IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING

AND VARIANCE – NE/Corner Old Eastern

And Weber Avenues

(Hopewell Pointe, fka Hopkins Landing)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District

5<sup>th</sup> Council District

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

**ZONING COMMISSIONER** 

Case No. 02-537-SPHA

BEFORE THE

Hopewell Point, LLC Petitioner

# FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner for consideration of Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance filed by the owner of the subject property, Hopewell Point, LLC, by Ellwood Sinsky, Managing Member, through their attorney, John B. Gontrum, Esquire. The Petitioner requests a special hearing to approve an amendment to the previously approved site plan and Order issued in prior Case No. 97-440-A, and variance relief from the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) as follows: 1) From Section 1B01.2.C.2.b (V.B.6.c of the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies [C.M.D.P.]) to permit a window to window setback for Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, and 4A and 4B of 12 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet; 2) from Section 504 (V.B.6.b, CMDP) to permit a window to lot line/ property line setback of 2 feet for Condominium Building 1A, 8 feet for Condominium Buildings 1B, 2A, and 2B, and 12 feet for Condominium Building 4B, all in lieu of the required 15 feet; 3) from Section 504 (V.B.6.a, CMDP) and Section 1B01.2.C.3 (V.B.9, CMDP) for a window and building to street right-of-way setback of 16 feet each for buildings 3A and 3B and 19 feet for Condominium Building 4A, all in lieu of the required 25 feet; 4) from Section 504 (V.B.5.b, CMDP) for a building to tract boundary setback for Condominium Building 4B of 19 feet in lieu of the required 30 feet; 5) from Section 1B01.2.C.2.a (V.B.5.a, CMDP) for a window to tract boundary setback for Condominium Building 4B of 19 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet; 6) from Section 1B01.2.C.6 (V.B.3.a, CMDP) to permit a building height for Condominium Building 2B

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of 60 feet in lieu of the maximum allowed 50 feet; and 7) from Section 504 (V.B.3.b, CMDP) to permit building to building separations between Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, and 4A and 4B of 12 feet in lieu of the required 75 feet. Additionally, prior to the issuance of a decision in this case, the Petitioner requested further relief within the Petition for Special Hearing to confirm that a covered entranceway extending 4 feet into the required front yard setback (25% of the 16-foot setback provided) for Buildings 3A and 3B, can be constructed. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence and marked as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the request were Ellwood A. Sinsky, on behalf of Hopewell Point, LLC, property owners; Mitchell E. Kellman and John Seefried, representatives of Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc., who prepared the site plan for this property; and, John B. Gontrum, Esquire, attorney for the Petitioners. Also appearing in support of the request were Thomas E. Carski, and William Jones, a representative of the Baltimore County Office of Economic Development. Appearing as an interested person was Greg Barth, a nearby resident of the area. There were no Protestants present.

The instant Petitions relate to a 54.72-acre, waterfront tract located along the south side of Weber Avenue, east of Eastern Avenue on Hopkins Creek in eastern Baltimore County. The County Review Group (CRG) approved the property for substantial residential development in 1987. At that time, a subdivision plan proposing a community of approximately 290 townhouses was approved; however, that project was never built. Instead, the Developer revised its plan and obtained approval of those revisions as a "refinement" from the CRG plan on January 31, 1992. Although the property has had a modest change in zoning classification over the years, at the time of the original CRG approval, the site was a mix of B.L.-C.N.S., D.R.5.5, and D.R.16. As more particularly shown on the site plan, the subdivision as approved features a mix of single family dwellings/villas and condominium buildings.

Over the years, there have been a series of amendments to the original CRG plan and one prior zoning case (Case No. 97-440-A). In that case, the undersigned Zoning Commissioner

granted a series of variances for setbacks, distances between buildings, etc., on June 11, 1997. The instant requests seek two-fold relief. Specifically, the Petitioner requests approval to amend the previously approved site plan and Order in Case No. 97-440-A. In this regard, the instant proposal represents the latest amended CRG plan. Additionally, relief is requested under the Petition for Variance as described above. It is to be particularly noted that the variance relief sought relates entirely to the condominium buildings. As shown on the plan, there are actually eight (8) condominium buildings, which are designated as Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3C, and 4A and 4B. None of the single family units and/or villas are subject to the instant case.

The first variance requests approval of a distance of 12 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet between buildings (i.e. measured from Building 1A to Building 1B, 2A to 2B, etc.). This is actually a technical variance in that there will be a breezeway or other similar structural connection between the Buildings. Nonetheless, because they might technically be considered separate structures, relief is requested to approve the 12-foot distance in lieu of the required 40 feet between each building. The second variance relates to a window to lot line/property line setback of 2 feet for Buildings 1A, 2A and 2B; and, 12 feet for Building 4B in lieu of the required 15 feet for each. This can be characterized as an internal lot line variance. The third variance requests relief for a setback from windows and buildings to the street right-of-way of 16 feet for Buildings 3A and 3B, and 19 feet for Building 4A, in lieu of the required 25 feet. Again, this is an internal variance in that same will be measured from the buildings to Hopkins Landing Drive, which is a new road that is to be constructed within the interior of the site to provide vehicular access.

The fourth and fifth variance requests relate to a reduced setback distance to a tract boundary for Condominium Building 4B. As shown on the site plan, this distance is measured to the tract boundary and adjacent land, known as the Hubers Property, which is largely undeveloped. The sixth variance is actually to correct a technical issue. The existing zone line that divides the parcel into D.R.10.5 and D.R.16 bisects Building 2B. As shown on the plan, a small portion of the Building will technically be located in the D.R.10.5 zone and will exceed the height limitation of 50 feet. Obviously the entire building will be 60 feet in height; however, the D.R.10.5 regulation

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allows a maximum height of 50 feet. The seventh variance is similar to the first variance noted above. Specifically, it relates to the distance between all of the Buildings of 12 feet in lieu of the required 75 feet. Finally, as noted above, prior to the decision being issued in this case, the Petitioner requested confirmation that a covered entryway extending from Buildings 3A and 3B would be permitted. In residential zones, the B.C.Z.R. allows an open projection such as a deck or porch, to extend a distance of 25% into the required setback area. In this case, Buildings 3A and 3B are setback 16 feet from the right-of-way of Hopkins Landing Road. The Petitioner seeks confirmation that a proposed covered entranceway for these buildings, not to extend more than 4 feet into the required setback, will be permitted.

Based upon the testimony and evidence offered, I am persuaded to grant the requested relief. The subject proposal is an appropriate development and use of the subject property and represents a welcomed revitalization effort on the County's east side. Overall, the scheme of the development appears appropriate and the relief requested should be approved. Additionally, I am persuaded that the property is unique, given its unusual configuration and environmental constraints associated therewith. I am also persuaded that the property owner would suffer a practical difficulty if relief were denied. As noted above, many of the variances requested are of an internal or technical nature and will not adversely impact adjacent properties.

It should also be noted that a Zoning Advisory Committee comment was offered by the Office of Planning which generally supports the requests; however, requests that certain conditions be implemented relative to landscaping and architectural elevations of the building. The Petitioner indicated that they had no objections to these conditions being included as a restriction to the relief granted. Thus, compliance with the Office of Planning's recommendations shall be required.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property and public hearing on these Petitions held, and for the reasons set forth herein the relief requested shall be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this \_\_\_\_\_\_day of August, 2002 that the Petition for Special Hearing to approve an amendment to

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the previously approved site plan and Order issued in prior Case No. 97-440-A, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED a covered entranceway which extends no more than 4 feet into the 16-foot front yard setback provided for Buildings 3A and 3B (25% maximum allowed) can be constructed, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, and as such, the Petition for Special Hearing, as amended, be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) as follows: 1) From Section 1B01.2.C.2.b (V.B.6.c of the Compre-hensive Manual of Development Policies [C.M.D.P.]) to permit a window to window setback for Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, and 4A and 4B of 12 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet; 2) from Section 504 (V.B.6.b, CMDP) to permit a window to lot line/ property line setback of 2 feet for Condominium Building 1A, 8 feet for Condominium Buildings 1B, 2A, and 2B, and 12 feet for Condominium Building 4B, all in lieu of the required 15 feet; 3) from Section 504 (V.B.6.a, CMDP) and Section 1B01.2.C.3 (V.B.9, CMDP) for a window and building to street right-of-way setback of 16 feet each for buildings 3A and 3B and 19 feet for Condominium Building 4A, all in lieu of the required 25 feet; 4) from Section 504 (V.B.5.b, CMDP) for a building to tract boundary setback for Condominium Building 4B of 19 feet in lieu of the required 30 feet; 5) from Section 1B01.2.C.2.a (V.B.5.a, CMDP) for a window to tract boundary setback for Condominium Building 4B of 19 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet; 6) from Section 1B01.2.C.6 (V.B.3.a, CMDP) to permit a building height for Condominium Building 2B of 60 feet in lieu of the maximum allowed 50 feet; and 7) from Section 504 (V.B.3.b, CMDP) to permit building to building separations between Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, and 4A and 4B of 12 feet in lieu of the required 75 feet, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restrictions:

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until the 30-day appeal

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Date
By

period from the date of this Order has expired. If an appeal is filed and this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

2) Compliance with the Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments submitted by the Office of Planning dated July 8, 2002, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

3) When applying for a building permit, the site plan and/or landscaping plan filed must reference this case and set forth and address the restrictions of this Order.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs



August 8, 2002

Suite 405, County Courts Bldg. 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-4386 Fax: 410-887-3468

John B. Gontrum, Esquire Romadka, Gontrum & McLaughlin 814 Eastern Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland 21221

RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING and VARIANCE NE/Corner Old Eastern Avenue and Weber Avenue (Hopewell Pointe, fka Hopkins Landing)
15<sup>th</sup> Election District – 5<sup>th</sup> Council District Hopewell Point, LLC - Petitioners
Case No. 02-537-SPHA

Dear Mr. Gontrum:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance have been granted, in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Department of Permits and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs

Mr. Ellwood Sinsky, Hopewell Point, LLC
 2416 Velvet Valley Way, Owings Mills, Md. 21117
 Thomas E. Carski, Esquire, 514 Hampton Lane, Towson, Md. 21286
 Messrs. Mitchell Kellman & John Seefried, Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc. 200 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, Md. 21286
 Mr. Greg Barth, 1812 Hilltop Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21221
 Office of Planning; DEPRM; People's Counsel; Case File



# Petition for Special Hearing

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

which is presently zoned DR 16 : DR 10.5

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve

an amended site plan and order in Case 97-440-A

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Special Hearing, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

			I/We do solemnly decliperjury, that I/we are the subject of this Period 1.	he legal owner(s) of th	the penalties of ne property which
Contract Purchaser	/Lessee:		Legal Owner(s):		
Name - Type or, Print			Name The or Print	ell Point	LLC
Signature			Signature	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	renben
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print		
City	State	Zip Code	Signature		
Attorney For Petitio			Address	s md	70-363-669 Telephone No.
Name - Type or Print			City Representative to	State	Zip Code
Signature Royalks, Gon	Tan y Melon	ghlis, P.A.	Name		<del></del>
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and de			<u>OFF</u>	ICE USE ONLY	
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Case No. 02	-537 SPI	HH	UNAVAILABLE FO	R HEARING	
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# Petition for Variance

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at Southeast Side of Eastern & Weber Ave.

which is presently zoned DR 16 DR 10.5

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

SEE ATTACHED

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

SEE ATTACHED

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Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

			is the subject of thi	e the legal owner(s) of the s Petition.	e property wnich
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:		<u>Legal Owner(s):</u>			
			HOPEWELL POIN	T LLC	
Name - Type or Print			Name - Type or Print		:
Signature			Signature ELLWOOD SINSK	Y, MANAGING MEMBE	 IR
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print	<del>-</del>	
City	State	Zip Code	Signature		-
Attorney For Petitioner:		2416 Velvet V	alley Way 410-36	3-6644	
			Address		Telephone No
JOHN B. GONTRUM			Owings Mills,	MD 21117	:
Name - Tyge or Print			City	State	Zip Code
(13 K)			Representative	to be Contacted:	
Signature				<u></u>	
ROMADKA, GONTRUM & MCI	LAUGHLIN				
Company			Name		
814 Eastern Boulevard	410-686	<del>-</del> 8274			
Address		Telephone No.	Address		Telephone No.
Baltimore, MD 21221					Zip Code
Cty	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code
12			<u>o</u>	FFICE USE ONLY	
Case No. 02-53	7 "= 141	4	ESTIMATED LE	NGTH OF HEARING	
Case No. 02-33	1 Juni		UNAVAILABLE	FOR HEARING	6-29.97

# **VARIANCES REQUESTED**

#### PURSUANT TO SECTION 103.1 OF THE BCZR

#### REGULATIONS IN EFFECT AT TIME OF SUBDIVISION AND PLAN APPROVAL

- 1. From Section 1B01.2C.2.b (V.B.6c., CMDP) to permit a window to window setback for Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, 4A and 4B of 12' in lieu of the required 40'.
- 2. From Section 504 (V.B.6.b., CMDP) for a window to lot/property line setback of 2' for Condominium Building 1A, of 8' for Condominium Buildings 1B, 2A, 2B, and of 12' for Condominium Building 4B in lieu of the required 15'.
- 3. From Section 504 (V.B.6.a., CMDP) and Section 1B01.2C.3 (V.B.9., CMDP) for a setback of window and building to street right of way of 16' for buildings 3A and 3B and of 19' for Condominium Building 4A in lieu of the required 25'.
- 4. From Section 504 (V.B.5.b.CMDP) for a building to tract boundary setback of 19' for Condominium Building 4B in lieu of the required 30'.
- 5. From Section 1B01.2C.2.a (V.B.5.a., CMDP) for a window to tract boundary setback of 19' for Condominium Building 4B in lieu of the required 35'.
- 6. From Section 1B01.2C.6 (V.B.3.a, CMDP) for a building height of 60' for Condominium Building 2B in lieu of the required 50'.
- 7. From Section 504 (V.B.3.b CMDP) for building to building separations between Condominium Buildings 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B, 4A and 4B of 12' in lieu of the required 75'.

#### REASONS FOR VARIANCE

The layout of this site and its relationship to the water offer both unique opportunities and constraints in site development. Most of the variances area sought based on internal lot lines and the location of zoning lines within the proposed development.

Variance 7 is sought alternatively to the approval of a structural connection as permitted under V.B.3.b CMDP so as to break up the massing of the wall area and give a more open feel to the buildings rather than connect them. The buildings, if connected, would meet standards, but this allows the buildings to be offset and to have some green area between them.

Variance 6 is caused by the zoning line running through Condominium Building 2B, which would permit the building height to be 60' in the 85% D.R. 16 portion and only 50' in the 15% D.R. 10.5 portion. This creates a unique condition and a practical difficulty on the D.R. 10.5 portion.

Variances 4 and 5 are caused by the positioning of building 4B to pick up parking area

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and the location of the storm water management pond. In addition, the desire to separate the building from 4A rather than to have one building mass facing the waterfront causes the proximity to the tract boundary.

Variances 2 and 3 come from internal positioning of the property lines defining the condominium units from the single family detached homes and also the roadway to be built. This allows the development to provide additional parking area for the residents and maintain the desired buffer areas within the critical area.

Variance 1 and Variance 7 are similar in that both are created by the desire to separate the buildings rather than provide one building face.

Other good and valid reasons supporting the variances will be provided at the requested variance hearing.

# Description

# To Accompany Variance Hearing

# 2.924 Acre Parcel

# A Portion of Hopewell Pointe

Northeast Side of Hopkins Landing Drive, Southeasterly of Old Eastern Avenue

Fifteenth Election District, Baltimore County, Maryland

Beginning for the same on the northeast side of Hopkins Landing Drive (variable width) at the end of the second of the two following courses and distances measured from the point formed by the intersection of the centerline of Hopkins Landing Road with the centerline of Old Eastern Avenue, (1) Southeasterly, along said centerline of Hopkins Landing Drive, 3085 feet, more or less, and thence (2) Northeasterly, 26 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, thence leaving said point of beginning and said road for the three following courses and distances, viz: (1) South 51 degrees 52 minutes 00 seconds East 756.89 feet, thence (2) South 38 degrees 08 minutes 00 seconds West 147.41 feet, and thence, (3) South 64 degrees 08 minutes 00 seconds West 195.64 feet to the northeast side of Hopkins Landing Road, thence binding on the northeast side of Hopkins Landing Road, the two following courses and distances, viz: (4) North 25 degrees 52 minutes 00 seconds West 690.93 feet to a point of curvature, and thence (5) Northwesterly, by a line curving to the left with a radius of 398.81 feet, for a distance of 54.14 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing North 29 degrees 45 minutes 20 seconds West 54.10 feet) to the point of beginning; containing 2.924 acres of land, more or less.





Daft•M<sup>c</sup>Cune•Walker, Inc.

200 East Pennsylvania Avenue Towson, Maryland 21286 http://www.dmw.com 410 296 3333 Fax 410 296 4705

A Team of Land Planners,

Landscape Architects,

Golf Course Architects,

Engineers, Surveyors &

Environmental Professionals

# THIS DESCRIPTION HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR ZONING PURPOSES ON LY AND I S NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE.

April 24, 2002

Project No. 87076.M (L87076M)



# Description

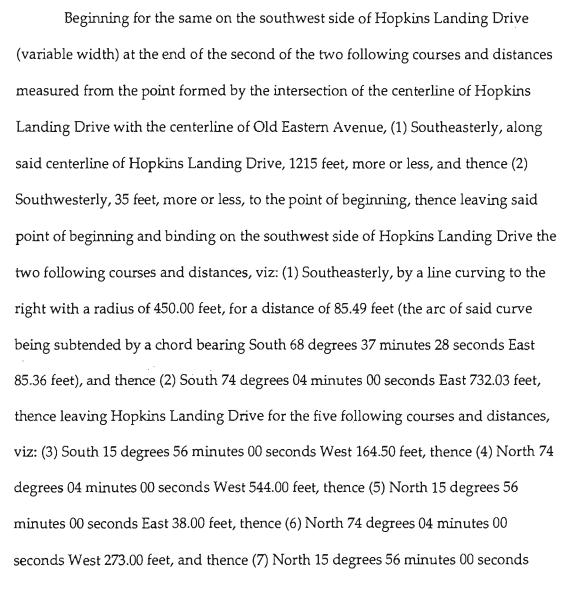
# To Accompany Variance Hearing

#### 2.852 Acre Parcel

#### A Portion of Hopewell Pointe

Southwest Side of Hopkins Landing Drive, Southeasterly of Old Eastern Avenue

Fifteenth Election District, Baltimore County, Maryland







Daft McCune Walker, Inc.

200 East Pennsylvania Avenue Towson, Maryland 21286 http://www.dmw.com 410 296 3333 Fax 410 296 4705

A Team of Land Planners,
Landscape Architects,
Golf Course Architects,
Engineers, Surveyors &
Environmental Professionals

East 134.60 feet to the point of beginning; containing 2.852 acres of land, more or less.

THIS DESCRIPTION HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR ZONING PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE.

April 24, 2002

Project No. 87076.M (L87076M-1)



Md. Res. \$ 10951

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND OFFICE OF BUDGET & FINANCE MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPT  DATE 5.29.0 ACCOUNT OC 1-COL-STELLANEOUS	PAID RECEIPT PAID RECEIPT PUSINESS ACTUAL TIME P/29/2002 5/29/2002 08:44:08 MSO3 MALKIN SWAT SWA DRAWER 3
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FOR: SDH. 4	
DISTRIBUTION WHITE - CASHIER PINK - AGENCY YELLOW - CUSTOMER	CASHIER'S VALIDATION

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#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Ballimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in Towson. Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

Case: #02-537-SPHA Southeast side of Eastern and Weber Avenue Southwest side of Hopkins Landing Drive, southeasterly of Old Eastern Avenue 15th Election District 5th Councilmanic District Legal Owner(s): Ellwood Sinsky, Managing Member Special Hearing: to ap-prove an amended site plan prove an amended site plan and order in Case 97-440-A. Hearing: Friday, July 19, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, Baltimore County Of-fice Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Zoning Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-4386.
(2) For Information concerning the File and/or Hearing Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

JT/7/626 July 2 (3548303)

# CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

7 3 , 2002
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published
in the following weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Md.,
once in each ofsuccessive weeks, the first publication appearing
on
The Jeffersonian
☐ Arbutus Times
☐ Catonsville Times
☐ Towson Times
Owings Mills Times
☐ NE Booster/Reporter
☐ North County News
S. Wilkings
LEGAL ADVERTISING

# CI IFICATE OF POSTING

Petitioner/Developer: 5/NSKY, ETAL

JOHN GONTRUM, ESG

Date of Hearing/Closing: 7/19/02

Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management County Office Building, Room 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Attention:

Gentlemen:

This letter is to certify under the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were posted conspicuously on the property located at OUT EASTELN AVE

The sign(s) were posted on (Mosth Play Year)

(Signature of Sign Poster and Date)

PATRICK M. O'KEEFE (Printed Name)

523 PENNY LANE

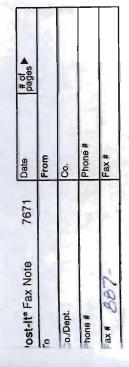
(Address)

HUNT VALLEY, MD. 21030

(City, State, Zip Code)

410-666-5366 ; CELL-410-905-8571

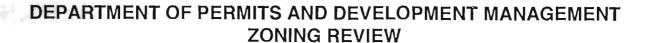
(Telephone Number)





OLD EASTERN C WEBER

7/19/02



# **ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS**

The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

### OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:
Item Number or Case Number: 537
Item Number of Oase Number.
Petitioner: Hopewell Point CLC
Address or Location: SE SIDE OF ENSTERN FROM & WEBER AVE.
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: ELLWOOD Sinsker
Address: 2416 Veler Valley Way
Owings Mills, Md Zuin
Telephone Number: 4/0-363-6644
Telephone Number: $4/0-363-664$

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

Tuesday, July 2, 2002 Issue – Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Ellwood Sinsky 2416 Velvet Valley Way

Owings Mills, MD 21117

410-363-6644

# NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 02-537-SPHA

Southeast side of Eastern and Weber Avenue

Southwest side of Hopkins Landing Drive, southeasterly of Old Eastern Avenue

15<sup>th</sup> Election District – 5<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owner: Ellwood Sinsky, Managing Member

Special Hearing to approve an amended site plan and order in Case 97-440-A.

HEARING: Friday, July 19 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, Baltimore County Office

Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue

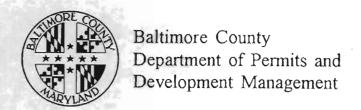
LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S

OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.



Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 pdmlandacq@co.ba.md.us

June 12, 2002

# NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 02-537-SPHA
Southeast side of Eastern and Weber Avenue
Southwest side of Hopkins Landing Drive, southeasterly of Old Eastern Avenue
15<sup>th</sup> Election District — 5<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District
Legal Owner: Ellwood Sinsky, Managing Member

Special Hearing to approve an amended site plan and order in Case 97-440-A.

HEARING: Friday, July 19 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, Baltimore County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue

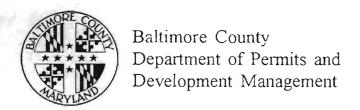
Arnold Jablon Director

C: John B. Gontrum, Esq., Romadka, Gontrum & McLaughlin, 814 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore 21221 Ellwood Sinsky. Managing Member, Hopewell Point, LLC, 2416 Velvet Valley Way, Owings Mills 21117

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2002

(2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.



Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 pdmlandacq@co.ba.md.us

July 12, 2002

John B Gontrum Esquire Romadka Gontrum & McLaughlin 814 Eastern Boulevard Baltimore MD 21221

Dear Mr. Gontrum:

RE: Case Number: 02-537-SPHA, SE/S Eastern & Weber Avenue

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on May 29, 2002.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

W Carl Ruchards, Jr.

W. Carl Richards, Jr. G > 7 Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR: gdz

Enclosures

c: Hopewell Point LLC, Ellwood Sinksy, 2416 Velvet Valley Way, Owings Mills 21117 People's Counsel



Office of the Fire Marshal 700 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland 21286-5500 410-887-4880

Department of Permits and
Development Management (PDM)
County Office Building, Room 111
Mail Stop #1105
111 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

June 11,2002

ATTENTION: George Zahner

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

Location: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF June 10, 2002

Item No.: See Below

Dear Mr. Zahner:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time, IN REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS:

537

535-549

REVIEWER: LIEUTENANT JIM MEZICK, Fire Marshal's Office

PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F

cc: File

### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: July 22, 2002

Department of Permits & Development Mgmt.

FROM:

Robert W. Bowling, Supervisor Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For June 17, 2002

Item Nos. 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540,

543, 544, 545, 547, and 549

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items, and we have no comments.

RWB:CEN:jrb

cc: File

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

TO:

Arnold Jablon

FROM:

R. Bruce Seeley (A)

DATE:

July 15, 2002

Zoning Petitions

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of June 10, 2002

NO COMMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING ZONING ITEMS: SUBJECT:

535 537 539, 540, 546,547,549

M19

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

# INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

SUBJECT:

Weber Avenue

INFORMATION:

Item Number:

02-537

Petitioner:

Hopewell Point LLC.

Zoning:

DR 16 & DR 10.5

Requested Action:

Variance

#### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Office of Planning supports the petitioner's request contingent upon the following:

- 1. The condominium buildings shall be connected at the first floor with architectural detailing and landscaping to screen utilities. A sidewalk connection should be provided in the 12-foot space between the buildings. Provide elevations indicating building materials and colors.
- 2. The Hopkins Landing Drive cross section shall be revised to provide a 6-foot tree lawn adjacent to the curb with the sidewalks placed in an easement adjacent to the tree lawn. Revise the landscape plan accordingly.

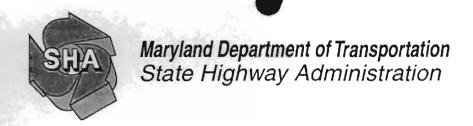
Prepared by:

Section Chief:

AFK/LL:MAC:

JUL - 8 2002

**DATE:** July 8, 2002



Parris N. Glendening Governor John D. Porcari Secretary Parker F. Williams Administrator

Date: 6.17.02

Mr. George Zahner Baltimore County Office of Permits and Development Management County Office Building, Room 109 Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No. 537

MUL

Dear, Mr. Zahner:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Larry Gredlein at 410-545-5606 or by E-mail at (lgredlein@sha.state.md.us).

Very truly yours,

1. J. Gall

A Kenneth A. McDonald Jr., Chief Engineering Access Permits Division

RE: PETITION FOR SPECJIAL HEARING Southeast side of Eastern and Weber Ave.

15th Election District 5th Councilmanic District

Legal Owner: Ellwood Sinsky, Managing Member HOPEWELL POINT LLC Petitioner(s) BEFORE THE

\* ZONING COMMISSIONER

\* FOR

\* BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* Case No.02-537-SPHA

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates of other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel

Old Courthouse, Room 47

400 Washington Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2002 a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to John B. Gontrum, ROMADKA, GONTRUM & MCLAUGHLIN, 814 Eastern Blvd. Baltimore, Md. 21221, attorney for Petitioner(s).

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

# PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

# PETITIONER(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS
Elwood A. SINSKY	TILLS LAM LEMBN 1201209142
JOHN SEEFRICO AT OMW	200 E PENNSYWANIA AVE, TOWAN MO 21204
THOMAS B. CARSICI	SIG HAUDTIN LAWR
	Towson, MD 21286
Mitch Kellman	200 E. Pennsylvania Au Ziz
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# PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

# CITIZEN SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS
GREG Barth	1812 HILTOP AVE. 21221 Telleron U05 Ward Rep
Guny Peluna	405 Was Re
	· .
<u> </u>	
·	

IN RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE \*

NEC Old Eastern and Weber Avenues (Hopewell Pointe, fka Hopkins \*

Landing)

15th Election District
5th Councilmanic District

Hopewell Pointe, LLC,

Petitioner

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 97-440-A

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance for the property located at the northeast corner of Old Eastern Avenue and Weber Avenue, in eastern Baltimore County. The property is proposed for development as a residential subdivision to be known as Hopewell Pointe, previously referred to in plans submitted as Hopkins Landing. A series of variances are requested from the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) and the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies (CMDP) (1972), as follows:

- A. From Section 1B01.2.C.1 of the BCZR and CMDP Section V.B.3, pursuant to Section 504 of the BCZR, to allow as little as 16 ft. between building to building in lieu of required 25 ft. for heights up to 40 ft., if necessary;
- B. From Section V.B.6.a., CMDP and pursuant to Section 504 BCZR to allow as little as 15 ft. from side window or windowed door to street right-of-way and as little as 15 ft. from front window or windowed door to street right of way in lieu of required 25 ft. setback, if necessary;
- C. From Section V.B.6.b CMDP pursuant to Section 504 BCZR to allow as little as 6 ft. from window or windowed door to lot line in cases where lot is adjacent to open space, and 8 ft. elsewhere, in lieu of the required 15 ft., if necessary;

- D. From Section 1B01.2.C.2.b BCZR and CMDP Section V.B.6.c, pursuant to Section 504 of the BCZR, to allow a little as 16 ft. from window in lieu of required 40 ft., if necessary;
- E. From Section V.B.8, pursuant to Section 504 of the BCZR to allow as little as 20 ft. from garage to street right of way in lieu of required 22 ft., if necessary;
- F. From Section 301.1 of the BCZR, pursuant to Section 504, to allow open porches, decks, or patios to project into the required yards by up to 50%, in lieu of the 25% maximum allowed; and
- G. From Section 1801.2.C.1, BCZR, and CMDP Section V.B.3 pursuant to Section 504 to allow as little as 50 ft. between building to building in lieu of 75 ft. for heights up to 60 ft., if necessary.

The subject property and requested relief are more particularly shown on Petitioner's Exhibit No. 1, the plat to accompany the Petition for Variance.

Appearing at the public hearing held for this case was Ellwood A. Sinsky, General Manager of Hopewell Pointe Limited Liability Company, property owner. Also present was Samuel Crozier, a Landscape Architect employed with Daft-McCune-Walker. The Petitioner was represented by John B. Gontrum Esquire. Ellen Jackson, on behalf of the Essex/Middle River Civic Association appeared in opposition.

Testimony and evidence presented was that the subject site is 54.72 acres in area, split zoned B.L.-A.S., B.M., D.R.2, D.R.10.5 and D.R.16. As noted above, the property is located in eastern Baltimore County, adjacent to Old Eastern Avenue, not far from Back River Neck Road. The property is a long, yet narrow, irregularly shaped property with significant frontage on Hopkins Creek. Presently, the property is largely undeveloped. Although currently undeveloped, the site has been the subject of

prior development plan submissions. Previously, a proposed community of approximately 290 townhouses was approved by the CRG in 1987. However, that project was never built out. Instead, the Developer has revised its plans and has received approval of such revisions as a "refinement" from the Development Review Committee. As presently proposed, the Developer contemplates the construction of 5 condominium buildings and 104 villa units. The condominium buildings will contain 117 separate condominiums, for a total onsite development of 221 units. The proposed residential subdivision is laid out to take advantage of the waterfront nature of the subject property and is more particularly shown on the site plan and exhibits which were offered at the hearing and are contained within the case file.

Mr. Crozier offered extensive testimony regarding the subdivision. He noted that the buildings will be two to three stories high and will be laid out in such a manner that the most residences will have sight lines to the water. Mr. Crozier also testified extensively about the site constraints associated with this property. Due to its waterfront nature and expansive area of wetlands on the property, the opportunity for building and supporting infrastructure is limited. Thus, the project has been laid out in a manner consistent with those site constraints.

The Petitioner for Variance seeks relief from the requirements contained within the 1972 CMDP. Many of those requirements are not applicable to current development, however, this project is governed by those regulations in effect when the original approval was granted by the CRG in 1987. The variances are fully described within the attachment filed with the Petition and primarily deal with the required distances between buildings, between window to building faces, from garages to street right of ways and open porches, decks or patios into yard areas. Mr. Crozier

offered detailed testimony regarding each of these variance requests, specifically describing where and why the variances were necessary and presenting justification to support same. Essentially, the community which is proposed is driven by a desire to offer alternate housing types (e.g., condominiums and villas) while taking advantage of the site's unique characteristics owing to its frontage on Hopkins Creek.

Ms. Jackson, the sole protestant who appeared, objects to the proposal. She also submitted a letter from the Essex/Middle River Civic Council, Inc., in opposition to the request. Her testimony and the contents of the letter indicate that objections are raised relating to the density the project. Specifically, it is alleged that the variances, if granted, would contribute to an increased density os housing on the site. is further noted that this Civic Council has worked to downzone both this property and the area in general in an effort to prevent over develop-I am appreciative of the Council's concerns and agree that over development of the site would be improper. However, the allegations that the project is over density are simply in error. As noted by Mr. Crozier, the zoning assigned to this site in 1987, when the project was originally approved as a townhouse development allowed 476 units. The current zoning allows 310 units a sufficient reduction. As noted above, the previous townhouse community proposed 290 units. Approximately 70 units have been eliminated under the current plan, so that 221 are now proposed. numbers are persuasive to the conclusion that not only is the project under density but is significantly less intense than originally proposed. Thus, I am not persuaded by the arguments presented by the Civic Council. I do not find that this project is too dense.

To the contrary, I am convinced by Mr. Crozier's testimony. In my judgment, a finding that the property is unique is appropriate. Clearly,

its configuration, environmental constraints and waterfront feature make this property unique. Moreover, those factors support a finding that the Petitioner would suffer a practical difficulty if the variance relief was not granted. In my judgment, the proposed layout is appropriate for this site. Thus, the Petition for Variance shall be granted.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the relief requested should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_day of June 1997 that a variance from Section 1B01.2.C.1 of the BCZR and CMDP Section V.B.3 pursuant to Section 504 of the BCZR to allow as little as 16 ft. between building to building in lieu of required 25 ft. for heights up to 40 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section V.B.6.a., CMDP and pursuant to Section 504 BCZR to allow as little as 15 ft. from side window or windowed door to street right-of-way and as little as 15 ft. from front window or windowed door to street right of way in lieu of required 25 ft. setback, be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section V.B.6.b CMDP pursuant to Section 504 BCZR to allow as little as 6 ft. from window or windowed door to lot line in cases where lot is adjacent to open space, and 8 ft. elsewhere, in lieu of the required 15 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section 1B01.2.C.2.b of the BCZR and CMDP Section V.B.6.c, pursuant to Section 504, BCZR, to allow a little as 16 ft. from window to window in lieu of required 40 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section V.B.8, pursuant to Section 504 BCZR, to allow as little as 20 ft. from garage to street right of way in lieu of required 22 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

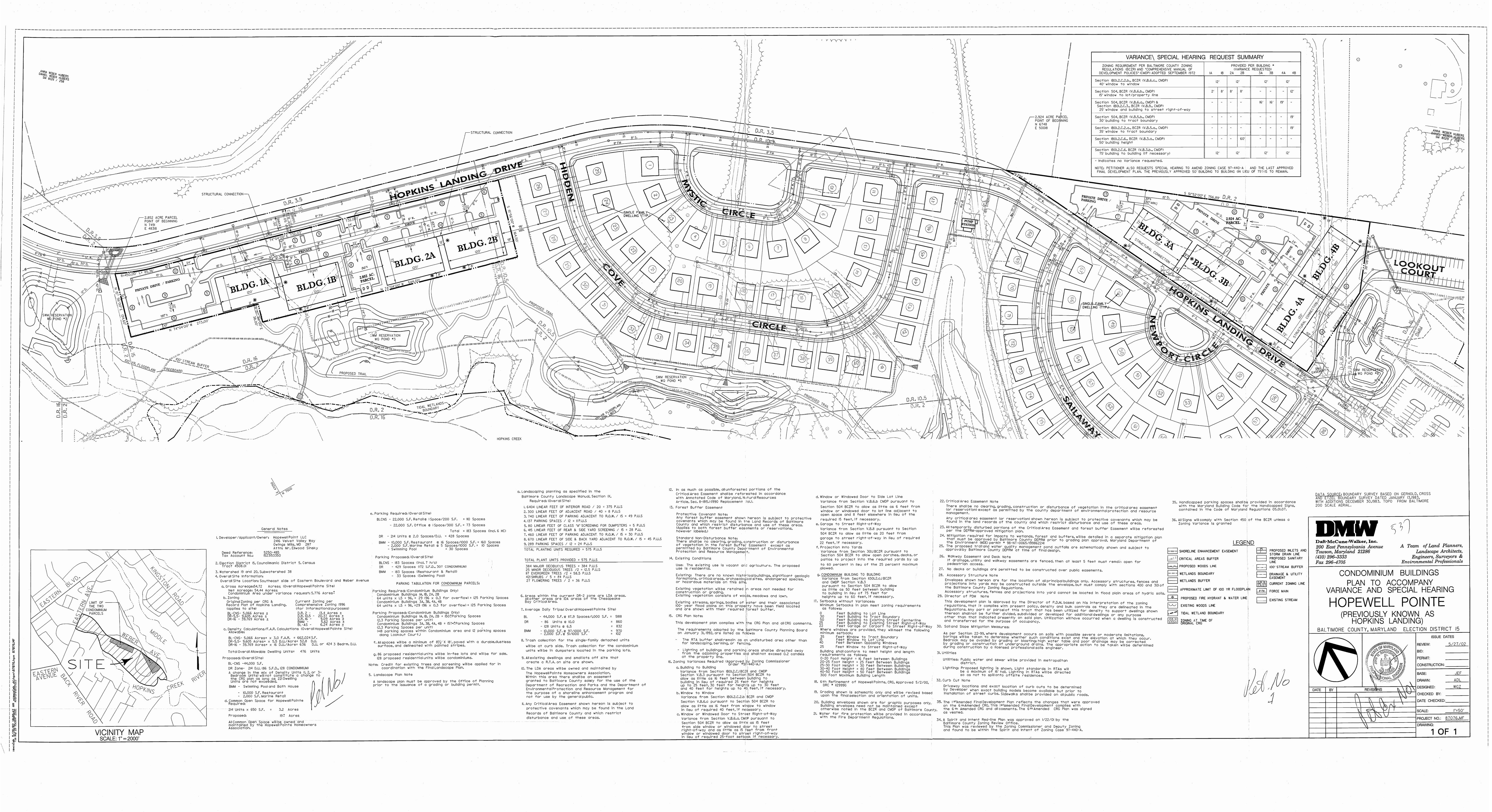
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section 301.1 of the BCZR, pursuant to Section 504 to allow open porches, decks, or patios to project into the required yards by up to 60% in lieu of the 25% maximum allowed, be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a variance from Section 1B01.2.C.1, BCZR, and CMDP Section V.B.3, pursuant to Section 504, to allow as little as 50 ft. between building to building in lieu of 75 ft. for heights up to 60 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED, subject, however, to the following restriction:

1. The Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at its own risk until such time as the 30 day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioner would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES/mmn



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DARK HEAD MOOK D.R. 3.5 √N 7491 E 48318 2.852 Ac. D.R. 10.5 D.R.5.5 N7,000 N7,000 CLARK POINT D.R.10.5 N 6748 E 50018 2.924 Ac. D.R. 2 D.R. 2 RIVER HOPKINS HOPEWELL POINT N6,000 D.R. 16 D.R.16 BALTIMORE COUNTY " = 200' ± DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY MIDDLE RIVER OFFICIAL ZONING MAP JANUARY 1986

D.R. 5.5

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CONDO. VARIANO
HOPEWELL POINTE
87076.MF

N8,000