Statement of Justification for Impacts to Regulated Environmental Features Townes at Peerless Conceptual Site Plan CSP-17004 & Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-18004

Applicant:

Conifer 5560 Sterrett Place Suite 200 Columbia, Md 21044

Attorney:

Gingles LLC 14401 Sweitzer Lane Suite 570 Laurel, Md 20707 240.280.1513

Engineer/ Planner:

Soltesz, LLC 4300 Forbes Boulevard Suite 230 Lanham, Maryland 20706 301-794-7555 Contact: David Bickel

The Townes at Peerless, CSP-17004, 4-18004, and TCP1

Description and Location of the Subject Property:

The subject property is composed of existing lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 along the existing Peerless Avenue. These existing lots combined will constitute the overall parcel acreage. These lots are located roughly 1000 feet north of the intersection of US 301 and MD 408 Marlboro Pike. The approximate site address is 4505 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772. The 7.64-acre site is currently zoned Mixed Use Transportation (M-X-T).

Description of Proposed Use:

The nature of the proposed application is a mixed use development of residential and retail components. Specifically, the site is intended for development of 62 two-family and three-family rental units and retail uses. In order to provide the necessary public road improvements, removal of existing structures, and an adequate stormwater management outfalls, two (2) impacts to the PMA are needed. The impacts are permanent and total 27,860 square feet of PMA impacts which mainly relate to the stream buffer.

Description of Proposed Use:

The site contains a total of approximately 2.86 acres of PMA. The PMA comprises 574 linear feet of regulated streams and associated 75-foot-wide buffers. Limited amounts of wetlands are located near the southwest property and 0.03 acres of floodplain is present on site. The PMA is generally located on the northern and southern sides of the property. The PMA contains woodland forest stands 1 & 2, which community type is mainly Tulip poplar. The existing PMA is approximately 37% of the total site area.

Description of Applicable Code:

Sec. 24-130(b)(5): Where a property is located outside the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Overlay Zones the Preliminary Plan and all plans associated with the subject application shall demonstrate the preservation and/or restoration of regulated environmental features in a natural state to the fullest extent possible consistent with the guidance provided by the Environmental Technical Manual established by Subtitle 25. Any lot with an impact shall demonstrate sufficient net lot area where a net lot area is required pursuant to Subtitle 27, for the reasonable development of the lot outside the regulated feature. All regulated environmental features shall be placed in a conservation easement and depicted on the final plat.

Sec. 27-462 Regulations does not contain regulations regarding minimum net lot area.

Description of Proposed Impacts and Justification of Avoidance and minimization:

In order to provide the necessary public road improvements, removal of existing structures, and an adequate stormwater management outfall, two (2) impacts are needed, Impacts 1 and 2.

Impact 1 is 16,325 square feet of PMA and Stream Buffer disturbance for the construction of a 60 or 70 foot-wide right of way for a public road. The width and location of the right of way is determined by DPW&T standards. The alignment is fixed on the existing centerline of Peerless

Avenue. In addition, this is one of the low points of the road where the existing stream channel begins. Because of the steepness of the channel, additional grading will be required to make up the difference in fill for the proposed road. The impacts are necessary and already exist to a certain degree.

Impact 2 is 11,535 square feet of PMA and Stream Buffer disturbance is also for the construction of the same 60 or 70 foot-wide right of way for a public road. The width and location of the right of way is determined by DPW&T standards. The alignment is fixed on the existing entrance onto US 301 of Peerless Avenue. The impacts are necessary and already exist to a certain degree. In addition, the PMA will be impacted by the removal of the existing structures partially located in the PMA. This area has no existing forest and grading will be required during the razing of the structure. In addition, the proposed outfall and micro-bio device contribute to the impacts. Since by its very nature, an outfall must discharge into a naturally occurring watercourse, avoiding a stream and its associated buffer and subsequent PMA is impossible. The outfall has been designed and LOD set so as to minimize the area to be disturbed. The pipe runs directly through the PMA rather than diagonally across, thus reducing the length and square footage of the disturbance.

Impact ID	Impact Type and Duration	Square Footage of PMA impact
1	Public Road (permanent)	16,325
2	Public Road & Razing Structures Stormwater Management Outfall (permanent)	11,535
Total PMA impact		27,860

Conclusion:

In order to provide the necessary public road improvements, removal of existing structures, and an adequate stormwater management outfalls, two (2) impacts to the PMA are needed. The impacts to the environmental regulated features are unavoidable and have been minimized to the fullest extent possible. Therefore we ask for approval of the impacts outlined above.

Sincerely,

David Bickel

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