

City of Havre de Grace

711 PENNINGTON AVENUE, HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND 21078 WWW.HAVREDEGRACEMD.COM 410-939-1800

# PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

City Hall Council Chambers February 15th, 2024 6:30 PM

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. New Business
  - a. Vote to send the Comprehensive Plan for 60-day review to Maryland Department of Planning.
  - b. Any comments from the general public (5 minutes per speaker)

c. Location: Owner/Applicant: Permit No: Parcel No: Description:

2000 Level Road Peter & Mary Ianniello- Mount Felix 2024-0282 0443 (13.96 Acres)

To hear a request by the applicant of 2000 Level Road (Mount Felix) for "Concept Site Plan Review" for constructing 50 Townhomes (5.83 acres) and 4 multi-family buildings (4.41 acres) containing 24 dwelling units each on 10.24 acres in the Residential Business / RB zoning district. The proposal is not for final approval at this time.

- 4. Old Business
- 5. Adjournment

The public is invited to attend and observe the meeting. The meeting may be viewed live by visiting the City of Havre de Grace website at <a href="http://www.havredegracemd.com">www.havredegracemd.com</a> and click on the City YouTube Videos tab. The video will be available to view immediately following the meeting.



# City of Havre de Grace

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#### MEMORANDUM

To: Peter & Mary Ianniello Crosswinds Landing, LLC.

- From: Tim Bourcier, AICP Director of Planning Eric Lawrence, MLA, MUDP - Associate City Planner
- Date: February 6, 2024
- RE: Mount Felix proposed residential development preliminary staff comments 2000 Level Road Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

Please find the Department of Planning review and comments below for the Conceptual Site Plan, Landscape and Lighting Plan submitted on January 22<sup>nd</sup> for the informal conceptual site plan review and comment with the Planning Commission on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

# Site Plan, Landscape and Lighting Plan Review – Mt. Felix

#### Site Background Information

- The Subject site (Lot 2) is 10.24 acres, zoned RB/Residential Business, lot type 'GG' and is a part of the Single Concept Plan (SCP) in Annexation Resolution 277 (AR277).
- The single-family dwellings within Bulle Rock on the west side of the Parkway are zoned R1/Urban Residential District. The Sion Hill Estates single-family detached residential subdivision on the south side abuts the lanniello property and are zoned RB. There is a Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) easement to the east of the Subject property.
- The Boards of Appeal approved the conditional use for multifamily dwelling units under section 205-27 of the City code for the Subject site on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Maryland Historic Trust identifies Mount Felix via Maryland Inventory of Historic Places as (HA-526) as noted on the Single Concept Plan.

#### Zoning

• <u>§205-11(H)(4)</u> Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, such as sidewalks and bicycle parking facilities, shall be provided where appropriate. Suggest locating bicycle facilities near multifamily buildings and near Tot-Lot.

# Parking Requirements - §122

- <u>3:</u> The required parking area shall be located within the confines and boundaries of the lot or tract of land on which the building, structure or use is located. Please see below.
- <u>4:</u> There are 438 parking spaces total provided. The parking should be broken down by use. The townhouses provide adequate parking per code. However, 288 parking spaces are required for the multifamily units where only 238 are provided. Moreover, the parking area in the cul-de-sac and overflow area near the townhomes needs to be connected by pedestrian access to the

Department of Planning Memo - Conceptual Site Plan Review Mount Felix – Ianniello Property Permit No. 2024-0289

multifamily area in order for those parking spaces to be counted toward the multifamily requirements.

- <u>6(A)</u>: Off-street parking requirements per <u>Chapter 122</u> of the City code for new construction of residential complexes or developments consisting of more than three dwelling units shall provide three (3) parking spaces per dwelling unit.
- <u>§155-12(B)(1)</u>: Suggest outdoor/parking lot and street lighting to be 3,000 Kelvin or below. Proposed lighting is 5,000 Kelvin. Please provide information on any lights attached to the multifamily buildings and walkway lights for pedestrians.

# Article V - Adequate Public Facilities

- Traffic A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is required due to generating more than 249 trips per day
  per <u>§205-11(H)</u>. Also, since the project abuts Level Road, SHA review is required. We ask that you
  please have your Traffic Engineer contact us to coordinate a scoping meeting with City and County
  Planning Department staff before beginning the analysis.
- Water The City recently completed a water model study and found significant upgrades are needed throughout the City over a seven-year period. Currently, this property does not have capacity as defined per Section 2-8(B)(2) of the City Code.

# Article VI- 155-15 Site access, parking and circulation

- **R-14 Harford County Road Code-Book II** states "At a minimum, the centerline of any new entrance shall be located sixty (60') from the nearest edge of paving of an intersecting street and a residential entrance may be reduced to forty-five feet (45') by the director of public works on streets classified as residential access."
- §155-12(A): Please screen proposed dumpster enclosure with evergreens.
- <u>§155-15(B)(1)</u>: Private entrances/exits must be located at least 50 feet from the closest unsignalized intersection.
  - Lot #5 and Lot #50 seem to be affected by this Code section and the driveways will need to be realigned.
- <u>15(C)(2) & (C)(4)</u>: Please provide a plan to the City indicating large trucks and emergency vehicles can circulate throughout the site safely and efficiently.
- <u>15(C)(3)</u>: Are there any marked delivery spaces for the condos?
- <u>15(C)(5)</u>: Since the site has more than 25 parking spaces, internal pedestrian pathways must be provided throughout the site.
- <u>15(D)(5)</u>: Please design the five-foot (5') proposed sidewalk to be in addition to, not included in, the twenty-two-foot (22') length of townhome driveways--for a minimum of twenty-seven feet (27') all the proposed townhomes. This same logic will apply to the multifamily sidewalks near parking lots.

#### Article VII - Architecture

- Please submit architectural elevations, plans, and materials list to comply with this Article.
- <u>16(B)</u>: Please submit a signage plan per the requirements of this section. All proposed signs must meet the requirements of <u>Chapter 151</u> in the RB zoning district.

Department of Planning Memo - Conceptual Site Plan Review Mount Felix – Ianniello Property Permit No. 2024-0289

# Article VIII – Grading, Erosion Control and Stormwater Management

- <u>155-18(E)</u>: Below are comments from the in-house review of the concept stormwater management plan. Future submittals will need to be reviewed and approved by the City's consulting engineer.
  - Owner signature is required;
  - Plans must be signed and sealed by a licensed engineer;
  - A plan needs to be provided that allows for discharge from Mount Felix to Sion Hill. Per the City Code, all stormwater must be contained on the subject property;
  - Computations need to be verified:
    - Need to resize pipe to Sion Hill;
    - Is SDWG #3 able to handle additional run off?
    - Can proposed SWM #1 handle all of the run off?

#### Article IX - Environmental and Resource Protection

- <u>81-5</u> A Forest Stand Delineation (FSD) will be required. A Forest Conservation Plan (FCP) has been submitted in conjunction with the concept plan for review and approval but no FSD has been completed.
- <u>81-9(A)(2)</u> Street Trees do not count towards the FCP because the City does not have a "Tree Management Plan". Please revise the FSD & FCP accordingly to meet the FCP requirements.

#### Chapter 186- Trees

- §186-11: Distance from street corners / intersections. "No street tree shall be planted closer than thirty-five (35') to any street corner measured from point of nearest intersecting curb lines. Please relocate trees at 'Road A' intersection to meet minimum standards in §102-7(D), 7(E) and §102-8(5). We recommend relocating street trees near Lot #5, Lot#14/Lot #15 and Lot#50 to meet the thirty-five feet (35') standard. We are open to alternative suggestions to meet compliance for internal vehicular circulation safety and standards
- §186-11 & 102-8(B)(8): Also, no street tree shall be planted closer than twenty (20') to any fire hydrant. Please relocate FH/Street Tree near Lot#5 and Lot#45.
- §186-12 & 102-8(B)(8): Utilities: No street tree shall be planted under or within 10 linear feet of any overhead utility wire, or over or within five linear feet of any underground water line, sewer line, transmission line or other utility. Recommend modifying parking lot in SE corner between Lot #13 and Lot #14 to satisfy these requirements. Specifically, light pole in SW parking lot near building 1 and street light pole near the street tree near Lot #8.

# Chapter 102 – Sustainable Landscaping and Lighting

- Please clarify planting symbol 'AB' which is not listed on plan. Perhaps this is meant to be 'AG'.
- Please include <u>§102-5</u> Topsoil section A through C on the 'Landscape Notes' section of the landscape plan.
- <u>7(M)</u>: A variety of plant species are encouraged to avoid monocultures, to encourage long-lived species and to promote wildlife habitat. Of the required tree plantings and of the shrub plantings, no more than 33% may be of one species. See below:
- <u>7(1)</u> Small Street Trees: 55% singular species. Please add additional small street trees to meet the 33% species diversity requirements. We suggest you provide at least one additional species of

Department of Planning Memo - Conceptual Site Plan Review Mount Felix – Ianniello Property Permit No. 2024-0289

small street trees such as Hawthorne, *Crataegus spp.* or Paber bark Maple, *Acer griseum* to meet the requirements.

- <u>§102-9(A)(2)</u>, <u>§205-11(G)</u> and <u>§155-12(B)(1)</u>: Lights illuminating off-street parking or street areas shall be arranged and installed so that any reflection onto adjacent residential lots shall be minimal glare I.e. 0.5 at property line and shielded accordingly. Please check photometric plan for compliance, and if necessary, shield lights accordingly.
- <u>9(E)(1)</u>: Plant a buffer along the SW parking (adjacent to Lot no. 50) to prevent street light and headlight glare from vehicle ingress/egress of parking lot along dwelling.
- <u>§102-9(E)</u>: **Recommend** planting evergreen shrubs along all building facade to meet 60% evergreen requirements. *Itea Virginica* is not an acceptable evergreen as it is deciduous. Please provide an alternative coniferous or deciduous evergreen such as a juniper, holly or such to satisfy requirements.
- **Recommend** parking lot perimeter landscaping for parking lot between building 1 & 2 to meet **9(D).** Also, recommend connecting the parking lots via sidewalk for seamless pedestrian access.

#### Annexation Resolution 277-Additional Comments:

The following comments come from the Department of Planning staff report to the Planning Commission concerning Annexation Resolution 277. The items below are suggestions we kindly ask to be considered in revised designs.

- **AR277:** In the Department of Planning Staff Report dated July 31, 2020, Historic Context and Preservation states, "The historic structures known as Mount Felix and Sion Hill are intended to be preserved and protected during the development of the properties. Future development of the properties must also consider context sensitive preservation of not only the historic buildings, but the surrounding property and viewsheds." Please provide justification for how historic context and viewsheds are being preserved in relation to the site.
- **AR277:** In the Department of Planning Staff Report dated July 31, 2020, Recommended Conditions of Approval item '13' states "The architecture of the buildings on the lanniello Property shall incorporate similar design elements found on the historic Mount Felix; such as dormers, porticos and materials such as brick and stone." Please submit Architectural renderings and materials to the City and HPC for review.
- AR277: In the Department of Planning Staff Report dated July 31, 2020, Recommended Conditions
  of Approval item '16' states, "The Department of Planning encourages the developer of the
  Patrone Property to consider the establishment of a 20-foot landscaped buffer along the rear of
  the lots along Scenic Manor Drive." To maintain consistency throughout the SCP, we suggest that
  a twenty-foot (20') vegetative buffer be maintained between the abutting rear lots of Sion Hill and
  Mt. Felix, in addition to future proposed residential neighborhood developments to the west.

# Additional Comments:

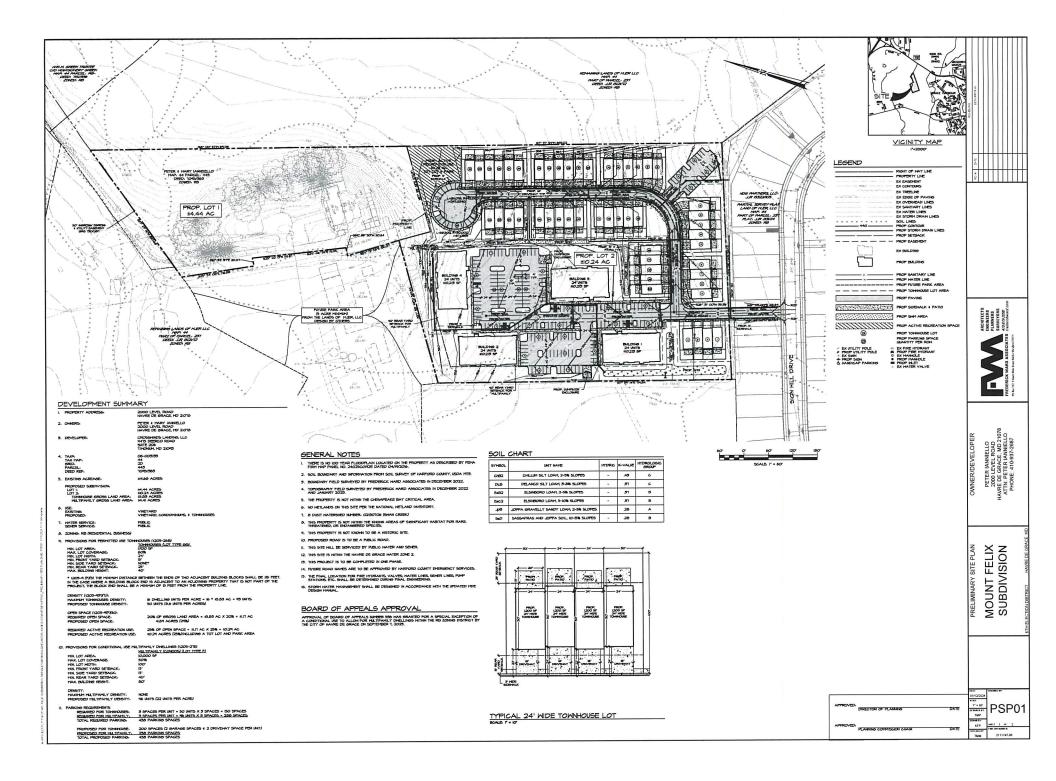
- **Suggest:** the areas devoted to stormwater management facilities shall be vegetatively buffered as appropriate if they are not suitable for active or passive recreation and/or forest conservation easements while still maintaining the SWM design intent and minimum safety standards as applicable.
- **Suggest** moving the proposed parking lot entrance between Building 1 & 2 to line up with the proposed throughway access to the north side of Building 3 (in line with the utility easement) and

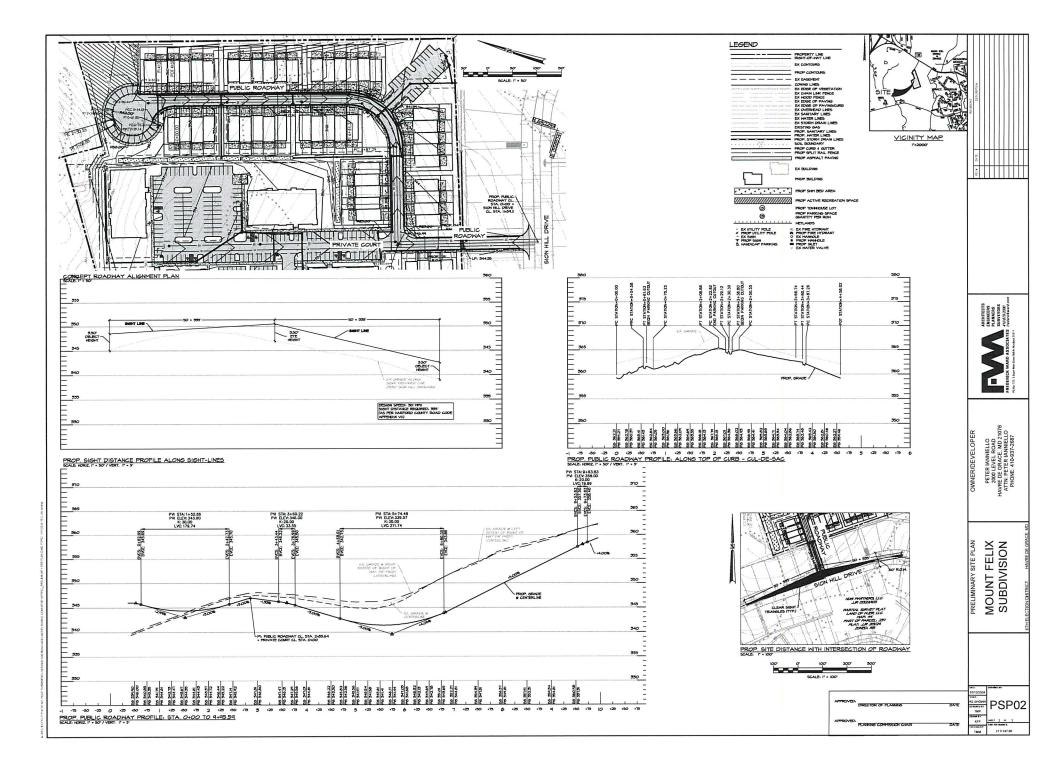
relocate dumpster accordingly per 15(C)(2). This will also improve 102-9 parking lot conditions in terms of glare, connectivity and design.

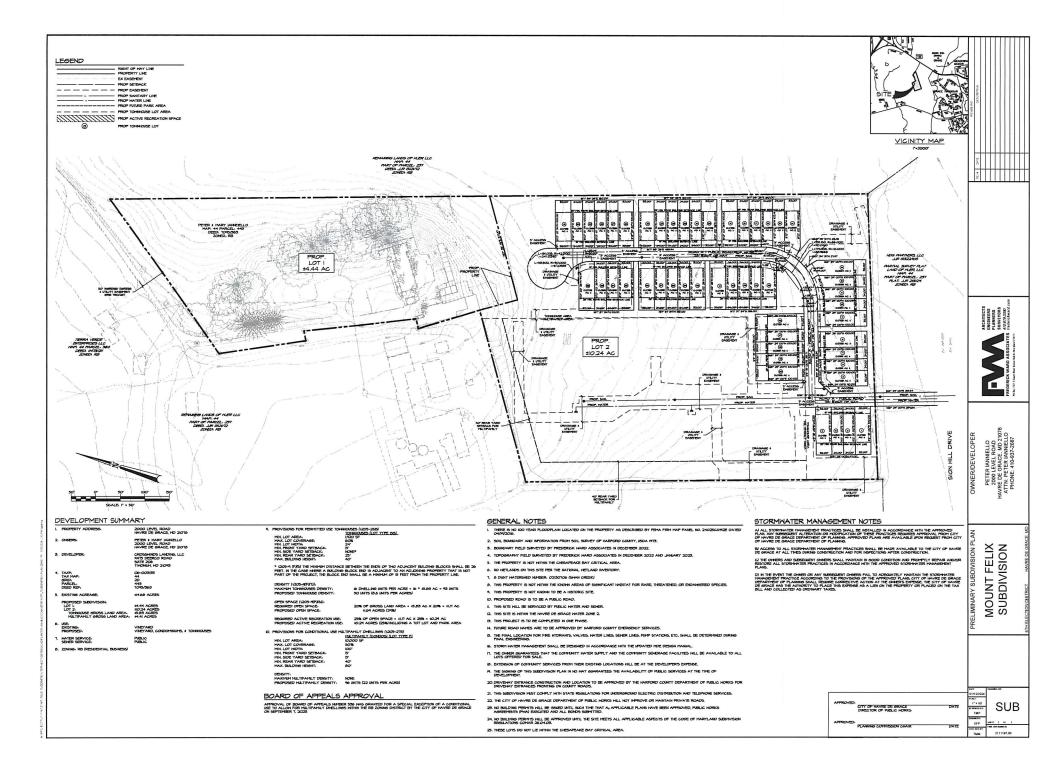
- **Suggest:** The street trees proposed along the access road are out of Subject property limits but we will accept an allée of Sycamore (PO) trees along the entrance for continuity and will be counted towards the total tree requirement. Please add at least three (3) more while adhering to the minimum setback requirements.
- **Suggest:** installing Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations within the designated multifamily area and at the proposed active playground (tot-lot) in the northeast corner. We suggest at least one EV charging station per multifamily building to be located adjacent to corresponding building or in a designated EV charging area that's universally accessible and centrally located.
- **Suggest:** Building structures shall consider the historical character of the site in response to the existing buildings. Architectural plans & sections/elevations should be provided to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) for review and comment.
- **Suggest:** that all internal proposed street lighting be reduced from twenty-feet (20') feet to fifteenfeet (15') height along 'Road A' to be more pedestrian scale while meeting minimum Harford County Road Code Standards and the City glare restrictions.
- **Suggest** planting native groundcover such as *Carex spp., Sporoblus spp., schizachrium scoparium,* or *Chasmanthium latifolium* instead of typical lawn grass or non-native ornamental ground covers such as Liriope Muscari (LM). Suggest mass block plantings in groups such as 10-15 together of two or more species to promote diversity and aesthetics when located within parking lot islands and garden beds.
- **Suggest:** Light poles and fixtures shall utilize designs that are attractive and complimentary to the adjacent historic structures-Mt. Felix (HA-526).

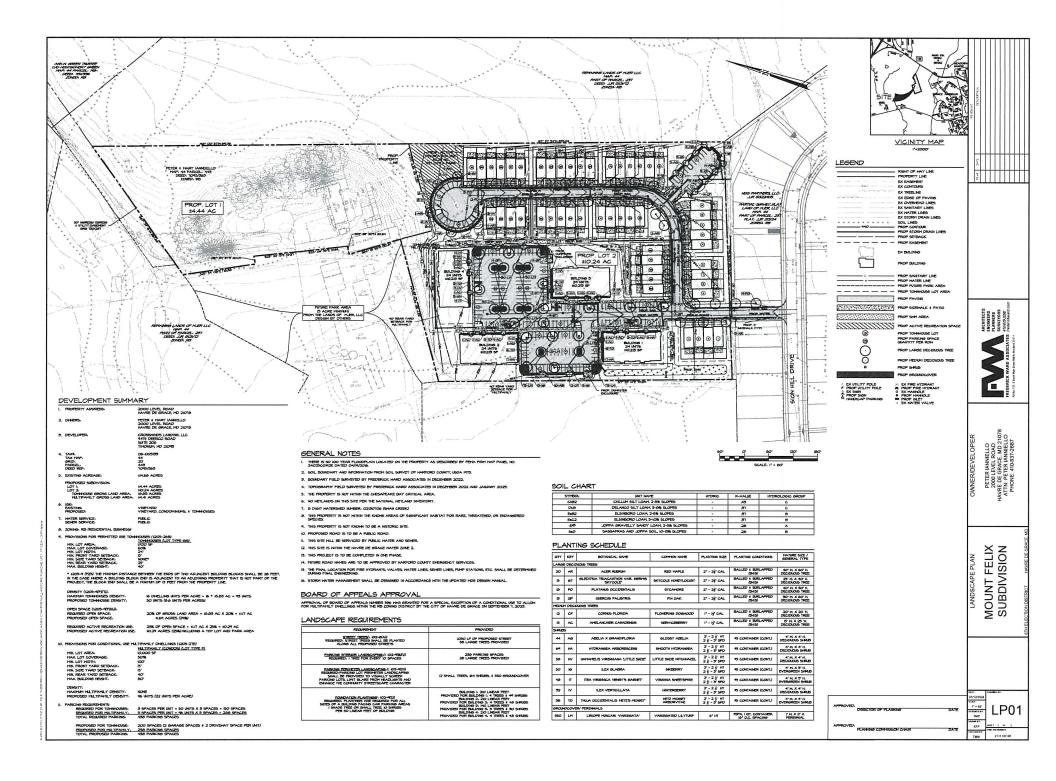
Sincerely, Department of Planning

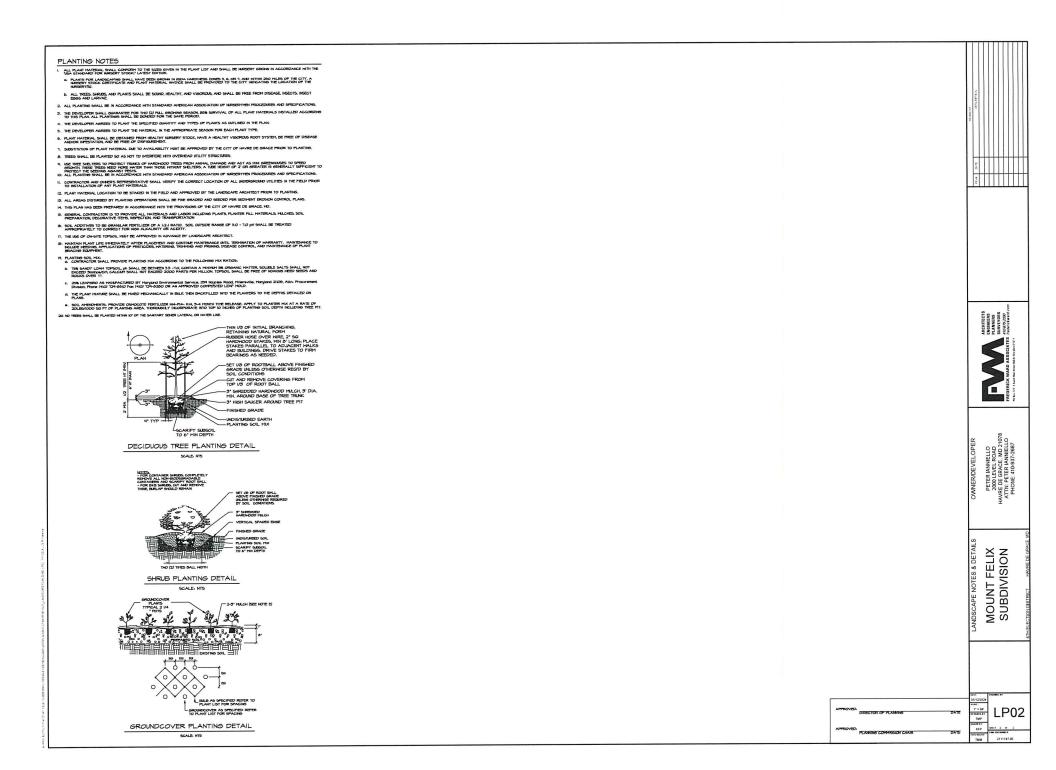
CC: Department of Planning Staff Department of Public Works Staff Planning Commissioners Dave Sobczak, Crosswinds Landing, LLC Katelyn Pierce, PLA, ASLA Tom Miner, PE, CCM

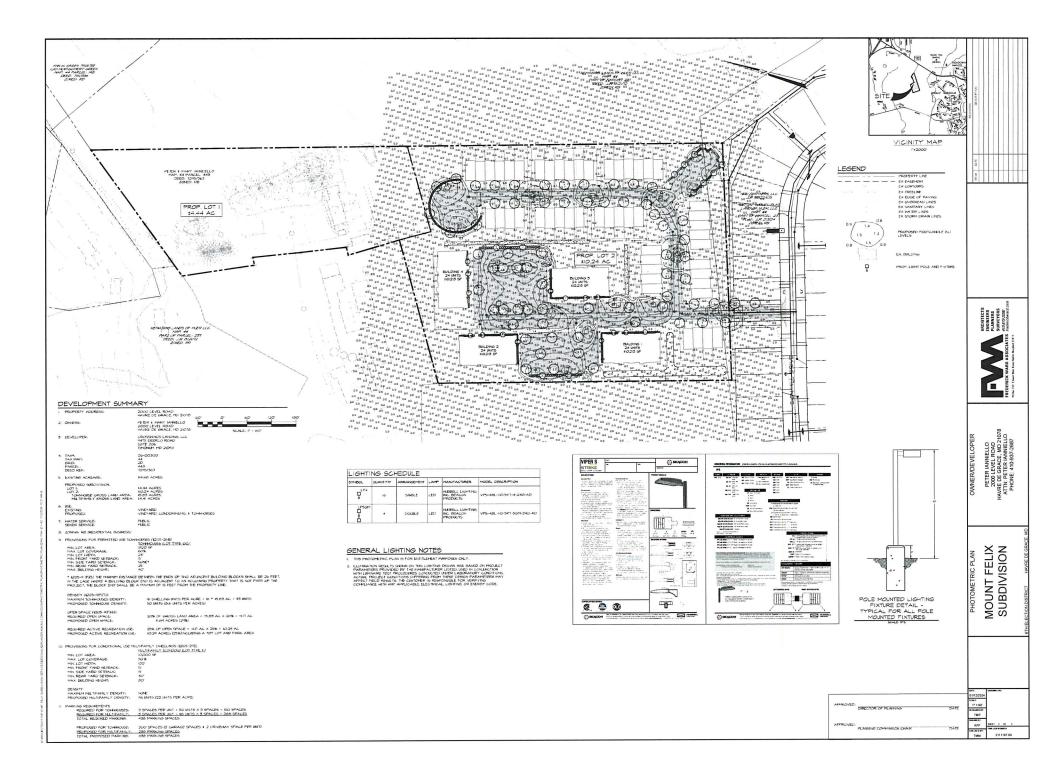


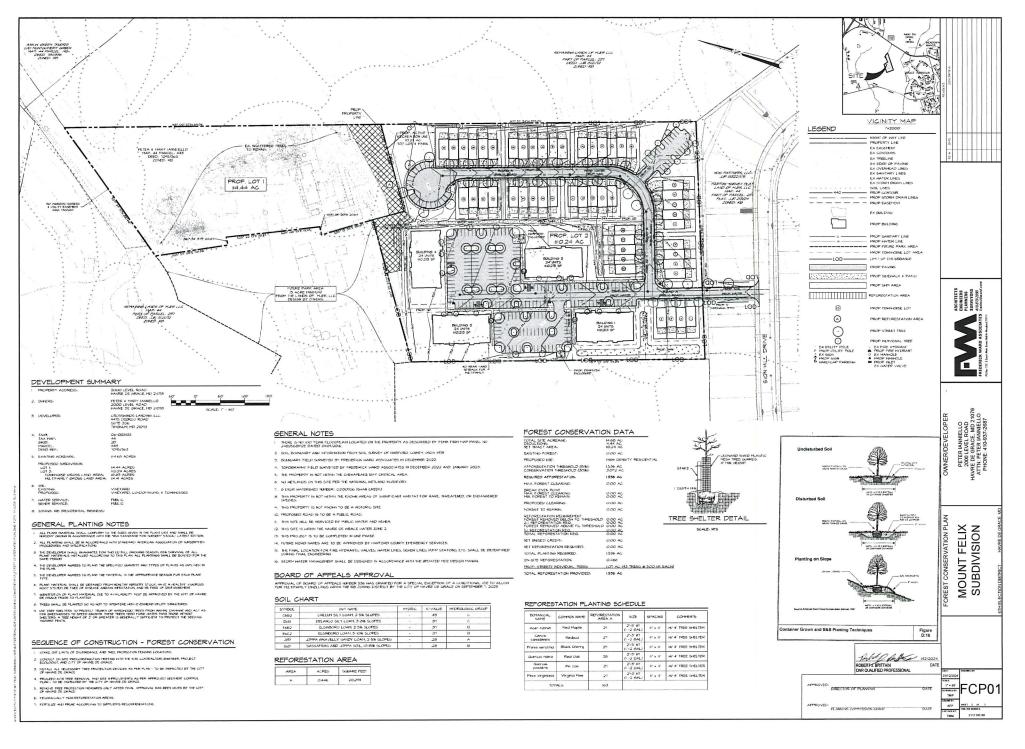




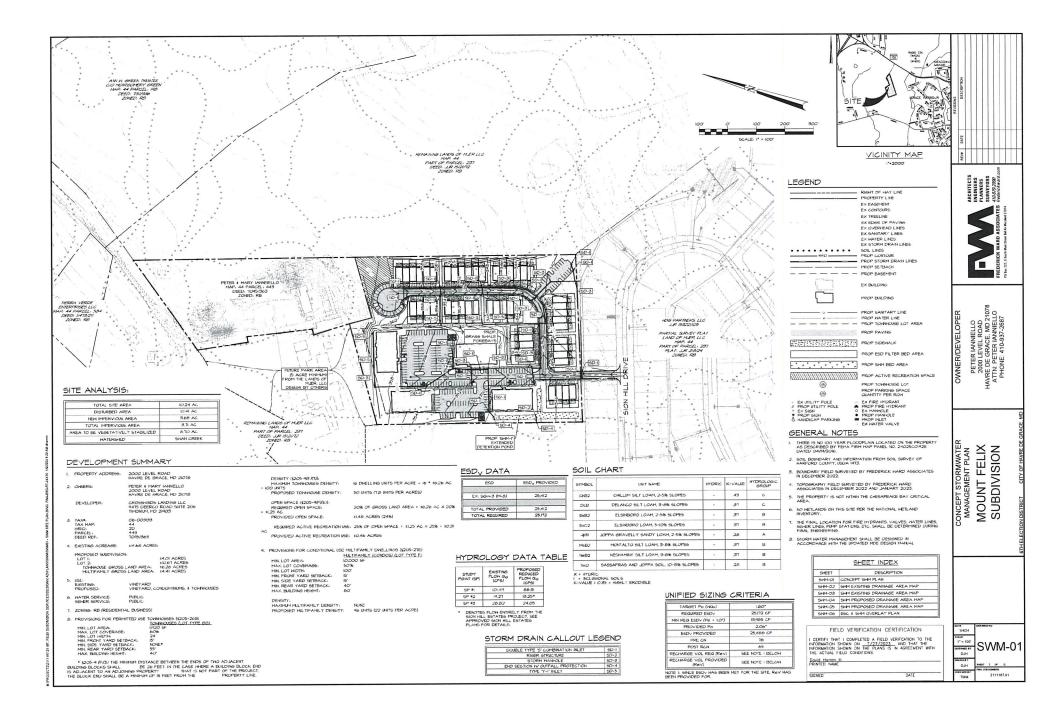








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