

Land Use Committee Report

City of Newton In City Council

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Present: Councilors Schwartz (Chair), Lipof, Greenberg, Auchincloss, Kelley, Markiewicz, Laredo

Absent: Councilor Crossley

City Staff Present: Associate City Solicitor Jonah Temple, Senior Planner Neil Cronin, Chief Planner

Jennifer Caira

All Special Permit Plans, Plan Memoranda and Application Materials can be found at http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/aldermen/special permits/current special permits.asp. Presentations for each project can be found at the end of this report.

#564-18(2) Petition to allow nine-unit multi-family dwelling at 19-31 and 39 Herrick Road

<u>APPROVAL</u> to allow a 36' three-story nine-unit multi-family dwelling with accessory parking for nine cars, to allow multi-family residential use on the ground level in a BU1 district, to allow a reduction to one parking stall per unit, to waive 18 stalls on the parcel associated with the multi-family dwelling (Lot 7), to allow off-site parking facilities (Lot 6), to allow parking in the side setback, to allow a reduced minimum aisle width, to waive maneuvering space required of restricted stalls, to allow a retaining wall greater than 4' in a setback, to waive perimeter screening requirements and to waive lighting and surfacing requirements at 39 Herrick Road, Ward 6, on land known as Section 61 Block 36 Lots 6 and 7, in a district zoned BUSINESS USE 1. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 7.4, 4.4.1, 4.1.2.B.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.13, 5.1.6.A, 5.1.6.B, 5.1.8.A, 5.1.8.B.6, 5.1.8.C.2, 5.1.9.A, 5.1.10, 5.4.2, 5.4.2.B of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

Action: Land Use Held 7-0

Note: Attorney Terry Morris, 57 Elm Road, represented the petitioner, Stuart Rothman/Herrick Road Realty Trust. Atty. Morris, Verdant Landscape Architect Blair Hines and Khalsa Design Architect Jai Singh Khalsa presented an overview and updates of the proposed development on Herrick Road. Atty. Morris noted that the proposed development includes 9 units of housing, designed for residents aged 55 and older. The development includes one two-bedroom with study (1570 sq. ft.), four two-bedroom units (1040-1395 sq. ft.) and four one-bedroom units (620-730 sq. ft.), one unit will be affordable. Atty. Morris stated that all units in the development will be ADA compliant and adaptable for accessibility. One unit will be constructed as accessible. Atty. Morris noted that the petitioner has presented the project to the Fair Housing Committee, who submitted the attached letter. Atty. Morris noted that the Fair Housing Committee found that the proposed development will meet or exceed the City's goals relative to accessibility and will promote "visitability".

Attorney Morris explained that access to the site is gained through the Cypress Street municipal lot. Regarding fire apparatus, Civil Engineer Joe Porter has stated that the only access to the site is through the municipal lot. The petitioner proposes to maintain access through the Cypress Street lot, until a time that the City decides to develop on the lot. At such a time, the petitioner will develop a new roadway with access from Herrick Road. Atty. Morris stated that as part of the development at the site, the petitioner will install a subsurface drainage system and retaining wall intended to support a new curb cut from Herrick Road. It was noted that a future curb cut on Herrick Road to provide access to the development will require the relocation of a utility pole and the elimination of one parking space. Atty. Morris confirmed that the petitioner will bear the cost of the pole relocation. Atty. Morris stated that the Fire Department has not yet approved the two-way access from the Cypress Tree lot but confirmed that the petitioner is working with the Fire Department and Planning. Atty. Morris confirmed that the building will have a sprinkler system.

Mr. Hines stated that it is the intent to continue public access through the site by maintaining the walkway along the edge of the railroad embankment, maintenance of a second walkway through the parking lot and by creating a third shortcut through the site. Mr. Hines noted that the landscape plan includes the addition of outdoor space with a bench and bicycle parking facilities. The petitioner intends to use green screen to plant vines and flowers on the edge of the parking lot to shield abutting residents. Mr. Hines noted that the petitioner hopes to maintain a portion of the site, with ground level plantings and reinforced soil, so that land can be used for fire access if necessary, in the future. He confirmed that the petitioner has submitted a tree mitigation plan which has been submitted to the Planning Department. Additionally, Mr. Hines confirmed that the petitioner is willing to accept the Planning Department's recommendation to replace some asphalt with stamped concrete. Mr. Jai Singh Khalsa presented details of the plans and elevations as shown on the attached presentation. Mr. Khalsa noted that the entrance adjacent to the parking lot mimics the design of the train station.

Atty. Morris confirmed that the petitioner proposes to provide 9 parking stalls. Given the proximity of the development to the train station, the petitioner is confident that the 9 stalls will be sufficient. The petitioner, Mr. Stuart Rothman stated that the rented parking at 17-31 Herrick Road is revocable with a 30-day notice. He noted that the majority of residents at 17-31 Herrick Road do not have parking. Mr. Rothman confirmed that there is no parking requirement for parking at 17-31 Herrick Road (as it was constructed prior to the implementation of parking regulations) but stated that that he is willing to provide Uber/Lyft and MBTA subsidies for residents at 17-31 Herrick Road to mitigate the impact due to the loss of parking. A Committee member stated that they would not be supportive of including Uber/Lyft subsidies as part of the TDM, noting that these services could multiply the number of trips to the site.

A Committee questioned whether the petitioner might consider an "all age friendly" building rather than designating the building for residents older than 55. Mr. Rothman noted that the 55+ designation was a result of community input and conversations with the Council on Aging. He confirmed that the design of the development is supportive of residents aged 55 and over. Some Committee members expressed support for the 55+ designation.

Committee members noted that there are outstanding items relative to the petition. With that, Councilor Markiewicz motioned to hold the item which carried unanimously.

#87-19 Special Permit Petition to allow increased FAR at 370 Linwood Avenue

MATTHEW HAAG AND LAUREN NICHOLS petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL to construct an attached two-car garage and second floor master suite, creating an FAR of .63 where .53 is allowed and .43 exists at 370 Linwood Avenue, Ward 2, Newtonville, on land known as Section 21 Block 24 Lot 05, containing approximately 7,219 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned MULTI RESIDENCE 1. Ref. 7.3.3, 7.4, 3.2.3, 3.2.11 of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

Action: Land Use Approved Withdrawal without Prejudice 7-0

Note: Committee members reviewed the request to withdraw the petition without prejudice. Committee members expressed no concerns relative to the request and voted unanimously in favor of approving the withdrawal without prejudice.

#86-19 Temporary license to hold Nonantum Village Day

NONANTUM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION requesting a temporary license pursuant to Chapter 30 Section 6(k) of the City of Newton Ordinances to hold NONANTUM VILLAGE DAY on Sunday, June 2, 2019.

Action: Land Use Approved 7-0

Note: Committee members reviewed details of the request for a temporary license to hold Nonantum Village Day on June 2, 2019. Committee members expressed no concerns relative to the request for Nonantum Village Day and voted unanimously in favor of a motion to approve the item from Councilor Greenberg. Councilor Greenberg noted that all members of the Council and public are invited to Village Day.

#497-18 Petition to allow single-family attached dwellings at 10 Pillion Court

MICHAEL MOSKOWITZ/TEN PILLION, LLC petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL to construct an attached dwelling unit to the existing single-family structure, reduce lot area, frontage and lot coverage requirements, to reduce front and side setback requirements and to allow a driveway along the side lot line, requiring an amendment to Variance #99442 at 10 Pillion Court, Ward 2, on land known as Section 22 Block 7 Lot 46, containing approximately 10,559 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned MULTI RESIDENCE 1. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 7.4, 3.4.1, 3.2.4, 6.2.3.B.2, of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

Action: Land Use Held 7-0

Note: The petitioner requested a continuance of the public hearing in order to consider additional modifications to the plans. Committee members shared no concerns relative to the request to continue and voted unanimously to hold the item.

#41-19 Petition to amend Council Order #288-18 to allow adult use-sales at 24-26 Elliot St

CYPRESS TREE MANAGEMENT, INC petition for a SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL to amend Special Permit Council Order #288-18 to allow retail marijuana sales in conjunction with as the approved RMD (Registered Medical Dispensary), to waive the 25% façade transparency requirement, to waive minimum stall dimensions, to waive minimum aisle width for two-way traffic, to waive perimeter screening requirements, to waive interior landscaping requirements and to waive lighting requirements at 24-26 Elliot Street, Ward 5, Newton Highlands, on land known as Section 51 Block 25 Lot 01, containing approximately 25,320 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned BUSINESS USE 2. Ref: Sec 7.3.3, 7.4, 6.10.3.D, 4.4.1, 6.10.3.E.15, 5.1.8.B.1, 5.1.8.B.2, 5.1.8.C.1, 5.1.8.C.2, 5.1.13, 5.1.9.A, 5.1.9.B, 5.1.10.A, 5.1.10 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

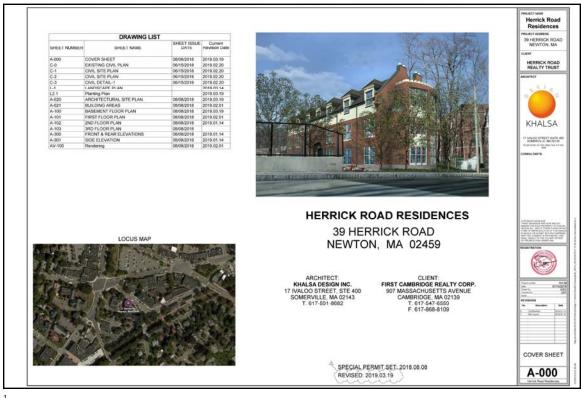
Action: Land Use Held 7-0

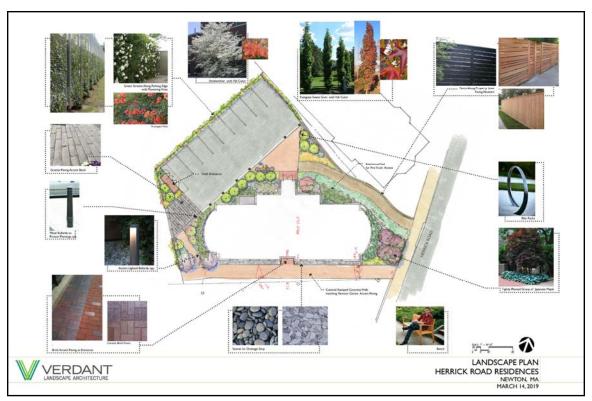
Note: The Chair announced that the petitioner would not be presenting details of the petition. He explained that the Mayor is reviewing details of the host community agreement. The Chair stated that the public hearing would be continued to April 30, 2019. The public hearing was opened. No member of the public wished to speak. Councilor Kelley motioned to hold the item which carried unanimously.

The Committee adjourned at 7:55 pm.

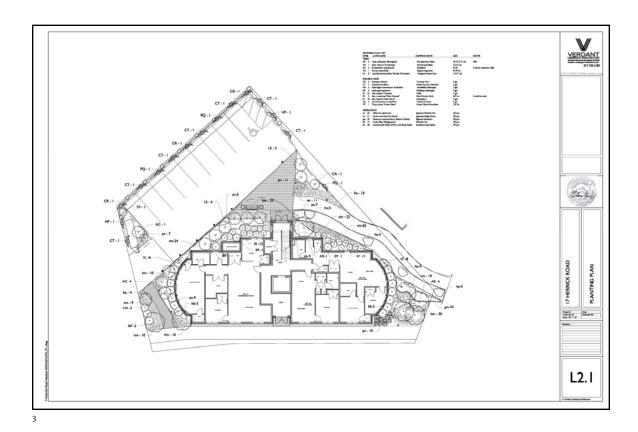
Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Schwartz, Chair



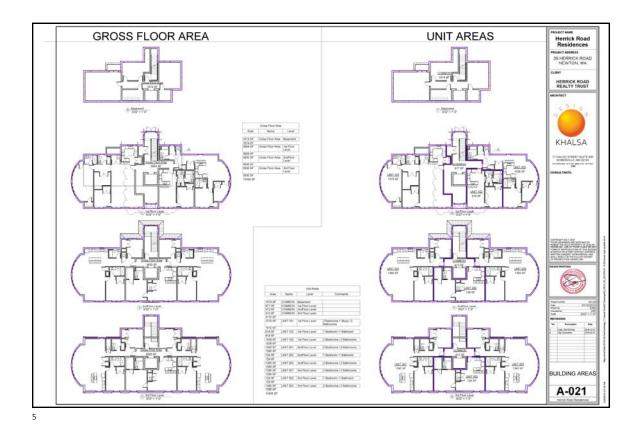


_



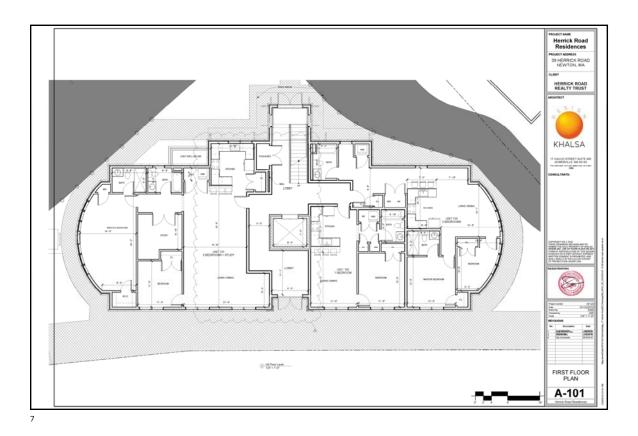
The state of the s

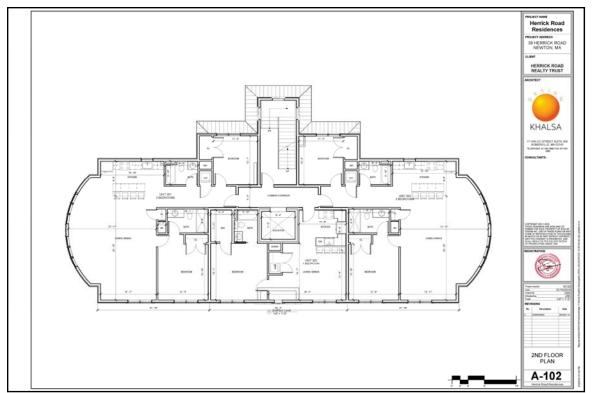
2

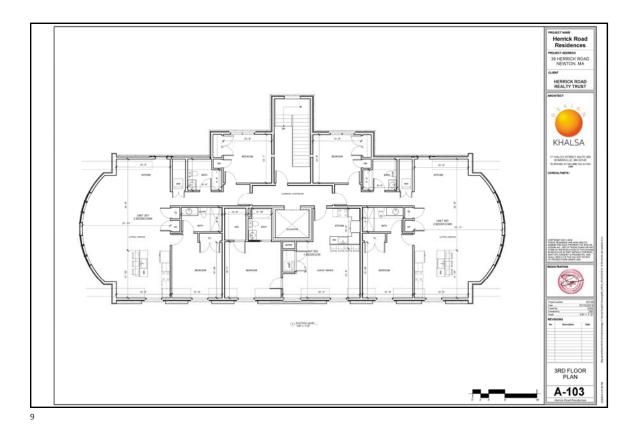


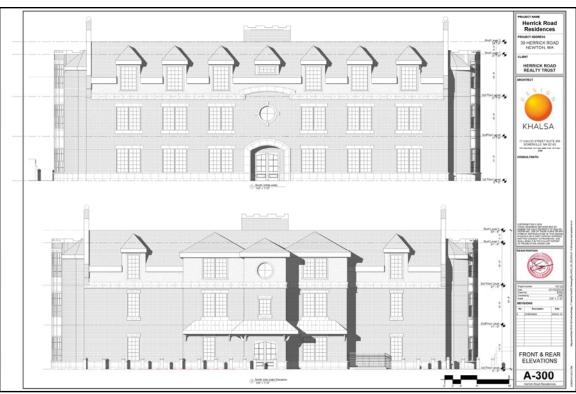
THAT YOUR AND PROVIDED BY THE PROVIDED BY THE

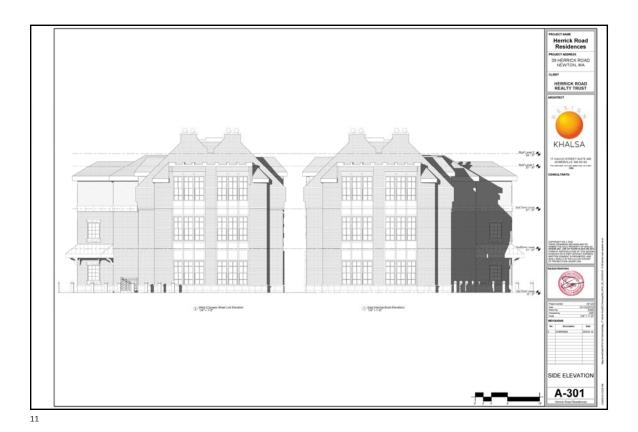
2





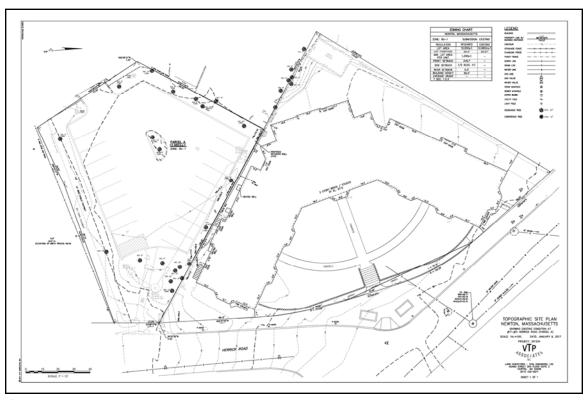


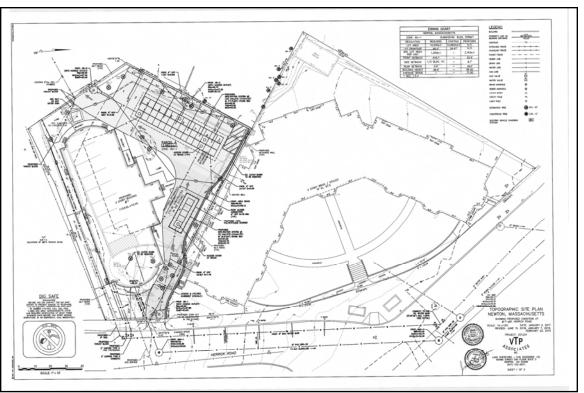


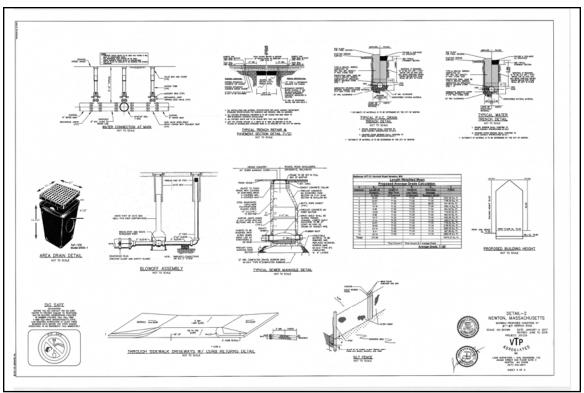


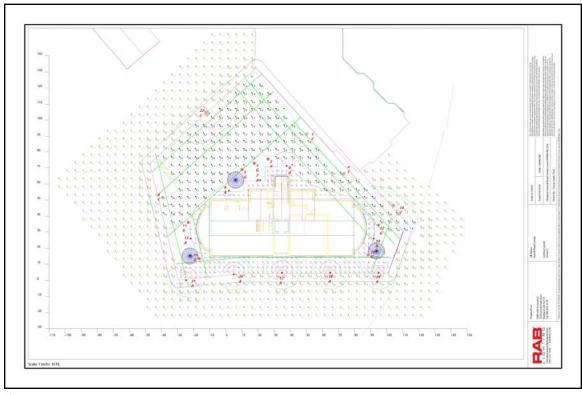


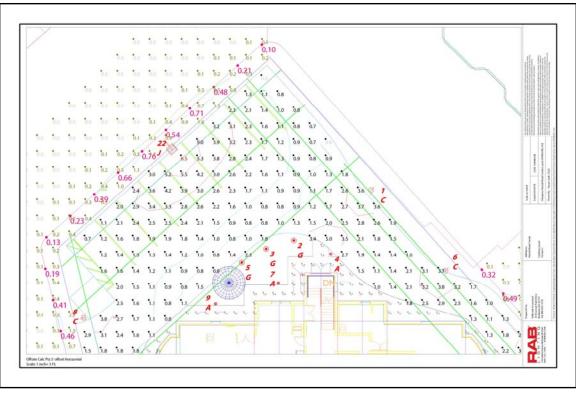




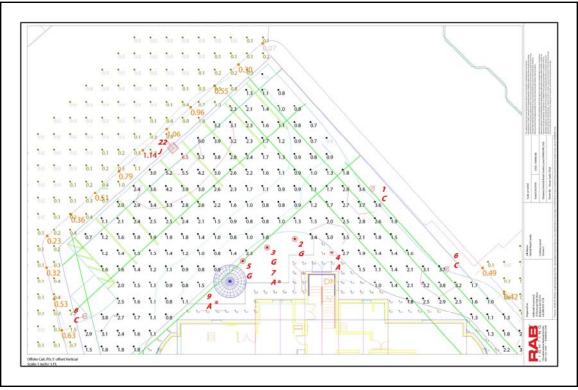








__



2:

