 25 the -- the Solero Project that was recently approved. MICHELLE BACH: Yes, I have. 206 208 1 Bringing in a coordination with our material pallet of MICHELE ROSENFELD: And could you just briefly describe 1 industrial windows and brick and stucco to -- to kind of fit what those look like? those design standards. MICHELLE BACH: So a project recently opened. It's in ERIN GIRARD: And the massing as well? Tucson, Arizona. The first floor has commercial storefront MICHELLE BACH: And the massing as well, for the overall uses on it. It's a smaller facility. This -- and just over 6 request for taller buildings in the core, and then the -- the 3,000 square feet of commercial use, but it is the -- the setbacks to create that pedestrian and -- and setback feel of front elevation of that. the building. It's got a full, covered walkway that's 20 feet wide to ERIN GIRARD: So Ms. Bach, from an architectural 9 allow for pedestrian coverage. It is in Arizona, so having it 10 standpoint, do you believe the proposed conditional use will 10 fully covered was a must. And then the top two levels of it 11 be architecturally compatible with and in harmony with the 11 are self-storage. MICHELE ROSENFELD: What was the total square footage of 12 character of the surrounding neighborhood, considering the 12 13 design, scale and bulk? 13 that building? 14 MICHELLE BACH: Yes, I do, for the things that I have 14 MICHELLE BACH: I -- I would -- I don't know that off 15 already mentioned. 15 the top of my head. ERIN GIRARD: And from an architectural standpoint do MICHELE ROSENFELD: Ball -- ball park. 16 17 you believe that the proposed conditional use would cause 17 MICHELLE BACH: Just over 100,000 square feet. MICHELE ROSENFELD: So it had three -- 3,000 square feet 18 undue harm to the use, peaceful enjoyment and development 18 19 potential -- or -- of abutting or confronting properties in 19 of retail and or storefront and --20 the general neighborhood? MICHELLE BACH: It's -- it's in between 3,000 to 4,000 MICHELLE BACH: No. I actually think it will enhance it, 21 square feet. It's on the front elevation of our first floor, 22 considering the current condition. I understand there's a --22 because it's following a similar characteristics to this 23 Kensington one. 23 an outdoor market on it, but it is in a closed gas station. ERIN GIRARD: And from an architectural standpoint, do 24 It's where the activation of the street is. That is 25 you believe the proposed improvements would cause any adverse 25 where we have put the commercial use.

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MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. All right, thank you. What is

- 2 the total square footage of the first floor, the ground-level
- 3 floor of this building?
- 4 MICHELLE BACH: 8,553 square feet.
- 5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And what is the total square footage
- 6 of the second floor?
- 7 MICHELLE BACH: 16,622 square feet.
- 8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And what is the total square footage
- 9 of the third floor?
- 10 MICHELLE BACH: The same as the second, 16,622.
- 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And --
- 12 MICHELLE BACH: The second, 16,622. The second though
- 13 sixth floors are the same.
- 14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And the square footage for the
- 15 two floors that are underground?
- 16 MICHELLE BACH: 24,885 square feet.
- 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Each?
- 18 MICHELLE BACH: Each.
- 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And earlier you testified that
- 20 all of the ground floor is dedicated to the restaurant use,
- 21 save a -- an office for the leasing office. Is that correct?
- 22 MICHELLE BACH: Correct. And I misspoke. I said it was
- 23 around 800, and it's 900 square feet.
- 24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: The office, the leasing office is
- 25 900 square feet?

- 1 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So looking -- go back again to the
- 2 site plan with the parking area and the parking base.
- 3 Did I understand you to say that there are bollards at
- 4 some point on the out -- outer -- where the outdoor doors of
- 5 the parking base would be to make sure that trucks that pull
- in don't extend into the pedestrian path? Is that correct?
- MICHELLE BACH: Currently they are not on the plan. This
- 3 is something throughout today's hearing that we can put if
- 9 there is a concern about backing up space. That we could put
- 10 either wheel stops or bollards at the western edge of this
- 11 parking to ensure that there is no overhang into the
- 12 pedestrian walkway.
- 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And -- and actually I was asking
- 14 about the parking -- the unloading bays --
- 15 MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm.
- 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- in the interior?
- 17 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah.
- 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Would -- would the same happen
- 19 there?
- 20 MICHELLE BACH: No. So the best way to describe this --
- 21 these two loading bays, there is an exterior roll-up door on
- 22 them. It functions exactly like a residential garage does. So
- 23 the -- when somebody needs access to it, a tenant that is
- 24 already registered to be in that building, they get an access
- 25 code to use that gate.

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- MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm.
- 2 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So what does that leave available
- 3 for restaurant use?
- 4 MICHELLE BACH: There's 6,337 square feet. You need to
- 5 factor in that is the -- the rentable space of the
- 6 restaurant, so it's not including the two stairwells, the
- 7 elevator lobby. Those are functions of the building that's
- 8 cannot be added towards leasable area.
- 9 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And then I believe you
- 10 testified that the front half of the second floor would be
- 11 available for the art gallery --
- 12 MICHELLE BACH: Yes.
- 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- the -- the artists studio space?
- 14 MICHELLE BACH: Just over 8,000 square feet. It's 8,141
- 15 square feet of that 16,622, which again that 16,622 is also -
- 16 that's -- that's the gross number, so it's factoring in
- 17 hallways, two -- two stairs, an elevator lobby.
- 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So what's the total usable space for
- 19 the artists space?
- 20 MICHELLE BACH: 8,141 square feet.
- 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And all combined, the remaining
- 22 three through stories -- three through six and the two
- 23 underground is a total of how much square footage for the
- 24 storage use?
- 25 MICHELLE BACH: 126,955 square feet.

- They -- the door will open. They can pull in and the
- 2 door will close. It is actually a design feature that this
- 3 particular developer has in all of his projects, given the --
- 4 the site constraints, to allow a climate-controlled area for
- 5 loading and unloading.
- 6 So if it's snowing, if it's raining. If it's 100 degrees
- 7 outside that there is an interior -- it also helps get all
- 8 loading and unloading activity out of the public view.
- 9 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I see that these two bays -- are
- 10 they 10 feet wide each?
- 11 MICHELLE BACH: Yes.
- 12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Is that --
- 13 MICHELLE BACH: They're 10 feet by 30 feet deep with
- 14 additional pedestrian walkways around that.
- 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so some of the trucks that we
- 16 were talking about earlier, like the S -- SU -- SB? SU-30.
- 17 MICHELLE BACH: U, thank you.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: SU-30? Are -- are they greater than
- 19 30 feet in length?
- 20 MICHELLE BACH: Now, so the loading stalls are set up
- 21 for the SU-30. It is the larger semi tractor/trailer trucks
- 22 that would be in question.
- 23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: The WD40s?
- 24 MICHELLE BACH: The WD40s.
- 25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And do you know how long WB40s are?

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1 MICHELLE BACH: No, not off the top of my head.

2 MICHELE ROSENFELD: No? Are they longer than 30 feet?

3 MICHELLE BACH: Yes.

4 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay.

5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry, Ms. Bach. Did you

6 say they are set up for the WB40s?

7 MICHELLE BACH: No. They're set up for the SU-30s, which

is just over the largest U-Haul truck. The largest U-Haul

9 truck is 27 feet long.

10 So by having the 30-foot stall factors in the SU-30

11 truck to fit within the enclosed loading with the additional

12 five feet of pedestrian walkway around all three sides of the

13 loading.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: I -- I think I've heard the U-Haul-

15 sized truck referenced a couple of times. Is this facility

16 going to be operated by U-Haul?

17 MICHELLE BACH: No. It's just U-Haul offers one of the

18 largest fleets, and kind of one of the -- the -- the largest

19 rental-truck beds. So we usually just reference them because

20 they have the largest fleet.

21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So is there going to be a

22 prohibition on trucks larger than 30 feet from accessing this

23 site?

24 MICHELLE BACH: I don't know that answer right now.

25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Okay. Let's -- let's assume

1 truck-loading stall.

For the SU-30, which the site is set up for, there have

3 been discussions that they would also use the -- the loading

4 area. There is a sliding, like a six-foot sliding glass door

5 here that gets you into this elevator lobby. So you could --

6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Here being? Identify [talking

7 over each other] --

MICHELLE BACH: In the loading -- in this loading area

9 on the northeast side of the loading.

10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.

11 MICHELLE BACH: There is -- it shows it on the floor

12 plan, but there -- there is a -- a sliding door for access to

13 this interior elevator lobby and stairwell. There is a

14 potential for adding a secondary, six-foot loading stall

15 here. That --

16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Here being?

17 MICHELLE BACH: On the -- on the southwest portion of

18 the loading stall. So that whoever the restaurant retail use

19 is, they could also use the -- the loading stalls and do it

20 an interior unloading and loading.

21 That has not been fully defined because we do not know

22 who the end user, the restaurant is, and whether they would

23 prefer to have their loading on the exterior or use this

24 interior loading area as well.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so if you were to put the

1 for the moment that I -- I personally on the beltway all the

2 time see these really large, 18-wheeler moving trucks.

3 MICHELLE BACH: Hmm-hmm.

4 MICHELE ROSENFELD: If one were to arrive at this site,

5 ready to unload, where would they park?

6 MICHELLE BACH: So I think this is something that us as

a design team would have to take back to our plans and maybe

8 relook at that answer, since it wasn't originally set up for

9 that, those larger WB40 moving trucks, they do happen, but

10 they're very far and few between.

Even in facilities that do offer the space, they rarely

12 use them. They pull up in the driveway space, load, unload

13 and leave. So it is something that we'll have to look at in

14 our site plan.

15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And I would have the same question

16 with respect to a truck of that size, a WB40 that would

17 deliver food supplies to a restaurant --

18 MICHELLE BACH: Yeah.

19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- which also is not unheard of.

20 Where would -- where would they park and where would their

21 delivery entrance be, irrespective of the loading bays? Or

22 would they use the loading bays?

23 MICHELLE BACH: Yes. So in -- in respect to the WB40

24 truck, regardless of who's using it, a moving company or

25 restaurant use, we're going to have to look further into that

loading on the exterior, would you then lose parking spaces?

2 MICHELLE BACH: Well, we could potentially label one of

3 them as we -- we are over parked to the zoning code. So we

4 could potentially re-organize one as a loading stall. But

5 again, without knowing who that end user is, I don't really

6 want to speculate where that loading is going to happen.

7 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so if one of those -- if one of

8 the WD40 trucks were to arrive and whether it's to serve the

9 restaurant or the lobby or the arts studio, I don't know what

10 their delivery needs would be, and parked in the drive aisle,

11 how would that affect circulation?

12 MICHELLE BACH: Our -- our drive aisle is set up for

13 two-way traffic, so there is an opportunity that maybe there

14 is restrictive hours on the site. Loading has to happen at

15 some certain hour in the morning or in the evening where

16 there's not -- the restaurant may not be open yet, so there's

17 no traffic for the restaurant use or the storage use or the

18 artists makers.

19 That's all things we'll have to work through in our --

20 our prelim site plan to -- to kind of define those access

21 hours if that's the route that we go.

22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Of the 126,955 square feet

23 dedicated to the storage units, how many units does that

24 reflect?

25 MICHELLE BACH: With the nature of how this project has

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1 proceeded, we actually have not fully outlined the third

- 2 through sixth floor, so we do not have a number for those
- 3 units yet because they have not been drawn.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: But in your general experience of
- designing these facilities, there -- I -- I would assume
- there's a range --
- MICHELLE BACH: There is a range.
- 8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- that you expect. What might that 9
- be?
- 10 MICHELLE BACH: There is a range. It also depends on the
- 11 market analysis for the average square footage of the site
- 12 for -- for that unit.
- 13 And that average square footage could range anywhere
- 14 from 65 square feet per unit up to 125 square feet. Again,
- 15 without doing our full unit analysis on the project I don't
- 16 know what that average number is.
- I -- to find a mean I would also need a calculator,
- 18 which I don't have right now.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Well, we could -- I'm sure we can 20 get you one.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So if it was an average of
- 22 100 square feet --
- 23 MICHELLE BACH: Yes.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- you'd have about --
- 25 MICHELLE BACH: So you would --
- 218
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- 1,000 to -- to 1,200
- units? Is that --
- MICHELLE BACH: Well, you would take the 126,955. You
- would have to subtract an estimate of all of our hallways,
- 5 stairwells and elevators because that space is not leasable.
- Then on that number you would divide that by the 100. So
- 126,955, if we had a 68 to 70 percent efficiency, 70 percent
- 8 of that 126,955 and then divide that number by the 100 would
- 9 give you an estimate for the units.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Then so I --10
- 11 MICHELLE BACH: I can't do that in my head, I'm sorry.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm guestimating in my head 12
- 13 that's 1,000 units.
- 14 MICHELLE BACH: It -- it -- probably close to that.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And what kind of -- do -- do you
- 17 know the kind of turnover that you would have in
- 18 approximately 1,000 units?
- MICHELLE BACH: That -- that's all dependent on --
- 20 sometimes you have tenants in there for three months.
- 21 Sometimes you have tenants in there for years. It -- it just
- 22 depends on who it is.
- Where there is -- usually when somebody moves in, they
- 24 don't come back until they're ready to move out. So I mean,
- that -- that's probably more of an operational question.

- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. So with that many units, if
- you have two or three people arriving at once to load or
- unload, where do people queue if both of the loading bays are
- 5 MICHELLE BACH: They can always access -- there's --
- there's another elevator on this east elevation. Not
- elevator, I'm sorry, an exterior door that goes into the
- elevator lobby. So they can park in any of these parking
- stalls outside and enter through the exterior door.
- 10 And sometimes that may be all somebody needs if they're
- 11 just bringing a couple things in at a time and don't need to
- 12 unload a full vehicle or -- or a truck.
- 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Assuming it's a vehicle that would
- 14 fit in that parking space?
- MICHELLE BACH: The parking spaces are nine and feet by
- 16 -- are 18.5 feet by -- sorry. 18 feet by 8.5 feet wide, just
- 17 a standard parking stall. So any -- a residential vehicle
- 18 would fit in that spot.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And would the -- would the SU30s
- 20 also fit in those spaces? The U-Haul -- the largest U-Haul
- 21 trucks that you were talking about?
- MR. BACH: Not -- not the -- the length of them. no.
- 23 Smaller U-Haul trucks would but not the maximum would because
- 24 the length is too long, which is why we have the two larger
- 25 loading bays for the maximum SU30 truck.
- 220 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Do you have a single parking space 1
  - where if you there were a need for overflow parking for even
  - the SU30s that is provided for on the site?
  - 4 MR. BACH: Wait, we're only show two. I believe, based
- on our parking ratio, there's only requirement to show two,
- so that is what we're doing.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And where -- you have two --
- MR. BACH: We have two total loading spaces provided,
- are the two that are interior --
- 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Interior.
- MR. BACH: Technical staff said that they -- that's what
- 12 was required in that [inaudible] report, it's two loading
- 13 spaces [inaudible] there.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: With respect to the type of windows
- 15 that -- that you're providing, do I understand correctly that
- 16 you don't see light from the inside of the building to the
- 17 outside?
- 18 MR. BACH: On levels three through six, yes.
- 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. So from sundown to sunup --
- 20 MR. BACH: No light.
- 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- you wouldn't see any -- any --
- 22 MR. BACH: Activity --
- 23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- activity inside the building
- 24 whatsoever?
- 25 MR. BACH: Correct. You wouldn't see it at any time

1 because the window is 100 percent closed. So whether it's

- 2 daylight or nighttime, you're not going to see anybody
- 3 walking through corridors during the day. You won't see any
- 4 interior hallway lights or storage unit lights on at night
- 5 admitting through the window because they're all faux
- 6 windows.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And is -- is that different from a
- typical experience with a residential building where at night
- 9 you might see lights on after dark in -- in residential
- 10 units?
- MR. BACH: Uh, yeah, in residential units or even in 11
- 12 office units, you would see if somebody's working late and
- 13 there are blinds in their office are open, you wouldn't be
- 14 able to see inside their office.
- 15 So this is another design characteristic for us to hide
- 16 the self-storage use too.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Is there something -- strike that.
- 18 The activities that are anticipated to occur in the art
- 19 space, their -- their galleries, their showings --
- MR. BACH: Mm-hmm.
- 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- I think there was some pretty
- 22 generous numbers of the number of people that might attend
- 23 those events, you know several hundred at a time. Where --
- 24 where would you anticipate parking for those events to occur?
- MR. BACH: So from what I understand, there is, I think,
  - 222
- 1 once a month an open house. I think this is a question
- 2 operationally that -- that they're working through of not
- 3 only on our site providing as much parking as available,
- 4 maybe there's a valet service, maybe there's a commitment
- 5 with an adjacent property owner.
- That's all something I believe is being worked through
- with the owner.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. If we could take a look at the
- 9 two elevations facing the rear of the building, as I think
- 10 you described it. And the up -- and this is Exhibit -- we
- 11 could -- do you know what number this is?
- 12 MR. BACH: 4- --
- 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I think it's written on it,
- 14 isn't it?
- 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I can't read it.
- MR. BACH: No, it's not written on that one. It's 40 --16
- 17 [talking in background, inaudible].
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: 40B2. 18
- 19 MR. BACH: -- 40- -- 40B2.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 40B2.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. The elevation that's shown on 21 -- I do know that the property, the north elevation of the
- 22 the upper half of the sheet --
- 23 MR. BACH: Yes.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- can you remind me again which 24
- 25 street that faces?

- MR. BACH: Primarily Metropolitan Avenue. This portion
- would be seen from the intersection of Metropolitan and
- Plyers Mill, but otherwise a -- a vast majority of it is
- facing Metropolitan --
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay.
- 6 MR. BACH: -- just by the orientation nature of the
- site.
- 8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: All right. Is it facing more toward
- the south, the south --
- 10 MR. BACH: I would say --
- 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- west?
- 12 MR. BACH: -- I would say the southeast.
- 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Southeast? And the other elevation
- 14 that we see on the lower portion for --
- 15 MR. BACH: This is facing due south.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And do you know if any portion 16
- 17 of either of those elevations would be visible from Howard
- 18 Avenue, which is below the self-storage facility that you
- 19 were talking about earlier?
- 20 MR. BACH: Yeah.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: The existing self-storage facility? 21
- 22 MR. BACH: Yeah. So as I mentioned before, this south
- 23 elevation would be seen from Howard Avenue. However, Howard
- 24 Avenue is a significant grade difference from where our site
- 25 is. It's lower.

So any portion of our -- there's also the railroad road 1

- tracks and a -- and a very dense existing landscape buffer --
- tree canopy tree buffer. I don't know the exact elevation of
- 4 Howard Ave, I've just -- I've driven it several times and
- know this just by view that any portion of it that you would
- see would be the top half of the building.
- There's also a consideration of site -- site distance
- 8 and what it is that you see from the building from so far
- 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And would any portion of the
- 11 building on the upper half of the sheet be visible from that
- 12 location as well?
- MR. BACH: Yes. So that would be the same thing that you
- 14 would see this top portion of the building from Howard
- 15 Avenue.
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And do you know if the properties
- 17 would -- on -- on Howard Avenue that could see those
- 18 portions of the building, do you know if it's located in the
- 19 town's historic district?
- 20 MR. BACH: I do not know that off the top of my head. I
- 22 property that is directly south of us is the site of Safeway,
- 23 so it's not the front of their building, the face of their
- 24 building faces Connecticut Avenue, I think.
- But it -- but it is the side elevation of that property.

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227 1 And then Howard Ave is that first portion of where our site MR. BACH: No. In initial iterations the plan actually 2 falls. It is all that -- that Safeway lot. So any portion of had four, two separate ones, but through requests to add more 3 the historic like antique row is all actually behind the retail and restaurant space, we didn't need the extra loading extra space lot and further to the east. spaces for storage. MICHELE ROSENFELD: But that doesn't mean that none of So we actually reduced those down to -- to two, because there was -- there was no need for them because the retail this building's visible to those properties; correct? MR. BACH: You cannot see those buildings from our site. side grew. From their site, they have a potential of seeing the top 8 ERIN GIRARD: That's all I have. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any re-cross? portion --10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: No, thank you. MR. BACH: -- of our building. Yes. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, thank you very much. 11 11 12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Grossman, if I may have just a 12 You're now an expert too. 13 moment to --13 MR. BACH: I guess so. Thank you for that. 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Thank you. Okay. Perhaps 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- talk with [inaudible]. I -- I 15 before the next witness, we should take a five-minute break. 16 just -- clarification on a question I asked earlier. The two 16 You might consider, I'm not sure how much longer your -- the 17 floors below ground --17 remaining witnesses will take and then we also have to hear 18 MR. BACH: Mm-hmm. 18 from the opposition, you may consider if you can stay late 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- you told me they were 24,885 19 and would ask the court reporter the same thing. 20 square feet ---20 I can certainly stay late today. If we can finish today 21 MR. BACH: Yes. 21 that would be good. What's you feeling about all that? 22. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- is that per floor or --22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I know my client has to catch a 23 ERIN GIRARD: Combined. 23 plane. How -- how late would we -- could we go? I can --24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- combined? 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm --25 25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- obviously, [inaudible] --MR. BACH: Per floor. 226 228 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So I'm curious, if your first floor HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I'm a night owl so, I can 1 2 is 8,553 square feet, and you've got 24,885 square feet below 2 go late. that, does it extend below the parking lot? 3 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'm not. [laughing] MR. BACH: Yes, that does. 4 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, how late can you go 5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And how does that work? 5 before --MR. BACH: [inaudible] light on. So this is outlined, MICHELE ROSENFELD: I -- I have flexibility. I would 7 our -- our first floor. Actually, yeah. So it's [inaudible] also like to talk to my clients who have been here all day. grounds, I had to orient myself here for a second. The See what their schedules provide for. 9 basement outline extends out further into our driveway and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 10 parking lot. 10 ERIN GIRARD: Especially if we can talk --So there is another dashed line that extend past here 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: [inaudible]. 12 and the driveway down the middle of the south drive to the 12 ERIN GIRARD: -- about it when we come back --13 east, which follows the whole parking -- east parking north. 13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So --14 And then again comes back west and then connects again to the 14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Because they're the ones who would 15 [inaudible], so this extra square footage that wraps parking 15 be the last ones --16 and drive aisle is what makes [inaudible]. 16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. MICHELE ROSENFELD: So the basement basically mirrors 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- to testify. So let me just --18 the footprint of the overhang with a little bit of extra on HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, maybe we can take them 19 out of order if -- if everybody wants to do that. 19 either end? 20 MR. BACH: Correct. 20 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: All right. Thank you. 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any redirect? 22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Let me coordinate with them.

24 Or a little before that.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: Thank you.

23

25

ERIN GIRARD: Just one question. You mentioned there was

24 a question about the two loading spaces in that [inaudible].

25 Has the plan always proposed to two loading spaces?

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Let's come back at 3:30 okay?

	August 20, 2019
229	231
1 (Off the record at 03:19:06 p.m.)	1 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.
2 (Back on the record at 03:33:39 p.m.)	2 ERIN GIRARD: and do it.
3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So what have you decided	3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What about Thursday?
4 [inaudible]?	4 [talking in background, inaudible]
5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: In	5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, we have a meeting
6 ERIN GIRARD: [inaudible] give me a couple minutes?	6 [talking in background, inaudible]
7 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Sure.	7 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: regarding the move
8 ERIN GIRARD: Clients would	8 [talking in background, inaudible]
9 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'll I'll fill him on the general	9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: my offices has to move
10	10 [talking in background, inaudible]
11 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.	11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: yeah, so that is
12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: idea.	12 tentatively set for 11:00 o'clock in this room but I guess
13 ERIN GIRARD: [inaudible]	13 that could be moved and my somebody else could attend from
14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: The our theory, talking to each	14 my office
15 other, was that we probably no matter how late we're going	15 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.
16 to go and I don't think we want to push to 9:00, we probably	16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: if Thursday worked out for
17 are not going to finish tonight	17 everybody.
18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.	18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: It looks like it's going to work out
19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: just based on who's left and what	19 for everybody on our side.
20 the testimony's going to be. So we were starting to	20 ERIN GIRARD: And you just have to move from
21 coordinate on a potential other hearing date.	21 [inaudible].
22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.	22 MALE: No problem. [inaudible].
23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: That's what but we didn't get all	23 ERIN GIRARD: Just give us one second.
24 that coordination quite all the way.	24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure.
25 ERIN GIRARD: One of our witnesses is available next	25 [talking in background, inaudible]
230	222
230	232
1 week.	1 ERIN GIRARD: Because they're out.
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235 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. McKone, what's your -- what's ERIN GIRARD: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And if you slide to your education and professional background? September, you'll be in a different place all together. We'd ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I graduated from the University of Arizona in 1982. Majored in real estate. I have been in -- our temporary quarters are in a --MICHELE ROSENFELD: With air condition- -commercial real estate ever since. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: [Inaudible] school. Sometimes I don't want to do the math to figure out how MICHELE ROSENFELD: Will it be cool? long I've been doing it, but I was mostly in brokerage, it was CB- -- CBRE Cushman and Wakefield. For the last five HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I don't guarantee air years I've been work- -- I've been a part of 1784 developing conditioning. On Twin Brook Parkway. It's a big room though 10 [inaudible]. 10 substorage. 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: We probably won't go all day. MICHELE ROSENFELD: So can you review your experience 12 with 1784 and your -- and the design and construction of the 12 [inaudible]. 13 self-storage facilities? [talking in background, inaudible] HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, my last hearing is ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Sure. I -- I oversee all the real 15 scheduled -- here is scheduled for September 6, that's a 15 estate aspects of the company; negotiate the deals, go 16 Friday. And -- and we -- we'll probably move early the next 16 through entitlements. I work with the management companies 17 week if we have to be out -- we're required to be out by the 17 once we get them open. Basically, any and all real estate 18 end of that week. Yeah. Packing too. 18 aspects. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's your official title 19 ERIN GIRARD: At least you don't have any paper to move. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. About 50 years of 20 [inaudible]? 21 paper. 21 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Executive Vice President, Real 22 22 Estate. So right now, we have four facilities open. We have ERIN GIRARD: Right. 23 [talking in background, inaudible] two under construction. 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, we can proceed, and you We have seven that are about to break ground in the next 25 guys can get together after a -- if we do continue it, for a 25 two to four, five months. And then we have seven more under 234 236 day close to this one, we have to announce it at the Public contract going through entitlement similar to this. So that's Records, so before we adjourn -our activity of where we are right now. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And are any of those mixed-use MICHELE ROSENFELD: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- for the day, I'd have to projects? ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, the one in Tucson that announce a time, date, place. Okay? So but let's -- let's get Michele talked a little bit about as part of our entitlement moving and see how far we go before --MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. process, the city won't -- the town of Oro Valley, it's just HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- we -north of Tucson, wanted a mixed use and originally they MICHELE ROSENFELD: Sure. My next witness is Kelly wanted the whole second -- the whole first floor and we ended 10 McKone. 10 up getting it down to about 3800 square feet. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. McKone, I MICHELE ROSENFELD: And can you review for us how you 12 thought -- I bet you thought we were never going to get to 12 sold this proposed location for your -- this proposed 13 facility? 13 you. 14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah. 14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, this site was pre---HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Will you state 15 presented to us a couple years ago, and as we do with any 15 16 site -- any -- any site we look at, we do a thorough 16 your full name and address, please? ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: It's Robert Kelly McKone. Business 17 underwriting of the area; do a feasibility analysis. 18 address is 8777 North Gainey Center Drive, Suite 191, We look at the demographics, population; income. Usually 19 our trade area's about a three-mile radius normally. We have 19 Scottsdale, Arizona 85258. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Would you raise 20 a gentleman we use that has been in substorage for over 30 21 your right hand, please? You swear or affirm to tell the 21 years. 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, he must be -- have --22 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth under

23 penalty of perjury?

24

25

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I do.

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.

23 claustrophobic by now.

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, exac- -- he was a past

25 president of the Self-Storage Association. He was inducted

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#### Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

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into the hall of fame, very widely respected in the business.

- 2 He does all our feasibility reports and basically through
- 3 that analysis we thought that the location worked, had more -
- 4 over 400,000 square feet of unmet demand. And you know,
- 5 because of the location and the visibility it -- it was
- 6 something we were excited about.
- 7 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so much was made in the staff
- 8 report about proximity to other storage facilities, so you
- 9 don't see that as being a problem?
- 10 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Not when you have over 400,000 of
- 11 unmet demand.
- 12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And what were the steps you
- 13 took to vet this project?
- 14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, what we do on top of what I
- 15 just said is, we'll -- once we get a property tied up, we'll
- 16 meet with the applicable municipalities. In this case, we
- 17 were -- we were given the -- the advice that get the town
- 18 behind you and it's a little easier with the County, so we
- 19 seek to do that.
- 20 And we met with, I believe it was, the design review
- 21 board and showed them our -- our plans. And after the first
- 22 meeting, what I remember is, that we were told -- we were
- 23 asked where to send the letter of support.
- And so we met with the County and went through a number
- 25 of iterations with them, and they were very supportive in

- 1 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, our plans as we -- as we
- 2 discussed, it's a -- you know, we get this 100- -- it's a
- 3 126,00 square feet of storage, that's gross, but when you get
- 4 -- put in the loss factor, we'll be under 100,000, probably
- 5 be 88- to 90,000 square feet, if you use up 70 to 70 -- 68 to
- 6 75 percent efficiency.
- 7 It's all -- buildings are all the dif- -- all different
- 8 depending upon how much efficiency you can get out of it. So
- 9 that and then -- and through the negotiations and -- and
- 10 requests by the town and County, we -- you know, we had the
- 11 restaurant.
- 12 Hopefully, it's a one really cool regional restaurant
- 13 that people are excited about and takes the whole space. And
- 14 then through actually Judith with Artists and Makers was --
- 15 was referred to us by a council person at a neighborhood
- 16 meeting and thought that they would be a great use to help us
- 17 get it over the finish --
- 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You're talking about
- 19 Kensington Town council member or --
- 20 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- [inaudible].
- 22 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, Kensington. I'm sorry.
- 23 Kensington --

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- 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: We have a --
- 25 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- council member.

1 what we were doing, that the head of architect of the County

- 2 was bringing out his tissue paper drawing up some revisions
- 3 he thought.
- 4 So we really, really -- I mean, we're used to working
- 5 with municipalities because you're not going to get it done
- 6 if you don't.
- So there's got to be compromise in the air and -- and I
- 8 think, you know, not to reiterate a lot of things, you can
- 9 see from where we started to where we ended up, you know,
- $10\,$  what we'd done to try to accommodate -- to accommodate that,
- 11 so --
- MICHELE ROSENFELD: And through these efforts of -- of
- 13 redesign, was it your idea that you were redesigning it to --
- 14 to meet the comments and --
- 15 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, absolutely.
- 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- and guidance with this actual [??] 17 plan?
- 18 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Absolutely. There's no other
- 19 reason to do it unless you need to, you know, and --
- 20 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And --
- 21 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- we were asked to, so we did.
- 22 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- and what -- can you just review,
- 23 obviously we've -- we've had your experts go through this
- 24 site, it's up. But generally, your plans for the property and
- 25 -- and the facility and its hours and how it operates?

- 1 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- Montgomery council --
- 2 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I'm sorry. Yeah. Kensington.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- [inaudible].
- 4 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: He introduced me to Judith and --
- 5 and, so, that's how we started negotiating with her and --
- 6 and -- and have basically got a -- a handshake on -- on her
- 7 occupying the 8100 square feet and change in the property.
- 8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And regarding the proposed access
- 9 for the project, there was talk about the proposed ingress
- 10 egress easement across the adjacent property. Did y- -- have
- 11 you had preliminary conversations with that owner --
- 12 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yes.
- 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- about that? And did they --
- 14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: It's part of our deal with them,
- 15 yeah.
- 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- did they -- at the request of
- 17 staff, did they provide you with a letter of authorization?
- 18 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yes.
- 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Can I submit this for the record? I
- 20 don't think it ever made it in from the planning board, so I
- 21 just wanted to [inaudible].
- 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Thank you. This will
- 23 be, if I can find the exhibit list --
- 24 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: 91.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah, here it is. Yes. 91 is

a letter of authorization from Kensington Joint Venture for

2 vehicular access easement. Okay.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And with regard to the adjacent

4 property which has been identified as -- as another self-

5 storage facility, with -- are you familiar that the sector

6 plan envisions potential assemblage of the two properties?

7 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes.

8 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And did you explore that

9 possibility?

10 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yes. We explored the possibility

11 of -- of acquiring the 7-Eleven property as well as the

12 status of the extra space.

And the extra space is on a long-term ground lease and I

14 think has somewhere around 15 years to go, so -- before that

15 lease expires.

And I think that the extra space has options to renew.

17 I'm not a hundred percent correct, but I think that that's

18 tied -- that's -- that's tied up for a long time.

19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Sorry --

20 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: And then we had discussions, but

21 we just couldn't come to terms on the 7-Eleven and we didn't

22 feel we needed it bad enough to pay what they wanted.

23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: So in -- through your efforts, you

24 don't think an assemblage in the near term is --

25 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No.

1 the building has been designed such that it reduces the scale

2 of the project?

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Oh, yeah. I think based on what

4 we've done, I mean, a lot of the comments that we got from

5 both the town and -- and the County was, you know, try to

6 make the third through sixth floor go away and make it look

7 like the sel- -- the self-storage is -- is not -- is not

8 there. I mean, and I think based on what we've done with the

9 pop out of -- of the first and second floor, it accentuates

10 that part of the building much more than it did through the

11 original plan.

12 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And did you have a comment -- I --

13 your architect opined us the number of units. Did you think

14 her -- the thousand --

15 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, I mean, --

16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- [inaudible].

17 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- it's close. I mean, I -- I

18 think we'd end up somewhere around, you know, 85- to 88,000

19 net square footage that would ac- -- actually occupy units.

20 So at, you know, at a 100 square foot average or 8-, 900,

21 maybe it's a little bit more than that, but I don't -- I

22 don't think you clear a thousand.

23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And did you --

24 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I hope we do. That means we just

25 get to lease more units.

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MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- possible?

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No. The owner said it isn't.

3 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. In the proposed project, you

4 know, essentially maxes out the height and FAR allowed by the

5 zoning and some have critiqued that. Can you explain for us

6 the -- the economic reasons why you're balancing uses as you

7 are?

8 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, based on what I'm having to

9 pay for the property, I -- I -- I need to maximize -- you

10 know, the storage rents are probably the highest rents I'll

11 get. I may -- the -- the restaurant may be a little bit more,

12 but the -- the Artists and Makers' rent is substantially less

13 and -- then what market is or what we could get out of

14 storage spaces.

15 So it's basically through the request of the town and

16 the County we're willing to do that to create what the sector

17 plan's looking for in regard to creating activity and people

18 walking -- you know, people activity on the corner, and, so,

19 in order to get the deal, we're -- we're able -- or to try to

20 get the deal, we're -- we were willing to do that, but I need

21 to -- I need to get a -- I need to maximize what I'm allowed

22 to get per FAR and -- and -- and other requirements

23 that -- that we have to live by based on the zoning and the

24 site.

25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And do you believe the massing of

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And did you have a comment about

2 expected turnover in your experience with these types of

3 facilities, how often the units turn over?

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: The average day in a self-storage

5 is, I think the most recent study that came out was somewhere

6 around eight months. I mean, some people are just there to

accommodate a move.

Some are there for many years. And then -- but the

9 average is probably -- it's under a year, probably eight,

10 nine months.

11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Can you review the proposed

12 operations of the facility?

13 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Sure. We will have, obviously, a

14 management office on site that we talked about on the first

15 floor. We'll probably have no more than two employees. Our

16 operations, office hours would be somewhere -- they vary a

17 little bit but basically 8:00 to 6:00, seven days a week.

8 We provide access for people to come and get their stuff

19 between 6:00 and 10:00. And the entire -- you know, the 20 property is controlled by a -- we have a lot of security,

21 security -- security to get in with a key-pad system. We have

22 lots of security cameras.

23 You know, we're very, very conscious on all our projects

24 about a very clean, safe environment. And -- and we try to

25 create -- we try to create -- when I try -- we try to create

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247 is when somebody walks into our facility and they walk out, But very, very rarely are you seeing anything larger 2 they go, that was a little nicer than I expected. And -- and than the biggest U-Haul. 3 the cleanliness. MICHELE ROSENFELD: So would you be comfortable with 3 I mean, most -- most of the people that make the adding to the conditions or restriction on the WB40s? decisions for storage, it's been found, are females, so we ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah, I'd like to talk to our want them to feel very safe and comfortable and clean and -engineers. I mean, if we can accommodate it. I mean, -and -- you know, outgoing staff and make renting a storage MICHELE ROSENFELD: Even if it's restriction of hours? A locker, you know, an enjoyable -- enjoyable experience. restriction in some form to make sure that it doesn't --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Mr. McKone, I -- I -- would ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Oh, yeah. I mean, I --10 you repeat the hours again? I thou- -- thought you said 8:00 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- [inaudible]. 11 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- restriction of off hours, 11 to 6:00 then I heard you say --ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: 8:00 to 6:00 would be the office 12 absolutely. 13 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 13 hours --ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: We would do that anyway. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 14 14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- where somebody would be there. 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'm trying to decide which to go 15 16 first. A question was also raised about the parking for 16 And then we would allow access for people to come in and out, 17 but it would not be access to the building between -- what events such as the -- to Artists and Makers' studio, their --18 we've done in some -- from 6:00 to 10:00 at night. 18 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What do you mean they would 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- first Friday. 20 not be access to the building? What do you mean --20 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Mm-hmm. 21 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, they wouldn't -- the office, 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: How do you propose handling that? 22 I'm sorry. 22 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, I mean, our plans are -- our 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I see. 23 parking is -- is in excess of what's required. So the impetus 24 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: There wouldn't be anybody in the 24 is on us to make it work. 25 office. You know, I mean, at the first Friday there's been a lot 246 248 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. So the -of numbers of -- of -- of Artists and Makers. There's been a lot of numbers thrown out, but I mean, it's probably 100 to ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Like af- --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- access --150 people. ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- after hours would be 6:00 to 4 And my understanding, a lot of them would -- could 8:00 --5 either come via public transit or walk or whatever. We've got HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: They could access the -four different sites we're looking in the area that could their own stuff they've stored -accommodate additional parking. So I think there's -- there's ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Correct. -- there's options there. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- in other words. 9 And obviously I need to make something work. I -- I'm 10 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Correct. 10 already complying to what's required. So if I don't take care HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. And that would be 6:- -11 of it, I'm not going to have a restaurant in there very long. 11 12 - 6:00 to 10:00 --12 So I need to make it work and we'll figure something out. 13 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Correct. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And so that's the genesis of 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- p.m.? Okay. 14 condition -- proposed condition number seven on Exhibit 86? MICHELE ROSENFELD: And you've been present for the 15 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Right. 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And the -- the planning staff 16 discussions about the WB40s? 17 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah. I mean, you know, we've 17 raised in their staff report -- which I guess first of all, 18 designed this -- I mean, major- -- great majority of your 18 you're familiar with the planning staff report. 19 19 traffic are people in their -- loading up their SUVs and ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Right. 20 their trucks, normal trucks. 20 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And they raised a number of issues 21 And occasionally you'll get a U-Haul; very rarely do you 21 regarding sector plan compliance and circulation. Were you in 22 get an 18-wheeler. When those show up, you have to make 22 communications with staff leading up to the issuance steps

24

25

23 where -- on those issues?

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yes.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And what -- what was your

23 accommodations and come at off hours and, you know, those

24 guys are paid to do it and so they work around your sc---

25 your schedule and the activity.

## Transcript of Administrative Hearing

Conducted on August 20, 2019 251 understanding of the primary issue with -- per the sector 1 what's there. You got two ga- -- three -- three gas stations plan compliance? and a firehouse. ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, I mean, the main thing is I And I think you look at this project and what it does to -- the -- you know, anybody would have given their right arm kick things off, and -- and is -- is a huge improvement to have something else in there other than self-storage, over what's there now. rather it was apartments or -- or office. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And in your opinion would the But the main things that we got out of that and what we proposed conditional use cause undue harm to the peaceful really tried hard to do for both the town and the County was enjoyment, economic value or development potential of to come up with a plan that really created what they wanted abutting and confronting properties of the general 10 in the sector plan, to have a mixed use, which we have, and -10 neighborhood? 11 - and to create the people scape and the people activity and ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No. 11 12 the environment with the restaurants and people come and --12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm not sure he's in a 13 and with Artists and Makers I think there's a lot -- a ton of 13 position to really answer that --14 potential with people there and -- with the artists and a 14 MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'm not asking him --15 very unique environment. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- as a non-expert. And to me the best part of it all is -- is the -- the 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- as an expert --17 lack of parking that's needed for a self-storage facility 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. 18 18 that doesn't add to the parking issue you already else have. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- I'm just asking, you know, in his 19 --19 Anything else is going to add to it, so, we're trying to be 20 sensitive to providing that, that environment. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'll -- I'll -- we'll let it MICHELE ROSENFELD: And how about with regard to the 21 in and give it a -- due weight but --22 traffic and circulation issues, were you aware of those 22. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 23 before --23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- he's not --24 24 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No. MICHELE ROSENFELD: If --25 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- qualified as an expert. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- the staffing plan? 250 252 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- if the application is granted subject to reasonable conditions acceptable to the applicant, MICHELE ROSENFELD: And in light of the staff's and town's positions, what measures did you take to -- to further is it the applicant's intention to construct and operate the evaluate the viability of the project? improvements in accordance with the plans and specifications 5 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Now, we had a number of community submitted with the application and the conditions and -meetings. You know, the feedback we got from both the town HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Absolutely. and -- and the County was that they were getting a lot of 7 MICHELE ROSENFELD: That's all I have. opposition and we were hearing a lot of support. 8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm going to ask you a question --And you know, opposition's always louder and -- because 10 the people that are support usually don't come or fewer of 10 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Sure. 11 them come. But we -- we -- we've talked to a lot of -- you HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- then. I -- I also wanted 12 know, we had a lot of people through letters and -- and --12 to ask Mayor Furman, and that is, is there any room at all --13 and I'm not suggesting you should because you're entitled to 13 that were -- were very, very supportive, so. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And if the condition use is granted 14 have this plan evaluated exactly as it's submitted -- is 15 subject to the resolution, the varied circulation 15 there any room at all for further change if the town of 16 transportation issues identified in the staff report, are you 16 Kensington was to -- were to say, well, we could actually 17 confident that these issues can be adequately addressed? 17 handle this if it were changed in some way? 18 18 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yes. ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, we've done that. I mean, --19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And in light of your testimony and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know you've done it --20 based on your familiarity with the plans and the expert 20 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: -- that's where we ended up.

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I think you -- well, I mean, you 25 look at those four corners now, I think it'll greatly improve 25

21 reports submitted in the application, do you believe the

22 proposed conditional use will be in harmony with the

23 character of the neighborhood?

24 something that, you know, it's got to work for both of us. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. Okay. And then, as I

ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: We've already done that. I mean, I

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- I understand.

23 -- I'm open to what it might be, but it's also got to be

21

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253	255				
1 said	1 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.				
2 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah.	2 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: So and then we've had we had an				
3 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: you're entitled to have	3 artist looking for about 800 feet. And then we have we had				
4 this plan as it is evaluated. So but I just thought I'd ask.	4 one other one. What did they do? I think it was they're				
5 All right. Cross-examination?	5 insurance.				
6 ERIN GIRARD: Yes, thank you. The Tucson, Arizona	6 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.				
7 facility that was mentioned earlier, the mixed-use facility,	7 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Insurance office.				
8 as I recall the ratios were about 100,000 square feet of	8 ERIN GIRARD: And you had said that				
9 storage unit and 3,000 of retail.	9 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: In that example, it's it's				
10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 3800.	10 important to know, I think, I don't I don't know where				
11 ERIN GIRARD: 3800	11 you're going with this, but is that we have no we they				
12 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Mm-hmm.	12 we just need to lease it to something other than storage.				
13 ERIN GIRARD: of retail?	13 It's not restrictive at all, so				
14 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Mm-hmm.	14 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. You had mentioned, I I'm not sure				
15 ERIN GIRARD: And what kind of use is that retail?	15 if you would start out at 3800 square feet or or something				
16 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Well, we just finished the	16 larger, but you had indicated that you would want to reduce				
17 building, so we're leasing it. We have a number of prospects	17 the amount of retail in the Tucson site.				
18 that we're looking at.	18 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: I did.				
We're actually talking to Judith about possibly doing it	19 ERIN GIRARD: And and had had the numbers started				
20 there. So we're trying to explore that before we go	20 out larger than 38-?				
21 elsewhere, but we got we've got we have other people	21 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: They wanted the the first time				
22 that are interested but I'm kind of holding them at bay for	22 we met, they wanted to have the entire first floor to be				
23 now.	23 mixed use.				
24 ERIN GIRARD: Maybe I'm confused. I'm talking about the	24 ERIN GIRARD: And how much square footage was that				
25 facility in Tucson, Arizona.	25 entire first floor? Ballpark.				
254	256				
1 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: so am I.	1 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Michele may help is it it's				
2 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And	2 20-				
3 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Yeah.	3 MICHELE ROSENFELD or BACH: 20				
4 ERIN GIRARD: Judith is	4 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm sorry				
5 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: She's	5 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: 20-ish.				
6 ERIN GIRARD: has a presence	6 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: how does this bear on what				
7 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: we're	7 I have to decide?				
8 ERIN GIRARD: down there as well?	8 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: 20 20,000-ish.				
9 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: She we're talking about it	9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Hold on one second.				
10 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.	10 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Oh, okay.				
11 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: yeah.	11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: [inaudible]				
12 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. All right.	12 ERIN GIRARD: That that was my last question				
13 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: She's one of my prospects	13 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.				
14 ERIN GIRARD: Perfect.	14 ERIN GIRARD: on on this. Have you would				
15 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: yeah.	15 this this is specific to this property, have you ever				
16 ERIN GIRARD: Okay.	16 operated a restaurant or artist gallery space?				
17 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: She's in the lead.	17 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: Have I personally?				
18 ERIN GIRARD: And ca I don't need the names of	18 ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm.				
19 particular companies, but sort of just generally the types of	19 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No, I've been in real estate my				
20 other businesses	20 whole career.				
21 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: We have one	21 ERIN GIRARD: Somebody with your company?				
22 ERIN GIRARD: that would be interested.	22 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No, the we have a management				
23 ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: that was a they are kind of	23 company that all overseas it the restaurant will manage				
24 a sales the guy is has has seminars for	24 themselves.				
25 people that in sales.	25 We don't I don't need anybody to manage it. As long				

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1	as they pay my rent as long as they pay their rent and	1	they're going to		
2	keep it clean, we're in good shape; they follow the terms of	2	MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yeah, we have two more that'll		
3	the lease. They don't need to be managed.	3	probably more than fill up the day.		
4	ERIN GIRARD: Okay. So so would you	4	ERIN GIRARD: You have		
5	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: As in as in any commercial	5	MICHELE ROSENFELD: We have		
6	building. You	6	ERIN GIRARD: traffic		
7	ERIN GIRARD: So you would imagine that you would you	7	MICHELE ROSENFELD: traffic and land tenant.		
8	would expect to lease directly to whatever tenant. You you	8	[talking over each other, inaudible]		
9	don't anticipate having a management company	9	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Who's next on your list,		
10	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: No, I don't I don't	10	Mister		
11	ERIN GIRARD: take care of the leasing of those	11	MICHELE ROSENFELD: The traffic.		
12	facilities?	12	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Well, while we're all		
13	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: We might hir we might hire	13	thinking about it, let's the traffic.		
14	somebody to find us a tenant, yeah. I mean, if that's your	14	MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Brian Biddle.		
15	question, I have leased to restaurants	15	TRACEY FURMAN: Oh, this is uncomfortable.		
16	ERIN GIRARD: Okay.	16	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You're not that's the hot		
17	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: through my career. It was a	17	seat, you're not supposed to be comfortable on a on a nice		
18	while ago, but now yeah, we would probably hire whoever	18	warm day like today.		
19	the best restaurant broker in town is that knows all the	19	All right. Mr. Biddle would you state your full name and		
20	local the kind of restaurants that the town wants, and I	20	address, please before I swear you?		
21	want.	21	BRIAN BIDDLE: Brian Anthony Biddle. Business address,		
22	I think I probably I want something better than they	22	645 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Suite 214, Severna Park,		
23	want but, yeah, if given the chance, I'll prove it to them	23	Maryland 21146.		
24	but whoever yeah, we would we would hire a broker to do	24	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Now, I can see you've already		
25	that, but we wouldn't have anybody manage them in the	25	raised your right hand, so I'll ask you, do you swear or		
	258		260		
1	property, other than the manager we have.	1	affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the		
2	ERIN GIRARD: If you would give me a moment, please.	2	truth under penalty of perjury?		
3	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.	3	BRIAN BIDDLE: I will.		
4	ERIN GIRARD: Do you know how high the ceilings are on	4	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right.		
5	the first level of the facility?	5	MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Biddle, what's your occupation?		
6	ROBERT KELLY MCKONE: How high are they? Fourteen feet.	6	BRIAN BIDDLE: I'm a transportation engineer.		
7	[talking in background, inaudible]	7	MICHELE ROSENFELD: And how long have you been engaged		
8	ERIN GIRARD: I have no further questions.	8	in that occupation?		
9	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any redirect?	9	BRIAN BIDDLE: Over 25 years.		
10		10	• •		
11	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you very	11	educational background?		
12	much	12			
13	•		engineering from Penn State University and I have a master of		
14	••		science in civil engineering from the University of Maryland.		
15	•	15	•		
	what's your pleasure, counsel?		professional societies or organizations?		
17	***	17	1 6 6		
18			Honor Society.		
19	•	19			
20			first part of that? Because you're		
21		21	•		
22		22			
23	there are [inaudible].	23	BRIAN BIDDLE: Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor		

24 Society, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the

25 American Society of Civil Engineers and Maryland section of

[talking over each other, inaudible]

ERIN GIRARD: Yeah, but we're not sure how much longer

263 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Can you review the findings and the Intelligent Transportation Systems. 2 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Can you review your work experience conclusions of your analysis? in the field of transportation engineer? BRIAN BIDDLE: So basically, at the preliminary level of BRIAN BIDDLE: I've been in Maryland my entire life. the project you -- you -- subdivision stating policy requires I've been working in Montgomery County my entire life. I've you to go to the [inaudible] Transportation Review 6 worked primarily as a consultant for the agencies, that Guidelines. includes State Highway in District 3, in downtown doing work There you take a preliminary look at the -- the trip throughout Montgomery County. I've worked for the County the generation to see if it falls into a traffic statement or if it falls into doing a full, more -- full detailed study. For bulk of my career. 10 I know the area very well. I do traffic operation 10 this use, there was a vested gas station which had trips that 11 studies to traffic design, to highway design, anything that's 11 were allowed to be credited against new trips that are 12 transportation related. 12 generated from the proposed use. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What work have you done for The proposed use was evaluated. The trip generation and 13 -- the County and just about everybody uses the -- the ITE, 14 the County? BRIAN BIDDLE: I manage two consecutive on-call traffic 15 the Institute of Transportation Engineers', trip generation 16 engineering consulting contracts with the DOT. 16 manual and subsequent handbooks to develop trip generation 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And have you ever testified as an 18 The County has a specific, you know, adjustment factors 19 expert witness in the field of transportation? 19 for the various policy areas. So IT is used to establish BRIAN BIDDLE: I have. 20 trips. You go into LATR, you adjust those trips to the policy 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Have you testified before the Office 21 area for fa- -- for specific vehicular primary trips --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Just for the record, LATR is? 22 of the Hearing Examiner? 23 BRIAN BIDDLE: I have. And I remember what it was, it 23 BRIAN BIDDLE: Local Area Transportation Review. That's 24 was conditional use 18-07. The last one was 8/14/2018. 24 the -- department planning's guidelines to -- to doing any HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What was 18-07, do you 25 traffic analyses. 262 264 remember [inaudible]? They break that out into person trips that is primary BRIAN BIDDLE: That was Clarks Hill -- Clarksburg Animal 2 automobile, walking, transit, or automobile passenger and you Hospital. look to -- you know, if -- if it's a traffic statement, if HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. it's less than 50 person trips, you just document all of that 5 BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah. and submit it to park and planning and we had done that. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And Mr. Bibble's resume is Exhibit HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: In other words, once you 83 in the record and [inaudible] admission as an expert in deducted out the existing -traffic engineering. 8 BRIAN BIDDLE: Right. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any questions? 9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- trips from the proposed 10 ERIN GIRARD: No objections. 10 new trips --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Based on your BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. 11 12 resume and on your education and background, we accept you as 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- you didn't reach the 13 an expert in traffic engineering. 13 threshold that's --MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Bibble, are you familiar with 14 BRIAN BIDDLE: That's correct.

15 the conditional use property, surrounding area in Application

16 Number CU19-03?

17 BRIAN BIDDLE: I am and --

MICHELE ROSENFELD: And are you familiar with the

19 County's adequate public facilities ordinance?

20 BRIAN BIDDLE: Yep.

MICHELE ROSENFELD: Have you analyzed the suitability of

22 the proposed conditional use and other proposed uses for the

23 subject property for -- from a transportation engineering

24 standpoint?

25 BRIAN BIDDLE: We have. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- required for a LATR study?

16 BRIAN BIDDLE: Correct.

17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Now, staff, as I mentioned

18 earlier, raised a question about the nu- -- the number of --

BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm.

20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- trips you discounted, and

21 they said in their report that only 15 percent of the gas

22 station trips should count. Can you respond to that?

23 BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah. Originally when the analysis was

24 done, one aspect of the retail component of what was existing

25 and what was proposed was left out, that's specifically pass

267 that, but for storage, or a restaurant, most of the time they 1 by. 2 And a primary trip would be me coming here today. A know where they're going so it's a new trip, so. 3 pass-by trip would be any of us going home and stopping off BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah, the restaurant pass-by -- let me 4 at a gas station or a grocery store. So there's data to dig it out, but there's a small percentage gap. 5 reflect whether you're a pass-by trip or a -- a primary trip. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 6 We accounted -- we didn't deduct any of that in the traffic MICHELE ROSENFELD: The staff report also raises issues 7 statement that was submitted to department of planning for regarding circulation to and from the site. Did you have any either the existing use or the proposed use. conversations with staff about that prior to the issuance of Staff, we'd actually communicated with staff and they the staff report? 10 were fine with it and then we didn't get this comment until 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: We had prior to the staff 11 we got the -- the report. They were -- indicate that only 15 11 report and there was no issue at that point. 12 percent is allowed to be credited. That is not in LATR MICHELE ROSENFELD: And -- and then the staff report 13 guidelines, nor is that an ITE pass-by rate which the County 13 issue then there were issues identified. Do you have any 14 would default to. Those rates are actually like -- because I 14 comments on -- on those regarding on-site circulation, curb 15 wrote it down -- 62 percent is pass-by in the morning for a 15 cuts, all that, and Brad covered some of it but I understand 16 gas station and it's 58 in the evening. 16 there's a degree of [inaudible]. We have not resubmitted the statement but we have BRIAN BIDDLE: Brad covered a lot of it, but we deal a 18 recalculated, and utilizing both what the County has asked 18 lot with State Highway, they generally like to see reduction 19 for with only allowing 15 percent and what ITE would account 19 in access points. 20 for for the existing use, as well as the County we did not 20 I think as [inaudible] has done it, the access point 21 deduct any pass-by rates for the retail use as opposed --21 further to the south on Connecticut maximizes the distance to 22 restaurant. 22 the signalized intersection, that's ideal from the State 23 So either way you slice it, we're less than 50 net 23 Highway's point of view and then taking the two en- -- exit -24 person trips. 24 - or entrance points off of Plyers Mill, it's favorable to HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So if -- in other words, 25 State Highway and to the operation. 266 268 1 going back to the most extreme example of that, if you I know the -- the back entrance, the -- the -- the accepted staff's position that all but 15 percent are -- are easement and we talked about that long and hard. The only pass-bys for gas station use, and you applied that -thing I would add to that is that staff did provide to us a BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. recent, I think it's 2014, analysis of that intersection. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- to the number of trips 5 It is not ideal, I would give you that, but their predicted by the ITE stats -analyses indicated the level of service, which is an operational evaluation of how an intersection works -- take a BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- you would still not reach moment, it's A through F. the threshold for an LATR study? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Did you say how an BRIAN BIDDLE: Correct. 10 10 intersection works or Howard intersection? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Okay. Is that written BRIAN BIDDLE: How it's working. How it's functioning. 11 11 12 that -- do you submit something that said any of that? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: No, I know, but the --13 BRIAN BIDDLE: We have not yet. 13 there's a Howard Avenue there. You're not talking about the 14 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 14 Howard Avenue? 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: We can. 15 BRIAN BIDDLE: No, no, no. How -- how the intersection -HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I think that should be 16 -17 something in the record that demonstrates the math on that. 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 18 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. 18 BRIAN BIDDLE: -- [inaudible] --HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You could also include your 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I just -- I --20 statistics of what ITE allows as gas station pass-bys. I 20 BRIAN BIDDLE: -- of Metropolitan and Plyers Mill is --21 mean, I assume that there would be a large portion of pass--21 is functioning --22 - people don't necessarily start out just to go to the gas 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 23 station. They often say, oh, gas station, they stop. 23 BRIAN BIDDLE: -- you know, A, is a good -- a good 24 BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. 24 thing, like letter grade in -- in school to F. It's operating HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So that would account for 25 25 at a level service A from a 2014 evaluation.

271 And I wouldn't anticipate growth to have made that go MICHELE ROSENFELD: And you -- can you just read into 2 any further. It -- it might be a B, but -- and the the record the -- the conclusion of that report which is the 3 intersection is fine. We understand some of the concerns that second to last paragraph? 4 have been raised, primarily related to trucks that -- I don't 4 ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Grossman --5 know if that's -- you have the -- the truck mem has been 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. introduced. 6 ERIN GIRARD: -- first, I'd like to note an objection. MICHELE ROSENFELD: It has not. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yes. 8 ERIN GIRARD: This is an expert report being provided to BRIAN BIDDLE: There's been a lot of discussion and 9 Lenhart Traffic's done a lot of work with self-storage us during the course of expert testimony. 10 facilities and a lot of these questions have been raised by It's a memorandum from Lenhart Traffic Consulting to the 11 staff on other projects. 11 file from Nick Driban --We -- you know, IT is based on doing [inaudible] at 12 BRIAN BIDDLE: Driban. 13 existing facilities. We have counted daily counts at a number 13 ERIN GIRARD: -- Driban. Who's not identified and we, of 14 of self-storage facilities in the county. There's a memo that 14 course, have not had any opportunity to review or evaluate 15 we provided to -- I have extra copies of it --15 this. MICHELE ROSENFELD: That's what I was looking for --I would ask that we be provided an opportunity to review 16 BRIAN BIDDLE: -- that details the -- ITE actually has 17 this and call the witness back for cross examination for the 18 information on trucks and they don't have a lot of 18 purpose of questions on this memo should we determine that 19 information but it's generally 2 to 15 percent of the traffic 19 would be appropriate after we've had a chance to review it. 20 counts are trucks. 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Ms. [inaudible]. 21 We looked at it and Ms. Girard has the -- the memo, but 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: We're fine with that. 22 if you looked at, you know, a mid-point of 15 percent, say 8 22. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 23 and a half percent I think we have in here, we would have a 23 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And -- and just to clarify, Nick 24 truck entering in the peak hours and peak hours are generally 24 Driban was the one who --25 the highest hour in the morning and the highest hour in the 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: He was on the list. 270 272 1 evening. 1 MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- was here before --2 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. That's what staff will look at. And we'd have eight 3 trucks during the day. The IT data has no information on MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- but he couldn't be here this whether that's a light truck or a heavy truck. We've talked week, so. about SU30s, which are the biggest U-Haul type truck. The HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 5 6 typical truck is a smaller vehicle, we call that a light ERIN GIRARD: I'm still catching up on --7 truck. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. The data that we've collected, which is a part of this 8 ERIN GIRARD: -- names --9 memo, at two other facilities in the county, which, I think 9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Fair --10 we did within the last couple years, indicated very low 10 ERIN GIRARD: -- names in the file --11 volume of trucks, no tractor-trailer type vehicles, all U-11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- fair enough on both sides. 12 Haul type trucks, very limited number, mostly passenger 12 Okay. 13 vehicles utilizing self-storage. 13 ERIN GIRARD: Thank you. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So --14 BRIAN BIDDLE: So do you want me to read it from -- the 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Just to put this in context this is 15 conclusion that's basically --16 in response to staff's assertions and their staff report that 16 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Oh, yes. 17 they would expect a large number of trucks --17 BRIAN BIDDLE: -- these type of facilities that we've 18 BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. 18 seen in Montgomery County are generating mostly passenger car MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- generated by self-storage use. 19 or -- or light -- you know, typical truck traffic and maybe HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So we're making this Exhibit 20 at most a U-Haul, nothing larger than that. 21 92, the memo to the file by Nick Driban --MICHELE ROSENFELD: And just out of curiosity because BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. 22 the issue was raised before, in your experience with SHA you HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: -- re truck traffic I guess 23 -- you -- you said that you've dealt with them a lot --24 anticipated for this storage facil- -- facility. 24 BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. BRIAN BIDDLE: Mm-hmm. MICHELE ROSENFELD: -- do you have an opinion on the 25

275 curb cut on Connecticut Avenue and whether the question that can refuge. This is a -- it's going to be a challenge as we Brad fielded earlier as to whether SHA can demand a wider move up and down the corridor that getting bicycle curb cut than maybe the ordinance requires? compatibility throughout the state is a challenge for State BRIAN BIDDLE: Generally, as Brad stated, the State will Highway. work with the -- the local municipality of the county and They've told me that. And it may evolve and this is -they can modify that as long as the -- the design vehicle can there's nothing wrong with that. And Brad's team has proposed -- can traverse the -- the access point. And there's a this and it's at now -- right now, the safest in my opinion. balancing act, as Brad said, for getting the vehicles in and HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, it's the safest of the out and then that island for pedestrian refuge and -- and alternative choices given what the proposed facility is at 10 we're only talking three feet so I -- I don't think that that 10 this location. It still leaves the question. It could be the 11 would be a problem. 11 safest but not safe. And that's why I asked you in your MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Is there anything else you'd 12 opinion if it's safe. 13 like to add regarding your analysis of the site from a BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah. Anything can happen. It's a right 14 transportation engineer's perspective? 14 in, right out. Someone could make a left out of there and go BRIAN BIDDLE: I don't think I have anything else. 15 the wrong way on Connecticut. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I mean, that wasn't the only 16 Anything can happen. But in terms of the current 17 concern was the width of that access, and also according to 17 standards that State Highway has for bicycle facilities along 18 staff, endangering pedestrians, and bicyclists in terms of 18 state highways and pedestrian facilities, this meets the 19 its location and design. What about that? 19 state standards. BRIAN BIDDLE: Well, generally the island in an urban 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 21 area, I think AASHTO is the American Association of State 21 ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Biddle, based on your analysis and 22 Highway Transportation Officials. 22 from a transportation-engineering standpoint, do you believe 23 They're the ones that establish highway design criteria 23 the proposed development will be in harmony with the 24 that state highway and the county and just about everybody 24 character of the Shawnee neighborhood considering traffic 25 else defaults to. They want an island to be 75 square foot. I 25 conditions? 274 276 1 don't know how big that one is, but I'm sure that's more than BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah. I do. And I think we've heard 2 adequate for pedestrian refuge. throughout the day from a number of people that self-storage is actually a lower traffic generator. So I think this would Again, it's that balancing act in terms of the bicycle -4 - forgive me, I don't have good eyes. I was on the bike be more problematic if it was something other than selfcommission for [inaudible] County as a public member; storage cause it's the demand, and the traffic volumes aren't 6 cyclists want to be on the right side of the road. I haven't seen any issue with that. ERIN GIRARD: For an order of magnitude because it's I knew the master plan and the sector plans, given the been raised. Residential would be significantly high or 9 bicycle direction we want to take. They wanted as a significantly low? 10 protective facility and I think [inaudible] and Brad have 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You have to answer yes or no. 11 come up with that and in the safest way that can be 11 We can't take --12 accommodated. 12 BRIAN BIDDLE: Yes. Yep. Yes. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, let's assume it's the ERIN GIRARD: From a transportation-engineering 14 safest way it can be accommodated under the current plan. I 14 standpoint, would the proposed conditioning have any 15 guess the fundamental question is, and raised by staff's 15 detrimental effect on vehicular, or pedestrian traffic, or 16 safety? 16 analysis, is it safe? 17 Whether or not it's the safest you can come up with for 17 BRIAN BIDDLE: It will not. And I think that the side 18 this entry point, is it safe for pedestrians and bicyclists 18 elements have enhanced both bicycle and pedestrian safety. 19 interacting with vehicular traffic? ERIN GIRARD: From a transportation-engineering BRIAN BIDDLE: As it's proposed, it is. The 20 standpoint, will the proposed development cause undue harm to

And at one stage with vehicles coming in and out, they

25 from a standpoint of traffic, is the proposed conditioning

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21 the health, safety or welfare of neighboring residents,

ERIN GIRARD: And in conclusion, in your expert opinion

22 visitors or employees?

BRIAN BIDDLE: No.

21 channelization island provides refuge from both a bicycle

23 can refuge. If it was a typical curb cut and it was 35 feet

24 wide, they would have to traverse that.

22 point of view. They can stop if they want to, but pedestrians

5

and development suitable for the same compatible with the

- 2 surrounding neighborhood?
- 3 BRIAN BIDDLE: It is.
- 4 ERIN GIRARD: That's all I have.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Do you have cross-
- 6 examination?
- 7 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. I think that you testified
- 8 earlier that the level of service at the intersection of
- 9 Metropolitan Plyers Mill was A?
- 10 BRIAN BIDDLE: That's correct.
- 11 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Based on a 2014 analysis.
- BRIAN BIDDLE: Yeah. Staff had provided a summary count,
- 13 which provides not only the traffic data and the peak hours,
- 14 but also the level of service.
- 15 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Are you aware of any more
- 16 recent analysis that shows that it's at a lower level than
- 17 that?
- 18 BRIAN BIDDLE: I'm not.
- 19 MICHELE ROSENFELD: During the course of your evaluation
- 20 of this project, did you review, or evaluate the internal
- 21 circulation of the drive aisles, the parking spaces, the
- 22 loading dock? Was that part of the scope of your review?
- 23 BRIAN BIDDLE: Generally, on an LATR traffic statement,
- 24 it is not common on it, but I think Brad has provided.
- 25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And during the course of your
- review, did you review, or evaluate the access from thisproperty onto the adjoining property through the easement
- 3 area?
- 4 BRIAN BIDDLE: We did not.
- 5 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. That's fine. Just clarifying
- 6 the scope of your testimony. All right. Reserving the right
- 7 to question in connection with the Exhibit 92, I have no
- 8 further questions for this witness.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Any redirect to that
- 10 point?
- 11 ERIN GIRARD: No.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you, sir.
- 13 Appreciate it. All right. Next victim.
- 14 ERIN GIRARD: This one may be wrong, so I just want to
- 15 make sure to the extent we wanted to call it.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. Let's go.
- 17 ERIN GIRARD: Let's go? Then I'm calling Patrick
- 18 Phillips.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You're a brave man. All
- 20 right. Sir, would you state your full name please and
- 21 address?
- 22 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. My name is Patrick L. Phillips,
- 23 with two Ls, P-H-I, double-L, I-P-S. I'm at 4440 Van Ness
- 24 Street Northwest in Washington, DC, 20016.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Would you raise your right

- 1 hand please? Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- 2 whole truth and nothing but the truth under penalty of
- 3 perjury?
- PATRICK PHILLIPS: I do.
- HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.
- 6 ERIN GIRARD: Mr. Phillips, what's your occupation?
- PATRICK PHILLIPS: I am a real estate development
- consultant.
- ERIN GIRARD: And how long have you been engaged in this
- 10 occupation?
- 11 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have been working in this field for
- 12 about 35 years. For the last -- until recently, I was
- 13 spending the last nine years as the global CEO of the Urban
- 14 Land Institute or ULI.
- 15 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. And touched on it, but your
- 16 professional educational background?
- 17 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Right. I actually started out in the
- 18 design professions. I was trained originally as a landscape
- 19 architect. I taught for a couple of years.
- 20 And then I went back to graduate school and completed a
- 21 master's in public administration with a focus on public
- 22 finance and management, having become more interested in the
- 23 policy and economic factors affecting real estate decision
- 24 making.

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- 25 ERIN GIRARD: And are you a member of any professional
- 1 societies or organizations?
  - PATRICK PHILLIPS: I am. I'm a -- I could remain an
  - 3 active member of the Urban Land Institute. In addition, I'm a
  - 4 member of Lambda Alpha, which is the land economics honorary
  - 5 fraternity.
  - 6 ERIN GIRARD: And have you published anything in these
  - 7 fields?
  - 8 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have. I've been a contributor or
  - 9 author of -- a primary author of eight books. Mostly
  - 10 published by ULI, including The Mixed-use Development
  - 11 Handbook, the downtown --
  - 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: What's ULI?
  - 13 PATRICK PHILLIPS: ULI is the Urban Land Institute. Both
  - 14 the organization that I remain a member of as well as the
  - 15 organization that I used to serve as CEO of.
  - 16 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay.
  - 17 PATRICK PHILLIPS: So the publications include The
  - 18 Downtown Development Handbook, Flexible Zoning Book,
  - 19 Entertainment and Retail Destination Book. ULI's a very
  - 20 practical organization and these books are intended to share
  - 21 best practices among those involved in development projects.
  - 22 ERIN GIRARD: And have you qualified as an expert
  - 23 witness before?
  - 24 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have, yes.
  - 25 ERIN GIRARD: And when and where and what [inaudible]?

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PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have qualified in the U.S. Court of 1 development. Federal Claims, on a land valuation issue at the Soldiers' It's a global organization. I was the global CEO, so the and Airmen's Home, at The Federal District Court in Texas top staff executive. But the muscle behind ULI is its related to retail or impacts on retail businesses of roadway members. There are a number, these days about 45,000 around construction in Kansas City and in Pennsylvania on issues the world, and they're involved in all disciplines. A related to the definition of mixed-use. And then numerous prominent segment of the membership is developers. local administrative proceedings like this one. Developers come in all stripes these days from small ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Mr. Phillips résumé is exhibit 56. entrepreneurs to large institutions. So then a third of our He also has a report that's Exhibit 62H. And we are moving members are our developers; about a third represent investors 10 his admission as an expert in both real estate economics and 10 and other sources of capital that funds development both 11 urban planning and development. 11 public and private. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Hold on one second. You And the remaining is a combination of the professional 13 disciplines involved including legal, and architecture, and 13 said it was exhibit? 14 planning, and engineering, and so forth as well as public 14 ERIN GIRARD: 56, résumé; 62H, report. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. [Inaudible] résumé. 15 sector members, academics and members of nonprofit 15 16 ERIN GIRARD: You said [inaudible] economics and? 16 organizations. 17 ERIN GIRARD: Urban planning and development. 17 ERIN GIRARD: Thank you for that. And Mr. Phillips, are 18 you familiar with the subject property surrounding area and 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Can't seem to get to the 19 bottom of 56 here. Here it is. All right. And what was the 19 application number CU19-03? 20 other publication that you said that he submitted a report in 20 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. I am. 21 this case? 21 ERIN GIRARD: And are you familiar with the approved and 22 22 adopted Kensington Sector Plan and its recommendations with ERIN GIRARD: Report 62H. 23 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: 62H. Okay. 23 respect both to the property and the surrounding area? 24 24 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I am, yeah. ERIN GIRARD: It's more a memorandum in responding to 25 ERIN GIRARD: And are you familiar with the requirements 25 staff. Probably [inaudible]. 282 284 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. 62H. All right. To of the zoning ordinance with respect to conditional uses in the planning board? self-storage conditional uses, in particular? PATRICK PHILLIPS: I am, yes. ERIN GIRARD: Correct. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Did you have 4 ERIN GIRARD: And are you familiar with the July 15th, 2019 staff memorandum of the planning board regarding the any questions regarding this witness's qualifications? conditional use, particularly its analysis regarding sector ERIN GIRARD: No. I don't. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. And what were the planning compliance? PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. two areas you wished him to be --ERIN GIRARD: Real estate economics and urban planning 9 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That's Exhibit 59? ERIN GIRARD: Mm-hmm. Do you agree with the defined 10 and development. 10 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And urban planning and 11 neighborhood depicted on page five of the Stafford? 11 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I do. 12 All right. Based on Mr. Phillips qualifications as he 13 ERIN GIRARD: Could you review your analysis of the 14 conditional uses compliance with the sector plan and your 14 outlined and as indicated in his resume and his prior 15 testimony as an expert, I accept him as an expert in real 15 responses to staff's analysis? 16 estate economics and urban planning and development. PATRICK PHILLIPS: Sure. Yeah. Happy to. I address three 16 ERIN GIRARD: I'm actually going to put Mr. Phillips in 17 interrelated aspects of the proposal. 18 the spot a little bit, because as an active member of ULI One, whether or not it should really be classified as a 19 myself, it's assumed that people know what that is. But I 19 mixed-use project, which is certainly a stated objective of 20 just -- could you just spend a minute and explain having been 20 the sector plan, and I think relevant in terms of approval of 21 at the global, what it is and what its membership is 21 the conditional use as a result. 22 comprised of? I think that is relevant for his expertise. 22 Whether alternative uses, such as office or housing, are PATRICK PHILLIPS: Sure. ULI is often characterized, I 23 viable on the site; and then third, how the project economics 24 think truthfully, as the world's leading member organization 24 work to advance the objectives of the sector plan. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. [Inaudible] in one of focused on issues involving real estate and urban 25

#### Transcript of Administrative Hearing Conducted on August 20, 2019

producing uses, significant functional and physical the -- the mixed-use question I saw in your memo Exhibit 62H to the planning board that you had in effect defined mixedintegration and conformance to a coherent plan. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And that's from -- that was use to include this particular proposal. 3 It was a question I raised last week, I guest August 9th from -also as to what exactly mixed-use meant in our zoning PATRICK PHILLIPS: That was from ULI. They first postulated that in 76. They incorporated it in their Mixedordinance. And I don't know if anybody's come up with anything that defined it either in our zoning ordinance. use Development Handbook and most of their literature ever 8 since. I didn't see it in a definition section, but or in any This project in fact meets that standard, which I think case law. Have either of you run into something that defines 10 mixed-use? Can it be as Mr. Phillips suggests, two uses such 10 is about the strictest definition of mixed-use that I've 11 as the ones planned here, or must it have a residential 11 seen. In practical terms today, what people often refer to as 12 component to it? 12 mixed-use involves a commercial building with retail below. ERIN GIRARD: Speaking for the town of Kensington at the You do come across mixed-use projects that have three or 13 14 moment, I don't have any legal authority for you, but we will 14 more uses in a fully integrated way, usually in places like 15 be addressing that through our testimony. The question of 15 Hong Kong or Shanghai, but not always. So not all of them 16 mixed-use and what is it and in the context of this 16 include housing. Not all of them include any particular use, 17 application. 17 but the idea is that uses are mixed together. 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. I mean, maybe the town And I think this project meets that test. Now, what's 19 interesting is of course the staff report as was noted 19 of Kensington has some regulation or rule or something that 20 addresses that term. I just don't know. 20 earlier in the day by focusing in on the conditional use 21 ERIN GIRARD: And as far as the applicant, I mean, when 21 only, which is the self-storage use immediately discounts the 22 the issue first was raised by staff and staff was really 22 value of the other uses. 23 pushing the idea of mixed-use had to include residential, we 23 And when you look at the value of the other uses 24 relative to the sector plan objectives, that's where I think 24 did the analysis that you were discussing. We looked in the 25 code, we looked in the case law. We looked in popular 25 that the -- really the staff report does -- really does not 286 288 1 publications and that's largely how we ended up at urban land serve the town well or the county well. institute with Mr. Philips as a known authority as to land This fatal flaw of the staff analysis in my view, is to use issues. And so -not consider this project as a fully integrated whole as a HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You didn't check MAD mixed-use project. Magazine, now? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, let me ask you this ERIN GIRARD: I don't know. If it came up on the Google then. I'll come back to that mixed-use question. Is there search, we might know. anything in the literature that -- not just the pure HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. I'm sorry for definition that you gave us from ULI, but also talks about 9 interrupting. the quantity of the uses that are combined? PATRICK PHILLIPS: That's all right. I'll start by 10 So how much of a non-storage use does it take to make it 11 addressing that specific question, because I do think both 11 a truly mixed-use if only 10.2 percent, or whatever it is 12 the conventional definition of mixed-use as well as the 12 here, is the other elements combined in fact, is that 13 Kensington sector planner, in fact, agnostic has two 13 sufficient to make this truly a mixed-use in the sense that 14 particular uses. 14 planners see it? I think the question is as it relates to Kensington PATRICK PHILLIPS: Right. Like many things, this is in 16 sector plan is whether or not mixed-use helps to create the 16 the eye of the beholder. And it's all about perception and 17 vibrant pedestrian environment that the town seeks. And I'll 17 design. 18 come back to that question later. I think that the way the project is designed and But I think the objective definition, the best objective 19 operated has a great deal to do with whether or not it comes 20 definition of mixed-use is the one that the urban land 20 across -- it's perceived to be a mixed-use project. I would 21 institute first postulated back in 1976 which is that, and I 21 agree that the strict proportion, the number of square feet

22 in this particular project devoted to this, the non-storage

25 are. They're on the street level and the second level. They

But that ignores the fact about where that -- those uses

23 uses is a relatively small percentage.

22 think this is actually, even though I think it's too strict

24 well to our [inaudible] project here.

23 for practical use today, it actually does apply reasonably

That is that the project includes, three or more revenue

291 1 are in the immediate zone of perception of the pedestrians, My function is to look at this plan and this proposal 2 of the motorists, of the people who are experiencing this and say whether it comports with the zoning ordinance. Does 3 building. anybody disagree with that? So I think it's both the quantity, but it's not just the ERIN GIRARD: No. And Mr. Phillips will certainly speak 5 quantity. I think it's where these are, how they're managed, to that. But I think that you can't ignore the fact that that 6 the nature and quality of those uses, how they interact with was an issue for staff, that's included in the planning one another, how they interact with the public space. It's a board's rationale, and that's an issue for the town. more complex equation than that. So I feel we should get a chance to rebut than waiting HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. for the next best thing. If we passed this by, we'll get 10 PATRICK PHILLIPS: So my first point is that I think 10 residential. We're not going to dwell on it, but I think just 11 this is clearly a mixed-use development and deserves the 11 to complete the record we're responding to those assertions. 12 consideration that the town and the county grant mixed-use HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. I mean, I'll let 13 developments when they think about which projects should 13 the witness testify about it, but I have to say, I don't 14 receive conditional use approval. 14 think, and I think you agree with me, and I think that Ms. The second point that I examined was that of alternative 15 Rosenfeld agrees with me, it's not something I should be 16 uses. And again, the reason for that was the implicit in the 16 considering, whether they're alternatives or not. 17 sector plan I think, and explicit in some of the certainly 17 I mean, it is possible that the town of Kensington is 18 the planning board hearing. 18 making an unwise decision if this witness is correct. But And in some of the staff testimony in their report, was 19 they could still have an opinion about it, which they've 20 that the plans envisioned that a higher density, more 20 voiced as the technical staff in the planning board. 21 pedestrian friendly downtown would be delivered by a project ERIN GIRARD: And Mr. Grossman if I may, I do agree with 22 that had housing or office space above. 22 you that the financials of this project are not grounded in I think they were fine. Even though they dismissed it in 23 the zoning ordinance findings that you need to make. 24 the staff report, I think they were fine with the restaurant I also disagree with the assertion that the town's 25 and arts uses, but the challenge seemed to be accepting the 25 position is grounded in financial considerations or viability 290 292 considerations. I've proffered in our testimony with Michele, storage uses of above. if they're grounded in the conditions and the findings that So that again is a very conventional solution these days, and often we refer to it as mixed-use even though it you need to make pursuant to the zoning code. might just have two uses. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. Well, that's what it The challenge here in Kensington though is that -- is seems from the submissions I've received from town. Okay. the market demand and the sufficient revenue to produce PATRICK PHILLIPS: Well, let me conclude with the final feasible set of uses involving office and housing just don't point, which is that the projects, the way the development economics of the project work, I believe advances both --Now, they may in the future, but I think it's the market optimizes the public benefits of the project and advances the 10 has a long way to go to support market rate housing or 10 sector plan objectives, which I think is the critical point 11 multitenant office at a scale that's envisioned and desired 11 here. So this is a lot like most mixed-use projects. There is 12 by the town sector plan at this location. 12 If the -- while I did not do a full market feasibility 13 a single-use that typically produces the bulk of the net 14 study or financial analysis of the project, it's clear based 14 operating income. 15 on a scan of the market that the rental rates are And in this case, it's sufficient as the applicant, I 16 think testified a little while ago, to support those 16 insufficient to support new construction at this location. 17 And that's particularly true with a building this size. 17 animating ground floor and second floor uses. And those would 18 not be financially feasible on their own. 18 Because for either office or residential, the parking demand And as I noted, I don't think there are other 19 would be such that you'd have to either go down underground 20 parking or create structured parking. Either of those 20 alternatives for the upper floors that would make them 21 solutions would cost so much as just to exacerbate the 21 financially feasible. So I think self-storage is one use. It 22 feasibility problem. 22 may be the only use that enables the creation of a taller, HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: But you're asking you address 23 more substantial building at this location.

The creation of a high quality urban public space that

25 enhances the connectivity of this site to its surroundings; a

24 alternatives and whether they would be viable, and I don't

think that's my function.

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1 retail presence at the ground floor and an artist and maker

2 studio on the second floor.

And all of those things, the way I read the sector plan are highly consistent with it. Staff report expressed some concern about the viability of the ground floor and second

6 floor uses if the upstairs were self-storage instead of

7 housing or office.

They also suggested that the lack of housing or office in the upper floors would impact the pedestrian intensity on

10 the street. And I just wanted to note that I disagree with

11 that. I think that it's clear that the restaurant will

12 require a far larger customer base than the people who might

13 live or work upstairs.

And the pedestrian activity, in fact, I think is going

15 to be enhanced by these uses because it'll be a destination

16 draw from the surrounding neighborhoods. We just had a

17 conversation about parking.

18 I think remote parking perhaps over on Howard in the

19 Antiques District would be great because those people would

20 then walk to this location perhaps to eat or visit a gallery.

21 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You don't think that a

22 restaurant's chances of success are significantly improved by

23 having five stories of residences above them?

24 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Very minor. If you do the math, and

25 you look at the purport -- at the proportion of incomes of

1 and it animates these ground floor uses and so forth. And the

2 design, I think is substantially better than a conventional

3 project.

This is a trend that we see in the self-storage

5 industry. The sponsors of these projects are having to do a

better job.

They're having to produce higher-quality buildings in

8 order to afford the land in these more urban locations, which

9 are very desirable as Mr. McKone suggested because of the

10 population density around them.

So I understand the town's position with respect to

12 this, but I do think that this project is -- represents the

13 next stage of evolution of self-storage.

14 ERIN GIRARD: And you became involved in this project

15 right around or shortly before the staff report was drafted?

16 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I did, yes.

17 ERIN GIRARD: And your memorandum is largely in

18 responsive to staff's analysis?

19 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Correct.

20 ERIN GIRARD: And so without having had a traditional

21 part, have you reviewed the statement of justification that's

22 included in the exhibit 53 in the record?

23 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have, yes.

24 ERIN GIRARD: And in that, as the hearing examiner noted

25 earlier, pages four to 14, there's a more detailed analysis

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1 those residents that are spent dining out, and if you look at

2 all of their competitive options, and you calculate or

3 estimate rather what proportion of that spending will be done

4 on site, and then how that translates to the viability of the

5 restaurant, it's meaningful.

But it's less than five percent. Well, less than five

7 percent. So those were my three points. It's a mixed-use

8 project. And without doubt, the alternative uses I think are

9 problematic.

And in my view the development economics and the mixed-

11 use nature of this project advance the sector plan

12 objectives, I think this is the highest and best use of the

13 property.

14 ERIN GIRARD: The staff report also expressed fears that

15 the self-storage here would create a self-storage hub and

16 that it would have a deadening effect. I think you touched on

17 the deadening effect a little bit. But then it would have an

18 adverse impact on the development of neighboring properties.

19 Can you speak to that?

20 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Sure. Yeah. That's an understandable

21 point of view if you're looking at the previous generations

22 of self-storage facilities not only in Kensington but

23 throughout this region.

24 I think what's being proposed is a very innovative and

25 contemporary example of self-storage in that it is mixed-use

1 of the compliance of the proposed project with specific

2 sector plan criteria. You've reviewed that?

3 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I have.

4 ERIN GIRARD: And what are your thoughts on that

analysis?

6 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I agree. I agree that there's

7 consistency across each of those points.

8 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Now, before we leave that

9 actually, I'm looking at page four now, that analysis. And

10 one of the questions we just discussed about that residences

11 over the other uses such as a restaurant, I note there's a

12 quotation from the sector plan in the very first part of this

13 on page four.

14 It says, Kensington Town Center will be a lively and

15 active place with streets that are welcoming and comfortable

16 for residents, workers and visitors. It will be reachable by

17 walking and bicycle from Kensington neighborhoods, which can

18 reduce the vehicle miles traveled, conserve energy and

19 reduced carbon emissions.

I was a little disturbed when I went to look at the

21 sector plan that you left off the last sentence of that

22 paragraph.

23 And that last sentence reads, the town centers will also

24 broaden housing choices for an array of ages and incomes.

25 Which it seems to me if you were addressing what the sector

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1 plan seeks, that would be irrelevant sentence to have in that concern. I think the presence of the previous two raise that 2 first part of your bullet point, your first bullet point. Not legitimate concern. I think in this case, again, this one is 3 to leave it off. qualitatively very different than the previous ones, but it ERIN GIRARD: Honestly, I apologize for that. I allot is a tradeoff. 5 many sector plans and master plans call for residential in a And I think again, the ability to get the benefits of a substantial building at a prominent intersection, animated given area. It's not specific to the -- if it were specific to this and activated at the ground floor use, high quality public property that had to be residential and we left that off, I'm space in addition to the artists and maker studios is an 9 not saying that it should've been left out here, but I'm acceptable trade-off. I think the risk of being seen as a 10 saying general recommendations about residential within a 10 self-storage, a concentration that's immutable and forever is 11 given area. 11 relatively low. I think this isn't residential, so to say that 12 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 13 residential had to go here clearly there wouldn't --13 ERIN GIRARD: And in your opinion will the [inaudible] HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I'm not saying it has to go 14 proposed conditional use cause undue harm? Have I said that? 15 there. I'm just saying that to fully convey what the sector HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You can repeat it. 16 plan seeks, it seems to me that your first bullet point taken ERIN GIRARD: It's getting late in the day. In your 16 17 from sector plan page one ought not to leave off the last 17 opinion, will the proposed conditional use cause undue harm 18 sentence, which also mentions that it would broaden housing 18 to the use peaceful enjoyment, economic value or development 19 choices in the center of Kensington and a town -- Kensington 19 potential of a budding and confronting property or the 20 Town Center for an array of ages and incomes. So I was 20 general neighborhood? 21 concerned about that. All right? You may go further. 21 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Now again, I think in most cases this ERIN GIRARD: Okay. I guess on that point, Mr. Philips, 22 will be improved. 23 are you aware of any recommendations in the sector plan that 23 ERIN GIRARD: And in your opinion, will the proposed 24 conditional use cause any undue harm to the health, safety or 24 call for residential on the site specifically? PATRICK PHILLIPS: No. Not specifically, no. 25 welfare of neighboring residents, visitors or employees. 298 ERIN GIRARD: In your opinion, were the proposed And your expert opinion, is the proposed conditional use 2 conditional use comply with the standards and requirements of suitable for this site in compliance with the Kensington the zone of the zoning ordinance governing self-storage Sector Plan and compatible with the surrounding area? 4 conditional uses and section 59731E of the zoning ordinance MR. PHILLIPS: I believe it is, yes. governing conditional uses in general? 5 ERIN GIRARD: That's all I have. PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. I believe it will. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Cross-examination? ERIN GIRARD: And in your opinion, will the proposed MICHELE ROSENFELD: Yes. Thank you. Mr. Phillips, you -conditional use be harmonious with the character of the in your testimony, you talked about comments or discussion in surrounding neighborhood? the staff report, the Planning Board staff report related to PATRICK PHILLIPS: I do. I, like some others, believe 10 the financial viability of this project and that part of your 11 that this would represent a substantial improvement and 11 testimony was intended to address those sections. Would you 12 reflect well on the neighborhood around it. 12 please point me to the provisions of the staff report that ERIN GIRARD: And in your opinion, will the proposed 13 you are refuting? 14 conditional use cause undue harm to use peaceful enjoyment, PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yeah. It wasn't about the general 15 economic value or development potential of a budding and 15 viability of the overall project. I think the viability of

> 19 somehow negatively impact buy-ability of the restaurant in 20 particular. 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And can you show me where that is in 22 the staff report?

23 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yeah. Let me find it. I think the 24 paragraph that speaks to that is on page eight. The first

16 the self-storage as well accepted by the staff. The point

17 that I was referring to was a concern by the staff that the

lack of residents or workers in the upper floors would

PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yeah. Again, an understandable

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And what about the issue

16 confronting properties or the general neighborhood?

20 not having a third self-storage facility in this area, and

PATRICK PHILLIPS: No. Just the opposite.

19 that's been raised by the town, by others about whether or

21 especially right in the middle of such a prominent place in

23 in the area that the town and that the sector plan wants to

22 the town center, would discourage other kinds of development

17

25

24 encourage?

303 about the level of activity and the critical mass of standard is not codified anywhere in Montgomery County pedestrian traffic along sidewalks. And the -- do you see it 3 there? PATRICK PHILLIPS: No. As far as I know. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And in your experience with local MICHELE ROSENFELD: Are you talking about the sentence that says the proposed use itself will not create a critical jurisdictions, do local jurisdictions draw on things like sector plans and staff reports and other supporting documents mass of activity along the sidewalks? PATRICK PHILLIPS: Correct. Yeah. in trying to determine what a mixed-use is at a particular MICHELE ROSENFELD: Anything else in that paragraph? location? PATRICK PHILLIPS: No. I think that's what it was. I PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. I think they do. I think that 10 think perhaps my characterization but also reflected 10 it's an evolving concept. Here, we have a project that we 11 conversations that I had had with Ms. Girard, following her 11 wouldn't have seen 10 years ago. This is a new paradigm for 12 conversations with the staff. So those were conveyed in that 12 both towns as well as for real estate developers. 13 way. And I think we have to ask ourselves is this consistent MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Based on your understanding of 14 with the spirit of mixed-use and does it advance the 15 the operations of the of the self-storage facility itself, do 15 objectives of a particular plan? In this case, the sector 16 you have an opinion as to whether or not a six-story 16 plan. I think it does. 17 residential building on this property would generate more 17 MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so going to paragraph 21 of the 18 street front activity than this proposed use would? 18 Kensington Sector Plan -- do you have a copy? PATRICK PHILLIPS: I think at the margin, it probably PATRICK PHILLIPS: I don't have a full copy. 20 would. I don't think that's on a viable use at all. But sure, 20 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I have a copy. 21 if you put six floors of residents or office workers or hotel 21 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Actually, Mr. Grossman. I'm not sure 22 guests above a restaurant, you'd probably get a few more 22 there is a full copy in the record. 23 folks generated by that building. 23 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Okay. Can I have [inaudible]? Thank 24 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Generated by that building. 24 you. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I don't have a binder. 25 PATRICK PHILLIPS: My point is that the restaurant and 25 302 304 1 the maker space in this particular building, will also create PATRICK PHILLIPS: Which page we were? 1 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Page 21. a destination for others in the surrounding neighborhoods and 2 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yeah. who want to come to Kensington for this experience. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Right? No. I understand that. But MICHELE ROSENFELD: So the first full paragraph there. you would agree, wouldn't you, that the self-storage unit The town center is envisioned as a walkable, attractive place component itself does not generate a great deal with with local convenience retail, housing, dining and pedestrian traffic? entertainment, offices and neighborhood services, in a In fact, the design model that we heard was that the compact development pattern with a variety of buildings along entire facility is designed to encourage people to approach Connecticut Avenue. 10 from the rear so that nobody ever sees it loading or 10 Does that describe to you a mixed-use type of setting in 11 the town center? 12 12 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Sure. It's a very functional PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yes. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. The next sentences; properties 13 experience. Right. MICHELE ROSENFELD: The ULI definition of mixed-use that 14 with the potential to support mixed-use developments with 15 you've referenced is certainly one frame of reference with 15 parking structures could have five to six story buildings. 16 While most other properties that do not mix uses would have 16 prospect to mixed-use. In your experience, do different 17 jurisdictions identify or codify mixed-use in different ways? 17 street activating retail and services in one or two story PATRICK PHILLIPS: I've been involved in three cases 18 buildings with surface parking. 19 where that question has been litigated. So I think it's not It seems to me that this recommendation encourages 20 something that's well defined, in fact. 20 higher buildings with underground parking and surface parking And again, I think that ULI's definition is a bit too 21 for lower density uses. It does not support structured 22 parking. 22 strict to reflect standard practice these days. But the point 23 that I wanted to make in using it was that it's agnostic as Can you reconcile for me or do you have an opinion as to 24 how you reconcile this recommendation from the master plan 24 to use. 25 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And to your knowledge, the ULI 25 with this proposal, which goes to six stories and has no

307 underground parking? the zoning ordinance or section that required some financial PATRICK PHILLIPS: That's the magic of it. It's the only viability, a conservation, which ultimately the council way you can get a substantial building on this site without decided to take out, not in these particular provisions, but structured parking. elsewhere in the code. MICHELE ROSENFELD: And on what do you base that MICHELE ROSENFELD: I'd like to turn to page two of your memorandum, which is Exhibit 62H. In this, the second full 6 opinion? PATRICK PHILLIPS: My experience and the numbers. I paragraph under the heading alternative use uses lack of mean, if you look at the supportable rents for office or market demand. housing, the most conventional uses that would go up to six You say, however, Kensington does not currently 10 stories. You just can't get the rent then an operating income 10 represent an established submarket for moderate density 11 to support the development costs because of the parking 11 multifamily or for multi-tenant office. 12 demand for us to either into a structure or underground or a And then you go on. I'm not going to read the full 13 combination of both. 13 paragraph. Is this statement in here for the proposition that So what you have here is, in my view, a solution to that 14 moderate density multifamily or multitenant use just is not 15 dilemma. This project reconciles what the challenge between 15 an appropriate use or a viable use in the Kensington Town 16 creating substantial building on a prominent site that's 16 Center? 17 financially viable and activating the street. 17 PATRICK PHILLIPS: What I was trying to do was establish MICHELE ROSENFELD: And have you been privy to any 18 a baseline for the viability as we were just talking about 19 financial analysis or economic pro formas for developing this 19 for alternative uses on this particular site. And what I found again in looking at other competitive 21 PATRICK PHILLIPS: Only the numbers that I researched 21 submarkets in Montgomery County is that Kensington, while it 22 myself in analytics, I haven't seen the developer's pro 22 does have some apartment buildings and well, it certainly has 23 forma. 23 some office buildings, it's not in a position right now to MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And where do you derive those 24 generate the rents that'll support new construction. 25 numbers from? MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. And when you say moderate 306 308 PATRICK PHILLIPS: I've created hundreds of pro formas density multifamily, can you describe to me what that means? in metropolitan Washington for all kinds of uses. PATRICK PHILLIPS: Yeah. Four to six story residential MICHELE ROSENFELD: And so to the -- did you create a with retail on the ground floor. pro forma specific to this property? MICHELE ROSENFELD: With respect -- going back to the PATRICK PHILLIPS: Back of the envelope pro forma, yeah. lack of residential -- let me start again. Exhibit 62H again, Didn't include it in my report but did enough to understand your memorandum, page three. You say the lack of residence or that the leap required to get from today's position to what office workers in the upper floors has only a small impact on would be required to produce financial viability for housing the market ability of the restaurants and or uses. And you've or office was simply too great. touched on this earlier. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Grossman, I have two responses 10 Recognizing that an office, a residential or office 11 to that. The first is as I think we've recognized the 11 building isn't going to on its own support a restaurant or 12 financial viability of the project is not a consideration 12 retail, isn't it fair to say that there is a cumulative 13 before you. It's not one of the findings that you need to 13 impact that as you increase the housing stock in a given 14 reach. 14 area, it -- well, rising tide floats all boats. 15 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. So if there were residential here and then in other MICHELE ROSENFELD: On the other hand, if the financial 16 places as well, it would make any retail or residential use 17 viability of the project is something that is an issue in 18 this case that is going to be considered, then I would ERIN GIRARD: I'm going to object. We seem to be having 19 request that the back of the envelope calculations and any 19 it both ways. We don't want to talk about alternate uses, but 20 other supporting financial analysis that the expert has 20 then we want to ask about alternate uses. 21 prepared, be provided to us so that we can review. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Well, I would agree with you, 22 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Not an issue for me. 22 but I think you asked for it to be both ways so I've got to

23 be fair to the other side. I mean, I'm not [inaudible].

25 we did. I feel we were trying to be responsive.

ERIN GIRARD: Yeah. I mean, I explained why we did what

23

24

MICHELE ROSENFELD: Thank you.

25 I will evaluate in my report and decision. There once was in

HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It will not be an issue that

311 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Right. I asked both sides. 1 TRACEY FURMAN: [Inaudible]. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You had one witness, I 2 Both sides indicated to me that they agreed that it was not thought, who could not make it for example, on Thursdays. How 3 an issue that is before me, whether alternative uses and that 4 I should -- so both sides agree with that. And then both about Thursday? 5 TRACEY FURMAN: [Inaudible]. I think he can make this 5 sides want to put on some evidence about it. And this is the cross-examination, so I'm certainly going to give it a leeway Thursday. to do that. ERIN GIRARD: Right. Yeah. It sounds like Thursdays are 8 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. going to work. MICHELE ROSENFELD: I think what I'd like to do is find PATRICK PHILLIPS: Could you repeat the question for me? 10 MICHELE ROSENFELD: Do you remember the question? 10 out what our next day will be and then --PATRICK PHILLIPS: I think you said that won't 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 12 additional housing either on this side or in the surroundings 12 ERIN GIRARD: It sounds like Thursday unfortunately 13 continue to or increase the support of the restaurant. 13 you're not -- is not going to work for Mr. McKone. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Right. And I think my real question HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. 15 15 is, to the extent that they are cumulative impacts as you can MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. All right. Then yes, we will -16 increase the residential housing of any kind in a community, 16 -17 particularly in a town center, doesn't it help support the 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: So all right. So you want to 18 retail and residential -- retail and commercial? 18 put on --PATRICK PHILLIPS: Sure. The more buying power, the MICHELE ROSENFELD: To be quite honest, it's late in the 20 better that's accessible to the site. But again, I don't 20 day and I'm tired. But if it means, I mean, I don't want to 21 think residential in particular is viable on this particular 21 compromise the applicant's ability to have their witnesses 22 site. And then if it were, it would reflect a very small 22 here. 23 percentage of the sales required to support the rents at the 23 It sounds like Thursday is not going to work. Could we 24 just have a moment to confer? 24 restaurant site. MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Mr. Grossman, if I may have HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. And I apologize to 310 312 1 everybody for keeping you in this non air conditioned 1 just a moment. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. conditions with me, but consider it a hot date. All right. 2 You want --MICHELE ROSENFELD: Mr. Grossman, I have no further ERIN GIRARD: Could we go off the record for a moment? 5 5 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Sure. HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Any redirect? ERIN GIRARD: Only one. On the provision of page 21, ERIN GIRARD: We're sure hoping that September 3rd works 7 that Ms. Rosenfeld drew your attention to about the parking 7 for you because that works for all the parties. 8 structure. In your experience, does parking structure HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: September 3rd. Well that's a 9 necessarily equate to underground parking? 9 Wednesday. 10 PATRICK PHILLIPS: No. 10 ERIN GIRARD: Tuesday. ERIN GIRARD: And are you aware of the overhang that 11 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: It's a Tuesday? 12 essentially shields some of the parking here? So would you 12 ERIN GIRARD: It's the Tuesday after Labor Day. 13 call this a typical surface parking lot? HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Okay. Tuesday after Labor PATRICK PHILLIPS: It's a bit of a hybrid. It's not 14 Day? Well, my wife hasn't told me that I have any 15 strictly speaking just surfaces protected, but is -- I 15 obligations. All right. Let's do that. 16 wouldn't call a structured [inaudible]. 16 ERIN GIRARD: Okay. Great. Thank you. 17 ERIN GIRARD: That's all. 17 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And I don't think that 18 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Any re-cross? 18 council comes back into session until the following Tuesday, MICHELE ROSENFELD: No. Thank you. 19 so I think we'd be okay. Said that would be September 3, 19 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you very 20 2019. You realize you're giving me two hearings in one week. 21 much, Mr. Phillips. I appreciate it. PATRICK PHILLIPS: I know the whole crowd appreciates 22 ERIN GIRARD: Well, we originally landed on the sixth 22 23 it. 23 and I go, wait a minute. 24 HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: All right. So shall we HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: I know. I have one already.

25 Okay. So since we're all agreed, I'll just announce it on the

25 proceed with the town's first witness?

_	Conducted on August 20, 2019					
1	public record at this time that this hearing after recess was	1	315 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER			
2	today.	2	I, Christian Naaden, do hereby certify that the foregoing			
3	Maybe we'll go on further if you all want to, but we	3	transcript is a true and correct record of the recorded			
4	don't have to I suppose. But this hearing after recess today	4	proceedings; that said proceedings were transcribed to the			
5	will resume on September 3, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in this room;	5	best of my ability from the audio recording and supporting			
6	that is, the board of appeals and OZAH hearing room. It has a	6	information; and that I am neither counsel for, related to,			
7	name I've known for 15 years. I can't recall it right now.	7	nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no			
8	And on the second floor of the counsel office building	8	interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.			
9	at 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville Maryland. All right. So	9	more than or other moe, in its outcome.			
1	that's all the notice that will go out. Did I say that	10	01 6			
	sufficiently? I think I did. It's the Davidson Memorial	11	0/ //			
	Hearing Room. There you go.		Christian Naaden			
13	Jason [inaudible] office at room 200. Okay. Is there		DATE: August 22, 2019			
	anything further we should be handling today? I should say	14	-			
	that I asked you Mr. Bradford the electronic copy of what you	15				
	submitted, so it's still like that. And also of any other	16				
	exhibit that you submitted today. Okay. Not just the plans,	17				
	but there were some other text exhibits.	18				
19	ERIN GIRARD: Yes. Sure. So if you could email me that	19				
	tomorrow, that would be fine. Or if you have it with you now,	20				
	you can give it to me if it's on disc.	21				
22	MICHELE ROSENFELD: Okay. Yeah.	22				
23	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: And also there were other	23				
	things that were to be submitted much of I think we all	24				
	went through some by both sides. Since we have a little time	25				
	314	<u> </u>				
1	between now and September 3, let's get them in.					
2	Let's see. Today is the 20th. So how about by the 27th?					
3	Does that make sense to everybody? That everything that's					
4	still outstanding will be submitted? I wouldn't wait until					
5	then to get the any anything to technical staff. I'd get					
6	copies to technical staff by tomorrow, so that we give them					
7	time to respond.					
8	All right. We all agreed with that. Anything else that					
	needs to be covered? All right. Well, thank you all for					
	putting up with the temperature control issues here and					
11	hopefully they'll have it fixed by our next session.					
12	MALE: Sir, did you order the transcript?					
13	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah. Let's order it on the					
	48-hour turnaround.					
15	MALE: 48 hour?					
16	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Yeah.					
17	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: That would be by Thursday.					
18	MALE: Thursday, the 22nd.					
19	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: Whatever that is on your					
	you have three levels. You have regular 48 hour and 24 hour.					
	This would be the 48-hour level.					
22	MALE: Sure. Thank you.					
23	HEARING OFFICER GROSSMAN: You're welcome.					
24	(Off the record at 5:32:21 p.m.)					
25						