

## **AGENDA**

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING JANUARY 10, 2018 6:30 pm



- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER\*
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 3. CORRECTIONS. APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF MINUTES
  - A. Wednesday, October 25, 2017

## 4. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Lane & Cheryl McFarland, 6196 Columbia Street, RE: ZBA #17-10-25-1
- B. Lisa Hansknecht, 6178 Columbia Street, RE: ZBA #17-10-25-1
- C. Don Winchell. 6203 Columbia Street. RE: ZBA #17-10-25-1
- D. Catherine Ferguson, 6177 Foster Drive, RE: ZBA #17-10-25-1
- 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- 6. NEW BUSINESS

# A. ZBA CASE NO. 17-10-25-1 (BARTOW), 6154 WEST LONGVIEW DRIVE, EAST LANSING, MI, 48823

DESCRIPTION: 6200 Columbia Street & a vacant parcel (Tax I.D. #03-403-

007)

TAX PARCEL: 03-403-001 & 03-403-007

ZONING DISTRICT: RB (Single Family, High Density), Lake Lansing Overlay

The applicant is requesting to create two new lots that are under the minimum lot width of 65 feet at 6200 Columbia Street and a vacant parcel (Tax I.D. #03-403-007).

# B. ZBA CASE NO. 17-12-13-1 (LANSING MART ASSOCIATES, LLC), 31500 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY SUITE 100, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI, 48334

DESCRIPTION: 2020 West Grand River Avenue

TAX PARCEL: 21-226-008
ZONING DISTRICT: C-3 (Commercial)

The applicant is requesting to increase the height of the front façade of a nonconforming building at 2020 West Grand River Avenue.

# C. ZBA CASE NO. 18-01-10-1 (BRIAN CARLIN), 1593 MAIDEN LANE, OKEMOS, MI, 48864

DESCRIPTION: 1841 Newman Road

TAX PARCEL: 02-177-006
ZONING DISTRICT: C-2 (Commercial)

The applicant is requesting to add a 116 square foot addition to the front façade of a nonconforming building at 1841 Newman Road.

- 7. OTHER BUSINESS
- 8. PUBLICREMARKS
- 9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- 10. ADJOURNMENT
- 11. POSTSCRIPT Brian Beauchine

Variance requests may be subject to change or alteration upon review of request during preparation of the staff memorandum. Therefore, Sections of the Code of Ordinances are subject to change. Changes will be noted during public hearing meeting.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting: Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required. Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING MINUTES \*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\*
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000
WEDNESDAY, October 25, 2017

PRESENT: Members Ohlrogge, Stivers, Jackson, Chair Beauchine

ABSENT: Member Lane

STAFF: Mark Kieselbach, Community Planning and Development Director

and Keith Chapman, Assistant Planner

# A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Beauchine called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MEMBER JACKSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH AN AMENDMENT TO ITEM 7 OTHER BUSINESS TO ADD TRAINING SESSION FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA), AND THE 2018 ZBA MEETING SCHEDULE.

SECONDED BY MEMBER STIVERS.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

# C. CORRECTIONS, APPROVAL & RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

MEMBER OHROGGLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY October 11, 2017 AS WRITTEN.

SECONDED BY MEMBER STIVERS.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

# D. COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Beauchine replied communications would be addressed after Assistant Planner Chapman outlined the case.

## E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

# F. NEW BUSINESS

1. ZBA CASE NO. 17-10-25-1 (BARTOW),

6154 WEST LONGVIEW DRIVE, EAST LANSING, MI 48864

DESCRIPTION: 6200 Columbia Street

TAX PARCEL: 03-403-001

ZONING DISTRICT: RB (Single Family, High Density). Lake Lansing Residential

Overlay District

The applicant is requesting a variance from the following sections of the Code of Ordinances:

Section 86-374 (d)(1),Minimum lot area: 8,000 square feet. No lot shall hereafter be sub-divided to provide less than 8,000 square feet of lot area.

Section 86-374 (d)(2), Minimum interior lot width less than 65 feet.

The applicant is requesting to create two new lots that are less than the minimum lot area of 8,000 square feet and the minimum lot width of 65 feet.

Assistant Planner Chapman outlined the case for discussion. He referenced an error in the staff report which indicated the width of lots 12 and 13 totaled 77.94 feet on Columbia Street but should have been are 79 feet. He added there were 3 communications in favor and 2 communications in opposition to variance request.

Chair Beauchine asked the applicant or the applicant's representative if they would like to address the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

Mr. Bartow, the applicant replied no.

Chair Beauchine opened the floor for public comments.

Don Winchell, 6203 Columbia Street, Haslett, read the letter dated October 16, 2017 which he had previously submitted. He asked the ZBA not to approve the variances due to safety issues on Columbia Street.

Lisa Hansknecht 6178 Columbia Street, Haslett, stated she opposed the variances due to larger construction on narrower lots. She added the increase of short terms rentals creates a transient population. She stated her concern was safety issues on Columbia Street.

Catherine Ferguson, 6177 Foster Drive, Haslett, referenced her letter dated October 24, 2017 objecting to the variances. She added there was little green space along Columbia Street.

Ann Whitmer, 6190 Columbia Street, Haslett, stated her main concern was parking on the street and safety issues involving traffic and walkers. She added a structure larger than two stories impinges on her view of the lake.

Karen Reiff, 6174 Columbia Street, Haslett, stated her main concern was safety on Columbia Street. She added Columbia Street is narrow and with the curve there is low visibility for oncoming traffic.

Tony Schmidt, 6200 W Reynolds, Haslett, stated the variances would not enhance the area in the vicinity of the property and with 3 new docks for each lot would affect fishing in that area of the lake. He preferred the construction of 2 houses that did not tower over other houses in the area.

Chair Beauchine referenced a letter dated October 23, 2017 from the Ingham County Land Bank that recommended the split.

Chair Beauchine asked the applicant or the applicant's representative if they had anything to add.

Jim Bartow, 6151 Park Lake Road, East Lansing, stated the variances would not impact the current road or safety issues. The construction will be built according to Township requirements.

Chair Beauchine closed public remarks.

Chair Beauchine stated the Lake Lansing Overlay Distract was created to bring some relief to property owners. He read review criteria seven from (Section 86-221) of the Zoning Ordinance, which states the conditions pertaining to the land or structure are not so general or recurrent in nature as to make the formulation of a general regulation for such conditions practicable. He stated he preferred the current Lake Lansing Overlay District and had no interest in re-verting back to the original zoning. He added he is not in favor of the variances.

Member Stivers replied Mr. Bartow made a good point addressing the use of the property in terms of what might be constructed, along with safety issues and the hypothetically height of the structures. However, she did not see any reason to approve the variances. She read review criteria one, which states unique circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure that are not applicable to other land or structures in the same zoning district. She stated there were no unique or special circumstances.

Member Jackson agreed and doesn't see any value in approving the variances when one property satisfies the current ordinances.

Member Ohlrogge questioned Mr. Bartow's statement the land division would create revenue for the Township. The ZBA is considering the unique circumstances that exist which are peculiar to the land or structure.

Chair Beauchine replied Mr. Bartow did not submit his reasons based on the review criteria however, the ZBA is not allowed to consider revenue.

Member Jackson stated how the land would be used if the variances were granted is important because the new lots may require variances. She read review criteria two, which states these special circumstances are not self-created, and at this point we have self-created circumstances which are created by the ZBA, who granted the first variance, which puts the ZBA in a situation which does not support the zoning criteria.

MEMBER STIVERS MOVED TO DENY THE VARIANCE BASED ON FAILURE TO MEET REVIEW CRITERIA ONE FROM (SECTION 86-221) OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

SECONDED BY MEMBER JACKSON, BASED ALSO ON FAILURE TO MEET REVIEW CRITERIA THREE FROM (SECTION 86-221) OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

Member Ohlrogge recommended the ZBA review the criteria from (Section 86-221) of the Zoning Ordinance. She read review criteria four, which states the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant the variance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose. She stated there was no need to divide the lots to use the property for a permitted purpose.

Member Ohlrogge read review criteria five, which states granting the variance is the minimum action that will make possible the use of the land or structure in a manner which is not contrary to the public interest and which would carry out the spirit of this zoning ordinance, secure public safety, and provide substantial justice. She added the minimum action would be to leave the subject property as it currently exits.

Member Ohlrogge read review criteria six, which states granting the variance will not adversely affect adjacent land or the essential character in the vicinity of the property. She replied construction on narrow lots would affect adjacent land and the character of the neighborhood in the vicinity.

Member Ohlrogge read review criteria seven, which states the conditions pertaining to the land or structure are not so general or recurrent in nature as to make the formulation of a general regulation for such conditions practicable. She added the creation of the Lake Lansing Overlay District addresses this question.

Member Ohlrogge read review criteria seven, which states granting the variance will be generally consistent with public interest and the purposes and intent of this Chapter. She replied she could not determine how variances would be consistent with public interest.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Members, Ohlrogge, Stivers, Jackson and Chair Beauchine.

NO:

Motion carried unanimously.

## G. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Chair Beauchine presented the proposed ZBA meeting schedule for 2018.

MEMBER JACKSON MOVED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION FOR THE 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

SECONDED BY MEMBER OHLROGGE

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

2. Chair Beauchine addressed training for the ZBA and asked Director Kieselbach about the items for the training.

Director Kieselbach stated the training would be on specific questions from the ZBA.

Member Ohlrogge suggested the ZBA take time to comply questions for the Township Attorney and recommended advanced notice on training dates.

Chair Beauchine asked if the ZBA would prefer taking until November  $15^{th}$  to comply questions for the Township Attorney which would help expedite the process for training.

Member Jackson referenced the training from Michigan Township Association (MTA) and the Michigan Municipal League (MML) newer members and the alternate members may be interested in participating in those trainings. She commented the opportunity for training should be made known to all members of the ZBA, and recommended attending the basic training offered through the various organizations.

Chair Beauchine recommended the ZBA target November  $15^{th}$  to have their questions for training to staff.

# H. PUBLIC REMARKS

Chair Beauchine opened the floor for public remarks, seeing none, closed public remarks.

# I. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

# J. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Beauchine adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

# K. POST SCRIPT - Member Stivers

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebekah Kelly Recording Secretary Meridian Township Zoning Board of Appeals

Public Hearing for Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Re: #17-10-25-1 (Bartow)

6200 Columbia Street & Vacant Parcel (Tax I.D. #03-403-007

To whom it may concern:

My wife and I, Lane & Cheryl McFarland, have lived on the adjacent property at 6196 Columbia for over thirty years. We believe that to create two equally size lots on the property at 6200 Columbia Street and Vacant Parcel would be beneficial to both the buyers and the Board of Appeals. This would give adequate room to build 2 homes without the need for variances and would provide more room for driveways and make it safer for traffic coming and going on Columbia Street.

We approve this request for variance submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals by James Bartow.

Sincerely,

Lane & Cheryl McFarland

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DEC 0 6 2017 ||

# **Keith Chapman**

From:

Lisa Hansknecht < lisa.hansknecht@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, December 01, 2017 6:06 PM

To:

Keith Chapman

Subject:

6200 Columbia Street #17-10-25-1

Keith Chapman, Assistant Planner Meridian Township Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Chapman:

Recently, I came and spoke before the Zoning Board of Appeals hearing in opposition to a request to divide the lots at 6200 Columbia into 3 lots. It is my understanding that after denial of that request, the owner has requested that the lots be divided equally into two lots of relative equal size.

I support that request and feel that is a reasonable accommodation to make the property more usable for two homes. As I cannot make it in for the next hearing on this, I wanted to be sure you had this for the record.

Thank you for your work.

Best, Lisa M. Hansknecht 6178 Columbia Haslett, MI 48840 FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I DON'T HAVE ANY
PROBLEM WITH RIGBY'S OLD PROPERTY AT
6200 COLUMBIA STREET BEING DIVIDED

INTO TWO EQUAL LOTS.

OF COURSE ONE LARGE HOUSE BEING BUILT THERE WOULD BE IDEAL, BUT THATS NOT REALISTIC.

THIS DOESN'T HAVE ANY THING TO DO WITH

THIS REQUEST, BUT I WOULD HOPE THAT

LATER YOU WON'T LET THEM BUILD HOUSES

AS TALL AS THE HOUSES AT 6052, 6054

AND 6056 COLUMBIA STREET, ON THIS PROPERTY.

SINCERELY,

Don Winchell

DON WINCHELL 6203 COLUMBIA ST.

# **Keith Chapman**

From:

Catherine Ferguson < catherinferguson@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:06 AM

To:

Keith Chapman

Subject:

ZBA 17-10-25-1 (Bartow 6200 Columbia Street) REVISED

TO:

Meridian Township Zoning Board of Appeals

FROM:

Catherine Ferguson, 6177 Foster Drive, Haslett, Michigan

SUBJECT:

ZBA #17-10-25-1

I urge you to DENY Mr. Bartow's request to create two new lots that are under the minimum lot width of 65 feet at 6200 Columbia (Tax ID #03-403-007). His previous request was denied by the Zoning Board and opposed by a number of neighbors at the 10-25-17 meeting. Many of the issues remain the same with this new request.

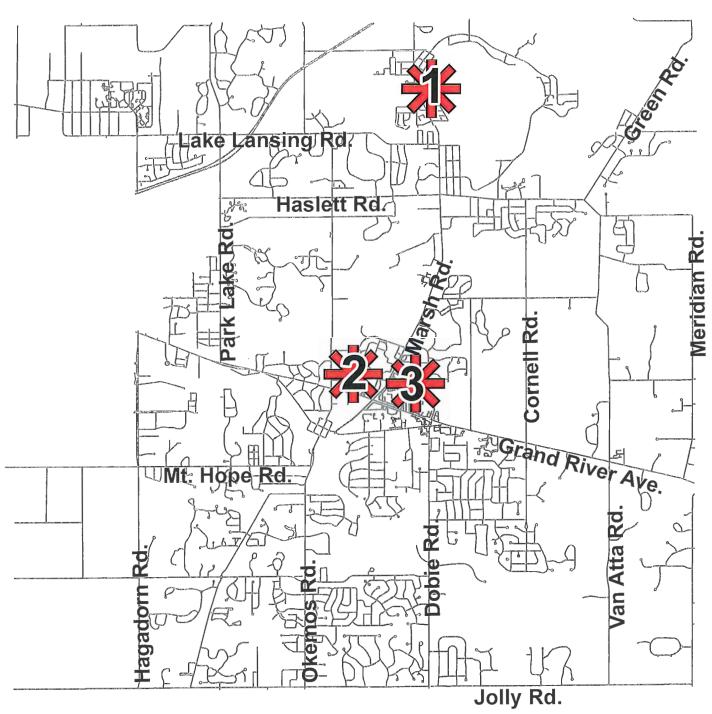
- 1. The proposed property split still creates properties that do not meet minimum lot width. If this request was granted, the Zoning Board will be responsible for creating the need for future variances. These will inevitably occur when the new property owners attempt to build on the non-conforming lots including variances for minimum lot area, minimum interior lot width, maximum lot coverage, and front, side and rear yard set backs.
- 2. In the 1970's, at the request of the previous owners, the Zoning Board "created and recorded" the combining of Lots 12 and 13. It is questionable if the current Zoning Board can undo this decision.
- 3. The proposed property split will still not meet the requirements to utilize the more lenient set back requirements of the Lake Lansing Overlay which are only applicable to properties created and recorded prior to 1960.

Lastly, many of the concerns raised by neighbors at the prior meeting remain the same including: safety for pedestrians and bicyclists; guest parking; significant reduction of green space and lake views; and, compatibility with the adjacent single story lakefront homes.

Thanks for your consideration of my concerns,

Catherine Ferguson 6177 Foster Drive Haslett, Michigan 48840

# Meridian Township



**Location Map** 

1. ZBA #17-10-25-1 (Bartow)

2. ZBA #17-12-13-1 (Lansing Mart Associates LLC) 3. ZBA #17-01-10-1 (Carlin)



To: Zoning Board of Appeals

From: Keith Chapman, Assistant Planner

Date: December 8, 2017

Re: ZBA Case No. 17-10-25-1 (Bartow)

ZBA CASE NO.: 17-10-25-1 (Bartow), 6200 Columbia Drive & Vacant Parcel (Tax I.D.

#03-403-007), Haslett, MI 48840

**DESCRIPTION:** 6200 Columbia Street & Vacant Parcel (Tax I.D. #03-403-007)

**TAX PARCEL:** 03-403-001 & 03-403-007

**ZONING DISTRICT:** RB (Single Family, High Density), Lake Lansing Residential Overlay District

The applicant is requesting the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to rehear a previously denied variance in accordance with the following section of the Code of Ordinances:

 Section 86-225 – No application, which has been denied wholly or in part by the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall be resubmitted until the expiration of one year or more from the date of such denial, except on grounds of newly discovered evidence or proof of changed circumstances found by the Zoning Board of Appeals to be sufficient to justify consideration.

The previous request was to create two new parcels that are under the minimum lot area of 8,000 square feet and the minimum lot width of 65 feet at 6200 Columbia Street. A motion is needed in order to rehear the case. If the ZBA decides to rehear the case then the request is a variance from the following section of the Code of Ordinances:

• Section 86-374 (d)(2), Minimum interior lot width. 65 feet.

James Bartow, the applicant, has now requested a variance to reconfigure the lot widths of two parcels that are under the minimum lot width of 65 feet at 6200 Columbia Street and a vacant parcel (Tax I.D. #03-403-007). The approximate 0.559 acre site is zoned RB (Single Family, High Density) and is located in the Lake Lansing Overlay District.

The submitted survey shows lots 11, 12, and 13 of Lakebrook #1 subdivision, which was platted in 1930. Lots 12 and 13 are combined into one 15,218 square foot lot with a lot width of 79 feet on Columbia Street. A 1,500 square foot single family home on the lot was recently demolished. The proposal is to create two new lots, which would have 58.09 feet and 57.81 feet of lot width. The applicant is requesting variances of 6.91 feet and 7.19 feet.

Zoning Board of Appeals December 13, 2017 RE: ZBA Case No. 17-10-25-1 (Bartow) Page 2

The Lake Lansing Residential Overlay District, states interior lot width shall be consistent with the requirements of the underlying zoning district, except lots that were created and recorded prior to October 5, 1960, may be used for single-family residential purposes provided the lot is not less

than 35 feet in width at the street line and the minimum yard setbacks are maintained for the district where the lot is located. Lots 12 and 13 were combined in the 1970's, which removed their status as lots of record and are no longer eligible for the reduction in lot width. Lot 11 is shown in its original platted formation.

# **Site History**

- Township Assessing Department records indicate that the single family home was constructed in 1940.
- In 1975, two variances were requested. The first was from the 10 foot separation between a principal structure and an accessory building and the second that no accessory building shall project into the front yard. Both variances were granted, allowing the accessory building to be 8 feet from the principal structure and for the accessory building to project 6 feet into the front yard.

# **Attachments**

- 1. Application materials
- 2. Site location map

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## VARIANCE APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT

# A variance will be granted, if the following Review Criteria are met:

- 1. Unique circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure that are not applicable to other land or structures in the same zoning district.
- 2. These special circumstances are not self-created.
- 3. Strict interpretation and enforcement of the literal terms and provisions of this chapter would result in practical difficulties.
- 4. That the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant the variance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose.
- 5. Granting the variance is the minimum action that will make possible the use of the land or structure in a manner which is not contrary to the public interest and which would carry out the spirit of this zoning ordinance, secure public safety, and provide substantial justice.
- 6. Granting the variance will not adversely affect adjacent land or the essential character in the vicinity of the property.
- 7. The conditions pertaining to the land or structure are not so general or recurrent in nature as to make the formulation of a general regulation for such conditions practicable.
- 8. Granting the variance will be generally consistent with public interest and the purposes and intent of this Chapter.

G:\Community Planning & Development\Planning\FORMS\VARIANCE APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT-review criteria only.docx

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN PLANNING DIVISION 5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864 (517) 853-4560

	VARIANCE AP	PLICATION
Α.	Applicant Ames M. BAGOW Address of Applicant 6/51 PARK LAP	Le DV 1
	Interest in property (circle one):	Telephone (Home) 231-7728 Edress: TEA(2TOW 1962 & 9mA(2 + Course)  Tenant Option Other
B.	Site address/location 6700 Cotum & Pa	Parcel number
C.	Ordinances Review an order, requirements, dec	ply): ion(s) of the "Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of cision, or a determination of a Township official ing the provisions of the "Zoning Ordinance" of
Zonin	g Ordinance section(s)	
D.	Required Supporting Material -Property survey -Legal description -Proof of property ownership or approval letter from owner -Site plan to scale -Written statement, which demonstrates how next page)	orting Material if Applicable -Architectural sketches -Other w all the review criteria will be met (See
Signo	ture of Applicant Print Name	
Signa Fee:	***	ived by/Date:
3	(we) hereby grant permission for members of Board of Appeals, Township staff member experts the right to enter onto the above of attached information) in my (our) absence including but not limited to the taking and the t	rs and the Township's representatives or described property (or as described in the for the purposes of gathering information use of photographs. (Note to Applicant(s):
Sign	nature of Applicant(s)	Date
Sign	nature of Applicant(s)	Date

# **VARIANCE FOR 6200 COLUMBIA: LOTS 11 & 13**

1. Unique circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure that are not applicable to other land or structures in the same zoning district.

1a. Requesting a revision in lots 11-12 and 13 to create two larger lots that meet the minimum of 8000sf per lot. Lot 12 would be split in half and Lots 11 and 13 would become 11361sf and 11897sf respectfully which exceed the required ordinance.

2. These special circumstances are not self created.

2a.Land was purchased from the Land Bank as is with one small home strandling lots 12-13 & lot 11 is vacant.

3. Strict interpretation and enforcement of the literal terms and provisions of this chapter would result in practical difficulties.

3a. The 3 smaller lots would increase the density of homes, traffic, parking, and lack of green space.

4. That the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant the variance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose.

4a. The reselling of the 3 smaller lots would be impaired as lots 12 & 13 did not meet the 8000sf minimum.

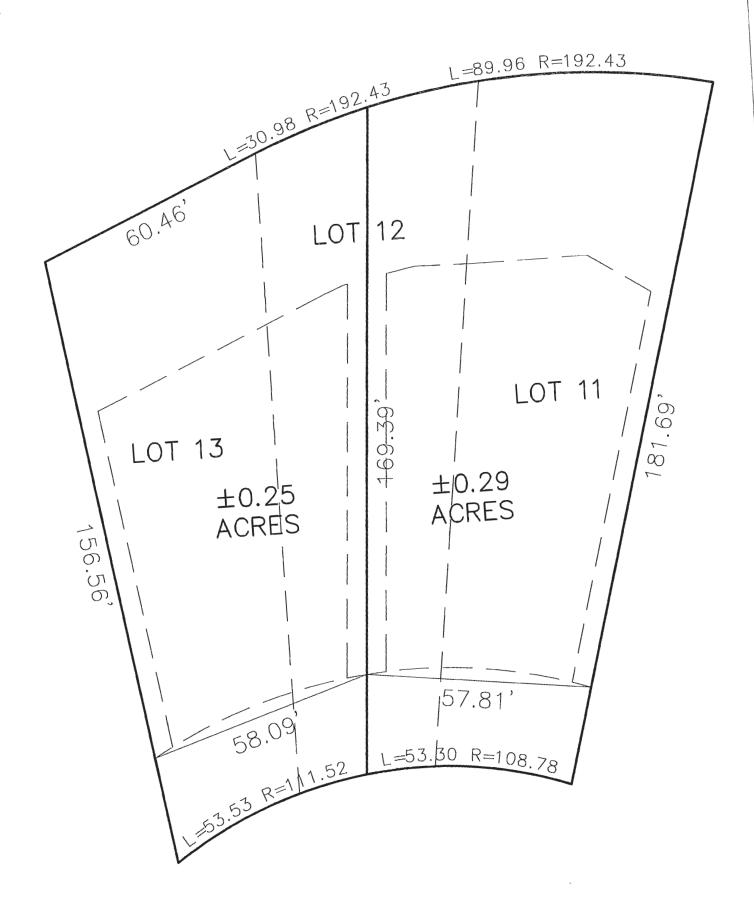
5. Granting the variance is the minimum action that will make possible the use of the land or structure in a manner which is not contrary to the public interest and which would carry out the spirit of this zoning ordinance, secure public safety, and provide substantial justice.

5a. The 2 larger lots will be more attractive for resale. In addition it will create more Green space and expanded parking potential. I would anticipate minimum public opposition or any safety concerns.

# Page 2 6200 Columbia Variance

- 6. Granting the variance will not adversely affect adjacent land or the essential character in the vicinity of the property.
- 6a. The property with 2 new homes will greatly enhance the neighborhood cosmetically and increase the land values
- 7. The conditions pertaining to the land or structure are not so general or recurrent in nature as to make the formulation of a general regulation for such conditions practicable.
- 7a. Have no opinion or knowledge.
- 8. Granting the variance will be generally consistant with public interest and the purposes and intent of this Chapter.
- 8a. I believe it does.

Jim Bartow-Owner











To: Zoning Board of Appeals

From: Keith Chapman, Assistant Planner

**Date:** December 13, 2017

Re: ZBA Case No. 17-12-13-1 (Lansing Mart Associates, LLC)

ZBA CASE NO.: 17-12-13-1 (Lansing Mart Associates, LLC), 31500 Northwestern

Highway Suite 100, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

**DESCRIPTION:** 2020 West Grand River Avenue

**TAX PARCEL:** 21-226-008 **ZONING DISTRICT:** C-3 (Commercial)

The applicant is requesting a variance from the following section of the Code of Ordinances:

Section 86-618 (2), Nonconforming structures, other than single-family structures, may be
altered, expanded, or modernized without prior approval of the Zoning Board of Appeals;
provided, that structural alterations or extensions shall not increase the area, height, bulk,
use, or extent of the structure and shall satisfy all other applicable site development
regulations.

Lansing Mart Associates, LLC, the applicant, has requested a variance to increase the height of the front façade of a nonconforming building at 2020 West Grand River Avenue. The approximate 19.329 acre site is zoned C-3 (Commercial).

The submitted site plan shows an existing 119,703 square foot retail building. The building is considered to be nonconforming as it does not meet the required rear yard setback of 250 feet from an adjacent residential district for all buildings, parking, access drive, or other structures. The property to the north of the subject site is zoned RDD (Multiple Family) and the building is located 88 feet from the zoning district. Any addition to the building height requires approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). The applicant intends to increase the height of the front façade on the eastern storefront from 21' 7 ¼" to 29' 3 ¼".

Currently, there is a 14.6 foot by 49.4 foot section of the building that that sticks out from the southeast corner. This section will be removed and the proposed front façade will be even with the existing building.

Zoning Board of Appeals December 13, 2017 RE: ZBA Case No. 17-12-13-1 (Lansing Mart Associates) Page 2

# **Site History**

• Township Assessing Department records indicate that the building was constructed in 1970.

# **Attachments**

- 1. Application materials
- 2. Site location map

G:\ COMMUN PLNG & DEV\PLNG\ZBA\2017 ZBA\ZBA 17-12-13\ZBA 17-12-13-1 (Lansing Mart Associates)\STAFF REPORT LANSING MART

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN PLANNING DIVISION 5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864 (517) 853-4560

# **VARIANCE APPLICATION**

Α.	Address of Applicant C/O GER		NVESTMENT LLC, 315	00 NORTHWESTE	RN HIGHWAY			
	SUITE 100, FARMINGTON HILLS, MICH							
	Telephone (Work) (248) 785-23		_ Telephone (H	ome) CELL - (24	48) 425-5651			
	Fax (248) 785-2301	Email addre		GERSHENSONRE	ALTY.COM			
	Interest in property (circle or	ne): 🔽 Owner	Tenant	Optio	on Other			
В.	Site address/location 2020 WEST GRAND RIVER AVENUE, OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864							
	Zoning district	Pa	rcel number <u>33-0</u>	12-02-21-226-008				
C.	Nature of request (Please charged with interpretation)  Nature of request (Please charged (Ple	e(s) tation of provision quirements, deci- eting or enforcing	n(s) of the "Zon sion, or a deteri	mination of a	Township official			
Zoning	Ordinance section(s)							
D.	Required Supporting Material -Property survey -Legal description -Proof of property ownership approval letter from owner -Site plan to scale -Written statement, which denext page)	o or	rting Material if A -Architectural s -Other	sketches	met (See			
1	le _	DBUGE OFFICIENC						
Olan at	us of Applicant	BRUCE GERSHENS	SON	— Dete				
Fee: _	HS0,00	Print Name Receiv	ed by/Date:	Molly Molly	1/16/17			
B e a ir	we) hereby grant permission to and of Appeals, Township experts the right to enter on tached information) in my acluding but not limited to the this is optional and will not	o staff members to the above de (our) absence f taking and the u	s and the Tow escribed proper for the purpose se of photograp	nship's repre ty (or as de s of gatherir hs. ( <b>Note to</b>	esentatives or escribed in the ng information			
Signa	ature of Applicant(s)		Date					
Signa	ature of Applicant(s)		Date		BOODING			

# APPLICATION FOR ZBA VARIANCE

# Change of Approved Non-conforming Building

For the Board to approve a dimensional variance, the applicant must show practical difficulty by showing:

 Unique circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure that are not applicable to other land or structures in the same zoning district.

This is an existing commercial building setback more than nine hundred (900) feet from the road, behind two (2) outparcel buildings and is in need of improvements and new tenants.

• These special circumstances are not self-created.

This is an existing commercial building in need of improvements and new tenants.

 Strict interpretation and enforcement of the literal terms and provisions of this chapter would result in practical difficulties.

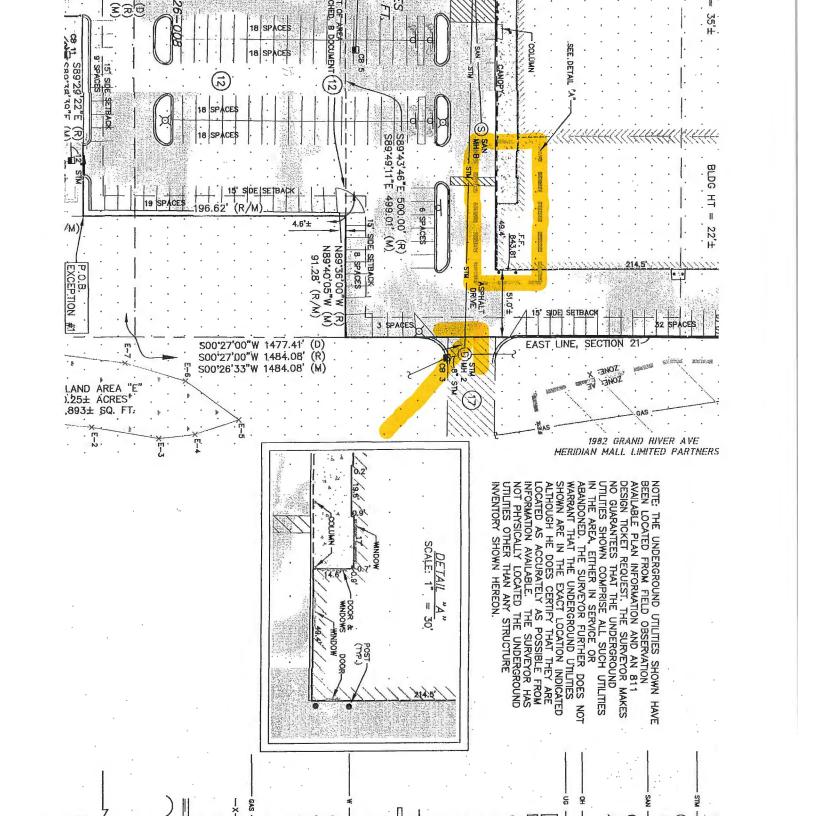
The property is unique due to the location of the existing commercial building. The owner is not able to fully utilize the tenant space without the ability to raise the height of portions of the existing building. The added tenant canopy would be the same height or lower than the existing adjacent Tenant storefronts and without this ability to raise the building height for new Tenants, the existing building space would be unleasable.

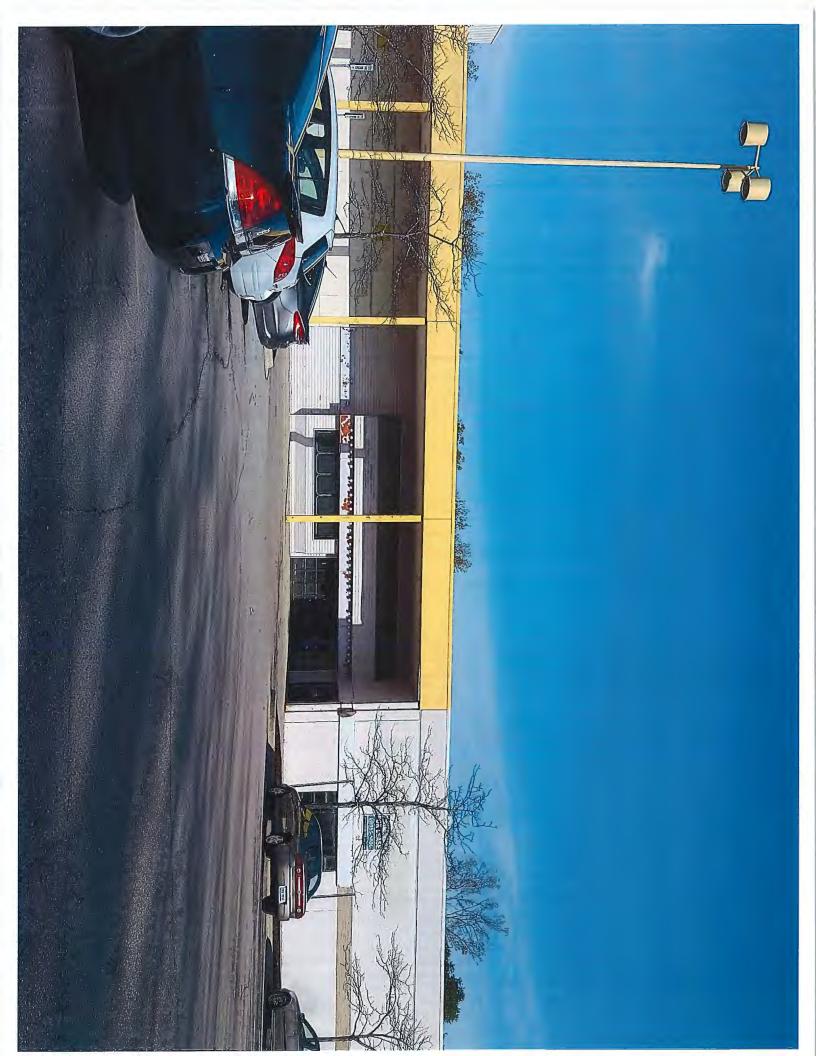
 That the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant variance would unreasonable prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose.

The problems that this development faces is not self-created, this is an existing commercial building in need of renovation to allow for new tenants.

 Granting the variance is the minimum action that will make possible the use of the land or structure in a manner which is not contrary to

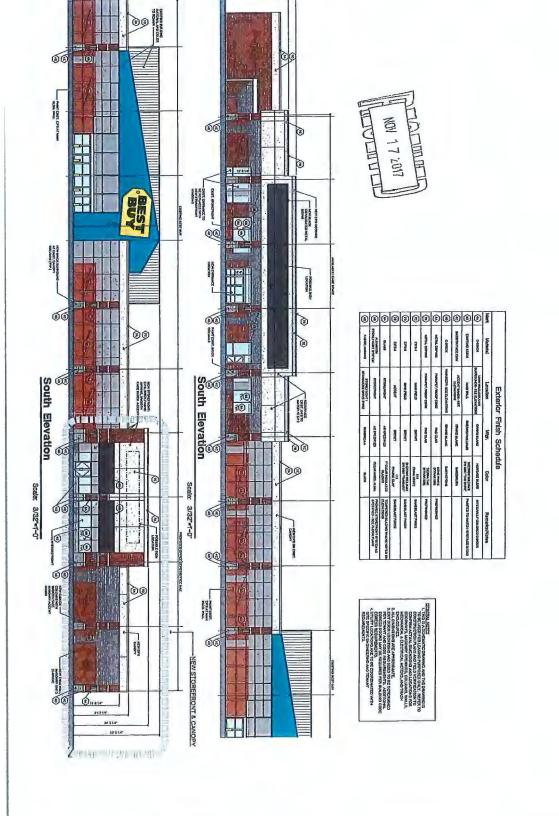


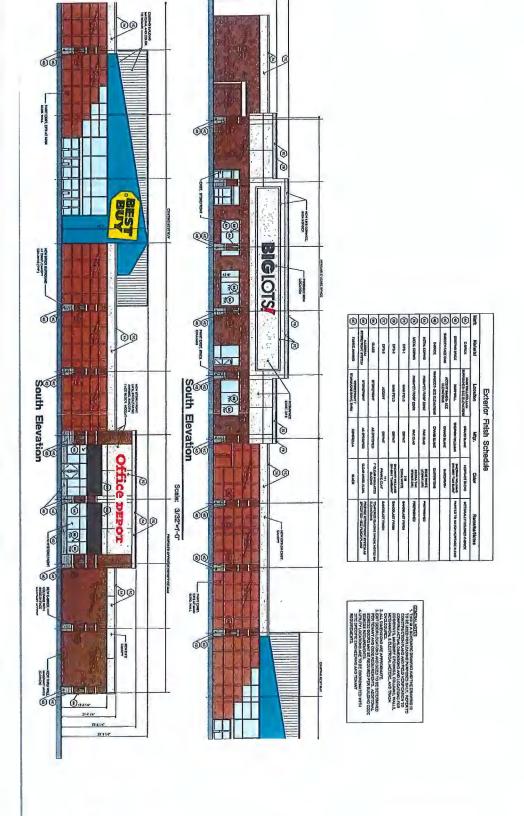


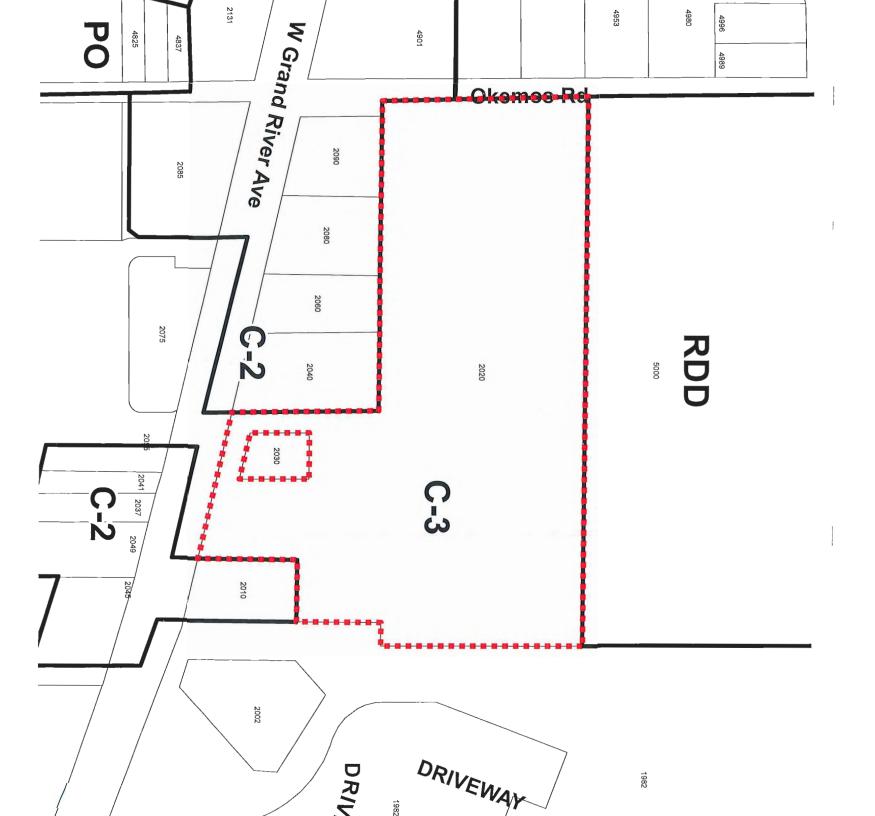














# PROPOSED BUILDING REDEVELOPMENT LANSING MART

# DESCRIPTION REVISIONS/SUBMITTALS

# GENERAL

Site BM — Arrow on Fire Hydrant on the North side of Grand River Avenue, South of Taco Bell. Elevation: 846.61 (NGVD 29)

BM #25 - Railroad crossing light at Northwest quadrant of Okemos Road and Grand Trunk Western Elevation: 849.17 (NGVD 29) (Revised 11/8/2017)

BM #27 — Railroad spike in the West side of a Power Pole at House #5023 on Algongain Way. Elevation: 841.02 (NGVD 29)

Subtract 0.43 from all elevations to obtain NAVD 88.

- 2. The contractor shall call "MISS DIG" at 1-800-482-7171 at least 3 working days (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to construction.
- 3. All work shall be done in accordance with the applicable codes, ordinances, design standards and standard specifications of the following agencies which have the responsibility of reviewing plans and specifications for construction of all items included in these plans:
  - a. Meridian Township b. Ingham County c. Michigan
- 4. The contractor shall apply for and obtain all necessary permits as required for construction of this project prior to the beginning of work from the previously mentioned agencies.
- 5. The contractor shall notify the Michigan Department of Transportation a minimum of 24 hours prior to any construction in the road right-of-way of Grand River Avenue (M-43).
- 6. The contractor agrees that in accordance with generally accepted construction practices, the contractor will be required to assume sole responsibility for job site conditions during the course of construction of the project, including the safety of all persons and property. This requirement shall be made to apply continuously and not be limited to normal working hours.
- 7. The locations and dimensions shown on the plans for existing facilities are in accordance with all available information. The engineer does not guarantee the accuracy of this information or that all existing underground facilities are shown.
- 8. When any existing utility requires adjustment or relocation, the contractor shall notify the proper utility company and coordinate the work accordingly. There shall be no claim made by the contractor for any costs caused by delays in construction due to the adjustment or relocation of
- 9. The contractor is to verify that the plans and specifications that he/she is building from are the very latest plans and specifications that have been approved by all applicable permit—issuing agencies and the owner. All items constructed by the contractor prior to receiving the final approval and permits having to be adjusted or re-done, shall be done at the contractor's expense.
- 10. Should the contractor encounter conflict between these plans and specifications, either among themselves or with the requirements of any and all reviewing and permit—issuing agencies, he/she shall seek clarification in writing from this engineer before commencement of construction. Failure to do so shall be at the sole expense to the contractor.
- 11. Unless otherwise noted the contractor shall furnish as—built drawings indicating all changes and deviations from approved drawings.
- 12. All signs and traffic control measures during construction and maintenance activities shall be constructed and installed per the latest edition of the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (M.M.U.T.C.D.).
- 13. LSG Engineers & Surveyors will not be responsible for field design changes made by the contractor or the contractor's surveyor where LSG Engineers & Surveyors has not approved these design changes.

# GRADING AND SITE WORK

- 1. Prior to grading, cutting and filling the contractor shall remove all topsoil, debris, vegetation, etc. from the site. Acceptable material excavated from the cut areas shall be used for fill. Fill shall be placed in layers not exceeding depths of 12 inches and shall be compacted to 95% of its maximum unit weight.
- 2. The contractor shall proof—roll the existing subgrade to determine its suitability. If, in the opinion of the engineer, the subgrade is unsuitable that portion of the subgrade shall be excavated and replaced with a minimum of 12" M.D.O.T. Class II granular material.

- 3. All site grading must be performed to insure positive construction and after project completion.
- 4. All sedimentation and soil erosion control measures shall be constructed prior to the commencement of site grading and must conform to Part 91 of Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994 as amended. All applicable permits shall be obtained before implementing these measures. The contractor shall be responsible for maintaining the sedimentation and soil erosion control measures throughout construction.
- drainage across the entire site, throughout the period of

(E) 1' CONTOURS

(E) 5' CONTOURS

(E) ELECTRIC LINE

(E) STORM DRAIN

(E) WATER MAIN

(E) WOOD FENCE

(E) WATER WELL

(E) FIRE HYDRANT

(E) WATER VALVE

(E) CATCHBASIN

(E) LIGHT POLE

(E) UTILITY POLE

(P) SIDE SLOPE

(P) RIP RAP

LOW POINT

HIGH POINT

FINISH FLOOR BENCHMARK

WATER SURFACE

(P) DRAINAGE BASIN BOUNDARY

(P) BASIN DESIGNATION

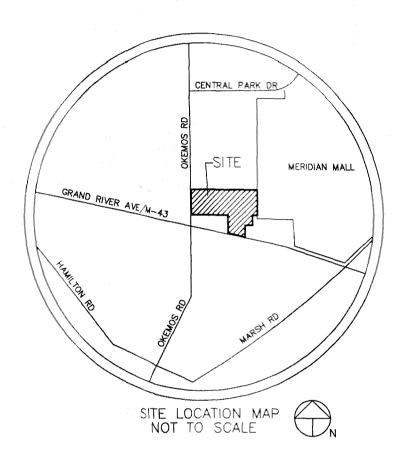
(P) BASIN AREA IN ACRES

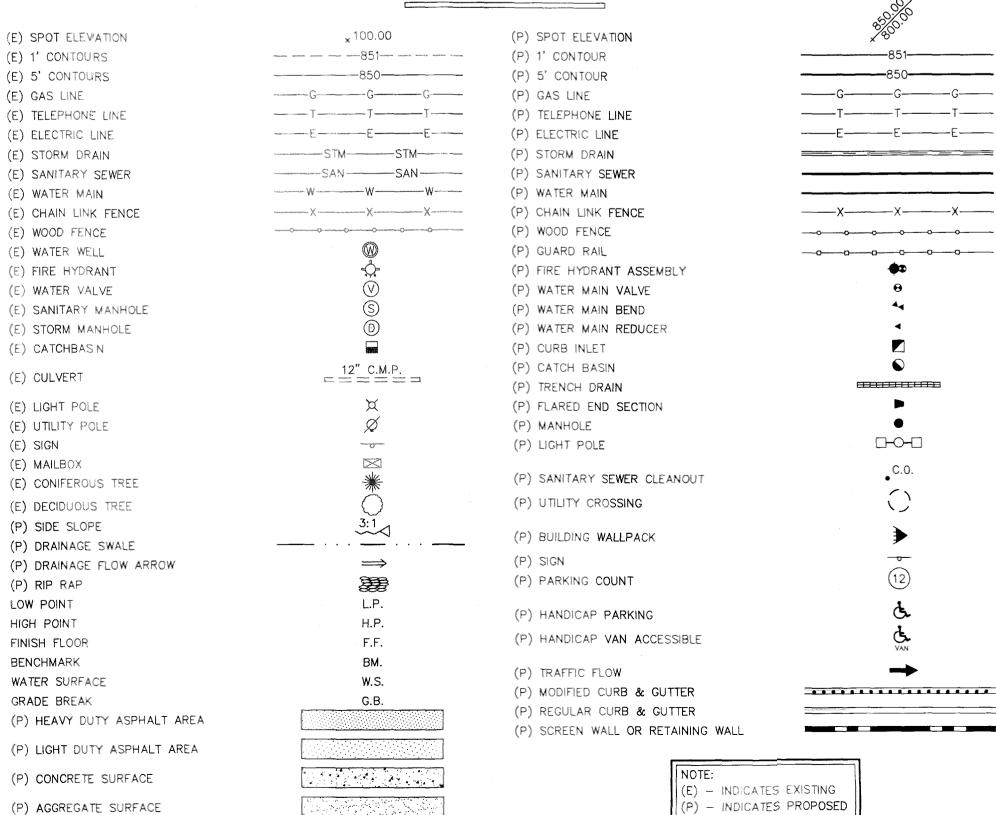
(E) CULVERT

(E) MAILBOX

(E) GAS LINE

2020 GRAND RIVER AVE OKEMOS, MI 48864





COVER

ALTA / NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY

SITE PLAN

**GERSHENSON** REALTY + INVESTMENT

31500 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY. FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334

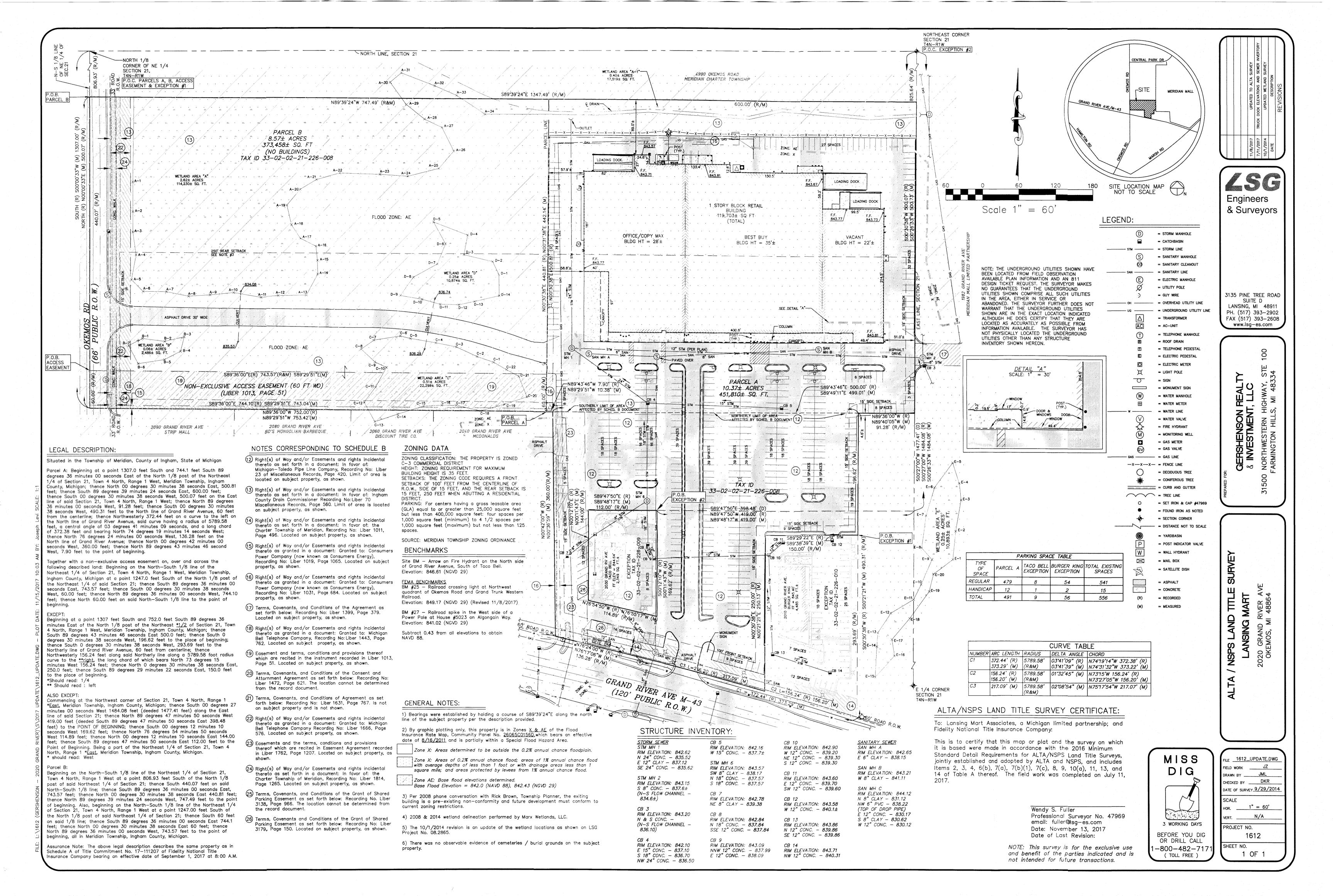


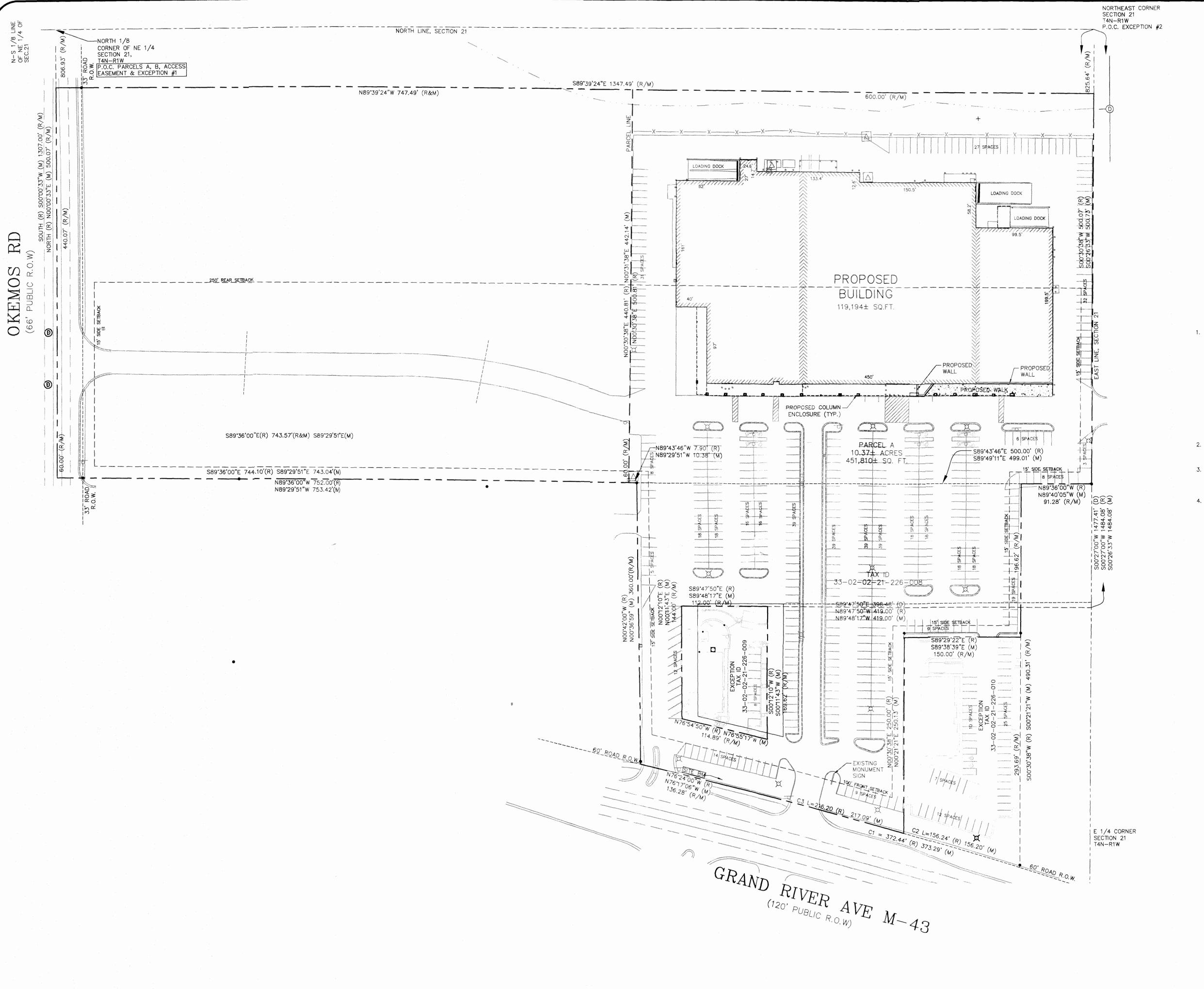


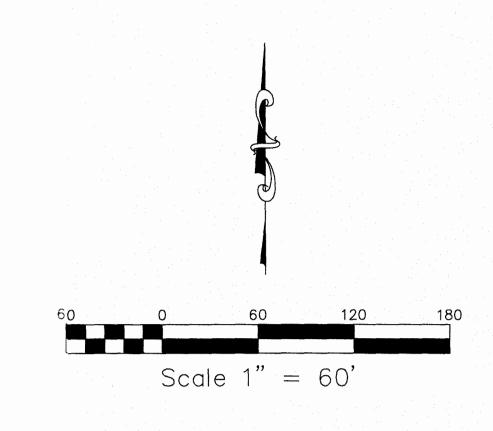
3135 PINE TREE ROAD SUITE D LANSING, MI 48911 PH. (517) 393-2902 FAX (517) 393-2608 www.lsg-es.com

PROJECT NO. 1612 SHEET NO.

DATE NOVEMBER 15, 2017







BENCHMARKS

Site BM — Arrow on Fire Hydrant on the North side of Grand River Avenue, South of Taco Bell. Elevation: 846.61 (NGVD 29)

FEMA BENCHMARKS

BM #25 — Railroad crossing light at Northwest quadrant of Okemos

Road and Grand Trunk Western Railroad.

Elevation: 849.17 (NGVD 29) (Revised 11/8/2017)

BM #27 — Railroad spike in the West side of a Power Pole at House #5023 on Algongain Way. Elevation: 841.02 (NGVD 29)

Subtract 0.43 from all elevations to obtain NAVD 88.

- 2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CALL "MISS DIG" AT 811 OR 1-800-482-7171 AT LEAST THREE (3) WORKING DAYS (EXCLUDING WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS) PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
- 3. LSG ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FIELD DESIGN CHANGES MADE BY THE CONTRACTOR OR THE CONTRACTOR'S SURVEYOR WHERE THESE DESIGN CHANGES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY LSG ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS.
- 4. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL DIMENSIONS ARE TO THE FACE OF CURB.

SITE ZONING: SITE USE: SITE AREA: BUILDING AREA: BUILDING AREA: BUILDING SETBACKS: FRONT: REAR:

C-3 COMMERCIAL RETAIL

10.37± AC

119,703 SQ.FT. (EXISTING)

119,194 SQ.FT. (PROPOSED) 100' FROM CENTERLINE OF R.O.W.

250' ABUTTING RESIDENTIAL PARKING DATA

PARKING PROVIDED:

REGULAR: BARRIER-FREE 479 SPACES 12 SPACES

TOTAL PROVIDED: 491 SPACES

NOTE:
BARRIER-FREE SPACES SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL REQUIRED AND THE TOTAL PROVIDED.

MISS DIG

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

SITE PLAN DESIGNED BY MLS DRAWN BY \_\_\_\_MLS CHECKED BY ADB DATE NOVEMBER 15, 201 SCALE HOR. 1" = 60'

VERT. N/A PROJECT NO.

SHEET NO.

1612

C2.0

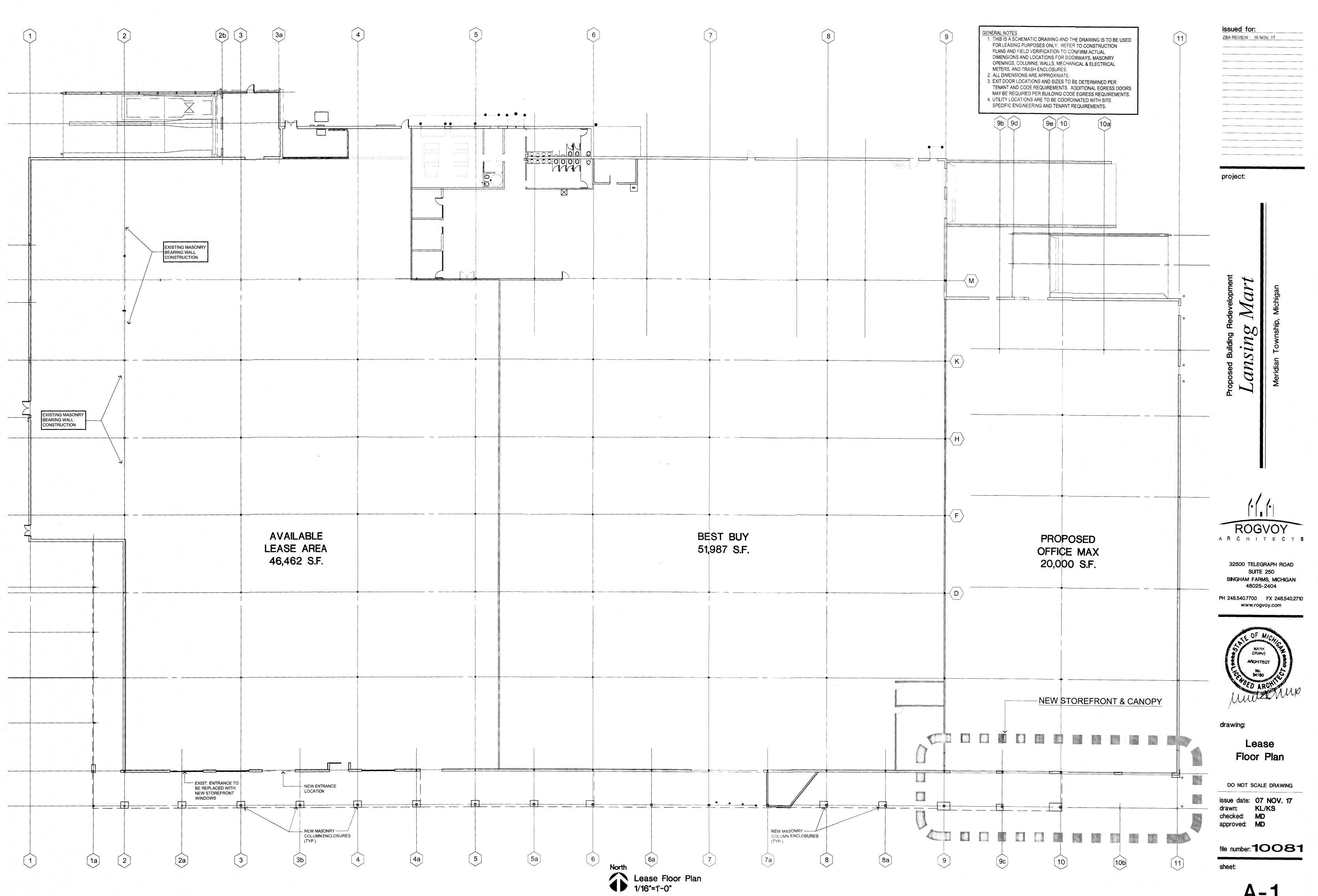
Engineers

& Surveyors

3135 PINE TREE ROAD SUITE D

LANSING, MI 48911 PH. (517) 393-2902 FAX (517) 393-2608

www.lsg-es.com

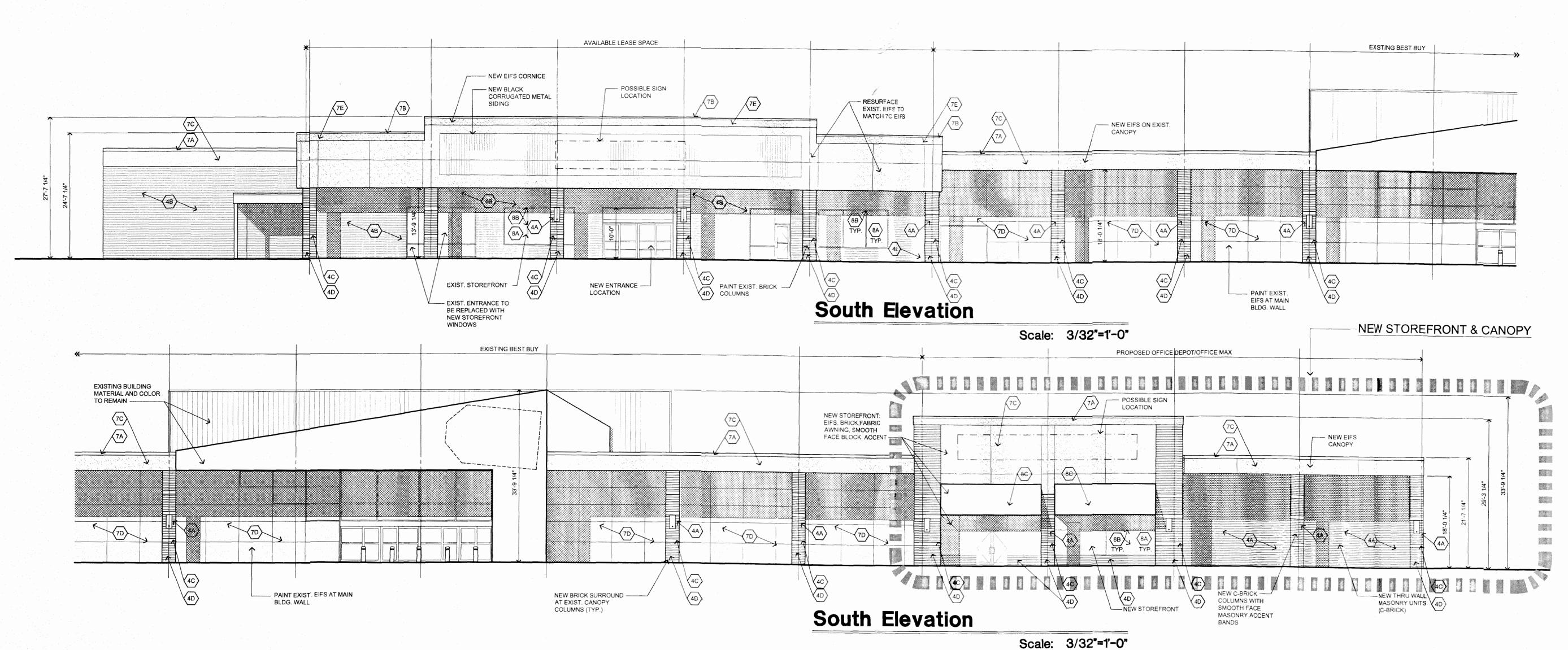




GENERAL NOTES 1. THIS IS A SCHEMATIC DRAWING AND THE DRAWING IS TO BE USED FOR LEASING PURPOSES ONLY. REFER TO CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND FIELD VERIFICATION TO CONFIRM ACTUAL DIMENSIONS AND LOCATIONS FOR DOORWAYS, MASONRY OPENINGS, COLUMNS, WALLS, MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL METERS, AND TRASH ENCLOSURES.

2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE. 3. EXIT DOOR LOCATIONS AND SIZES TO BE DETERMINED PER TENANT AND CODE REQUIREMENTS. ADDITIONAL EGRESS DOORS MAY BE REQUIRED PER BUILDING CODE EGRESS REQUIREMENTS.

4. UTILITY LOCATIONS ARE TO BE COORDINATED WITH SITE SPECIFIC ENGINEERING AND TENANT REQUIREMENTS.



issued for: ZBA REVIEW: 16 NOV. 17 

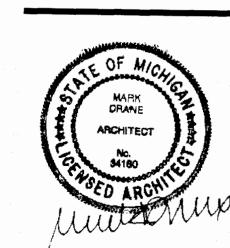
project:

in an



32500 TELEGRAPH ROAD SUITE 250 BINGHAM FARMS, MICHIGAN 48025-2404

PH 248.540.7700 FX 248.540.2710 www.rogvoy.com



drawing:

Conceptual **Building** Elevations

DO NOT SCALE DRAWING

issue date: 07 NOV. 17 drawn: KL/KS checked: MD approved: MD

file number: 10081

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To: Zoning Board of Appeals

From: Keith Chapman, Assistant Planner

**Date: January 5, 2018** 

Re: ZBA Case No. 18-01-10-1 (Carlin)

ZBA CASE NO.: <u>18-01-10-1 (Carlin), 1593 Maiden Lane, Okemos, MI 48864</u>

**DESCRIPTION:** 1841 Newman Road

**TAX PARCEL:** 02-177-006 **ZONING DISTRICT:** C-2 (Commercial)

The applicant is requesting a variance from the following section of the Code of Ordinances:

Section 86-618 (2), Nonconforming structures, other than single-family structures, may be
altered, expanded, or modernized without prior approval of the Zoning Board of Appeals;
provided, that structural alterations or extensions shall not increase the area, height, bulk,
use, or extent of the structure and shall satisfy all other applicable site development
regulations.

Brian Carlin, the applicant, has requested a variance to add a 116 square foot addition to the front façade for a vestibule and waiting area of a nonconforming building at 1841 Newman Road. The approximate 1.045 acre site is zoned C-2 (Commercial). The property is developed with two office buildings. The building on the north side was constructed in 1982 and currently does not have a tenant. The building on the south side of the property was constructed in 1984 and is occupied with a rehabilitation clinic. There are no changes proposed to the south building.

The submitted site plan shows an existing 2,737 square foot office building. The building is considered to be nonconforming as it does not meet the required side yard setback of 15 feet. The building is 10 feet from the west property line as was the required setback in 1982. Any addition to the building area requires approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). The applicant intends to increase the area of the front façade by adding 116 square feet. The overall area of the building will increase from 2,737 square feet to 2,853 square feet.

# **Site History**

• Township Assessing Department records indicate that the building was constructed in 1982.

## **Attachments**

- 1. Application materials
- 2. Site location map

G:\ COMMUN PLNG & DEV\PLNG\ZBA\2018 ZBA\ZBA 18-01-10\ZBA 18-01-10-1 (Carlin)\STAFF REPORT CARLIN



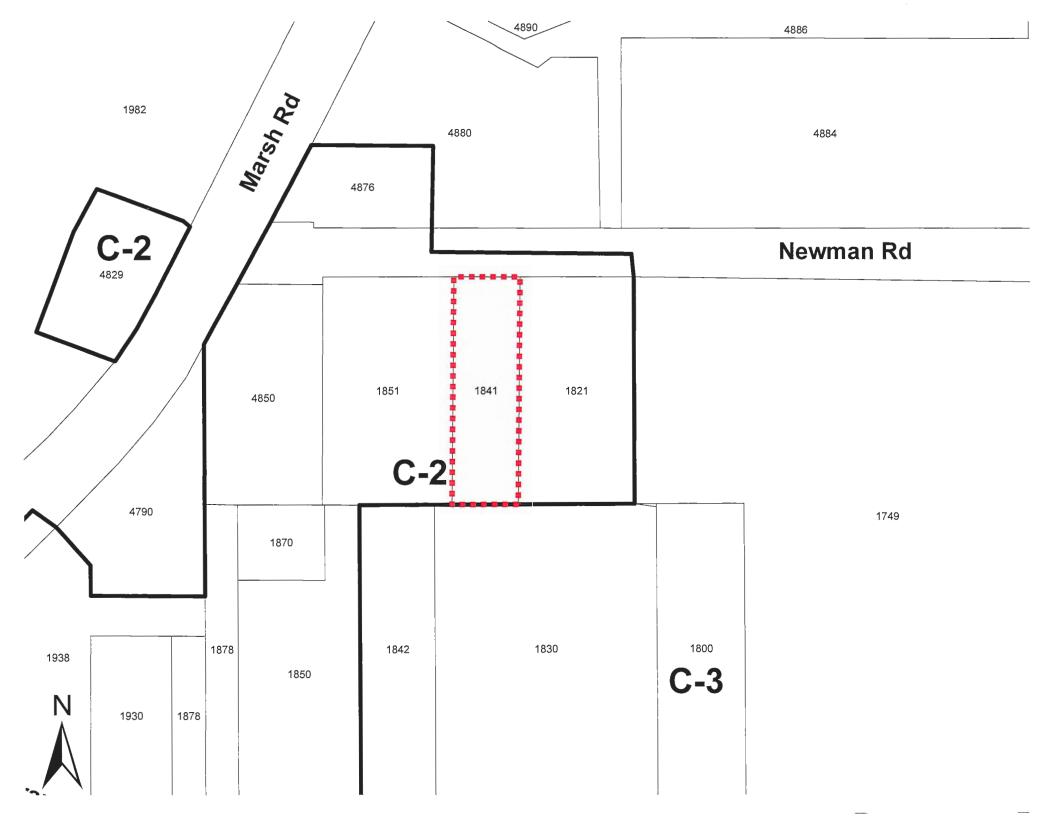
# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN PLANNING DIVISION 5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864 (517) 853-4560

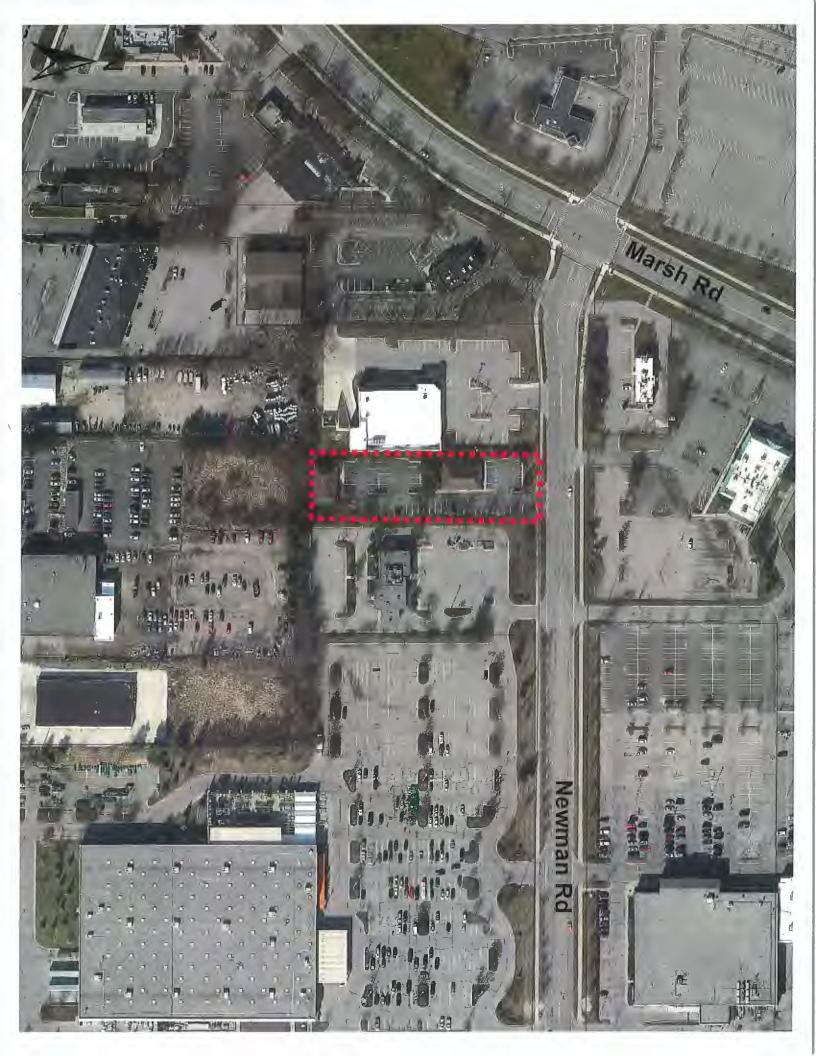
# **VARIANCE APPLICATION**

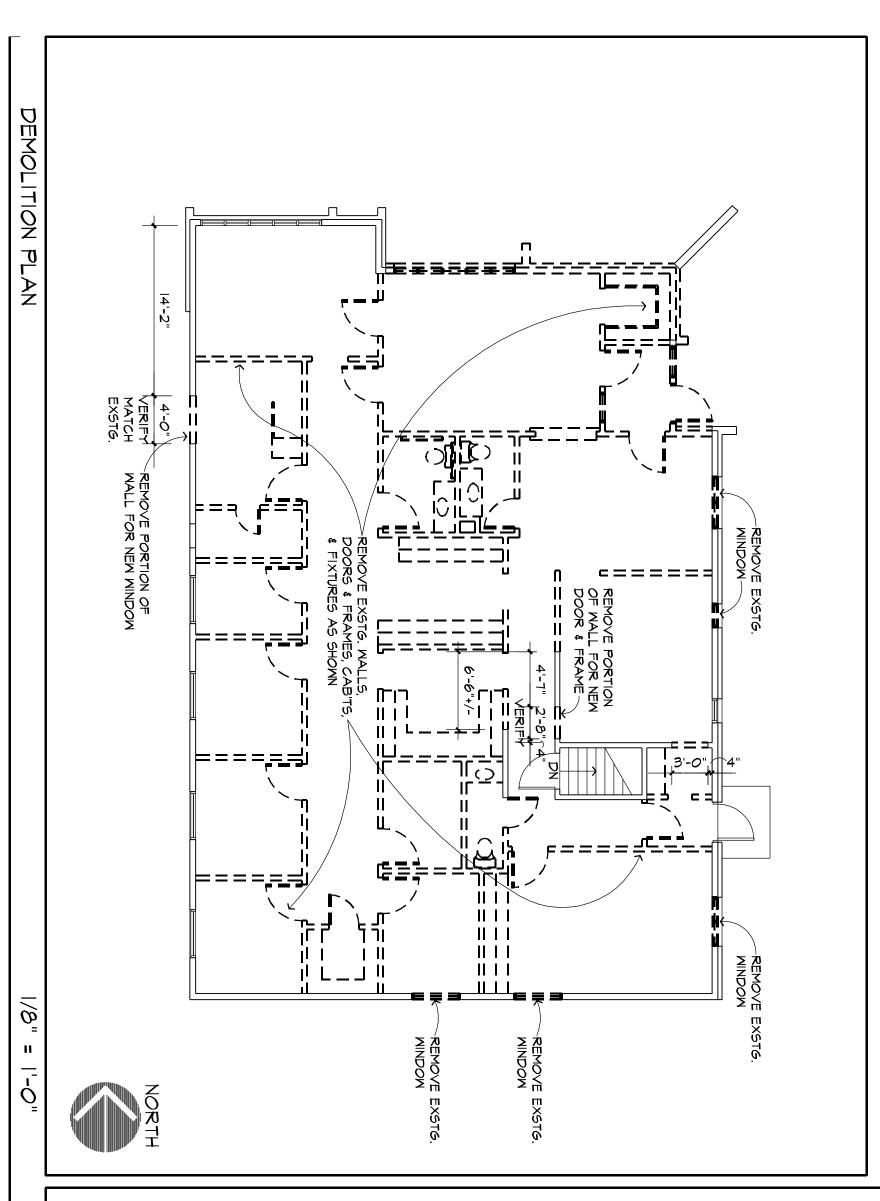
Applicant Brian Carlin Address of Applicant 1593 Maiden Lane, Okemos, MI 48864							
		s: _					
Interest in property (circle one	): 🔽 Owner	L	Tenant	Option	Other		
Site address/location 1841 Newman Road, Okemos, MI 48864							
Zoning district C2 Parcel number 33-02-02-177-006							
Nature of request (Please check all that apply):  Request for variance(s) Request for interpretation of provision(s) of the "Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances Review an order, requirements, decision, or a determination of a Township official charged with interpreting or enforcing the provisions of the "Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances							
g Ordinance section(s) 86-402(1)b							
Property survey -Legal description -Proof of property ownership or approval letter from owner -Site plan to scale -Written statement, which demonstrates how all the review criteria will be met (See next page)							
A series and							
Rure of Applicant	Print Name			Date			
\$450.00	Received	by/	/Date: 12/12/	2017			
Board of Appeals, Township experts the right to enter onto attached information) in my (oincluding but not limited to the ta	staff members a the above desi our) absence for aking and the use	and cribe the of p n o	the Townsed property a purposes bhotograph n your app	ship s represeld of as descrift of gathering in s. <b>(Note to Ap</b>	ntatives or bed in the information		
	Telephone (Work) 517-349-9692 Fax 517-349-1231 Interest in property (circle one Site address/location 1841 Newr Zoning district C2  Nature of request (Please che Request for variance(s Request for interpreta Ordinances Review an order, request (Please che of Ordinances) Required Supporting Material ordinances Required Supporting Material ordinances (Please Che of Ordinances) Request for variance (Please Che ordinance) Request for variance (Pl	Address of Applicant 1593 Maiden Lane, Okemos, MI 4  Telephone (Work) 517-349-9692  Fax 517-349-1231 Email address Interest in property (circle one):   Owner  Site address/location 1841 Newman Road, Okemos, MI Zoning district C2 Parcel  Nature of request (Please check all that apply): Request for variance(s) Request for interpretation of provision(s) Ordinances Review an order, requirements, decision charged with interpreting or enforcing the Code of Ordinances  Gordinance section(s) 86-402(1)b  Required Supporting Material Property survey Plegal description Proof of property ownership or approval letter from owner Site plan to scale Pwritten statement, which demonstrates how all next page)  Brian Carlin Print Name  Supporting Material Print Name  Brian Carlin Print Name  Received Material Print Name  Supporting Material Print Name  Received Material Print Name  Brian Carlin Print Name  Supporting Material Print Name  Brian Carlin Print Name	Telephone (Work) 517-349-9692 Teleph	Telephone (Work) 517-349-9692 Fax 517-349-1231 Interest in property (circle one):  Site address/location 1841 Newman Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Zoning district C2  Parcel number 33-02  Nature of request (Please check all that apply):  Request for variance(s) Request for interpretation of provision(s) of the "Zonin Ordinances Review an order, requirements, decision, or a determ charged with interpreting or enforcing the provisions of the Code of Ordinances  G Ordinance section(s) 86-402(1)b  Required Supporting Material -Property survey -Architectural sk -Other -Proof of property ownership or approval letter from owner -Site plan to scale -Written statement, which demonstrates how all the review critinext page)  Brian Carlin -Print Name  #450.00  Received by/Date: 12/12/2/17  (we) hereby grant permission for members of the Charter Townexperts the right to enter onto the above described property attached information) in my (our) absence for the purposes including but not limited to the taking and the use of photograph. This is optional and will not affect any decision on your appropring and the second of appeals of the content of the second of one on your appropriation of the content of the second of one on your appropriation of the content of the second of the purposes including but not limited to the taking and the use of photograph. This is optional and will not affect any decision on your appropriation of the content of the purposes including but not limited to the taking and the use of photograph.	Address of Applicant 1593 Maiden Lane, Okemos, MI 48864  Telephone (Work) 517-349-9692 Telephone (Home) 586-604-0185 Fax 517-349-1231 Interest in property (circle one):  Site address/location 1841 Newman Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Zoning district C2 Parcel number 33-02-02-177-006  Nature of request (Please check all that apply):  Request for variance(s) Request for interpretation of provision(s) of the "Zoning Ordinance" of Ordinances Review an order, requirements, decision, or a determination of a Totcharged with interpreting or enforcing the provisions of the "Zoning the Code of Ordinances  G Ordinance section(s) 86-402(1)b  Required Supporting Material -Property survey -Legal description -Other -Site plan to scale -Written statement, which demonstrates how all the review criteria will be met next page)  Brian Carlin 12/12/2017  Brian Carlin 12/12/2017  Received by/Date: 12/12/2017  (we) hereby grant permission for members of the Charter Township of Merida Sapports the right to enter onto the above described property (or as description of the right to enter onto the above described property (or as description of the purposes of gathering including but not limited to the taking and the use of photographs. (Note to Ap This is optional and will not affect any decision on your application.)		

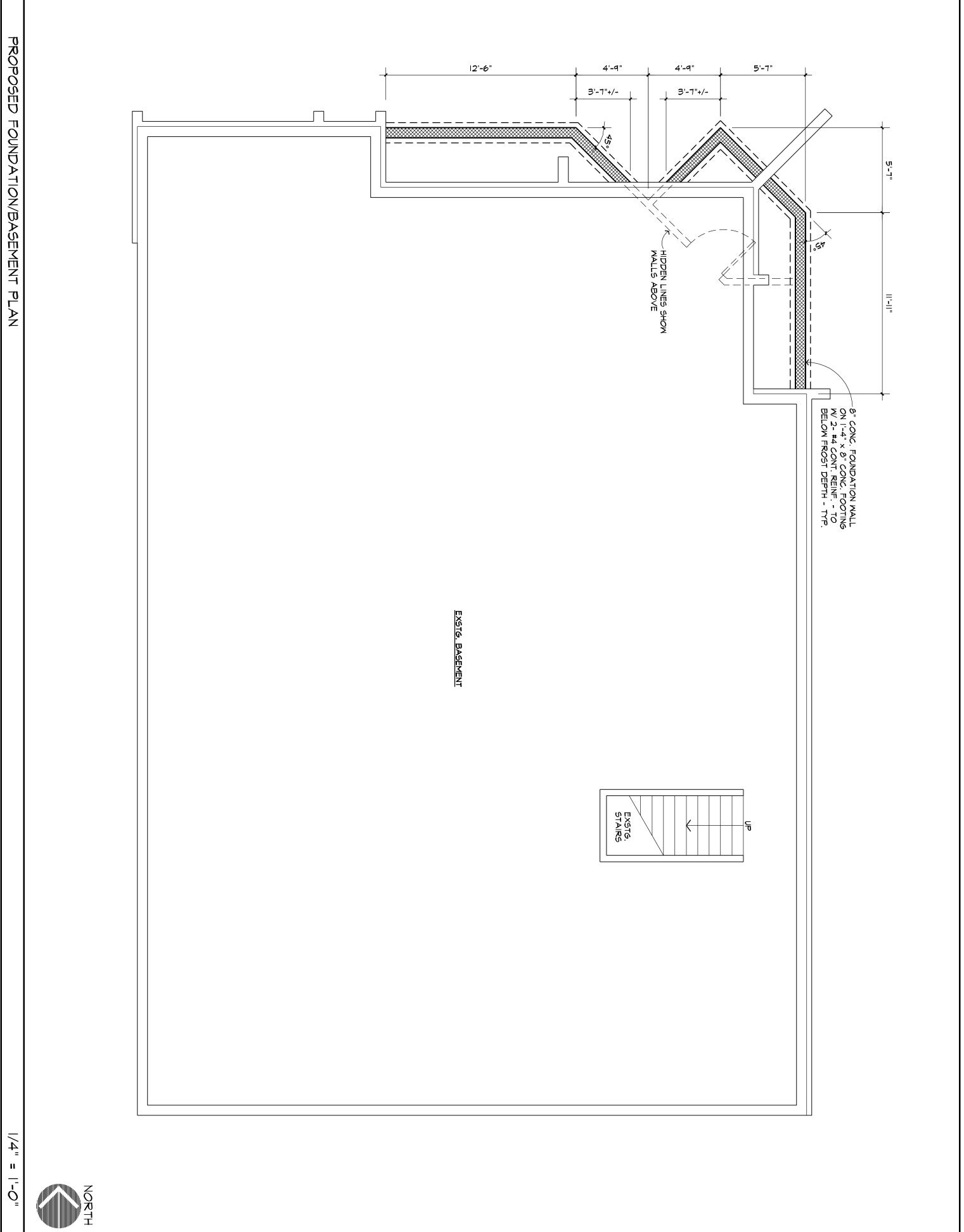
# VARIANCE APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT

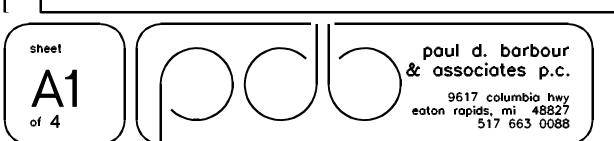
- 1. Unique circumstances exist with this property that are not applicable to other land or structures in this same zoning district. The required building setback and buffer requirements have changed since this property was developed.
- 2. These special circumstances were not self-created by this or the previous property owner.
- 3. Strict interpretation and enforcement of the literal terms and provisions of this chapter would result in practical difficulties. This owner would like to rearrange the interior of the existing building which will include enlarging the waiting room and adding a new vestibule entrance. All this will be done without changing the existing roof of the building but will change some of the exterior walls. None of the changes will be done in the required setback area.
- 4. That the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant the variance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose
- 5. Granting this variance is the minimum action that will make possible the use of this land and structure in a manner which is not contrary to the public interest and which would carry out the spirit of this zoning ordinance, secure public safety, and provide substantial justice.
- 6. Granting the variance will not adversely affect adjacent land or the essential character in the vicinity of this property.
- 7. The conditions pertaining to the land or structures are not so general or recurrent in nature as to make the formulation of a general regulation for such conditions practicable.
- 8. Granting this variance will be generally consistent with public interest and the purposes and intent of this Chapter.

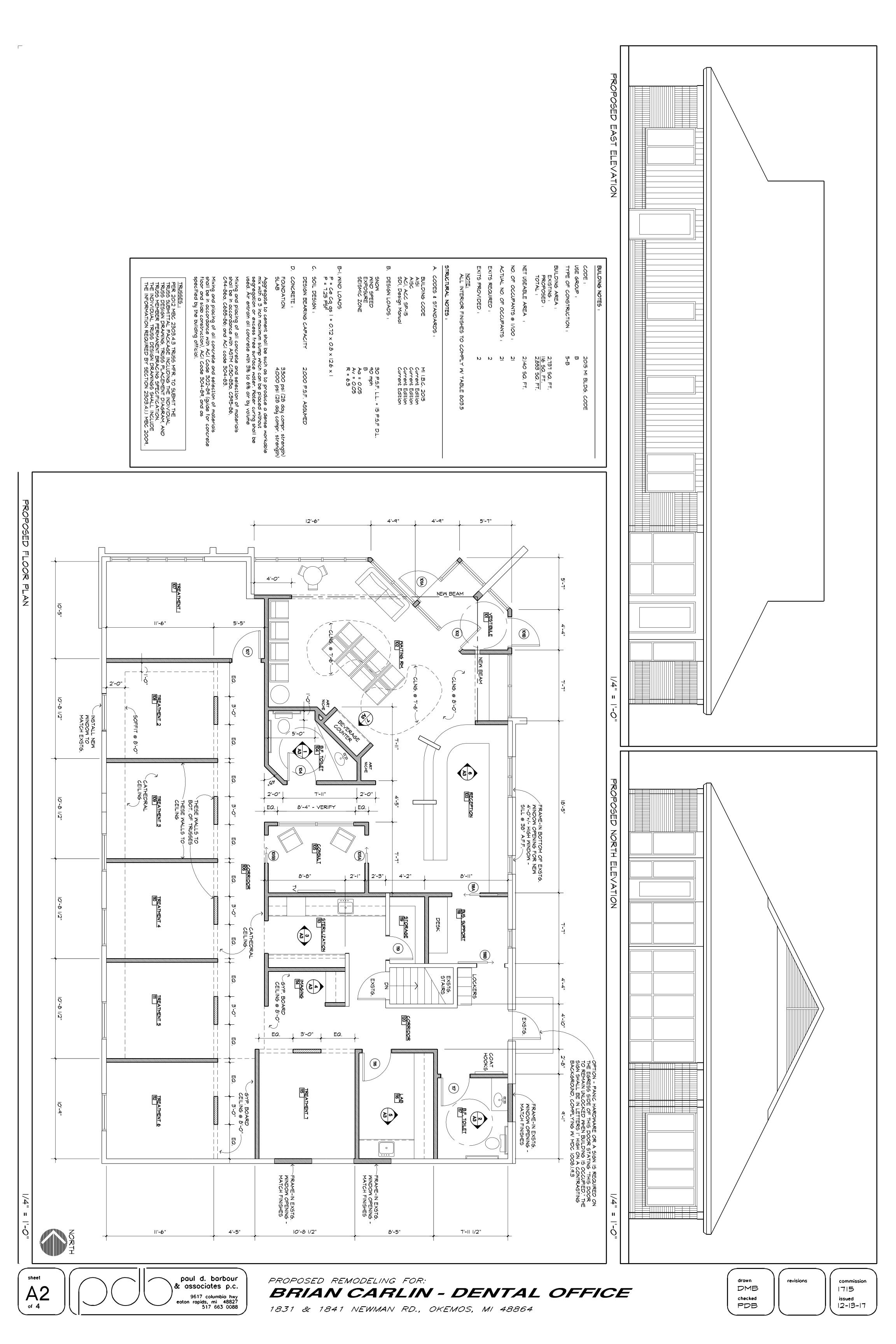


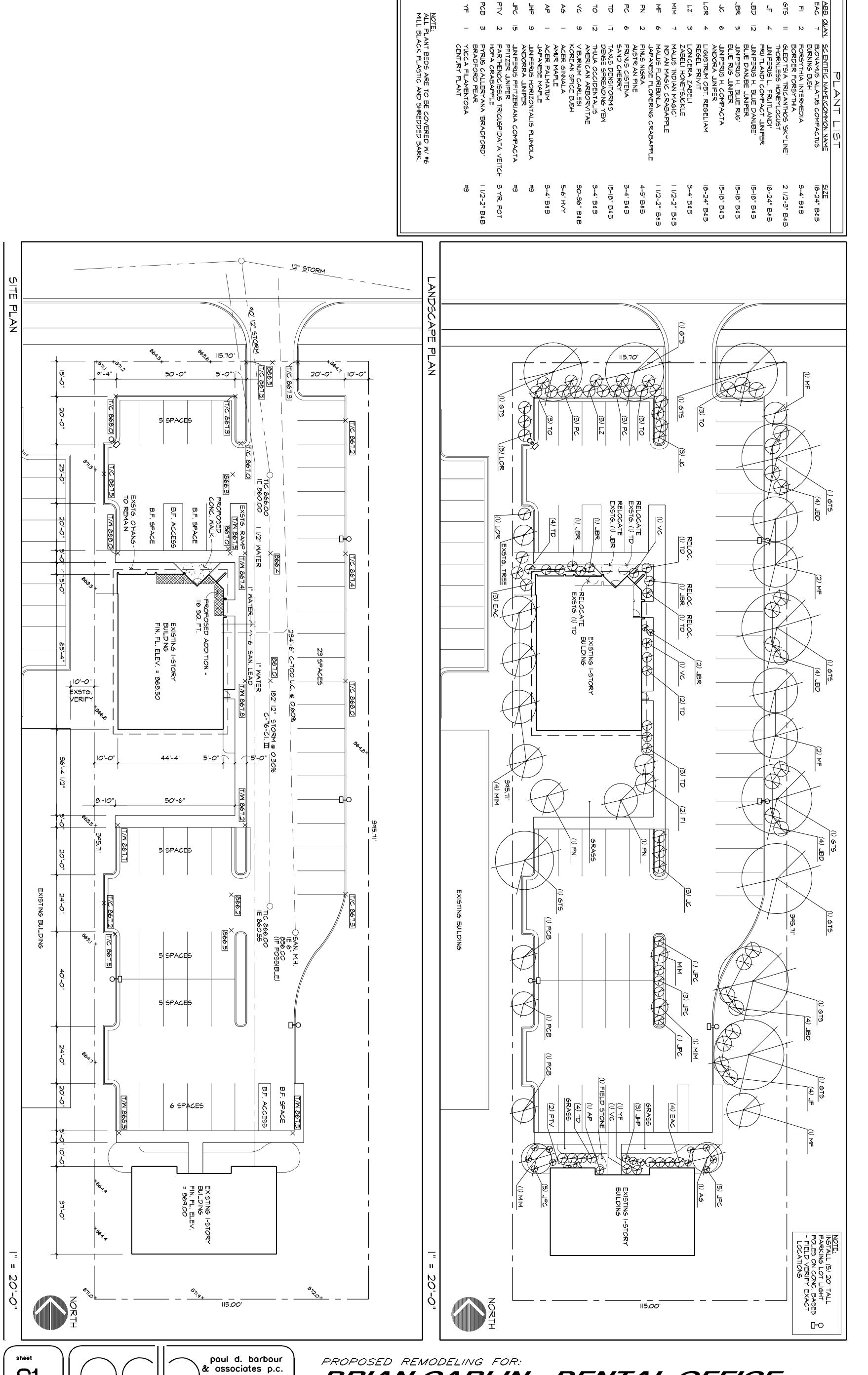












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DMB
checked
PDB

revisions

commission
1715
issued
12-13-17

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