**MCPB** 

Item No.

Date: 1/12/2017

# Vien An Buddhist Temple, Preliminary Plan No. 120160310



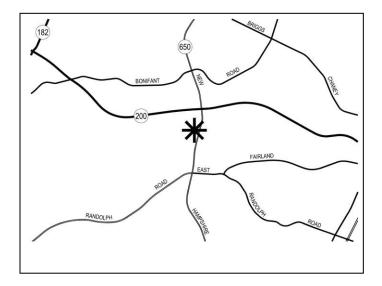
Patrick Butler, Planner Coordinator, Area 2 Division, Patrick.Butler@montgomeryplanning.org, 301-495-4561

Khalid Afzal, Acting Chief, Area 2 Division, Khalid. Afzal@montgomeryplanning.org, 301-495-4650

**Completed:** 12/30/16

## **Description**

- Request to create one lot for the construction of a 13,000-square foot place of worship;
- Location: East side of New Hampshire Avenue, 500 feet north of Orchard Way;
- RE-1 Zone, 1.31 acres of land in the 1997 White Oak Master Plan;
- Applicant: Vien An Buddhist Association, (Sylvia Chen);
- Filing Date: June 27, 2016.



## **Summary**

- Staff recommends approval with conditions.
- The proposed plan qualifies for a Forest Conservation Exemption.
- There are no issues with the proposed Preliminary Plan, and no community input or opposition was received.

#### PRELIMINARY PLAN RECOMMENDATION AND CONDITIONS

Staff recommends approval of Preliminary Plan No. 120160310, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Approval is limited to one lot to allow for a 13,000-square foot place of worship, and no weekday school or daycare facility.
- 2. The Applicant must comply with the Landscape and Lighting Plan submitted with this application.
- 3. Prior to issuance of a final use and occupancy permit, the Applicant must construct all sidewalks as shown on the Preliminary Plan.
- 4. The Applicant must dedicate, and show on the record plat, 60 feet from centerline along the Property frontage on New Hampshire Avenue, as shown on the Preliminary Plan.
- 5. Prior to Certified Preliminary Plan the Applicant must revise the drawing to show:
  - a. Wheel stops for all parking spaces at grade with adjacent sidewalks; and
  - b. The correct number of parking spaces and labels.
- 6. The Applicant must provide 2 bicycle parking spaces (1 inverted-U bike racks as shown on the Preliminary Plan.
- 7. Prior to issuance of access permits, the Applicant must satisfy the provisions for access and improvements as required by SHA.
- 8. The Planning Board accepts the recommendations of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) in its letter dated October 18, 2016, and hereby incorporates them as conditions of the Preliminary Plan approval. The Applicant must comply with each of the recommendations as set forth in the letter, which may be amended by MCDOT if the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the Preliminary Plan approval.
- 9. The Planning Board accepts the recommendations of the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (MCDPS) Water Resources Section in its stormwater management concept letter dated October 25, 2016, and hereby incorporates them as conditions of the Preliminary Plan approval. The Applicant must comply with each of the recommendations as set forth in the letter, which may be amended by MCDPS Water Resources Section if the amendments do not conflict with other conditions of the Preliminary Plan approval.
- 10. The Certified Preliminary Plan must contain the following note: "Unless specifically noted on this plan drawing or in the Planning Board conditions of approval, the building footprints, building heights, on-site parking, site circulation, and sidewalks shown on the Preliminary Plan are illustrative. The final locations of buildings will be finalized at the time of issuance of building permit(s). Please refer to the zoning data table for development standards such as setbacks, building restriction lines, building height, and lot coverage for each lot. Other limitations for site development may also be included in the conditions of the Planning Board's approval."
- 11. All necessary easements must be shown on the record plat.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

The Property (outlined in red below) is a 1.31-acre parcel, located just south of the Intercounty Connector (ICC) (MD 200). It is located on the eastern side of New Hampshire Avenue between Hobbs Drive and Orchard Way, and abuts another place of worship to the north. The Property is zoned RE-1 and is improved with a single-unit detached home and a detached garage.

Access is proposed via a right-in/right-out driveway at the southern end of the site. Since there is no median opening along the site frontage, drivers attempting to access the site from the north must travel southbound on New Hampshire Avenue past the site and make a U-turn at the Orchard Way median opening. Conversely, drivers seeking to exit the site to travel south must first travel northbound on New Hampshire Avenue and make a U-turn at the Hobbs Drive median opening.

The Property lies in both the Paint Branch watershed and Northwest Branch watershed, but outside any Special Protection Areas. There are no streams, wetlands, floodplains, or environmental buffers on the site. The Property will be served by public water and sewer.



Figure 1: Vicinity Map

#### PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposal is to record one lot for a 13,000-square foot place of worship, with 40 parking spaces. The Property will have adequate landscaping to provide screening from the adjacent properties as well as to enhance the Property's appearance. The proposed parking areas will be screened from neighboring

properties using vegetation along the perimeter as shown on the Landscape and Lighting Plan (Attachment 1). These plantings will provide dense screening of the Property and its surface parking area from the adjacent properties.

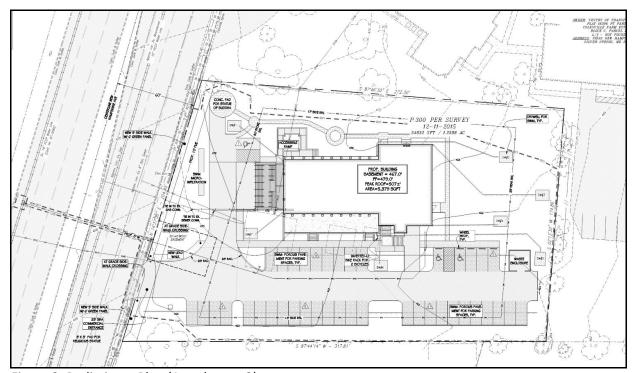


Figure 2: Preliminary Plan (Attachment 2)

## **ANALYSIS**

## **Master Plan Conformance**

The proposed facility is consistent with the 1997 White Oak Master Plan. Although the Master Plan contains no specific recommendations for this site, it envisions the area outside of the identified commercial centers to remain residential in nature and recommends that infill developments follow the established residential pattern. In keeping with this vision, the Master Plan further recommends that "the land use and zoning goal in the White Oak Master Plan area is to ensure livable communities for the future by protecting and strengthening their positive attributes and encouraging development that will enhance the communities' functions, sense of place and identity." (p. 16)

With regards to the location and design considerations, the proposed building has been pushed back into the site as much as possible from all property lines, access and parking will be provided along the southern and eastern property lines with landscaping to provide a buffer to adjacent properties, and religious uses are permitted in residential zones.

Staff finds the proposed Preliminary Plan to be in substantial conformance with the 1997 White Oak Master Plan.

#### **Public Facilities**

## Master Plan Roadways and Bikeways

As recommended in the 1997 White Oak Master Plan, 2005 Countywide Bikeways Functional Master Plan, and the 2009 Intercounty Connector Limited Functional Master Plan Amendment, the master-planned roadways and bikeways near the site are listed below:

- 1. New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) is designated as a six-lane divided major highway (M-12) within a 120-foot right-of-way (ROW). The White Oak Master Plan recommends accommodating bicycles with a signed shared roadway (SR-30). The ICC Limited Functional Master Plan recommends a shared-use path along the west side of New Hampshire Avenue (DB-41). Onstreet bicycle lanes with signage have already been striped on both sides of New Hampshire Avenue from the ICC (MD 200) south to Randolph Road.
- 2. Nearby Intercounty Connector is designated as a freeway, F-9, with 300-foot wide right-of-way and shared-use path/Class I bikeway, PB-32.

Orchard Way and Hobbs Drive are not listed in the Master Plan. They are secondary residential streets that serve their respective neighborhoods.

#### **Available Transit Service**

Metrobus route Z2 is currently the only bus route operating along New Hampshire Avenue near the Property. Buses typically run approximately every 25 to 40 minutes on weekdays only. There is no transit service on any other roadways near the site. The nearest bus stops on New Hampshire Avenue are located at the intersections with Hobbs Drive and Orchard Way.

## Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

Along the property frontage of New Hampshire Avenue, the existing 6-foot wide sidewalk at the curb with no green panel will be upgraded to a 5-foot wide sidewalk with a six-foot wide green panel. In addition, the Applicant is providing a lead-in sidewalk from New Hampshire Avenue. The proposed development is required to provide one bicycle parking space for every 20 vehicular parking spaces (or 2 bicycle parking spaces). The Applicant is providing 2 bicycle parking spaces (or 1 inverted-U bike rack).

## Local Area Transportation Review (LATR)

A place of worship without a weekday school or daycare facility generates fewer than 30 peak-hour trips within the weekday morning (6:30-9:30 a.m.) and evening (4:00-7:00 p.m.) peak periods. Therefore, a traffic study is not required, and the LATR test is satisfied.

## <u>Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR)</u>

The Property is located within the Fairland/Colesville Policy Area that currently has inadequate roadway and transit capacity. Per the 2012-2016 Subdivision Staging Policy, the proposed house of worship without a weekday school or daycare facility is exempt from the TPAR test, because it generates fewer than three new peak-hour trips within the weekday morning and evening peak periods. Therefore, the Applicant is not required to make a TPAR mitigation payment equal to 50 percent of the General District Transportation Impact Tax for the proposed development.

## School Facility Payment

A school facility payment is not required, because the proposed use does not generate any students.

#### Other Public Facilities and Services

The proposed development will be served by public water and sewer systems. The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service reviewed the application and has determined that the Property has appropriate access for fire and rescue vehicles. Other public facilities and services including police stations, firehouses and health care are currently operating in accordance with the Subdivision Staging Policy and will continue to be sufficient following the construction of the project. Electric, gas and telecommunications services are available and adequate.

#### **Environment**

## **Environmental Guidelines/Forest Conservation**

The site contains no streams or stream buffers, wetlands or their buffers, regulated steep slopes, 100-year floodplains, or known occurrences of rare, threatened, or endangered species. Staff confirmed an exemption from the requirements of Article II of Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation) on March 3, 2016 (Exemption No. 42016136E – Attachment 3). The proposed project is in conformance with the Environmental Guidelines and satisfies the requirements of Chapter 22A, Forest Conservation.

## **Stormwater Management**

The MCDPS Stormwater Management Section issued a letter accepting the stormwater management concept for the Property on October 25, 2016. The stormwater management concept proposes to meet required stormwater management goals via the use of 6,200 square feet of permeable pavement, six drywells, and one infiltration trench.

## **Compliance with the Subdivision Regulations**

This application has been reviewed for compliance with the Montgomery County Code, Chapter 50, the Subdivision Regulations. The proposed lot size, width, shape and orientation are appropriate for the location of the subdivision considering the recommendations in the White Oak Master Plan, and for the type of development or use proposed. As conditioned, the proposed lot meets all requirements established in the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinance and substantially conforms to the recommendations of the Master Plan. Access and public facilities will be adequate to serve the proposed lot. The application has been reviewed by other applicable County agencies, all of whom have recommended approval of the plan (Attachment 4).

	REQUIRED	PROVIDED
Minimum Lot Size (sft)	40,000	54,819
Minimum Lot Width at BRL	125'	200'
Minimum Lot Width at Street	25'	204'
Minimum Setback from Street		
(Subject to Established		
Building Line)	50'	82.2'
Minimum Side Yard Setback /		
Combined	17' / 35'	34.9' / 80.9'
Minimum Rear Setback	35'	91.3'
Maximum Building Height	50'	48'
		9.3%
Maximum Building Coverage	15%	(5,107 / 54,819)

Table 1: RE-1 Zoning Data Table

# **CONCLUSION**

Staff recommends approval of the Preliminary Plan based on the conditions and analysis contained in this report.

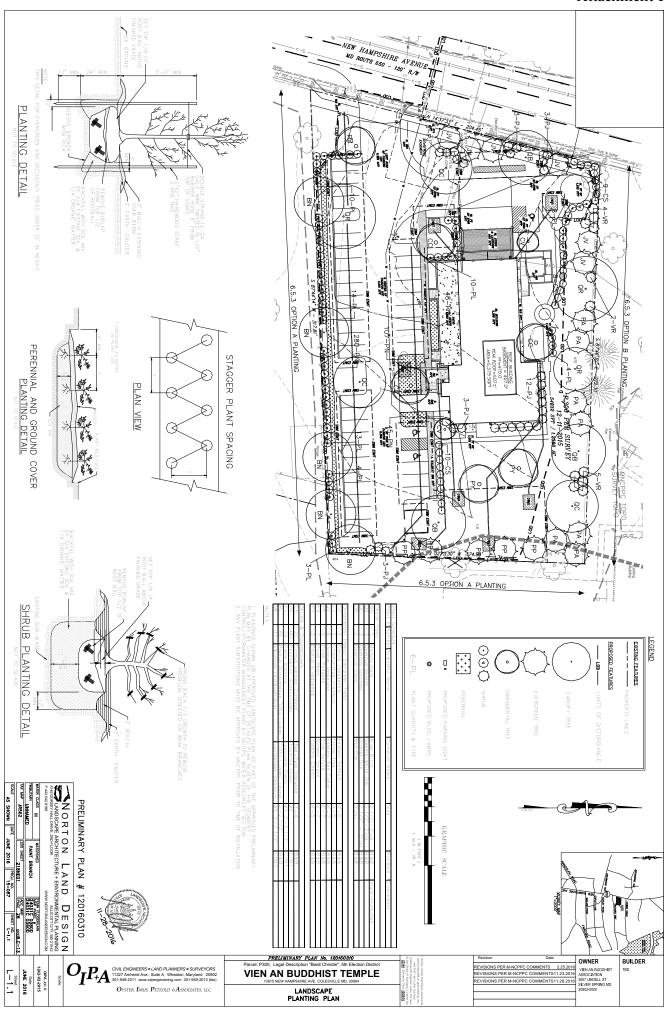
## **ATTACHMENTS:**

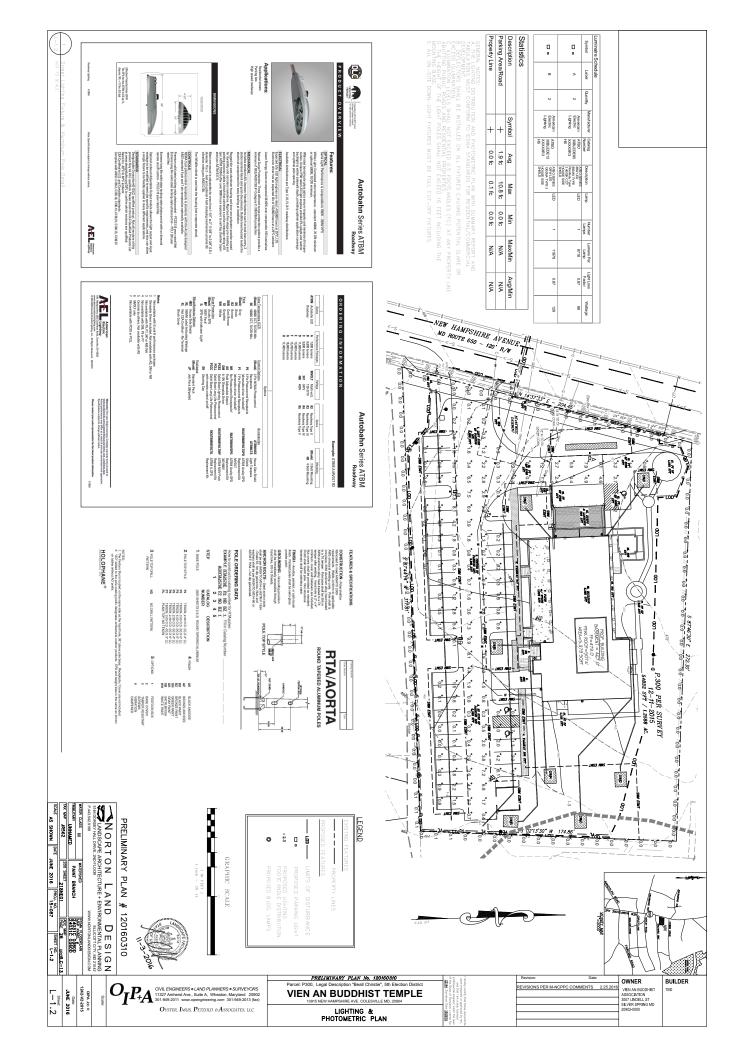
Attachment 1 – Landscape and Lighting Plan

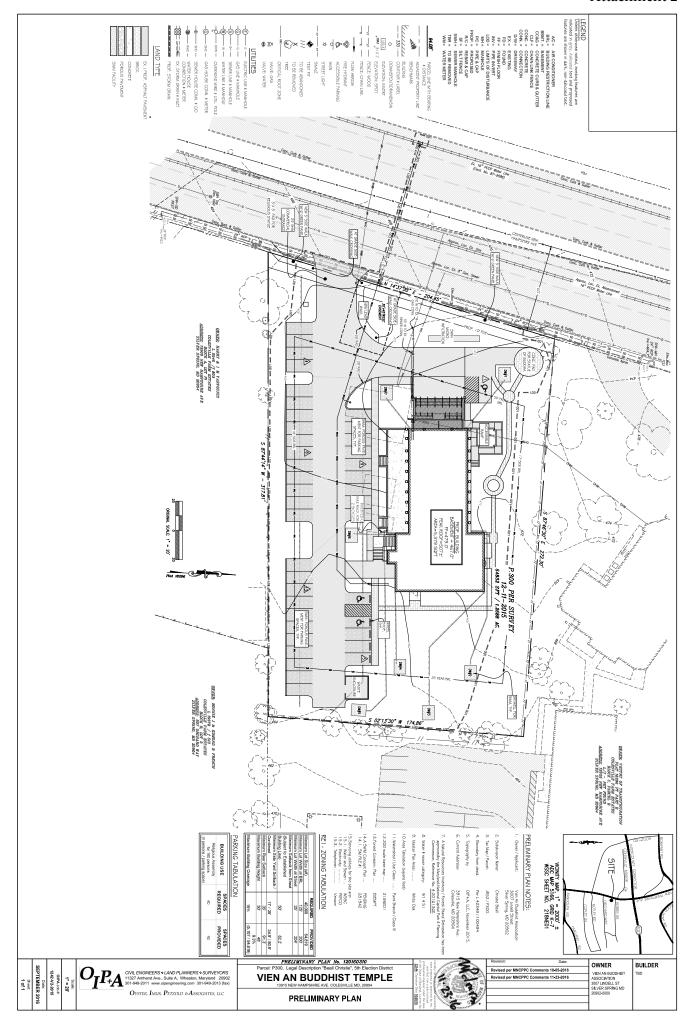
Attachment 2 – Preliminary Plan

Attachment 3 – Forest Conservation Exemption

Attachment 4 – Agency Correspondence









# MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

March 3, 2016

Huyen Nugyen C/O Vien An Buddhist Association 3007 Lindell Street Silver Spring, MD. 20902

Re: Vien An Buddhist Temple; Forest Conservation Exemption 42016136E

Dear Mr. Nugyen:

Based on the review by staff of the Montgomery County Planning Department, the Forest Conservation Exemption Request submitted on March 1, 2016 for the Vien An Buddhist Temple, is confirmed. The project site is exempt from Article II of the Montgomery County Code, Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation Law), Section 22A-5(s)(1) because this activity is being conducted on a tract less than 1.5 acres with no existing forest, or existing specimen or champion tree, and the afforestation requirements would not exceed 10,000 square feet.

An on-site pre-construction meeting is required after the limits of disturbance have been staked and flagged, but before any clearing or grading begins. The property owner should contact this inspector before construction to verify the limits of disturbance. The property owner, construction superintendent, private arborist (if needed), M-NCPPC forest conservation inspector, and Department of Permitting Services (DPS) sediment control inspector should attend this pre-construction meeting.

You may contact me at david.wigglesworth@montgomeryplanning.org or at (301) 495-4581.

Sincerely.

David Wigglesworth

Sr. Planner

**Development Applications & Regulatory Coordination** 

CC:

42016136E

Michael Norton (NLD)



#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Al R. Roshdieh Director

October 18, 2016

Mr. Patrick Butler, Planner Coordinator Area 2 Planning Division The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

> RE: Preliminary Plan # 120160310 Vien An Buddhist Temple

Dear Mr. Butler:

We have completed our review of the preliminary plan submitted on July 11, 2016 and reviewed by the Development Review Committee at its July 25, 2016 meeting. We appreciate the cooperation and additional information provided by the applicant and their consultant. We recommend approval of the plan subject to the following comments:

All Planning Board Opinions relating to this plan or any subsequent revision, preliminary or site plans should be submitted to the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services in the package for record plats, storm drain, grading or paving plans, or application for access permit. Include this letter and all other correspondence from this department.

- 1. Necessary dedication for New Hampshire Avenue (MD-650) as required by the Maryland State Highway Administration and/or M-NCPPC.
- 2. Grant necessary slope and drainage easements. Slope easements are to be determined by study or set at the building restriction line.
- 3. Access and improvements along New Hampshire Avenue (MD-650) as required by the Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA).

Mr. Benjamin Berbert Preliminary Plan # 12016024 October 18, 2016 Page 2

- 4. We defer to the Maryland State Highway Administration for the comments regarding state maintained storm drain system along New Hampshire Avenue (MD-650).
- 5. Recorded covenant for the operation and maintenance of private streets, storm drainage systems, and/or open space areas.
- 6. We have accepted the consultant's storm drain capacity and impact analysis (dated October 9, 2016). We agree that no capacity improvements to the downstream county maintained storm drain system are necessary for this project.
- 7. Private common driveways and private streets shall be determined through the subdivision process as part of the Planning Board's approval of a preliminary plan. The composition, typical section, horizontal alignment, profile, drainage characteristics and maintenance and liability of private common driveways and private streets, beyond the public right-of-way, shall be approved by the Planning Board during their review of the preliminary plan.
- 8. Relocation of utilities along existing roads to accommodate the required roadway improvements shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this preliminary plan. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Avinash Dewani, our Development Review Engineer for this review, at <a href="mailto:avinash.dewani@montgomerycountymd.gov">avinash.dewani@montgomerycountymd.gov</a> or (240) 777-2132.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Leck, Manager

Development Review

Office of Transportation Policy

cc:

Sylvia Chen

Vien An Buddhist Association

Peter Noursi

OIP+A, LLC

Pranoy Choudhury

MDSHA District 3

Preliminary Plan folder

Preliminary Plan letters notebook

Mr. Benjamin Berbert Preliminary Plan # 12016024 October 18, 2016 Page 3

cc-e: Sam Farhadi

MCDPS RWPR

Deepak Somarajan

MCDOT OTP

Avinash Dewani

MCDOT OTP

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES**

Isiah Leggett

County Executive

Diane R. Schwartz Jones Director

October 25, 2016

Mr. Peter Noursi Oyster, Imus, Petzold & Associates, LLC 11327 Amherst Ave Wheaton, MD 20902

Re:

COMBINED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

CONCEPT/SITE DEVELOPMENT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Request for Vien Au Temple
Preliminary Plan #: 120160310

SM File #: 281942 Tract Size/Zone: 1.26 Total Concept Area: 1.26

Lots/Block: NA Parcel(s): P300

Watershed: Paint Branch

## Dear Peter:

Based on a review by the Department of Permitting Services Review Staff, the Combined Stormwater Management Concept/Site Development Stormwater Management Plan for the above mentioned site is **acceptable**. The plan proposes to meet required stormwater management goals via the use of 6,200 sf. permeable pavement, 6 drywells, and 1 infiltration trench.

The following **items** will need to be addressed **during** the final stormwater management design plan stage:

- 1. Stormwater Management practices must meet all DPS specifications. Permeable pavement must include an over drain that daylights or connects to storm drain.
- 2. A detailed review of the stormwater management computations will occur at the time of detailed plan review.
- 3. An engineered sediment control plan must be submitted for this development.

This list may not be all-inclusive and may change based on available information at the time.

Payment of a stormwater management contribution in accordance with Section 2 of the Stormwater Management Regulation 4-90 **is not required**.

This letter must appear on the final stormwater management design plan at its initial submittal. The concept approval is based on all stormwater management structures being located outside of the Public Utility Easement, the Public Improvement Easement, and the Public Right of Way unless specifically approved on the concept plan. Any divergence from the information provided to this office; or



240-773-3556 TTY

Mr. Peter Noursi October 25, 2016 Page 2 of 2

additional information received during the development process; or a change in an applicable Executive Regulation may constitute grounds to rescind or amend any approval actions taken, and to reevaluate the site for additional or amended stormwater management requirements. If there are subsequent additions or modifications to the development, a separate concept request shall be required.

If you have any questions regarding these actions, please feel free to contact Bill Musico at 240-777-6340.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Etheridge, Manager Water Resources Section

Division of Land Development Services

MCE: WJM

cc: C. Conlon

SM File # 281942

ESD Acres:

STRUCTURAL Acres: 0.00

WAIVED Acres:

0.00

1.26