

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ANDREW M. BELT
Administrative Law Judge
DEREK J. BAUMGARDNER
Administrative Law Judge

May 22, 2024

Patsy Malone, Esquire – <u>pamalone@venable.com</u> Venable, LLP 210 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 500 Towson, MD 21204

RE: DEVELOPMENT PLAN OPINION AND ORDER

Weaver Fields – PAI Case Nos. 15-1041 and 2024-0090-SPH

Address: Campbell Boulevard & Rohe Farm Lane

Dear Ms. Malone:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings at 410-887-3868.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

AMB:dlm Enclosure

C: See Next Page

# DEVELOPMENT PLAN OPINION AND ORDER

Weaver Fields – PAI Case Nos. 15-1041 and 2024-0090-SPH Page 2

c: John Stamato - johnstamato@riberadev.com Ed Gold - EGold@goldstoneproperties.com Richard Gold - rgold@goldstoneproperties.com Mike Coughlin - MCoughlin@mragta.com Katharine Barnes - KBarnes@mragta.com Matt Jennette - miennette@gtaeng.com Mark Keeley - mkeeley@traffic-concepts.com Craig Carlson - mdnewhomebuilder@gmail.com Jeff Livingston@baltimorecountymd.gov Earl Wrenn ewrenn@baltimorecountymd.gov Tracy Scheuing tmorrow@baltimorecountymd.gov Vishnu Desai vdesai@baltimorecountymd.gov Kiran Patel kpatel@baltimorecountymd.gov) Teresa Eller TEller@mdot.marvland.gov Mitch Kellman (mikellman@baltimorecountymd.gov James Hermann (ihermann@baltimorecountymd.gov LaChelle Imwiko (limwiko@baltimorecountymd.gov Jenifer Nugent (inugent@baltimorecountymd.gov Krystal Patchak (kpatchak@baltimorecountymd.gov David Blenman - dblenman@baltimorecountymd.gov Darryl Putty - dputty@baltimorecountymd.gov Ed and Richard Gold rgold@goldstoneproperties.com Jen Hurley - jtaylor@jhmi.edu Jennifer Frankovich ifrankovich@baltimorecountymd.gov John Krach jkrach@baltimorecountymd.gov Katharine Barnes kbarnes@mragta.com Lisette Stamato Istamato@aol.com MELVIN L KNIGHT mknight@cbmove.com Matt Jennette mjennette@gtaeng.com Michael Coughlin mcoughlin@mragta.com Sean Davis sdavis@mragta.com TA rainbows1957@hotmail.com **Taylor Bensley** tbensley@baltimorecountymd.gov Teddy Ziolkowski tziolkowski@mragta.com Weida Stoecker wstoecker2@gmail.com

Zach Brown zwbrown@mragta.com

IN RE: DEVELOPMENT PLAN HEARING & \*
PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

15<sup>th</sup> Election District \* ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

**FOR** 

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF

5<sup>th</sup> Council District
Campbell Boulevard & Rohe Farm Lane \*

WEAVER FIELDS \* BALTIMORE COUNTY

Campbell Boulevard & Rohe Farm Lane

\* CASE NOS. 15-1041 AND Ribera Development, LLC, 2024-0090-SPH

Owner/Developer \*

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

# ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S ("ALJ") COMBINED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND ZONING OPINION & ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") for a public hearing on a development proposal submitted in accordance with Article 32, Title 4, of the Baltimore County Code ("BCC"). Ribera Development LLC, Owner/Applicant (herein known as "Developer") submitted for approval a 9-sheet Development Plan (the "Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan") prepared by Michael G. Coughlin from Morris & Ritchie, Associates Inc. known as the "Weaver Fields Project" (the "Property"). The Developer proposes to develop 102 duplex units and 52 single family units on 54.89 acres with access off of Campbell Blvd.

Along with the development plan, the Developer has filed a Petition for Special Hearing from Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), §§1B01.3 and 500.7 to amend the 4<sup>th</sup> Amended (or more recently approved) Final Development Plan ("FDP") for Rohe Farm to remove Parcel A.

In accordance with BCC, §32-4-201 *et seq.*, a Concept Plan Conference ("CPC") was held on October 27, 2022. A Community Input Meeting ("CIM") was held on November 2, 2022. A Development Plan Conference ("DPC") was held on September 20, 2023.

The development and zoning cases were considered as a combined hearing as permitted by BCC, §32-4-230. Details of the proposed development are more fully depicted on the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. (Dev. Ex. 1). On April 3, 2024, in compliance with the regulations, the Property was posted with the Notice of Hearing Officer's Hearing ("HOH") development hearing, and Notice of Zoning hearing. A public virtual WebEx hearing in lieu of an in-person public hearing was conducted on May 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Testifying on behalf of the Developer was Michael G. Coughlin, P.E. of Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc., the engineering firm which prepared the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. Mark Keeley of the Traffic Concepts and Expert Environmental Scientist, Matt Jennette of Geotechnology Associates also testified. Patsy Malone, Esquire and Venable LLP represented the Developer. Protestant Weida Stoecker testified in opposition to the proposed Development.

# **AGENCY WITNESSES**

Numerous representatives of the various Baltimore County agencies who reviewed the Plan and attended the hearing, including the following individuals from the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections ("PAI"): Darryl D. Putty, the Project Manager; James Hermann on behalf of Development Plans Review ("DPR") and Department of Recreation and Parks ("R&P"); LaChelle Imwiko from Real Estate Compliance ("REC"); and Mitchell Kellman from the Office of Zoning Review ("OZR"). Also appearing on behalf of the County was Jeff Livingston from the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability ("DEPS"), Kiran Patel of DPR provided comments from the Department of Public Works & Traffic ("DPWT") and Krystle Patchak appeared on behalf the Department of Planning ("DOP").

On behalf of REC, LaChelle Imwiko testified that she reviewed the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan dated April 23, 2024. Ms. Imwiko confirmed that all DPC comments requested

by REC to be made by the Developer appear on the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. (County Ex. 7)

Kiran Patel testified on behalf of DPR in regard to roadways, sidewalks, floodplains, storm drains, water and sanitary sewer systems. DPR prepared an HOH Report dated April 24, 2024 which indicates there must be a final approval of a drainage diversion analysis and verification of the size of the culverts on Campbell Blvd. Mr. Patel explained that all other DPC comments were addressed and DPR recommended approval of the Bluelined/Redlined Plan Development Plan. (County Ex. 8). Developer's expert, Mr. Coughlin verified that a drainage diversion analysis had been submitted to DPWT and was waiting final approval. (County Ex. 12). The record was held open until May 8, 2024 for the submittal of this final approval. Such approval was received and entered into evidence in the form of a May 2, 2024 correspondence from Acting Director of DPWT, Lauren T. Buckler. (County Ex. 13)

Jim Hermann, the Baltimore County Landscape Architect, testified that he approved the Schematic Landscape Plan on November 26, 2024 and, as a result, DPR recommended approval of the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. (County Ex. 5). He further testified that pursuant to BCC §32-6-108(c), the project requires that 154,000 feet of open space be provided. Mr. Hermann explained that the Developer's proposed open space includes 3 areas on the east side of Campbell Blvd. and 2 areas on the west side. These areas total 210,783 sq. ft. and exceed the amount of open space required. As a result, Mr. Hermann confirmed REC's approval of the proposed open space and its compliance with BCC §32-6-108(d). (County. Ex. 6).

Mitchell Kellman testified on behalf of OZR and prepared a memorandum dated February 13, 2024 and a revised memorandum dated April 30, 2024, which indicate that OZR reviewed the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan dated April 24, 2024 and that all issues raised by OZR have

been addressed. (County Ex. 10). Mr. Kellman's memorandum addressed the specifics regarding the removal of Parcel A from the Rohe Farm Development Plan, confirming that with the incorporation of this parcel into the Weaver Fields development, there is sufficient residential density for the proposed 154 dwelling units.

In preparation for the HOH, Krystle Patchak provided a DOP HOH Report dated April 22, 2024, outlining the issues reviewed by DOP. (County Ex. 1). DOP reviewed the School Impact Analysis ("SIA") pursuant to BCC, §32-6-103, with a filing date of August 17, 2023. Ms. Patchak explained that the projected enrollment for Kenwood High School and Middle River Middle School were under the State Rated Capacity ("SRC") of 107.22%, and 111.62% respectively. Vincent Farm Elementary School was above SRC at 149.78%, while neighboring Chase Elementary School was at 99.93% SRC.

Ms. Patchak further testified that the Weaver Fields property is located in the Middle River Design Review Panel Area. She explained that the project was reviewed by the Design Review Panel on September 13, 2023 and final approval was granted via a follow-up administrative review on December 18, 2023. (Dev. Ex. 8)

Ms. Patchak explained that a modification was requested to grant an exception to certain requirements contained in the BCZR, §260. This request relates specifically to the standard outlined in §260.6.B of the Manual of Regulations and apply to the single-family semi-detached (duplex) or "villa" style units. This requested modification noted that each villa (30-ft.-wide units) is proposed to have a two-car garage. She explained that the Developer proposes to use a 16-ft., single panel garage door on these units, which would constitute 54% of the total width of the unit frontage. This exceeds the maximum 45% allowed in the Manual of Regulations, §260.6B.3. Ms. Patchak noted that the DOP is in support of this modification conditioned upon each of the villas

being required to have a front porch with a minimum depth of 6 feet and to utilize an architectural grade carriage-style garage door and explained that this housing product type is unique to the area and Baltimore County as a whole with its attractive options of single-floor living and the convenience of a two-car garage and various amenities.

Regarding Developer's request for Special Hearing, Ms. Patchak testified that the neighboring Rohe Farm Development Plan was approved in 1990. The final Development Plan included a 21.19-acre parcel listed as a "provisory section" (Parcel A), this parcel being the subject of the relief requested in the instant case. Ms. Patchak explained that a "provisory section" is an antiquated definition in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations that was designed for instances when a DR zoned property was subdivided. This "provisory section" provided a notice that the site could possibly be developed as a "Section 2" at a later date. Rohe Farm never expanded to include a second section, however the corresponding density for this parcel was still available for development. Ms. Patchak stated that DOP has no objections to the requested Special Hearing.

Finally, Ms. Patchak testified that pursuant to BCZR §260 the Director of the Department of Planning had made the finding after reviewing the pattern book that the development is consistent with the spirit and intent of BCZR §260 and recommended that the Weaver Fields Development Plan be approved.

Jeff Livingston testified on behalf of 3 sections within DEPS: (1) Ground Water Management ("GWM"); (2) Stormwater Management ("SWM"); and (3) Environmental Impact Review ("EIR"). A DEPS HOH Report dated April 30, 2024 was provided which confirmed that none of the 3 departments had any open issues and that DEPS recommended approval of the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. (County Ex. 9). During the HOH hearing, Mr. Livingston reviewed the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan and confirmed that all previous comments had

been specifically addressed on the plan.

# **DEVELOPER'S CASE**

The first witness for the Developer was Michael Coughlin, PE, who was accepted as an expert in civil engineering, with special knowledge of land planning; of the relevant provisions of the BCZR; in BCC, Titles 32 and 33; in development policies; and in general design and general compliance with land use and development regulations. (Dev. Ex. 4) Mr. Coughlin testified as to the development proposal in detail as shown on both the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan (Dev. Ex. 1) and the project's Pattern Book. (Dev. Ex. 2). Using an aerial geographic information system, ("GIS") photograph, he explained that the Property is inside the Urban Rural Demarcation Line ("URDL") and will connect to public water and sewer. (Dev. Ex. 5). He explained that the subject lot consist of two separate parcels — Rohe Parcel A — located on the northwest side of Campbell Blvd., and the Stoecker Property located in the southeast side. The subject property consists of 54.89 unimproved acres in total. The property was previously landlocked before the extension of Campbell Blvd. In building the Campbell Blvd extension, Baltimore County had provided four curb extensions off Campbell Blvd. near the subject site which anticipates roadways to potential development.

Mr. Coughlin testified that the area surrounding the subject site includes White Marsh Blvd., Rt. 43 to the northeast, the Windlass Farms residential development to the northeast, and the Rohe Farms development to the northwest. The property is located in the Middle River Whitemarsh Area of Baltimore County which has seen recent residential and commercial development along Rt. 43 approaching Eastern Blvd.

Mr. Coughlin testified to housing types found in the pattern book. (Dev. Ex. 6) He described that the development will consist of a mixture between "villa" (duplex units) and single-

family dwellings. The 102 villa-style units are unique to the area and will feature first floor master bedrooms and two car-front loading garages. The remainder of houses will be single family dwellings with two car garages and optional first floor master bedrooms. These single-family houses will be located on 75 ft. wide lots.

Mr. Coughlin explained that the villa units require a Modification of Standards in regards to the size of the villa garage doors. Mr. Coughlin explained that the Developer was proposing a 16-foot, single panel garage door on these units, which would constitute 54% of the total width of the unit frontage. This percentage exceeds the maximum 45% allowed in the Manual of Regulations, §260.6B.3. He notes that §260.6.B.7 of the Manual states "The Director of Planning shall have the right to grant exceptions to the applicable regulations when a new housing product has been successful in other parts of the United States and there is desire to make the same product available to the citizens of Baltimore County." Mr. Coughlin explained that the Developer anticipates greater demand for this type of product due to higher level of privacy and age-appropriate amenities. Similar products have been successful elsewhere in Maryland and throughout the County. (Dev. Ex. 6 & 7)

Mr. Coughlin testified to the roadways within the development being 52 ft. wide with 5 ft. wide sidewalks on both sides of the streets. Additionally, each side will have a 6-ft. landscaping strip. As previously explained by Mr. Hermann, Mr. Coughlin further described the 5 separate open space areas on the site: 2 will be located on the Rohe Farm portion of the development, with 3 being on the southeastern side of Campbell Blvd. This open space will include pocket parks, walking trails, benches, and pickle ball courts. Part of the open space adjacent to the Windlass Run Development with be transferred to, and maintained by Baltimore County and incorporated into the walking trails already present there. A walking bridge will be provided over Campbell

Blvd. connecting both sides of the development with a walking path.

Mr. Coughlin explained that a concept storm water management plan had been completed which includes the addition of two separate gravel wetlands, on the north and south side of the development. There is no storm water management currently present on the site. Mr. Coughlin further explained that an additional development-level storm water management plan may be required in addition to the final storm water plan that is required for final approval. He opined that water from the proposed development will be captured, held and released at a rate that will not negatively impact downstream properties. Additionally, he opined that the development will comply with all environmental regulations, except for the special variance regarding one specimen tree.

In regards to the requested zoning relief, Mr. Coughlin explained how the sole purpose of the Request for Special Hearing was to remove 21.19 acres of the "provisory section" from the previously approved Rohe Farm Project. (Dev. Exs. 14 & 14a) Mr. Coughlin testified that no changes were being made to the Rohe Development in that it had been in existence for many years and the amendment to the Rohe Development Plan was only to remove the "provisory section" and incorporate it into the Weaver Fields Development. He described the amendment as a procedural step for the addition of a plan note to be seen by those researching the Rohe Farm development in the future. Mr. Coughlin testified that the proposed amendment was not in conflict with the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies ("CMDP").

In summation, Mr. Coughlin opined that the Weaver Field Development complied with the development regulations contained in the Baltimore County Code as well as other applicable County policies rules and regulations concerning development.

Next to testify on behalf of the Developer was expert environmental scientist, Matt Jennette of Geotechnology Associates. Mr. Jennette worked on the wetland delineation and forest conservation tasks for the proposed development. Mr. Jennette offered testimony regarding Developer's request for Special Variance to remove one specimen tree, offering into evidence an application for Special Variance pursuant to §33-6-616(d)(1). (Dev. Ex. 12.) Mr. Jennette explained that there are 23 specimen trees on the subject property, but only one is proposed for removal. Fifteen of the specimen trees are grouped together along the southeastern property boundary, and the other nine, including the one proposed for removal, are scattered across the property. Mr. Jennette explained that there are 6 criteria listed in BCC, §33-6-116(d) and (e) that must be used to evaluate the variance request. One of the criteria under §33-6-116(d) must be met, and all three of the criteria under subsection 33-6-116(e) must be met in order to approve the variance. As outlined in Dev. Ex. 12, Mr. Jennette opined that the Developer had met criteria 2 and 3 of subsection (d) and criterion 1 through 3 of subsection (e) and that the variance request should be approved. This variance was approved by the Director of the DEPS on December 14, 2023. (Dev. Ex. 12)

The last witness to testify on behalf of the Developer was J. Mark Keeley, PTP of Traffic Concepts, Inc. who was accepted as an expert professional traffic engineer. (Dev. Ex. 15) Mr. Keeley testified that the proposed development will have access to public streets and that those streets are adequate to handle the anticipated traffic from the development and provide appropriate emergency access. Mr. Keeley prepared a Traffic Impact Study ("TIS") that was submitted to Baltimore County reflecting that the proposed development will have no traffic impact on the surrounding area. He explained that in reviewing both 2022 and 2023 Baltimore County Basic Service Maps, there are no deficiencies on area road or failing intersections. (Dev. Ex 16.) Mr.

Keeley explained that this conclusion was based on the examination of the intersections of Campbell Blvd. with Rt. 43 and with Bird River Road, as well as the 3 proposed access points to the proposed development. He described Campbell Blvd. as a two-lane road with a center turn lane. Using Baltimore County approved limits of study, Mr. Keeley testified that three studies were conducted regarding existing, background, and future trips to be generated by the proposed development. As a result of these studies, Mr. Keeley concluded that the study area found acceptable levels of service. These finding were submitted to Baltimore County and approved on May 18, 2023. (Dev. Ex. 17)

#### PROTESTANT WITNESSES

The sole witness to testify as a Protestant was Weida Stoecker. Ms. Stoecker testified that she contends that she is an owner of the property in question, being the widow of Charles G. Stoecker, a former tenant in common owner of the subject property. She explained that she does not wish to sell her property nor does she give her consent for its use for the proposed development. Ms. Stoecker explained that there had been prior legal proceedings regarding the lawful ownership of this property. I explained to Ms. Stoecker that such issues were beyond the purview of this hearing and the jurisdiction for the Administrative Law Judge in the instant matter. Ms. Stoecker testified that through the development perspective she is opposed to the proposed development in that it would take away land that was previously used for agricultural purposes.

### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The BCC provides that the "Hearing Officer *shall* grant approval of a development plan that complies with these development regulations and applicable policies, rules and regulations." BCC §32-4-229 (emphasis added). In *People's Counsel v. Elm Street Development, Inc.*, 172 Md. App. 690 (2007), the Court of Special Appeals held that if the county agencies recommend

approval of a development plan, it is "then up to [protestants] to provide evidence rebutting the Director's recommendations." *Id.* at 703. It should also be noted that in Baltimore County "the development process is indeed an ongoing process, and the hearing officer's affirmation of the plan is just the first step." *Monkton Preservation Association, et al. v. Gaylord Brooks Realty Corp.*, 107 Md. App. 573, 585 (1996). Indeed, the County agencies will continue to review the Developer's evolving plans and construction activities through every phase of the development process to ensure compliance with all County laws and regulations.

In the instant case, the testimony of all of the County agency witnesses and the Developer's experts was unrebutted.

#### School Impact Analysis ("SIA")

The Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance found in BCC, §32-6-103(e)(1)(2) states that development approval may not be granted in existing overcrowded school districts (defined as a district where enrollment exceeds 115% of the state-rated capacity ("SRC")), or if the development plan is projected to generate additional school population that would result in the school district becoming an overcrowded school district. An exception is set forth in BCC, §32-6-103(f)(3) which permits the development if any school in the district adjacent to the overcrowded school district has sufficient capacity to render the overcrowded school less than 115% of the state-rated capacity.

In instant case, the SIA as submitted by the Developer and approved by the DOP, DOP reviewed the School Impact Analysis ("SIA") pursuant to BCC, §32-6-103 which SIA had a filing date of August 17, 2023. Ms. Patchak explained that the projected enrollment for Kenwood High School and Middle River Middle School were under the State Rated Capacity ("SRC") of 107.22% and 111.62% respectively. Vincent Farm Elementary School was above SRC at 149.78%,

however, neighboring Chase Elementary School was at 98.93% SRC. As a result, I find that the Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan meets Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance found in BCC, §32-6-103(e)(1)(2) and (f)(3).

# Open Space

Under the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance in BCC, §32-6-108 for the 154 proposed homes, the Open Space is 154,000 sf. (1,000 sf. per unit). The uncontroverted evidence is that the Developer is proposing to provide 210,783 sf or 4.84 acres of private and County, Open Space – all of which is onsite - as shown on Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan. (County Ex. 1). Accordingly, I find that this requirement has been satisfied.

#### Forest Conservation Variance

On December 14, 2023, the Director of DEPS recommended approval of the Developer's request to remove one (1) specimen tree as set forth on the Special Variance Application. (Dev. Ex. 10, 11, 12). Mr. Jennette explained that this single tree's location could not be worked-around when laying out the lots and connecting roads for the proposed development and that 22 other specimen trees on the property were being retained. This expert testimony was uncontroverted. Accordingly, pursuant to BCC, §33-6-116, I will grant the Forest Conservation Variance to remove the one (1) specimen tree and adopt the reasons set forth in the Developer's application for Special Variance and DEPS' approval.

#### Modification of Standards

As Ms. Patchak testified, the Weaver Fields property is located in the Middle River Design Review Panel Area. She explained that the project was reviewed by the Design Review Panel on September 13, 2023 and final approval was granted via a follow-up administrative review on December 18, 2023. Ms. Patchak explained that a modification was requested to grant

an exception to certain requirements contained in Manual of Regulations §260. This request relates specifically to the standard outlined in §260.6.B of the manual and apply to the single-family semi-detached (duplex) or "villa" style units. This requested modification noted that each villa (30 -ft.-wide units) is proposed to have a two-car garage. She explained that the Developer proposes to use a 16-ft. single panel garage door on these units, which would constitute 54% of the total width of the unit frontage. This exceeds the maximum 45% allowed in the Manual of Regulations, §260.6.B.3. Ms. Patchak noted that the DOP is in support of this modification conditioned upon each of the villas being required to have a front porch with a minimum depth of 6 ft. and to utilize an architectural grade carriage-style garage door and explained that this housing product type is unique to the area and Baltimore County as a whole with its attractive options of single-floor living and the convenience of a two-car garage and various amenities.

I concur with DOP's conclusions as to the Developer's requested modification of standards and grant the request, finding that it is consistent with the spirit and intent of BCZR and the modification is necessary to achieve the unique housing type that is being proposed.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and the public hearing held thereon, the requirements of which are contained in Article 32, Title 4, of the BCC, that "The Weaver Fields" development shall be approved.

### Special Hearing for Removal of Parcel A

BCZR § 1B01.3. Plans and plats.

- A. Development plans.
- 1. Purpose. This paragraph is intended:
- a. To provide for the disclosure of development plans to prospective residents and to protect those who have made decisions based on such plans from inappropriate changes therein . . .

As noted above, the legislative purpose behind the disclosure of development plans is to provide notice to prospective residents as to a development's future plans and to protect them from changes to such plan that may be deemed inappropriate.

BCZR § 1B01.7.b outlines the process for the amendment of a development plan such as that requested in the case at bar.

- b. Amendment after sale of interest in nearby property or upon demand for hearing. In the case of an amendment not allowed under Subparagraph a, by reason of sale of property within the area, or in case of a demand for hearing by an eligible individual or group, the plans may be amended through special exception procedures, in the manner provided under Section 502 and subject to the following provisions:
- (1) The amendment must be in accord with the provisions of the Comprehensive Manual of Development Policies and with the specific standards and requirements of this article, as determined by the Department of Planning. The Director, on behalf of the Planning Board, shall notify the Zoning Commissioner accordingly.
- (2) Only an owner of a lot abutting or lying directly across a street or other right-of-way from the property in question, an owner of a structure on such a lot, or a home's association (as may be defined under the subdivision regulations or under provisions adopted pursuant to the authority of Section 504) having members who own or reside on property lying wholly or partially within 300 feet of the lot in question are eligible to file a demand for hearing.
- (3) It must be determined in the course of the hearing procedure that the amendment would be consistent with the spirit and intent of the original plan and of this article.

As noted above, such a request for an amendment to a development plan must be adjudicated through a Request for Special Hearing. A hearing to request special zoning relief is provided for under BCZR, §500.7, which states as follows:

The said Zoning Commissioner shall have the power to conduct such other hearings and pass such orders thereon as shall, in his discretion, be necessary for the proper enforcement of all zoning regulations, subject to the right of

appeal to the County Board of Appeals as hereinafter provided. The power given hereunder shall include the right of any interested person to petition the Zoning Commissioner for a public hearing after advertisement and notice to determine the existence of any purported nonconforming use on any premises or to determine any rights whatsoever of such person in any property in Baltimore County insofar as they are affected by these regulations.

In the instant case, as testified to by Mr. Coughlin, since the amendment at issue involves only the removal of a parcel rather than a material change to the Rohe Farm Development plan itself, a majority of the requirements outlined above are not applicable. As DOP has no objection to the proposed amendment, and as the proposed amendment is not in conflict with the requirements of BCZR §502, I find that that the amendment is consistent with the spirit and intent of the original plan and of this BCZR and is granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by this Administrative Law Judge/Hearing Officer for Baltimore County, this <u>22<sup>nd</sup></u> day of <u>May 2024</u>, that the "Weaver Fields" Bluelined/Redlined Development Plan marked and accepted into evidence as Developer's Exhibit 1 and attached hereto and incorporated herein, be and it is hereby **APPROVED**; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Forest Conservation Variance to remove one (1) specimen tree as listed on the Developer's Forest Conservation/Forest Buffer Protection Plan (Dev. Ex. 11), which plan is attached hereto and incorporated herein in its entirety, be, and it is hereby **GRANTED**; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Developer's request for Modification of Standards pursuant to the Manual of Regulations §§260.6.B.3 and 260.6.B.7 outlined in Developer's Exhibit 7, to allow 16-foot single panel garage doors on the "villa" styled units is hereby **GRANTED**; and

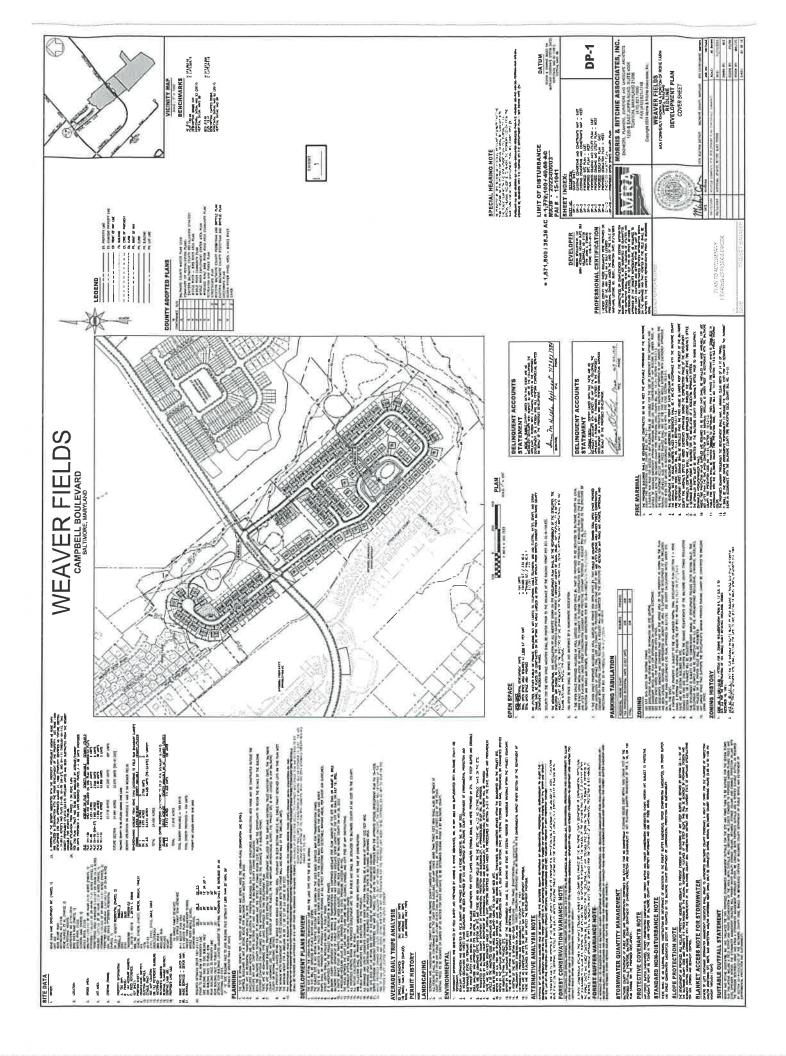
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petition for Special Hearing under BCZR §500.7 to amend the 4th Amended (or more recently approved) Final Development Plan ("FDP") for Rohe Farm to remove Parcel A, be and is hereby **GRANTED**.

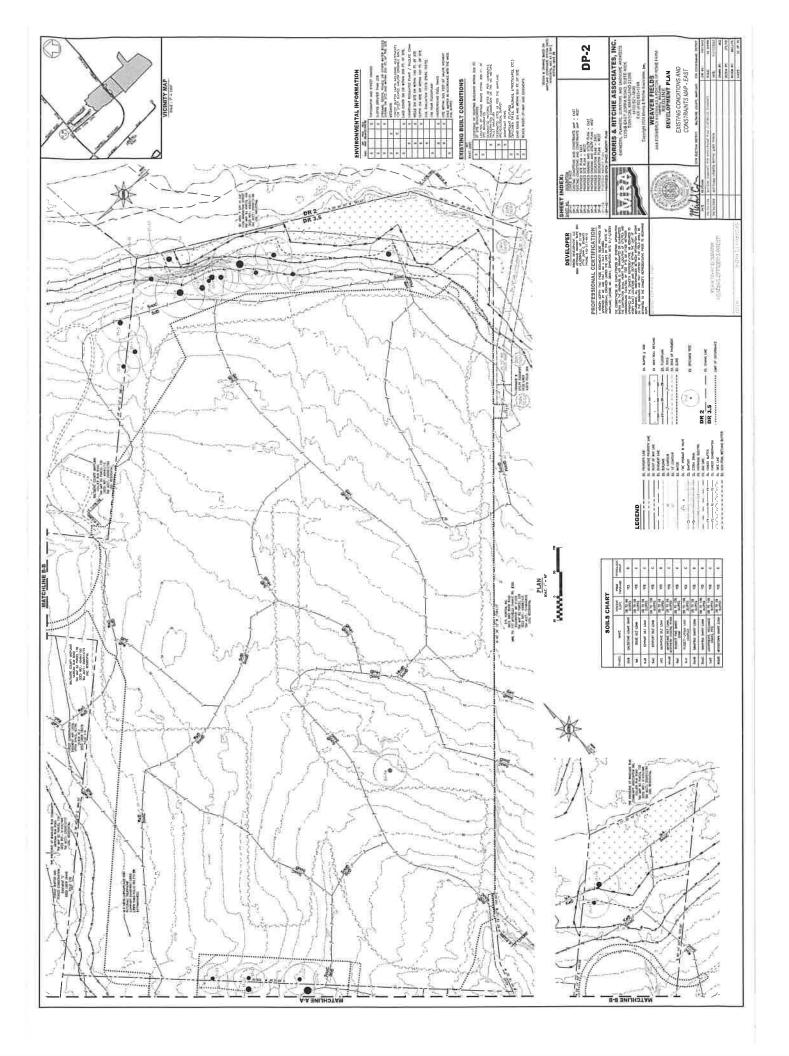
Any appeal of this Order shall be taken in accordance with Baltimore County Code, §32-4-281.

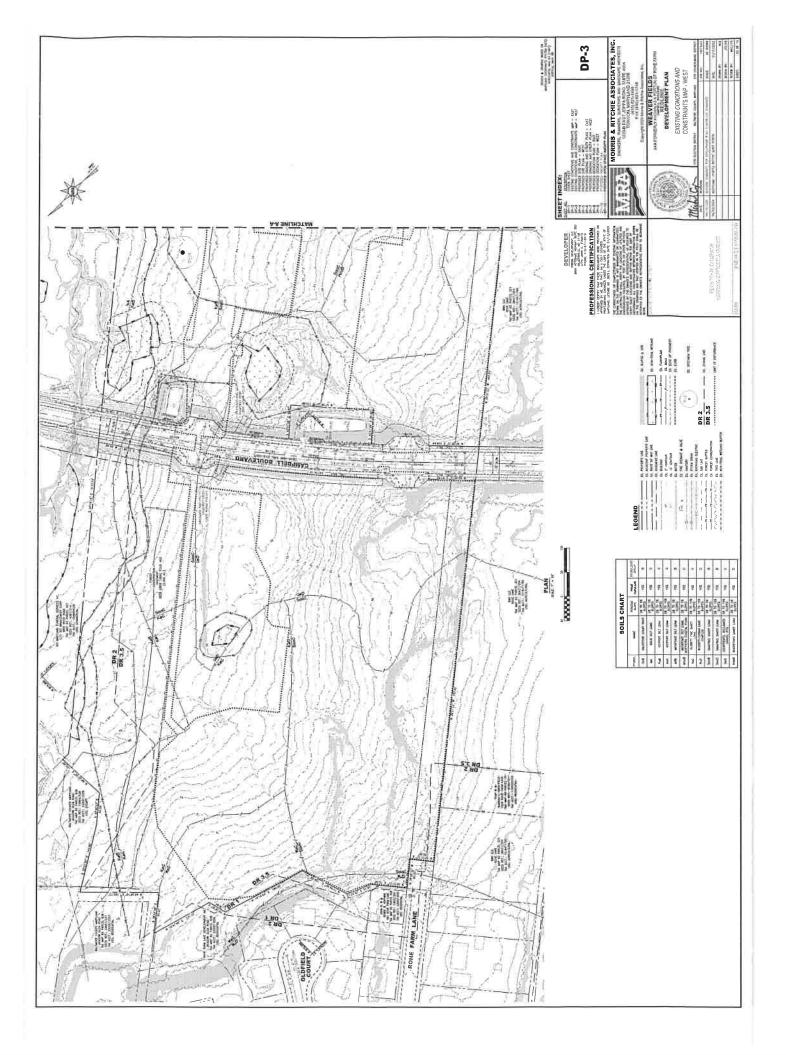
ANDREW M. BELT

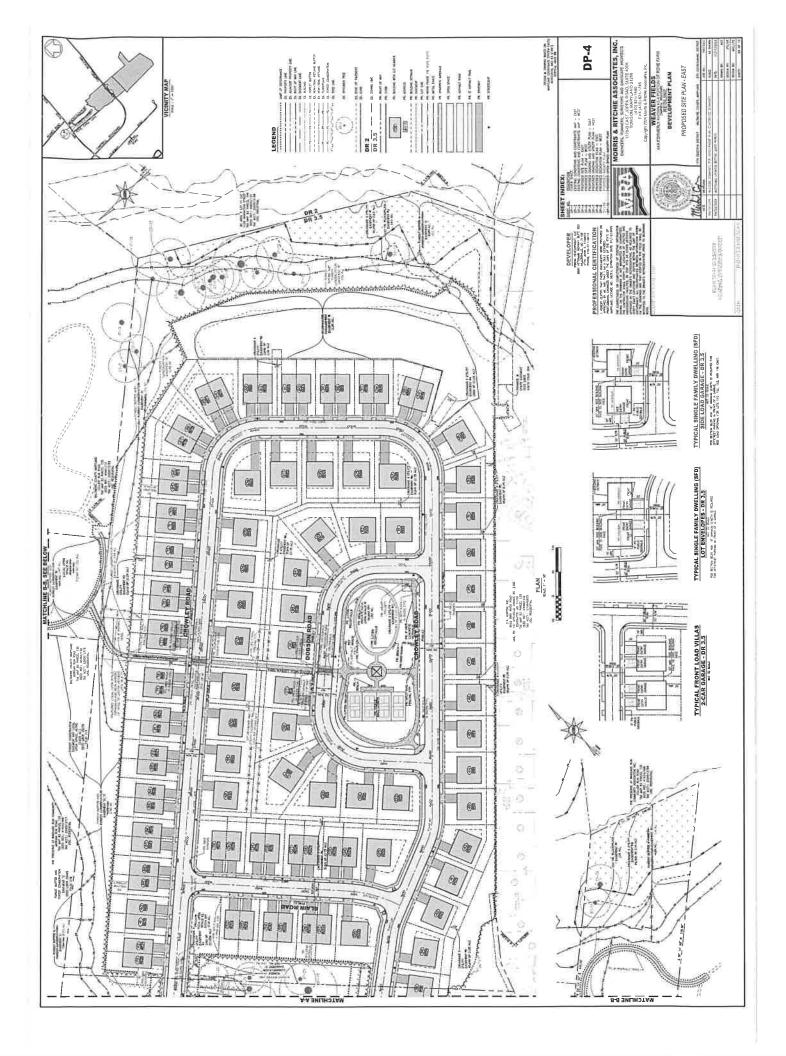
Administrative Law Judge

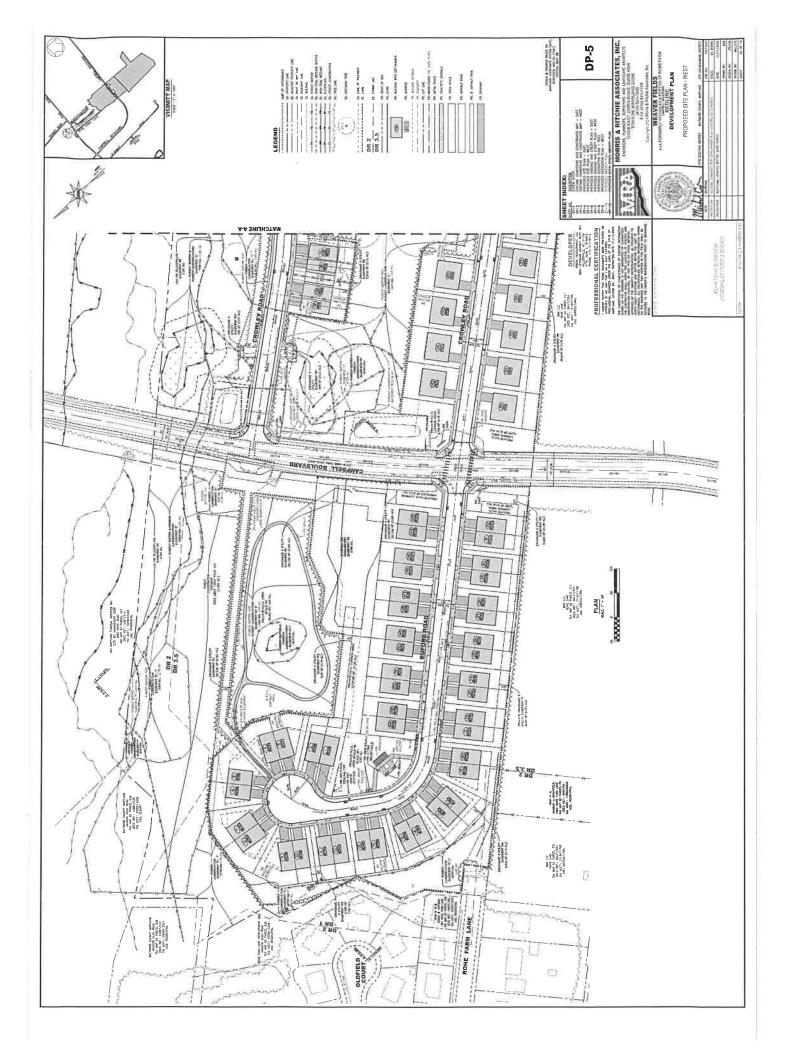
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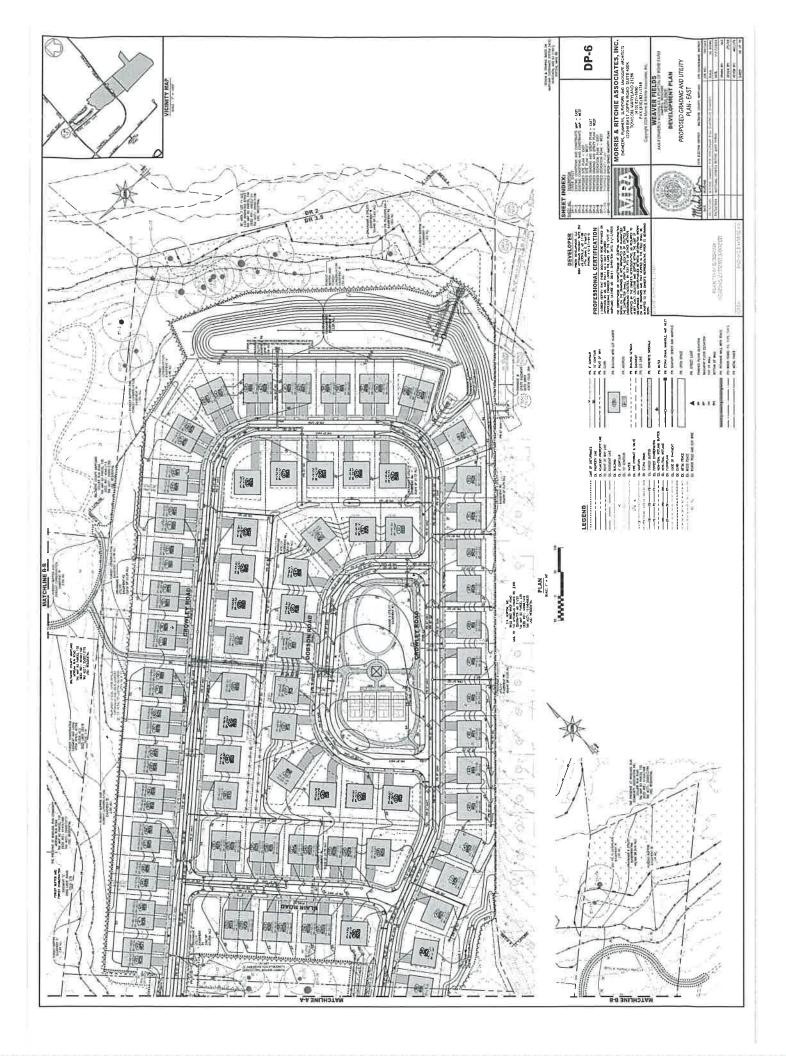


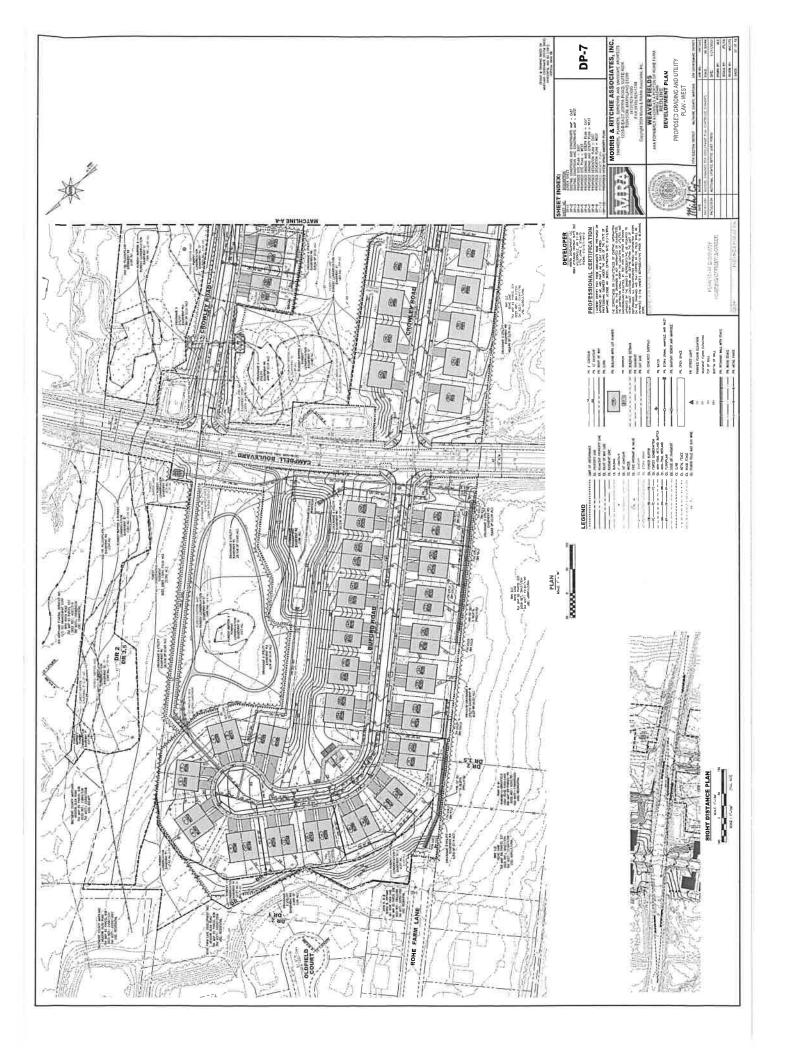


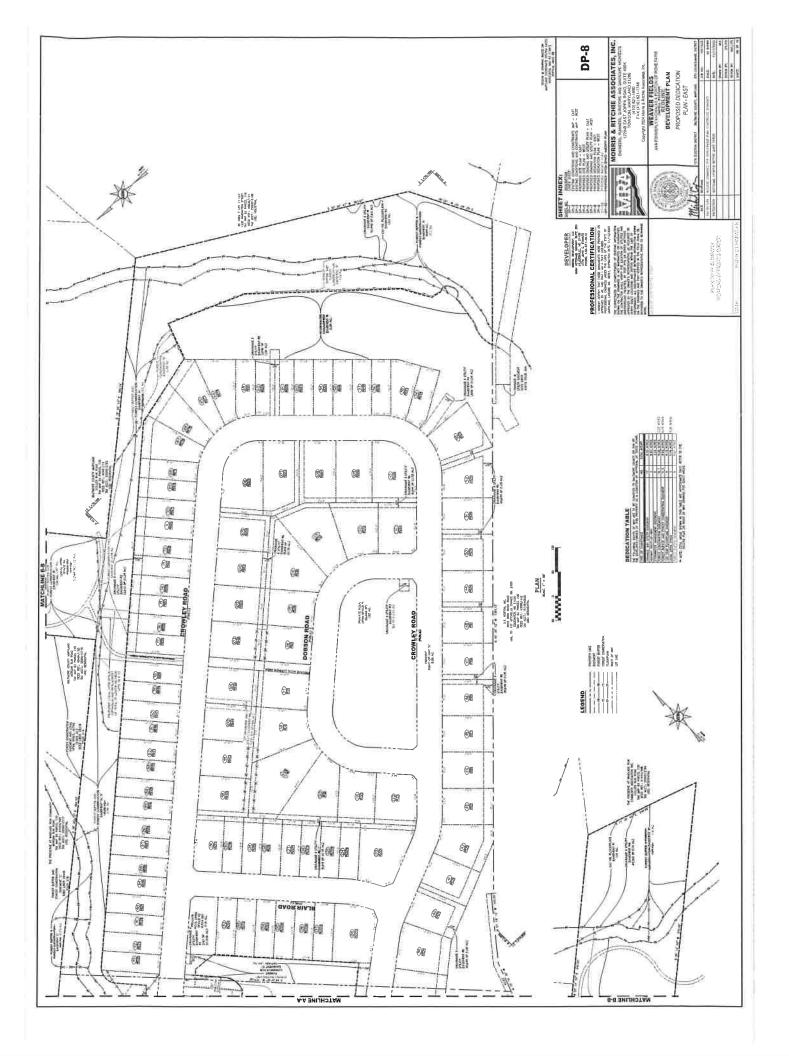


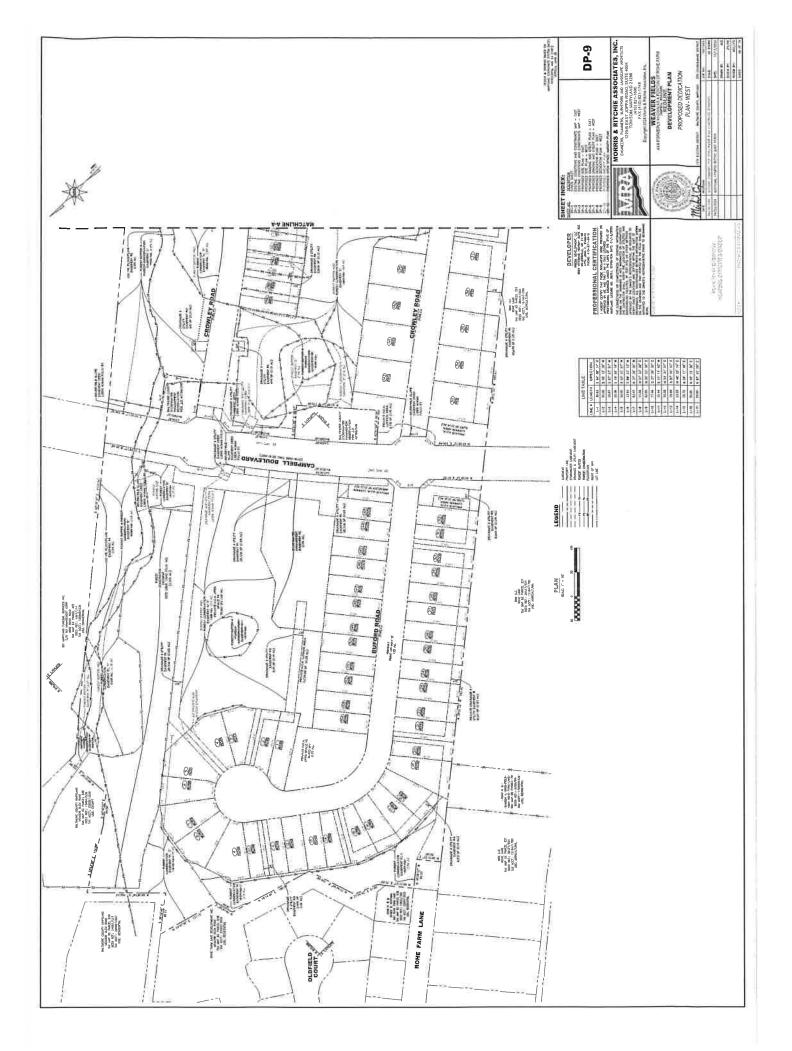


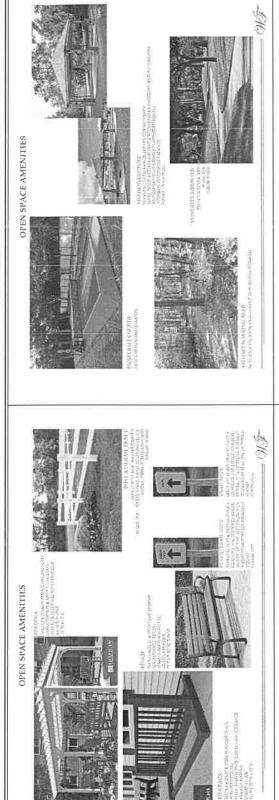


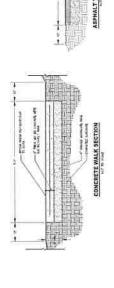












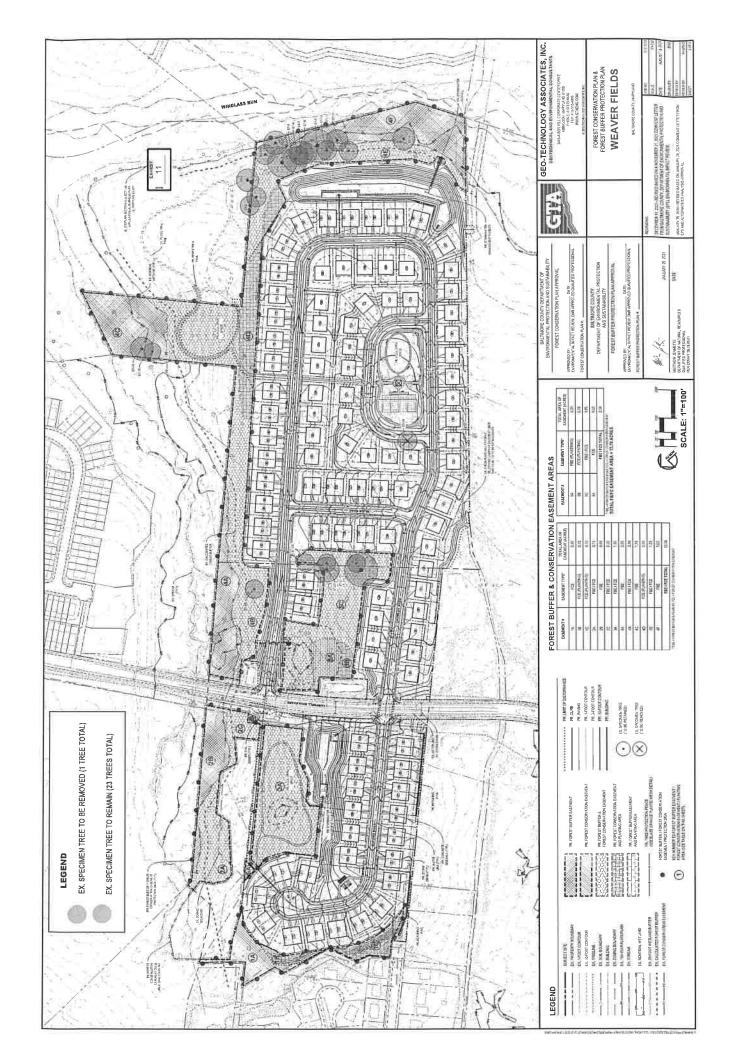
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PETITION FOR ZONING HEARING(S)

To be filed with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

To the Office of Administrative Hearings for Baltimore County for the property located at:

Address	Campbell Boule	evard and Rohe Far	m Lane		Current	ly Zoned DR 1, DR 2	, DR 3.5
Deed Refere	nce8119	B16 /		10 Digit Tax Account	#16000093	189	COURT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P
Owner(s) Pri	inted Name(s)	Rohe Farm Lane	Development, I	nc.			
		PING(S) BY MADE	ING Y AT THE	APPROPRIATE SELECT	TION(S) AND ADD	ING THE DETITION DE	OUEST
	ned, who own and by petition for an:	doccupy the prope	rty situate in Bal	timore County and which	is described in the	plan/plat attached hereto	o and made a part
		g under Sectio missioner shou		e Zoning Regulations	s of Baltimore (	County, to determine	e whether
			See atta	ached			
2 a S	Special Excep	tion under the	Zoning Regu	lations of Baltimore (	County to use t	he herein described	I property for
3 a V	<b>/ariance</b> from	Section(s)					
below you	ur hardship o		fficulty <u>or</u> in achment to t	e zoning law of Baltin idicate below "TO this petition) PRESENTED AT THE HE	BE PRESENT		
I/ we agree to	pay expenses of		advertising, post	ting, etc. and further agree	e to be bound by th	e zoning regulations and	d restrictions of
<b>Legal Owne</b>				e County. iffirm, under the penalties	of perjury, that I / \	Ne are the legal owner(s	s) of the property
Contract I	Purchaser/Les	ssee.		Legal Owners (Pe	atitioners):		
See attach		3000.		See attached	stitioners).		
Name - Type				Name #1 – Type or Pri	nt /	Name #2 – Typ	e or Print
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21108 /	410-571-9410	<i>"</i>	^ dd	2105/		/ 	il Address
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Attorney	for Petitioner:			Representative to	be contacted	<b>[:</b>	
Patricia A.	Malone			Patricia A. Malone			
Name Type				Name Type or Print			
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Signature				Signature			
	enn. Ave, Suite 50	00 Towson	MD	210 W. Penn. Ave, S	Suite 500	Towson	MD
Mailing Addr	ess	City	State	Mailing Address		City	State
21204	410-494-6206		e@venable.com		410-494-6206		@venable.com
Zip Code	Telephone #		Address	Zip Code	Telephone #	Email Address	
Case Numb	er2024-009	10-SPH FII	ing Date	12 12004 DO	Not Schedule Dat	es	_Reviewer 💬

# ATTACHMENT TO PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

Campbell Boulevard and Rohe Farm Lane

**Petition for Special Hearing**, pursuant to Sections 1B01.3 and 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, to amend the 4<sup>th</sup> Amended (or more recently approved) Final Development Plan for Rohe Farm to remove Parcel A.

# ATTACHMENT TO PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

Campbell Boulevard and Rohe Farm Lane

# Legal Owner:

Rohe Farm Lane Development, Inc.

By:

Name:

Title:

2024-0090-544

# ATTACHMENT TO PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

Campbell Boulevard and Rohe Farm Lane

# **Contract Purchaser/Developer:**

Ribera Development, LLC

By:

Name:

Title: Manage

2024-0090-SAH

# MORRIS & RITCHIE ASSOCIATES, INC.

ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, PLANNERS, SURVEYORS, AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



# Zoning Description for Rohe Farm Property

Land Of Rohe Farm Lane Development, Inc Tax map #82 Parcel #741 Fiftenth Election District Fifth Councilmanic District Baltimore County, Maryland

Beginning at a point on the Southwest Corner of the Provisionary section of Rohe Farm Property, Southeast from Bird River Road Right of Way which is 70 feet wide, running along Rohe Farm Lane at a Bearing N 39 Degrees 00 minutes 07 seconds West 877.72 feet at the distance of 600 feet Southwest of the centerline of Reames Road. Thence the following courses and distances:

North 50 Degrees 46 minutes 45 seconds East 50.00 Feet, to a point

North 39 degrees 13 minutes 15 seconds West 60.00 Feet, to a shared point, Thence running the following course and distance with said adjoiner Tax map 82 Parcel 838 owned by Rohe Farm Lane development, Inc. and recorded by deed 64/111,

North 50 degrees 46 minutes 45 seconds East 75.00 Feet, to a point, North 21 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds East 51.85 Feet, to a point, North 71 degrees 59 minutes 58 seconds East 104.09 Feet, to a point, North 16 degrees 30 minutes 02 seconds East 180.00 Feet, to a point, North 75 degrees 31 minutes 53 seconds East 38.64 Feet, to a point, North 15 degrees 03 minutes 14 seconds East 131.15 Feet, to a point, South 38 degrees 28 minutes 30 seconds East 85.00 Feet, to a point, North 44 degrees 53 minutes 32 seconds East 213.62 Feet, to a point, South 38 degrees 28 minutes 30 seconds East 16.53 Feet, to a point, South 38 degrees 11 minutes 18 seconds East 95.00 Feet, to a point,

South 48 degrees 11 minutes 45 seconds East 164.59 Feet, to a shared point and Southwest corner of Tax map 83 Parcel 427 Owned by SCI Maryland Funeral Services Inc., Thence the following course and distance with said adjoiner. South 39 degrees 02 minutes 39 seconds East 626.90 Feet, to a point and running along the following course and distance with Tax Map 83 Parcel 735 Owned by The Preserve at Windlass Run Community recorded by deed 41424/498

South 40 degrees 02 minutes 53 seconds East 520.59 Feet, to a corner. Thence leaving Parcel 735 and running the following course and distance with Tax map 83 and parcel 630 owned by Charles G Stoeker and Irene Hubble ET Al recorded by Deed 39791/48. South 46 degrees 18 minutes 48 seconds West 792.49 Feet, to a corner. Thence leaving said parcel 630 and running along the following course and distance with Tax Map 83 Parcel 221 owned by BWK, LLC Recorded by Deed 38427/254 North 39 degrees 13 minutes 15 seconds West 1792.45 Feet, to the place of beginning.

1220-B East Joppa Road, Suite 400K, Towson, MD 21286 (410) 821-1690 Fax: (410) 821-1748 www.mragta.com



Total parcel Containing 21.19 acres of land, more or less

I, Michael G. Coughlin Professional Engineer license # 38291, certify that this zoning description which is based on the 5<sup>th</sup> Amended Final Development Plan Provisionary Section Boundary



01-11-24

Michael G. Coughlin

Professional Engineer

License Number 38291

Expires January 13, 2026

Date

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

# ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (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 legal owner/petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.\*

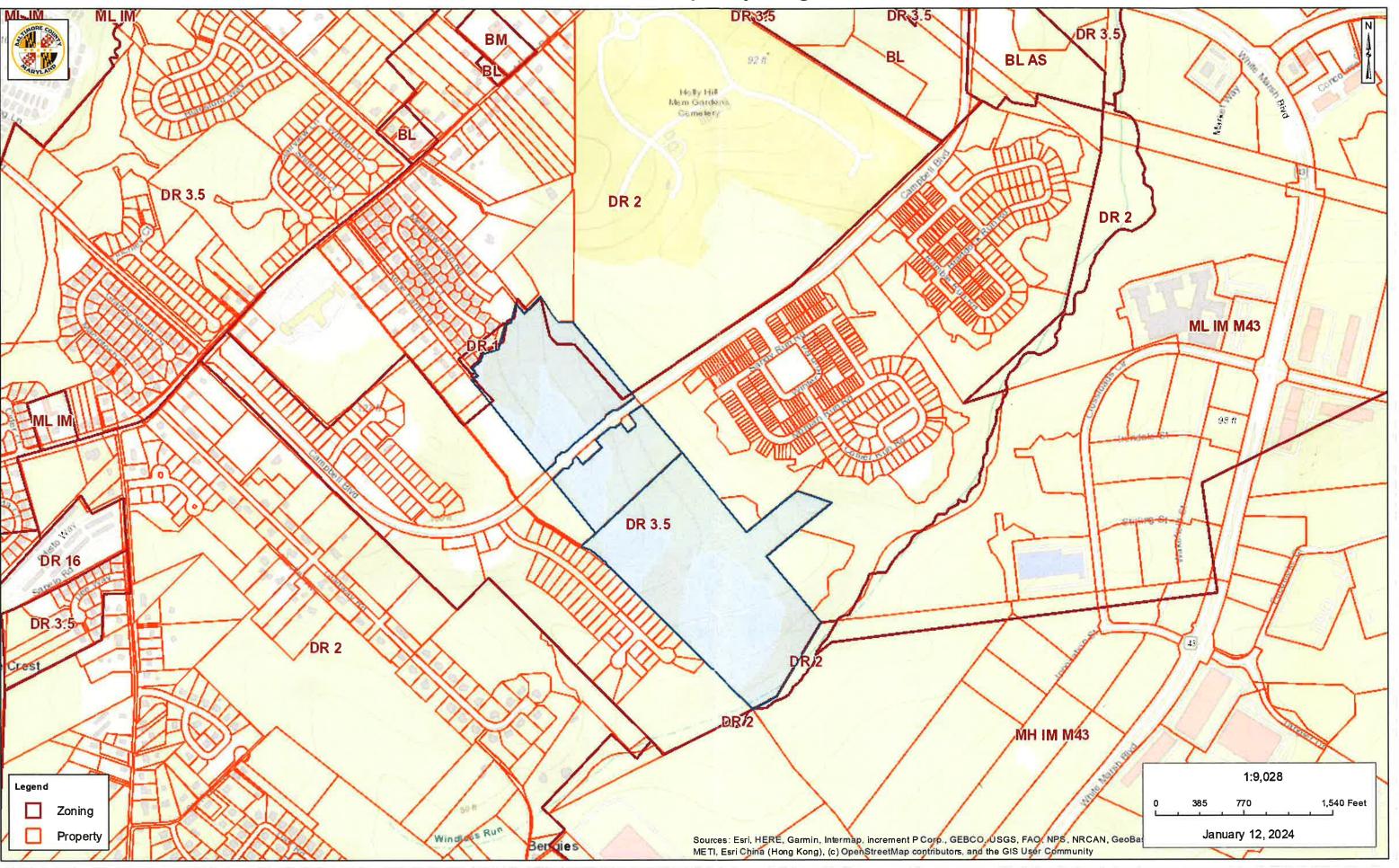
Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the legal owner/petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should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

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

For Newspaper Advertising:
Case Number: 3024-0090-SA 1+
Property Address: Campbell BIVD of Rohetarm Lane
middle River MD 21220
8
egal Owners (Petitioners): Rohe Farm Development Inc Thomas Frech
Contract Purchaser/Lessee: R. bera Development, LLC; JOhn Stamato
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: Company/Firm (if applicable): Patricia Malone
Address: 200 W. Fennsylvania Ave STE 300
Thism ws 2,204
Telephone Number: 40 - 494 - 6206

<sup>\*</sup>Failure to advertise and/or post a sign on the property within the designated time will result in the Hearing request being delayed. The delayed Hearing Case will be cycled to the end of pending case files and rescheduled in the order that it is received. Also, a \$250.00 rescheduling fee may be required after two failed advertisings and/or postings.

# Baltimore County - My Neighborhood



OFFICE	OF BUD	OGET AN	MARYLAN D FINANC I RECEIPT	E	No. 229482  Date: 4-2-2024				
Fund	Dept	Unit ODD	Sub Unit	Rev Source/ Obj	Sub Rev/ Sub Obj	Dept Obj		Amount	
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Rec From:			BIU2 -0090		ohe Fo	Total:	۸.	(00,00	-
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Real Property Data Search ()
Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

View Map View GroundRent Redemption View GroundRent Registration Special Tax Recapture: None Account Identifier: District - 15 Account Number - 1600009389 Owner Information Owner Name: ROHE FARM-LANE DEVELOPMENT INCUSE: RESIDENTIAL Principal Residence:NO Mailing Address: /08119/ 00316 **UNIT 302** Deed Reference: 9649 BELAIR RD NOTTINGHAM MD 21236 Location & Structure Information Premises Address: BIRD RIVER RD Legal Description: 21.1905 ACS MIDDLE RIVER 21220 S\$ BIRD RIVER RD SE COR BIRD RIVER RD Map: Grid: Parcel: Neighborhood: Subdivision: Plat No: Section: Block: Lot: Assessment Year: 0082 0024 0741 15010006.04 0000 Plat Ref: Town: None Primary Structure Built Above Grade Living Area Finished Basement Area Property Land Area County Use 21.1905 AQ Stories Basement Type Exterior Quality Full/Half Bath Garage Last Notice of Major Improvements Value Information Base Value Value Phase-in Assessments As of As of As of 01/01/2024 07/01/2023 07/01/2024 Land: 217,800 260,200 **Improvements** 0 0 Total: 217.800 260,200 217,800 231,933 Preferential Land: 0 ٥ Transfer Information Seller: ROHE FARM PARTNE RSHIP Date: 03/08/1989 Price: \$0 Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER Deed1: /08119/ 00316 Deed2: Seller: Date: Price: Type: Deed1: Deed2: Seller: Date: Price: Type: Deed1: Deed2: **Exemption Information** Partial Exempt Assessments: Class 07/01/2023 07/01/2024 County: 0.00 State: 000 0.00 Municipal: 000 0.00|0.00 0.00[0.00 Special Tax Recapture: None **Homestead Application Information** Homestead Application Status: No Application Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Information Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Status: No Application Date:

2024-0090-SAH

# **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

	2024-0090-SPH RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer: Rohe Farm Lane Development, Inc Ribera Development, LLC
	May 2 & 3, 2024  Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Jeff Perlow:	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of poposted conspicuously on the property located a	erjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were
SIGN	d & Rohe Farm Lane  V 1A & 1B  April 11, 2024
The sign(s) were posted on	(Month, Day, Year)
CASE # 2024-000-SPH  CASE # 2024-0000-SPH  Campbell Bontevard & Roth Errn Lane  The Campbell B	April 11, 2024  (Signature of Sign Poster) (Date)  SSG Robert Black  (Print Name)  1508 Leslie Road  (Address)  Dundalk, Maryland 21222  (City, State, Zip Code)
NG_NOTICE  2024-0090-SPH  100-100-SPH  100-SPH  10	(410) 282-7940

(Telephone Number)



## **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Peter Gutwald, Director **DATE:** April 10, 2024

Department of Permits, Approvals

FROM: Derek M. Chastain

Bureau of Building Plans Review

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting Case 2024-0090-A SUBJECT:

The Bureau of Building Review has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have the following comments.

**BPR:** No comments

#### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### **Inter-Office Correspondence**



TO: Hon. Maureen E. Murphy; Chief Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM: Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE: April 24, 2024

SUBJECT: DEPS Comment for Zoning Item # 2024-0090-SPH

Address: CAMPBELL BLVD & ROHE FARM LANE Legal Owner: Rohn Farm Lane Development, Inc.

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of April 9, 2024.

 $\underline{X}$  The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item:

- <u>X</u> Development of the property must comply with the Regulations for the Protection of Water Quality, Streams, Wetlands and Floodplains (Sections 33-3-101 through 33-3-120 of the Baltimore County Code).
- <u>X</u> Development of this property must comply with the Forest Conservation Regulations (Sections 33-6-101 through 33-6-122 of the Baltimore County Code).

Reviewer: Gris Batchelder

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Pete Gutwald DATE: 4/11/2024

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

**FROM:** Steve Lafferty

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 2024-0090-SPH

**INFORMATION:** 

**Property Address:** Campbell Boulevard and Rohe Farm Lane

**Petitioner:** Rohe Farm Lane Development, Inc. c/o Thomas Frech

**Zoning:** DR 1, DR 2, DR 3.5 **Requested Action:** Special Hearing

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for the following:

Special Hearing -

1. Pursuant to Sections 1B01.3 and 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) to amend the 4<sup>th</sup> Amended (or more recently approved) Final Development Plan for Rohe Farm to remove Parcel A.

The subject site is a 21.19 acre parcel that straddles Campbell Boulevard in the Middle River area. Northwest of the subject site is Rohe Farm (PAI #15-0461). Rohe Farm was a Major Development Plan that was approved in 1990 for the construction of dwelling units on Meadow Glen Road, Oldfield Court, and the north side of Rohe Farm Lane. The Final Development Plan included a 21.19 acre parcel listed as a "Provisory Section"; that parcel is the subject of this Zoning Case.

Southeast of the subject site is Weaver Fields (PAI #15-1041), a Major Development currently undergoing County review. The Development proposes 154 dwelling units with a mix of single family semi-detached front load villas (102) and single family detached dwellings (52) on approximately  $54.89 \pm$  acres with access off of Campbell Boulevard. The Hearing Officer's Hearing for Weaver Fields is scheduled for Thursday, May  $2^{nd}$ , 2024.

The Department of Planning met with the representative for the petition on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 seeking additional information on the Provisory Section of the Rohe Farm Final Development Plan and what it entailed. During the meeting, the representative explained that a Provisory Section is an antiquated definition in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations that was designed for when a DR zoned property was subdivided. Essentially, the Provisory Section provided a notice that the site could possibly developed as a "Section 2" of Rohe Farm at a later date. Rohe Farm never expanded to include a second section and/or the subject site, however, the development did use density from the subject site to support Rohe Farm Section 1. Per the chart available on the site plan submitted with the petition, Rohe Farm used 41.325 density units, leaving 23.675 density units for further use. At this time, the applicants wish to remove the Provisory Section from the Rohe Farm Final Development Plan and show the parcel on the

new plan for Weaver Fields. The remaining density for the parcel will be used to support the density of Weaver Fields.

The Department of Planning has no objections to the requested Special Hearing. The subject site has remaining density, and removal of the site from the Rohe Farms Final Development Plan will allow the site to be included in the Weaver Fields Development Plan, which will make the development process of the property easier to follow and understand.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Taylor Bensley at 410-887-3482.

Prepared by:

Krystle Patchak

**Division Chief:** 

Jenifer G. Nugent

SL/JGN/KP

c: Patricia Malone
Ainsley Pressl, Community Planner
Jeff Perlow, Zoning Review
Kristen Lewis, Zoning Review
Office of Administrative Hearings
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Peter Gutwald, Director DATE: April 8, 2024

Department of Permits, Approvals

**FROM:** Vishnu Desai, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

**SUBJECT:** Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

Case 2024-0090-SPH

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have the following comments.

**DPR:** No comment.

**DPW-T:** No exception taken.

Landscaping: No comment.

Recreations & Parks: No Greenways affected.



Patricia A. Malone

t 410.494.6206 f 410.821.0147 pamalone@venable.com

May 22, 2024

Andrew M. Belt, Administrative Law Judge Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towson, Maryland 21204

Re: Development Plan Opinion and Order

Weaver Fields - PAI Case Nos. 15-1041 and 2024-0090-SPH

Address: Campbell Boulevard & Rohe Farm Lane

Dear Judge Belt:

This morning we received a copy of the Administrative Law Judge's Combined Development Plan and Zoning Opinion and Order approving the Development Plan in the above-referenced case.

Shortly thereafter, Ms. Teresa Eller, Regional Engineer with the Maryland State Highway Administration ("SHA"), sent an email to your office as well as to others indicating that "SHA is requiring a Traffic Impact Study" for the project and attaching a comment dated May 6, 2024, which requested that plan approval be withheld pending SHA review of a revised traffic study.

As you are aware, the hearing in this matter concluded on May 2, 2024, and the record was formally closed on May 8, 2024. The correspondence received by SHA today cannot be considered as the record is already closed.

As part of our case, Developer presented testimony from our traffic expert Traffic Concepts, confirming the lack of impacts from the development on area roads. Our team intends to continue to work with SHA as we proceed through the next phase of the development process. As indicated in our exhibits, a revised Traffic Impact Study had <u>already</u> been submitted to SHA addressing prior comments, which were minimal. Regardless, Ms. Eller's email to you, after the record had already closed in this case, should have no impact on your decision approving the Development Plan.

Very truly yours,

Patricia A. Malone



Wes Moore Governor Aruna Miller Lieutenant Governor Paul J. Wiedefeld Secretary William Pines, P.E. Administrator

May 6, 2024

Mr. Lloyd Moxley Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections County Office Building, Room 109 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Moxley:

We have previously reviewed the Development Plan for Weaver Fields located at Campbell Blvd. and Rohe Farm Lane in Baltimore County. The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) has reviewed the plan for the project listed below and is pleased to respond:

Weaver Fields Baltimore Co MAJ- 2022-00003 MD 43 at Campbell Blvd

MDOT-SHA has previously reviewed the Development Plan and at this time we <u>withhold</u> <u>approval</u> of the plan per the Development Plan Hearing until we have had an opportunity to review the recently submitted revised Traffic Impact Study. Our review of the TIS will determine any traffic impacts of this development on the surrounding road network including MD 43. Upon completion of the TIS review, MDOT-SHA may require submittal of access permit plans if roadway improvements are needed. Should you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact Ms. Teresa Eller at 410-229-2424 or 1-866-998-0367 (in Maryland only) extension 2424, or by email at (teller@mdot.maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Teresa Eller, for

Claudine Myers
Acting Metropolitan District Engineer
Maryland Department of Transportation
State Highway Administration
District 4 - Baltimore and Harford Counties

Cc: Michael Coughlin, MRA

