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June 27, 2017

Bradley S. Farrar L. Paul Jackson, II* * Also admitted in the District of Columbia

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Christina R. Pompa Prince George's County Planning Department Development Review Division 14701 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

RE: Statement of Justification for Reid Temple Christian Academy, Staff Level Minor Subdivision (4-17020)

Dear Ms. Pompa,

On behalf of our client, Reid Temple A.M.E. Church ("Applicant"), Arthur J. Horne, Jr. and Shipley & Horne, P.A., hereby submits this Statement of Justification in support of a Limited Minor/Staff Level Amendment to the above captioned Preliminary Plan of Subdivision ("PPS") application, in accordance with the standards of Section 24-117 of the Zoning Ordinance. Following closely in succession behind this application, Shipley & Horne, P.A. will be submitting the Applicant's Detailed Site Plan application DSP-03059/01 to address compliance with those trip cap conditions associated with the original DSP-03059 approval, as well as any associated urban design matters.

I. Nature of Request

Due to the academic success of the Reid Temple Christian Academy ("RTCA") and the great reception the school has received from the community, the Applicant is proposing with this application is to expand the student enrollment of its private school from the current 300 student base to 400 students. The intent of this application is to increase the enrollment of the school to accommodate increased interest from both younger siblings of existing older students and past graduates of RTCA, as well as from other families within the surrounding community. In support of the increased student enrollment, the Applicant proposing to provide an increase in the amount outdoor play area to accommodate the needs of the students, and possible revisions to the onsite landscaping that may be required to meet current 2010 Landscape Manual standards. Other than the minor revisions to the site plan discussed above, there will not be any increase in building square footage, footprint, or site coverage associated with this application.

II. Site Location and Property Description

The subject site is in Planning Area 70, Council District 4, and is located on the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Glenn Dale Boulevard (MD Rte. 193) and Prospect Hill Road. The property has a street address of 11400 Glenn Dale Boulevard, Maryland 20769. The property consists of approximately 32-acres within Open Space (O-S) Zone, and is currently improved with a 3,000-seat church, and Reid Temple Christian Academy (RTCA) within the existing 133,500 square foot building (Church and School). Since 2005, RTCA has been focused on provided an education with emphasis in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to its students. The school serves approximately 300 students in Pre-K (age two) through grade eight at their one campus located in Glenn Dale, Maryland. RTCA is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization sponsored and supported in part by the Reid Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church located on the same campus.

III. Surrounding Uses

The subject property is bounded to the east by Prospect Hill Road, which provides direct access to the site and to the south by Glenn Dale Boulevard (MD Rte. 193), which provides indirect access to the site through Holladay Tyler Road. A triangularly shaped property in the R-R Zone, owned by M-NCPPC (formerly known as the Kagle property), wedges into the subject property approximately 140-feet from the intersection from Prospect Hill Road. To the west of the site is improved industrial warehouse property in the I-1 Zone, and to the north of the site is property in the single-family detached residential Glendale Forest Subdivision in the R-R Zone.

IV. Development Data Summary:

7	EXISTING	PR	PROPOSED	
Zone	O-S		O-S	
Use(s)	Church & Private School	Church & Private School		
Acreage	31.981	31.981		
Square Footage/GFA	133,500	133,500		
Church Seating Capacity	3,000	3,000		
Private School Enrollment	300	400		
Other Development Data	RE	QUIRED	PROPOSED	
Total Parking Spaces		817	1,022	
Handicapped Spaces		19	20	
Spaces for Church		750	750	
Spaces for Private School		67	67	
Total Loading Spaces		1	1	
Lot Coverage (Maximum % of Net Lot Area)		(Allowed)	42	
Outdoor Play Area for Private School (sq. ft.)		30,000	41,000	

V. Zoning and Development History:

The subject site has a Detailed Site Plan DSP-03059, which was approved by the Planning Board (Resolution PGCPB No.01-36) on February 19, 2004, for the existing private school for 300 children. Prior to the approval of DSP-03059, Preliminary Plan of Subdivision, 4-00071, was approved by the Planning Board (Resolution PGCPB No.01-36) on March 22, 2001, for one parcel and one outparcel, subject to 12 conditions. The plan was subsequently recorded as Final Plat REP 194@82 on August 7, 2002. Per the Final Plat, the development of the subject site is subject to the conditions of approval attached to Preliminary Plan of Subdivision, 4-00071. Other previous approvals for the site include TCPI/20/00, a Stormwater Management Concept Approval #8316162-2000-00 and, TCPII/124/01, a Natural Resource Inventory NRI-031-15. Due to actions taken by the Prince George's County in association with the passage of the 2006 East Glenn Dale Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment pursuant to CR-23-2006, the subject property was comprehensively rezoned from R-R (Rural-Residential) Zone to the current O-S (Open Space) Zone.

VI. Relationship to County Plans and Policies:

General Plan:

This proposal is consistent with the vision, policies and strategies contained within the 2002 Prince George's County Approved General Plan and the Plan Prince George's 2035 Approved General Plan (Plan Prince George's 2035). The subject property in this application is in the Developing Tier of the 2002 General Plan. The vision for the Developing Tier was to maintain a pattern of low- to moderate-density suburban residential communities, distinct commercial centers, and employment areas that are increasingly transit serviceable. Much of the developing tier did not meet the goals for growth envisioned by the 2002 plan, and the Plan Prince George's 2035 Plan established a growth boundary within which growth would be encouraged. The Plan Prince George's 2035 designates the property within an established community within the Growth Boundary. The plan describes established communities as most appropriate for context sensitive infill and low- to medium-density development. The existing church and school are permitted uses that contribute to the fulfillment of the General Plan goals.

Approved 2006 East Glenn Dale Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment:

The subject property is located within the boundaries of the Approved 2006 East Glenn Dale Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment pursuant to CR-23-2006. The Master Plan which identified the subject property as an existing church and school recommended and ultimately implemented as part of the Sectional Map Amendment process, the rezoning of the property from R-R to O-S. The Applicant's request as represented by this instant application, as well as the aforementioned Detailed Site Plan (DSP-03059/01) application remains fully in compliance with the 2006 East Glenn Dale Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment

2005 Approved Countywide Green Infrastructure Plan:

The subject property is not within the boundaries of the 2005 Approved Countywide Green Infrastructure Plan and does not contain any regulated environmental features. Therefore, this standard does not apply. No on-site wetlands or areas within the 100-year floodplain are impacted by the proposed development.

County's Ten Year Water and Sewerage Plan:

The 2010 Water Resources Functional Master Plan amends the 2002 General Plan, and provides growth guidance expressed as goals, policies, and strategies to address water quality impacts associated with land use in the county. The Plan references the Ten-year Water and Sewer Plan and specifically addresses: Drinking Water Supply, Water Treatment, and Stormwater Management.

The subject property is within water and sewer categories W-3 and S-3 and is currently served by the public water and sewer system operated by WSSC.

2008 Public Safety Facilities Master Plan:

A review of the Approved March 2008 Public Safety Facilities Master Plan reveals that the proposed site is within the northern central portion of Police District II. The subject site has sufficient access to public facilities. The nearest fire/EMS station is .5 miles to the south of the property on Glenn Dale Boulevard and the site is within a 5-mile radius of the New Carrollton Police Station. The Public Safety Plan recommends one new police station in District II (Woodmore - Glenn Dale) and 3 other fire stations within near proximity of the subject property, which will serve to improve public facility access.

2009 Master Plan of Transportation:

According to the 2009 Master Plan of Transportation, the site is adjacent to Arterial roadway, Glenn Dale Boulevard (Maryland Route 193) as designated by the 2009 Prince George's County Master Plan of Transportation. Adequate right-of-way consistent with master plan recommendations is currently in place along this roadway section. The applicant submitted a site plan illustrating the location of existing buildings, parking areas, and driveways. The subject property is bounded to the east by Prospect Hill Road, which provides direct access to the site and to the south by Glenn Dale Boulevard, which provides an indirect access to the site through Holladay Tyler Road.

VII. Preliminary Plan of Subdivision, 4-00071, and Detailed Site Plan DSP-16045:

<u>Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-00071</u>: was approved by the Planning Board on March 22, 2001, subject to 12 conditions. Two of said conditions of approval carried over to the subsequent review of detailed site plan DSP-03059, and are as follows:

3. Development of this subdivision shall be in accordance with the approved Stormwater Management Concept Plan #8316162-2000-00.

RESPONSE: At the time of the DSP-03059 plan review, the approved Stormwater Management Concept Plan #8316162-2000-00 was determined to be valid through January 16, 2004. Following said approval, the Applicant has obtained a new Stormwater Management Concept Plan #42271-2014-00 valid through April 25, 2018.

7. Total development on Parcel C shall be limited to a 104,000-square-foot church with approximately 3,000 seats, or equivalent development which generates no more than 75 AM, 68 PM, and 986 Sunday peak-hour vehicle trips. Development of up to 5,000 additional square feet shall not constitute a significant change in trip generation. Any development in excess of that identified herein shall require the approval of a new Preliminary Plat of Subdivision with a new determination of the adequacy of transportation facilities.

RESPONSE: As discussed previously in this statement, the Applicant is proposing with this application is to expand the student enrollment of its private school from the current 300 student base to 400 students. The intent of this application is to increase the enrollment of the school to accommodate increased interest from both younger siblings of existing older students and past graduates of RTCA, as well as from other families within the surrounding community. In support of the increased student enrollment, the Applicant proposing to provide an increase in the amount outdoor play area to accommodate the needs of the students, and possible revisions to the onsite landscaping that may be required to meet current 2010 Landscape Manual standards. Other than the minor revisions to the site plan discussed above, there will not be any increase in building square footage, footprint, or site coverage associated with this application. The subject property is in total compliance with all conditions associated with the Preliminary Plan approval. The Applicant has filed a separate Detailed Site Plan application DSP-03059/01 to address compliance with those trip cap conditions associated with the original DSP-03059 approval, as well as any associated urban design matters.

Detailed Site Plan DSP- DSP-03059: was approved by the Planning Board on January 15, 2004, subject to the following three (3) conditions:

- 1. Prior to certificate approval of the Detailed Site Plan, the applicant shall:
 - a. Revise the plan to provide an enlarged layout for the proposed outdoor play area. The layout shall show how the play area will serve the children in different age groups, for review and approval by the Urban Design Section as the designee of the Planning Board;
 - b. Secure approval of DPW&T for the provision of the needed acceleration and deceleration lanes along Prospect Hill Road at both entrances, along with an extension of the right-turn lane on the Prospect Hill Road approach to MD 193. In most cases, these types of modifications will be enforced by DPW&T as a part of the road code.
- 2. The applicant and the applicant's heirs, successors, and/or assignees shall provide a financial contribution of \$210 to the Department of Public Works and Transportation

(DPW&T) for the placement of a bikeway sign on Prospect Hill Road. The payment shall be received prior to the issuance of the first building permit for the private school.

3. The proposed school shall accommodate a maximum of 300 students. The applicants, its heirs, successors and/or assignees shall incorporate trip reduction measures to include the use of church-owned buses that would ultimately accommodate approximately 30 percent of the students, and the implementation of a carpool/ridesharing program for students being transported by personal vehicles. These measures shall ensure that the proposed total development shall not generate more than 75 AM, 68 PM and 986 Sunday peak-hour vehicle trips as required by Condition 7 of Planning Board Resolution No. 01-36. Alternative measures having the equivalent effect will be considered as satisfying this condition.

RESPONSE: All three conditions relating to the Detailed Site Plan approval have been met and/or completed, and the subject property remains in full compliance with both the Preliminary Plan of Subdivision, and the Detailed Site Plan conditions of approval.

Furthermore, in referenced to this instant application, the Applicant is proposing to expand the student enrollment of their private school from the current 300 student base to 400 students. Therefore, in accordance with the above-reference DSP-03059 Trip Cap condition 3, the Applicant's Consultant team engaged in extensive discussions and communications with the staff of the M-NCPPC Development Review Division over a two-year period prior to submission of the application. This process culminated in a Scoping Agreement with the Transportation Planning Section, and a detailed Traffic Impact Analysis, (*see* attached agreement Dated March 20, 2017) was prepared fully in accordance with the Commission's "Guidelines for the Analysis of the Traffic Impact of Development Proposals".

The traffic study included data from the Maryland State Highway Administration (covering the period 2007-2016). The data showed that traffic volumes on the State roadways within the study area have been quite stable, and in some cases declining. However, the traffic study took the conservative (i.e., high side) approach in its projections, and assumed increasing growth in traffic through the assumed 2020 design years. The study also used the County's trip generation rates for the expanded RTCA student enrollment from 300 to 400 students, and the analysis demonstrated that levels of service for the roadway network will be comfortably within the County's planning standards. The study therefore concluded that the County's Adequate Public Facilities requirements for transportation would be satisfied.

With respect to the trip cap issue in Item 3, surveys conducted at the site entrances show that current trips exceed the trip cap established as part of the 2001 Preliminary Plan approval. It is also relevant to note that this trip cap was carried forward into the Detailed Site Plan approval of 2004, and the Church was required to develop trip reduction measures, that would include the use of church-owned buses "that would ultimately accommodate approximately 30% of the students, along with a carpool/rideshare program for students being transported by personal vehicles." It was anticipated at the time that these measures would enable the Church to adhere to the established trip cap trip cap established in 2002.

The Applicant's Statement of Justification provides substantial information regarding the current operational situation of the school, and includes discussions regarding why these trip reduction measures have not achieved their objective. For convenience, the primary contravening circumstances are highlighted below:

- a) The Applicant's initial programming for the Academy anticipated that most of its clients would be attracted from among the church's membership. Furthermore, it was anticipated that the regional distribution of where members lived, and the common affiliation with the Church would contribute to a "working relationship" that would be conducive to ridesharing. The Academy's growing reputation and standards of excellence achieved, has resulted in considerable public acceptance, such that its clientele include a considerable percentage of families who are not affiliated with the Church.
- b) The Academy initially developed a transportation program utilizing 12-15 church-owned buses and a route pattern targeted at providing a good quality of service for pick-up and dropoff of students at a nominal cost. However, a considerable number of the School's clients come from fairly close-in areas such as Greenbelt, Bowie, Lanham, and Mitchellville, and use of the Church's bus service has not been attractive.
- c) A significant number of the Academy's students are from families with two (2) or more students enrolled; and about 10% of the students travel with parents who already work at the Church and the Academy. These considerations have further reduced the attractiveness of the Academy's transportation program.

In connection with Item b above, it is relevant to note that the Church site is served by major regional State roadways, such as MD 193 (Glenn Dale Boulevard/Greenbelt Road), MD 450 (Annapolis Road), MD 564 (Lanham Severn Road), all of which are major commuter routes. As such these roadways provide a convenience factor that promotes pass-by traffic patterns. It is noted that the Scoping Agreement accepts that up to 35% of trips destined for the Academy would be attracted from trips already on the nearby roadways (i.e., constituting pass-by traffic). Since assessment of Adequate Public Facilities is based primarily on the number of new (or destination) trips generated by the land use in question, the favorable pass-by assumption would imply a reduced impact on the study area road network. These factors and considerations are incorporated within the submitted Traffic Impact Analysis.

VIII. Conclusion:

The Applicant submits that this Minor Preliminary Plan request for a change in the trip cap for the existing Reid Temple A.M.E. Church to permit the expansion of their existing Reid Temple Christian Academy from 300 to 400 students, in compliance with all relevant criteria set forth in the Subdivision Ordinance. This request complies with the required findings for Preliminary Plans of Subdivision, the Approved 2006 East Glenn Dale Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment, and the applicable County plans and policies. Development proposed will be reviewed in accordance with 24-121 (Planning and Design Requirements), 24-122 (Public Facilities Requirements) 24-123 (General Transportation and

Circulation Requirements), and 24-124 (Adequate Roads Required). For all the above-stated reasons, I respectfully request M-NCPPC Planning Director/Staff Level approval of this instant minor 4-17021 application.

Please call me if additional information is required.

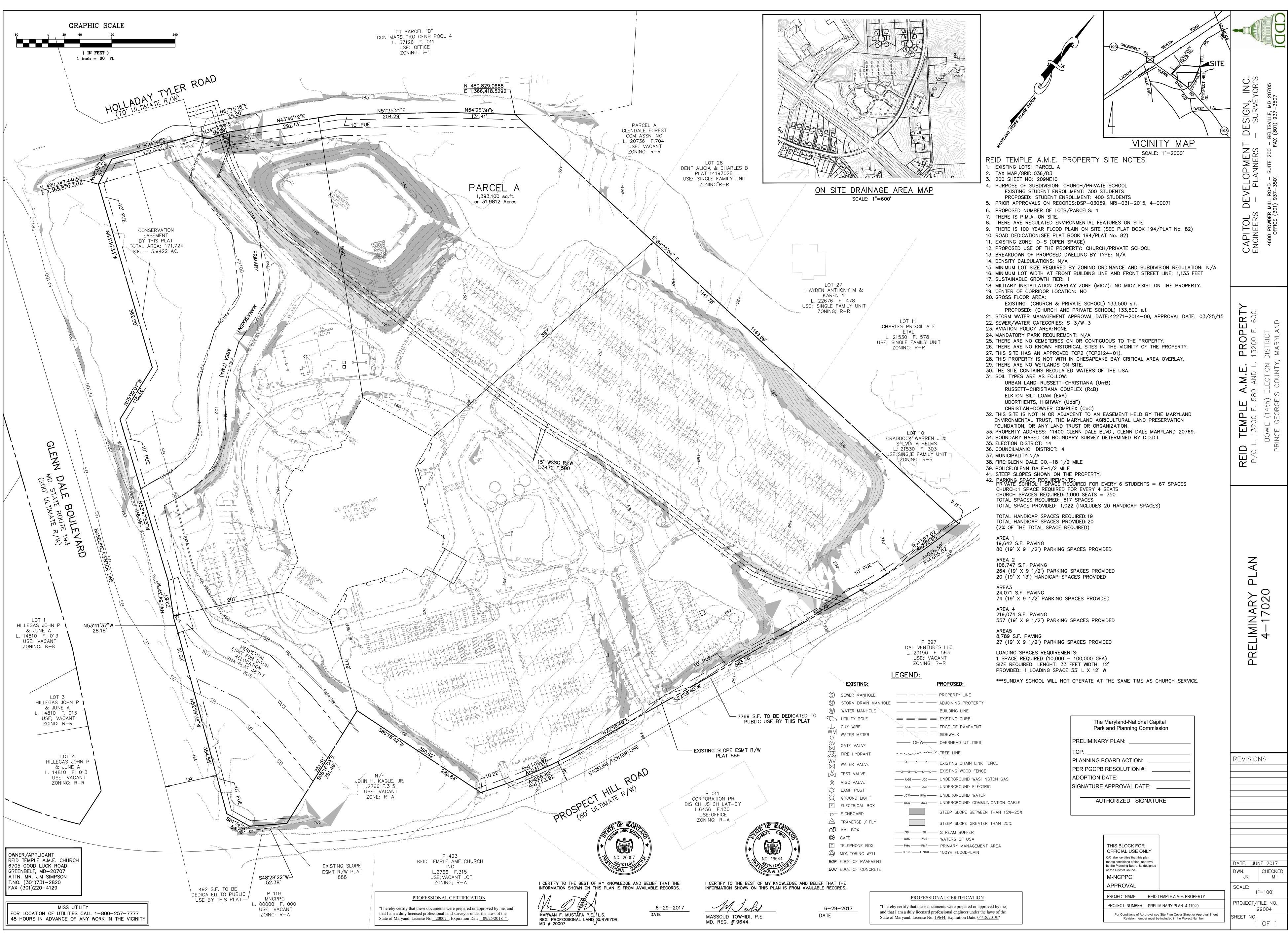
Sincerely,

Arthur J. Hor

cc: Whitney Chellis Joseph Dehuarte

AJH/fms

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The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
PRELIMINARY PLAN:
TCP:
PLANNING BOARD ACTION:
PER PGCPB RESOLUTION #:
ADOPTION DATE:
SIGNATURE APPROVAL DATE:
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE