CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD MEETING

Proceedings held on Thursday, May 13, 2021,
commencing at 1:00 p.m., Jacksonville Public Library, Multipurpose Room, 303 North Laura Street, Jacksonville, Florida, before Diane M. Tropia, FPR, a Notary Public in and for the State of Florida at Large.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
TREVOR LEE, Chairman.
J. BRENT ALLEN, Board Member.

FREDERICK JONES, Board Member, via Zoom.
CRAIG DAVISSON, Board Member.
WILLIAM J. SCHILLING, JR., Board Member.
BRENNA DURDEN, Board Member.
ALSO PRESENT:
GUY PAROLA, DIA, Operations Manager.
LORI RADCLIFFE-MEYERS, Redevelopment Coordinator SUSAN GRANDIN, Office of General Counsel
XZAVIER CHISHOLM, Administrative Assistant.

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May 13, 2021
PROCEEDINGS

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm going to go ahead and call to order the meeting of the DDRB for May 13th, 2021.

Before we get started, I'd just like to remind the board, we've got a large agenda today. We will be taking a break at some point, but please keep your comments concise and constructive for the applicants so we can be efficient with our time. Appreciate that.

We'll go ahead and start with Agenda Item A, approval of the April 8, 2021, DDRB regular meeting minutes. Do I have any conversation from the board?

BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: If none, I'll take a motion.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Move to approve.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion from Mr. Allen, a second from Mr. Brockelman for approval of the meeting minutes.

I'll take a vote. All those in favor say aye, please.

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BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you.
Also, before we begin, Mr. Chisholm, do we have any council members or representatives of the mayor's office or any board members online?

MR. CHISHOLM: Mr. Chair, I don't see any council members or board members or mayoral staff online.

If I'm missing somebody's name, please raise your hand or signify now.

BOARD MEMBER JONES: Mr. Jones is online.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jones, thank you. I'll acknowledge you for comments.

I just want to get from staff, is he available to vote?

MR. PAROLA: To the Chair, he is eligible to vote because you have an in-person quorum.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Mr. Jones, thank you for joining us.
All right. We'll start with Item B, DDRB 2020-018, 600 Park Street, final approval.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, could we have a staff report, please?

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MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Chairman Lee, I believe Mr. Parola is going to give the staff report for that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.
Mr. Parola.
MR. PAROLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Xzavier, we should have a PowerPoint that goes with this; is that correct?

MR. CHISHOLM: We do. Give me one second, Mr. Parola.

MR. PAROLA: Thank you.
We'll be discussing 600 Park Street, which is a Home2 Suites. They're requesting one deviation, which I'll go over in the staff report.

And let me apologize right out of the gate, I will probably be reading directly from the little sheet in front of me, my notes, so I'll go from there.

Slide, please.
This is a map of our overlay district (indicating). They're located in the Brooklyn district. As you can see on the slide, there's a little box that says Project Site. The project is located on the south by southwest

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side of Forest Street, between the interstate and Riverside Avenue, and is actually closer to the river -- the interstate side of things. Slide, please.
This is a picture of the site right now (indicating). As you can see, it's being used for surface parking. What this doesn't really illustrate -- if it were zoomed out a little bit, you could actually see the proximity of the site to the interstate.

Slide, please.
The proposal is to construct a new 6 -story, 10,700 -square-foot hotel with 100 rooms and associated surface parking. There's also a restaurant that is to be part of this with an outdoor dining experience. You can see that because that is the Rosselle Street frontage.

As currently presented, their proposal does not meet the Ordinance Code for the surface parking. As far as the form regulations go, in other words the vertical components, we found that the proposal does meet the requirements and they're not asking for any deviations from that.

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Per the Ordinance Code, no surface -- or expansion of existing parking is not permitted. Regardless if the site is currently 100 percent surface parking, once a new use jumps on there, it loses that and it's prohibited unless granted by this board a deviation.

In the Brooklyn district, deviations are permitted. I won't go into all of the -- the deviation criteria. I believe the applicant or the applicant's agent is going to go through those, but I do want to point out two of the deviation criteria because I think they're the most salient for the request.

First, there's this premise about a deviation, that it has to be based, in part, on site-specific conditions not generally found within downtown. This is one of the -- one of the criteria that we just couldn't find that this application met. I mean, it's a perfect square. There's nothing peculiar about its shape, speaking to the shape only.

The second one is that there's a shortage of parking in the area. I think it's responsible of staff to admit readily in that we find that there is a shortage of parking in

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the area. I think evidence of that would be the agreement we have with Florida Blue to use their parking garage spaces on weekends, holidays, and after 6 p.m. to help meet our demand for public parking in the area.

Slide, please.
This is an element of the building, and I think this slide is here primarily to illustrate that you see variations in material type, you see variations and undulations in it, you see that there's the transparent and -- on the ground floor. So we find that activation right there per the code.

And, in short, as for the vertical elements, we addressed those in our staff report and note that we did not find -- nor is the applicant requesting any deviations from those criteria.

I believe the applicant will now make their presentation. And if there's a handout, staff will be more than happy to present it, unless it's already been done.

MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: We have.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola.
We'll have the applicant's presentation.
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And I'd just like to remind the applicants, since this is for final, you know, we don't need to go through the whole thing. Let's talk about what's changed and -- also concise and clear.

Thank you.
(Ms. Trimmer approaches the podium.)
MR. PAROLA: Ms. Trimmer, you need to push
the button down so that your voice can be captured.

MS. TRIMMER: I did know that. I'm just in denial about this part.

Cyndy Trimmer, 1 Independent Drive, Suite 1200, on behalf of the applicant.

We have been in front of you a few times on this project, so I will be brief and stick to the highlights, except for the part where Xzavier told me I could switch the slides and I don't think I can. There we go.

If you want to fast forward to the site plan, that would be fine.

MR. CHISHOLM: (Complies.)
MS. TRIMMER: That's perfect.
So on the site plan -- when we were here last time, we were asked to look at further

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activation of the ground floor, specifically on
2 the Chelsea side of the property, to look at the hardscape/streetscape requirements, make sure that we were completely satisfying all of that, including all of the shade coverage.

We are delighted to report that we did get approval to do the restaurant definitively, so we have activated the ground floor with the restaurant that wraps Rosselle and Park. We have the outdoor activated space coming back along Rosselle.

We looked at the opportunity to relocate the storage and dumpster area to see if we could get a building on the Chelsea Street side. It wasn't accessible by the vehicles that need to be able to get to it, so that has stayed where it is, but we have expanded the bioswale. We've added further activation to the bioswale, which you will see when Andrew comes up and goes through the slides.

We have replaced the palm trees with shade trees. I understand "palm" is a four-letter word. You don't see any of them on this one.

Can we move forward to the landscape plan? Or this is good. Perfect. Thank you. Back

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one. Thank you.
We have just adopted the urban requirements for the streetscape with the benches, receptacles, lighting. Everything is completely standard, not asking for any relief there.

Next slide. Perfect.
We are meeting the shade coverage requirements and, otherwise, like I said, we have brought all of the landscaping up to the shade requirements there as well.

I will hand over to you Andrew to run through the site plans.
(Audience member approaches the podium.)
AUDIENCE MEMBER: This is the button?
MR. CHISHOLM: Yes.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Andrew Davis, 1640 Mitchell Avenue.

Yeah, so this is the ground floor of the building (indicating). Things have -- things to note are program elements, like the meeting room, the fitness room, the entry of the lobby, the serving/dining area and the restaurant are all along the street frontage of Park Street and Rosselle Street. So these public programs

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are along the street frontage, and this is also where we have an abundance of glazing on the ground level.

You can go to the next slide.
And then the floors above it, the second through sixth floors are just an abundance of hotel rooms, totaling to a hundred.

Next slide.
This is the elevation in front of us. This is the east elevation along Park Street. And as Cyndy was saying, we've addressed the concern about having a variety of -- thank you -- have a variety of materials and undulations along the facades.

Next slide.
This is the same thing along the -- the west elevation. This is towards the bioswale side.

Next slide.
This is the north and south elevations. And you can also see along each elevation the -- the transparent and ground floor.

These are the sections. This is really just for informational purposes. It's -- we can move on.

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to -- to the north elevation of the building.
You can see the covered area with the awning is
a structure that is above the area for the
outdoor restaurant, semi-private seating.
Next slide.
This is a zoom-in of another elevation example, but the previous comments to the other zoom-in applies to this too.

You can go to the next slide.
This is looking at the outdoor seating area for the restaurant.

Next slide.
This is also looking at the outdoor seating area for the restaurant. And then the corner that we're looking at is the restaurant itself. It's probably pretty obvious.

Next slide.
So this -- you can go to the next slide.
This is looking from the south. You can see that we have a tower element on this corner, just to kind of break the variety of the roof line.

Next slide. Next slide.
And then this is starting to look at -from the north, the area of the bioswale.

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There's an image, I think, right after this that's -- will talk better.

You can go to the -- yeah, right here.
Showing -- this is a change from last time where we're proposing a structure above the entrance to the site where we're having public seating and public art within the bioswale.

Next slide. Next slide.
And then this is what -- this is just signage, so -- I don't know if this is what you're talking about.

MS. TRIMMER: We'll be coming back for signage once we have the plan finalized.
There's the examples we have here. There may be some monuments that require a special exception.

Moving on to the deviation criteria, I've handed out for everyone a copy of the narrative that we provided with the application. I'm not going to painstakingly read it to you, but I will focus on the highlights.

We've gone through the affected proposed deviation. It's consistent and furthers objectives of the policies, design, intentions of the BID plan. The summary there is

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1 basically, we're looking to create a vibrant
2 24/7 downtown. We all focus on bringing residents downtown and what that will do for it, but what is explained in here and what is in the market study that was filed with DIA and the cover letter from Kelley Slay, who is one of the operators, is that we will be bringing individuals that will stay here long-term, that will basically have the same effect on the surrounding area as the apartment complexes. It will bring people that will be going up and down Five Points and Park Street and enjoying the road diet and taking advantage of all of the amenities that we're building in.

Obviously, not based on a desire to reduce cost, it doesn't diminish property values, not a self-imposed hardship. Staff has recognized all of those and I'm not going to belabor those points. Not going to be a detrimental effect to public health, safety and welfare.

I want to spend the time, though, focusing on the unique site characteristics where we've talked about -- parcel shape is what staff focused on the staff report. There's also other elements that go into that, including

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location and the use and what we have here.
So we've explained a few times over, and
Mr. Slay explained in one of the earlier hearings, why, with a hotel, it's essential that you have that centralized corridor with the rooms on each side, and it's not the type of product in this environment that's conducive to wrapping around structured parking, but we also have to look at where this project is. And it is the very outskirt of Brooklyn, very near the overpass, on a corridor. It has basically no activation today. We've got a lot of surface parking areas, the dialysis clinic, a gas station. This is what's typical up and down this corridor.

If you go to the block immediately behind us, it's where Brooklyn begins to transition to these one- and two-story industrial structures surrounded by surface parking. This isn't an area of town that has the dense urban development that we're trying to achieve with this standard.

We also have to consider that we're immediately adjacent to JASMYN, which is a residential facility. And we've put this

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bioswale along the back to create this gorgeous garden-type area with outdoor seating and activation that will be complementary to a residential use next door.

So I understand if this was the Urban Core, we wouldn't be bringing this product to you. And I wouldn't be seeking this deviation if we were closer to downtown, but the fact of the matter is the location of this site is unique, and I would ask that you adopt findings to say that the criteria that we have outlined for you do satisfy the deviation and grant it in this case.

And I'll stop there and be available for questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer. Appreciate that.

Mr. Chisholm, let's move to public comments. Do we have any to either read in or hands raised online or in the audience?

MR. CHISHOLM: Yes, we have received speaker requests, Mr. Chair. We'll begin with in-person speakers first, followed by those attending via Zoom.

First in person, we have Erik Kasper.
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(Mr. Kasper approaches the podium.)
MR. CHISHOLM: If you would state your name and address for the record. You will have three minutes to speak.

MR. KASPER: Erik Kasper, no need to speak. I'm just available for questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Appreciate that, Mr. Kasper.

MR. CHISHOLM: Online I see Steve Congro.
Please state your name and address for the record. You have three minutes.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.
Steve Congro, 2339 Miller Oaks Drive South, Jacksonville, Florida 32217.

You know, I feel like this -- the staff report here is really well-intentioned and it's clear, like, the staff is trying to follow the letter of the law, and I certainly respect and understand that, but I really think this is where the word "judgment" needs to win out. You know, like Ms. Trimmer said, if this building was in the Core, I'd agree with staff, but, realistically, on the two streets that, in my opinion, we really should care about, Park and Rosselle, the site plan is fine.

You know, I -- this is not -- you know -well, not some, like, architectural gem, candidly, no offense. You know, it's unquestionably better than the Residence Inn and the Gate gas station we've approved nearby.

You know, in reading the points of the staff report, they kept talking about the site and the site, and Ms. Trimmer alluded to that. And we were focused on the fact that it's a square and a shape. And I'm not a lawyer, so I don't know what the legal definition of, quote, the site is, but, I mean, if we're looking at whether or not the site is a square or a parallelogram or a trapezoid or -- or whatever, you know, and not considering the adjacent surroundings -- and, to me, the adjacent surroundings means both the public right-of-way and the other private property, then -- then that's not really in the spirit of what I think was intended here.

You know, Chelsea is a two-block street. It's cut off by 95 on one side and a ramp from 95 on the other side. That street is never going to be a pedestrian corridor. And I think we have to be realistic around, what are

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pedestrian corridors, what is a service corridor, and that sort of thing. And I think we have to be focused on Rosselle and Park Street, which, like I said, to any reasonable person those are the two most important streets, and the building actually addresses those pretty -- fairly well. And, I mean, it has a restaurant at the corner, which, I mean, after 5:00, is, I think, key for that area, for people to have a restaurant on the corner there.

You know, and the other thing is -- I realize, like, this is probably not something codified, but the fact that it's a hotel I think is also key. I mean, hotels have captive audiences. They almost always have to go out to eat for dinner. You know, that's something that's a benefit for our downtown, especially in a downtown without a huge hotel presence, without a huge convention center. You know, having the more hotels I think is stronger.

So I just ask the staff [sic] to really consider what power they have to override the staff on this one.

Thanks a lot for your time.
Diane M. Tropia, Inc., Post Office Box 2375, Jacksonville, FL 32203 (904) 821-0300 side of the river knows the Riverside,

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THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Mr. Chisholm, any other public comments?
MR. CHISHOLM: Mr. Chair, there is no other public comment at this time.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I put in a card. MR. CHISHOLM: We do have one more. (Audience member approaches the podium.) MR. CHISHOLM: Please state your name and address for the record, and you have three minutes.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: William Stanly, 3966 Ortega Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida 32210.

I'm here to voice my support for this hotel project. I've read the reports and studied the plans and I support the project for three reasons:

First, given the constraints and challenges of the site, it actually has three streets bordering it, plus the requirement of the brand and the franchisor. I believe their requested deviation is fair and reasonable and worthy of approval.

Two, as a former resident of Avondale and now of Ortega, anyone who lives over on our

Avondale, Ortega market is way underserved with hotel rooms. We need more hotels on our side of the river.

Three, you've got a great local team with Kasper and Corner Lot. They've worked with you for months to make this project better. Let's not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

This hotel is better than the last hotel in Brooklyn. And guess what? The next hotel will be better than this one. We are finally making good and real progress downtown. Don't stop the momentum. Don't stop the momentum.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your comments.

Mr. Chisholm, any other comments?
MR. CHISHOLM: We have no further public comment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I appreciate that.

We'll close the public comments and move to board comments.

Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Chairman Lee, thank you.

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I agree with the applicant. I think you have to look at where this hotel is positioned. I would, quite candidly, say that if it were closer to downtown, it would not have my support, but it's close to the interstate. It's very similar to what is surrounding it. So I think, based on that, I'm able to analogize this project with the surrounding area and I support the deviation to this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.
Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

To the applicant, I appreciate everything that you guys have done to enhance the site plan, to elevate the architecture. I think you've done a great job working with us.

I find your request for a deviation compelling and agree with a lot of the points that have already been articulated, so I'm happy to support your request today.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Brockelman. Mr. Jones, online.
BOARD MEMBER JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
Again, I think recognizing the context and
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looking at Chelsea Street, really as it functions as a tertiary street, and the work that the applicant did on the bioswale and trying to do the best they can in terms of activating the frontage with the outdoor seating and the landscaping, again, I -- I support this.

And, again, I think it just goes back to some of the challenges that we face and some of the flexibility that we need when we talk about the colocation of structures near or adjacent to the interstate context, so I support it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Jones.
Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I wanted to share a thank you to the applicant. I can tell that y'all have spent considerable time working on the facade and the colors. And I know that was a comment I had at the last meeting and -- and I'll share that I like what I see, and thank you very much for the time that $y$ 'all spent with that.

I'll also share that I'm in total agreement with my fellow board members that

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have spoken. Certainly site characteristics in the code speak to more than just parcel size, so I think the applicant has prepared a compelling argument that I certainly am willing and happy to support.

And those are all my comments. Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Schilling. Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I'm in complete support of the project. I do appreciate staff's position and I understand the -- that sometimes that is your role, and I do appreciate that. However, I agree with the public comments, with the board comments. And based upon the proposal as a whole -- and in particular the treatment along Chelsea and Rosselle that I think is very creative and a really nice design and will add to that neighborhood, as well as the letter, April 16th letter. Based upon the criteria and rationale in that April 16th letter, I'm -- I am -- I believe that the criteria for deviation can be met and is met; therefore, I'm going to be in support of the project.

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THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Durden.
I'd like to just reiterate all the comments of the board, share my own opinion of the project. I think it was well done and I think we're at the point where we can go ahead and move forward with a vote.

I'd like to confirm, are we voting on the deviation first before we vote for final?

MR. PAROLA: To the Chair, historically that's what's happened, the deviation first, then the project as a whole with the approval of the deviation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Then I'll take a motion for the deviation from a board member.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: So moved.
THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion to approve the deviation from Mr. Allen.

Could we have a second?
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: I have a second from
Mr. Brockelman.
All those in favor of approving the
deviation, please say aye.
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BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any --
BOARD MEMBER JONES: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Jones.
Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Then the deviation passes.

And then we'll move to final approval for the project. Do I have a motion for approval from a board member?

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: So moved.
THE CHAIRMAN: Motion from Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER JONES: Second.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: Second from -- we'll give this one to Mr. Jones online.

All those in favor of approving DDRB 2020-018 with the deviation we previously approved, please say aye.

BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: And any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: None opposed. Thank you. The project passes. Congratulations.
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(Audience member approaches the podium.) THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to move on -AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. I'm sorry. Excuse me.

I'm Kelley Slay with the hotel project. I just wanted to put on the record that I appreciate this board very much. You guys worked hard and we've ended up with a better project than -- than when we started, and it's a testament to you guys.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Slay, thank you for those comments. Appreciate that.

All right. We're going to move on to Agenda C, DDRB 2016-012, The District Modification.

We'll take a staff report,
Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers or Mr. Parola.
MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Yes. Thank you, Chairman Lee.

We'll just let Xzavier get it loaded.
MR. CHISHOLM: I'm sorry. Give me one moment.

MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: All right. There we go.

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My name is Lori Radcliffe-Meyers with the Downtown Investment Authority, and I will be providing the staff report for The District modification.

DDRB application 2016-012 seeks a modification to the previously approved Master Plan Design Guidelines for the development known as The District. The site is 24.25 acres and is located in the Southbank Overlay District. The Master Plan Design Guidelines received final approval on October 26th, 2016.

Everybody's familiar with the site location, bounded to the north by the St. Johns River, to the east by the marsh and residential property, to the south by Reed Street and the marsh, and to the west by Broadcast Place.

The request includes the creation of Parcel 9B; establishing a height limitation of 50 feet for Parcel 9B and to increase the height limitation of 35 feet to 50 feet for Parcel 3A; to add office and hotel as allowed uses on Parcel 4A; and to clarify the uses and the height limitation allowed on Parcel 5B. The modification also looks to align Health Walk with Back Bay Drive and merging Saunter

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Way into the Health Walk right-of-way.
Parcel 5B is shown on this land use plan as a 100 -space parking lot for City use and public parking. Uses can be established on this parcel for future development; however, development on this parcel is restricted until 100 parking spaces for the City and public use is established and assigned in one of the proposed parking garages.

Just as a disclaimer, the central park parcel as seen here is a City Parks Department project and the layout and design are yet to be determined.

The proposed height changes consist of establishing a 50 -foot height limitation for Parcel 9B and to increase the height limitation from 35 feet to 50 feet for Parcel 3 A to be in line with Parcel 9B, and to establish a 70 -foot height limitation on Parcel 5B, which is consistent with the 70-foot height limitation on Parcel 5A.

With the proximity of the boardwalk to the newly formed 9B parcel, staff worked with the development team and the engineer on recommendations on setbacks from the boardwalk

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and property line for the development, unit
orientation and landscape buffers.

Based on the foregoing, the Downtown Development Review Board staff recommends approval of modifications to the Master Plan Design Guidelines as follows: Creating Parcel 9B, which was originally part of Parcel 9A and $3 A$; establishing a 50 -foot height limitation on Parcel 9B; increasing the height limitation on Parcel 3A from 35 feet to 50 feet; aligning Health Walk with Back Bay Drive; merging Saunter Way into the Health Walk right-of-way; to allow Parcel 5B the same allowed uses as Parcel 5A, consisting of mixed-use retail, hotel, residential and/or office uses, and a 70-foot height limitation, which, again, is in line with Parcel 5A; to add office and hotel as allowed uses on Parcel 4A; and that residential units built on Parcel 9B shall not face the boardwalk and marsh; and a dense landscape buffer shall be provided from ground level up to 15 feet to screen the building.

This concludes the staff report and staff is available for questions.

Thank you.
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THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers. I appreciate it.

I'd like to call the applicant to please approach.
(Mr. Schilling approaches the podium.)
THE CHAIRMAN: State your name and address.

I'd also like to acknowledge that Board Member Schilling is going to recuse himself from voting or commenting.

Thank you.
MR. SCHILLING: Thank you, Chairman Lee.
I'm Bill Schilling. I'm a professional engineer with Kimley-Horn and Associates, 12740 Gran Bay Parkway West, Suite 2350, Jacksonville, Florida 32258.

As mentioned, I will be recusing myself from this vote and accordingly have filed the Form 8 with staff a little bit earlier today.

I am here today representing Elements Development of Jacksonville, who is the master developer of The District; and the Community Development District, which is the entity that has been established to construct the horizontal improvements on the project.

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I believe -- on the Zoom call right now I believe we also have Ramiro Albarran, John Dinan, Zach DeVries and Lynn Wheatley, who represents Elements Development of Jacksonville, the master developer.

Let's see. All right. So it looks like it's working. Thank you.

And I brought the hard copy -- the well-used hard copy with me, but, as mentioned, there was a -- there is a set of Master Plan Design Guidelines that was approved by the DDRB in 2016 that basically provides the overall vision and direction and development standards for the site. And so long as those standards are followed and guidelines are followed, then each of the parcels can develop within the site without having to come back to DDRB.

I'm excited to share with the board that as of April 5th construction has started on the site, the first phase being the school board parking lot. And so you'll see activity and equipment out on the site if you were to drive by it today, so we're very excited about that.

But one of the things that has become clear to us as we have spent the past couple of

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years now working on design and working on our approvals, there's certain items within the master plan guidelines that -- it's an appropriate time to revisit at this point in time, and so I think --

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers did a great job of hitting the summary, so I'm going to skip this slide and was just going to talk about a couple of the specific items, just to familiarize everyone.

I don't know if the pointer works. The pointer does work.

So the first item, which is the creation of Parcel 9B -- this is 9B right here (indicating), which was, in the old plan, part of 9A and 3A. We have done that because there are some logical dividing points that include a large JEA power easement here and the cul-de-sac that comes right here.

To make for logical parcel lines that -that at the time the original plan was developed, that was not fully considered, so that's the reason for the creation of the new parcel being split out from two existing parcels.

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As a part of that, on the new Parcel 9B we are establishing a new 50-foot height requirement. For the northern portions of what was Parcel 9A, the height requirement or height limitation was 120 feet, so we're actually reducing, on part of the parcel, from 120 down to 50 feet, and for parts of that we're actually increasing from 35 to 50 .

So within the design standards, there's Page 38, which is the height table, and so that's one of the specific items that's being updated. You can see that those two items are now 50 feet that are highlighted in red.

And this shows the -- the 50 foot down on the end, where before this 120 feet extended all the way to the marshfront, and this was 35 down to this corner. So in some areas it's a balancing act, in some areas we've reduced the height, and in some areas we've actually increased the height.

This is Page 42 out of the design guidelines (indicating). And, again, this is the more current page that reflects the new isometric view of the heights within the project. And it shows the 50 feet down on

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Parcel 9B.
On Parcel 4A, previously it allowed a mix -- mixed uses, residential and retail. In speaking with end users -- we have gotten some tremendous interest from office users as well and hotel users, so -- so we're asking to add hotel as an approved use to 4A, and I'll show that -- so this is Parcel 4A (indicating). And today it's -- it only allows retail and residential and we're asking that it include hotel and office.

Health Walk and Saunter way. So it would be easier to describe this with a picture. So the picture on the left is the approved picture today. And this is Health Walk (indicating), which is an actual right-of-way with a two-lane roadway within it.

This is Saunter Lane (indicating), which is a walkway that is within an easement that splits between these buildings. As we've looked at the overall site plan and worked on the design, we have found Back Bay Drive, which is an approved part of the plan. Health Walk works much better when it is more central to the site and aligned with -- with Back Bay

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Drive.
And so what we've done is we've essentially relocated Health Walk to the center and we've taken Saunter Lane, which is the walkway, and we've added it as a mixed-use path along the east edge. And what it's allowing us to do -- this is our marshfront park in the southern end of the site, and this is the central City -- large City park. This will give us a direct connection between those two parks with a mixed-use path that will allow bicycles and pedestrians.

So we think it's a much better design solution now that we've had a chance to really study it and get into the design.

And then there was discussion of Parcel 5B, which is the clarification of uses, and Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers did a great job.

So on the current plan today, it's designated with a maroon hatch with the word "parking." As a part of the redevelopment agreement, the master developer is required to maintain a hundred public parking spaces. This will be the location of the parking spaces on 5B until such future time as the parcels

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develop and we're actually able to (inaudible) public parking spaces into the parcels.

So in the interim, it will be a hundred -a minimum hundred-spot parking lot, but as those public -- as the parcels develop and those spaces are moved into the site and that parking lot is no longer needed, the intent would be for it -- 5B to be developed with the same uses as on 5A.

That's the summary of the quick version of the presentation. The one thing that I did want to address is -- I know the conditions in the staff report. They were conditions A through F. I know that -- that I -- I think Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers added an item under the recommendation, which is adding the office and hotel to the uses on Parcel 1A.

But the last condition that is under the recommendations regarding -- the residential units built on Parcel 9B shall not face the boardwalk and marsh and a dense landscape buffer shall be provided from ground level up to 15 feet to screen the building, we do have concerns about that condition. And I know that we have feverishly been working over the last

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48 hours to try to reach an agreement on some changes to this condition which, unfortunately, as of 1 o'clock today we had not reached final agreement with staff.

My understanding -- and I'll just mention a couple of things. And I don't mean to put words in staff's mouth, but my understanding is staff is concerned about buffering between the boardwalk -- and let me see if I can get to this next slide.

So what we're talking about is -- this is Parcel 9B (indicating), and this is where we have a boardwalk, a raised boardwalk coming through the marsh. And I understand that staff's concerned about there being buffering and landscaping between the units on 9B and the boardwalk. And I know that we've worked to develop some language.

I will share that it has been -- the original master plan envisioned the multifamily, which these are going to be three-story -- three-and-a-half-story urban townhomes -- had always envisioned being able to have those townhomes face the marsh. In fact, we think that's what's adding tremendous

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value to those units, for them to be marshfront. And for them to be restricted and not be able to be marshfront and not to be able to face the marsh we think is very detrimental to value and the ultimate design.

So I know that we have drafted some revisions to this last condition that I'll pass around, that -- I'm hoping, board members, that y'all will be able to work with us and we can reach some sort of resolution that will work for everyone.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Schilling. Does that conclude your presentation?
MR. SCHILLING: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, it does.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
We'll move on to public comments.
Mr. Chisholm, are there any public comments?
MR. CHISHOLM: I do not have any speaker request cards for in-person. And via Zoom we have Zach DeVries with his hand raised.

You can go ahead and come off mute, Zach, and you have three minutes. Please state your name and address for the record.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: This is actually Ramiro Albarran with Preston Hollow Capital and Elements, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas, 75201.

Members of the board, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your time. I'm speaking on behalf of the development company.

And I, too, want to echo Mr. Schilling's comments as it relates to, you know, some flexibility on the provision as relates to the units that face the boardwalk. I think once the final plan is, you know, revealed, you'll see a great deal of setback as it relates to those units and the boardwalk and I think we will ultimately be able to meet the objectives, making sure that, you know, there's good separation between the private and public areas.

You know, the reason this is such an important topic for us is that we are currently under contract, you know, for this site. And we want to make sure we preserve the flexibility that, you know, will be an important first step, you know, on what's going to be a very important project, I think not
only to us, but I believe the city of Jacksonville. And we're requesting, you know, the board's consideration, again, for that flexibility, you know, as it relates to, you know, those units that could face the boardwalk because we, too, are sensitive to maintaining that separation, but what we don't want to have is our hands tied behind our back as it relates to the ability to follow through on a contract here with, again, a very well-recognized --

Unfortunately, it's a confidential -- we have a confidentiality provision on the purchase and sale agreement, but it has been executed and we want to preserve the flexibility to, you know, provide the best project, you know, for The District. And I say that all inclusively not only as it relates to the private side but the public side.

We are approaching this project very seriously as it relates to those public uses, and I think we've been great partners with the City and DIA as we've been working through all of, you know, the various conversations here.

And, again, I'm asking for, you know, the board's consideration on the flexibility for,

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you know, those units that would otherwise face the boardwalk.

Thank you. And that's the extent of my -you know, my comments.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
If you could -- and I apologize, could you restate your name and spell it for us?

Thank you.
MR. ALBARRAN: Sure. It's a hard one.
It's Ramiro Albarran. Spelling is R-a-m-i-r-o. The last name, A-l-b-a-r-r-a-n, and I'm leading the efforts on the development side for Elements at Preston Hollow Capital.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Albarran. Appreciate that.

Mr. Chisholm, are there any other public comments?

MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we have no further public comment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
I'd like to move on to board comments.
Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think I -- I agree with the applicant.
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I think this is a tremendously exciting project for Jacksonville. It looks like a place that is very multi-functional both for the residents that will be living there, the people that are going to be staying in the hotel, eating at the restaurants, and most importantly the public as well.

I have looked at the proposed recommended language of the applicant and I think it's a very reasonable approach and a very reasonable solution.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.
Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I tend to agree with the applicant, but maybe just for staff, I'm just trying to wrap my head around the intent of your position on this. When we talk about the units facing the boardwalk and the marsh, is that the -- the entire facade of the building or are we talking about just the first floor sort of access in terms of doorways out onto the ground level? Can you talk a little bit about that and where

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patios shall not face the boardwalk or marsh; and only second and third floor patios or balconies may face the boardwalk or marsh." So that initial goes to our intent, but we also know that the end user will have a vision. The end user is going to need some flexibility. And certainly at this time staff cannot tell you whether six, five or seven is the right number of units, you know, maximum, to face it.

So we've -- we would like to have the additional language -- and this goes to offering an ability to bring back a site plan for your consideration -- and said, "Deviation from these standards may be granted only by concurrence of the DIA chief executive officer."
(Board Member Davisson enters the proceedings.)

MR. PAROLA: Remember, the DIA chief executive officer is essentially the head administrator of what our board has approved, and our board has approved this site plan and this boardwalk with the intent that the boardwalk is an open space and rural and relatively, to the greatest extent, unaffected

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1 by the built environment. So it's only fair that, as the representative, she gets a review of it and the Downtown Development Review Board is final action.

In other words, what we're saying is we understand, here is the site plan, we live with it, we understand the site plan is final, but for this particular parcel, or any other parcel, quite frankly, as Mr. Schilling pointed out, that deviates from the relatively strict letter of the Elkus Manfredi plan would have to come in for final review anyway.

So we're just saying, in this instance, if the condition isn't met, the developer or an end user has the right to petition our CEO and then petition the Downtown Development Review Board for relaxation.

So I don't need to belabor this anymore. I believe Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers put her condition in front of you.

Thank you for the opportunity.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola.
I'd like to recognize Mr. Davisson has joined us. I'll also ask that he sit this one out since he hasn't had the privilege of

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hearing everybody's commentary from the beginning. And then I'll ask Ms. Durden for commentary.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Mr. Chairman, I just have a quick follow-up.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you.
And, again, I just -- without making it too lengthy, I just want to make sure I understand.

The position of staff is that balconies overlooking the boardwalk, even if they are a minimum of 40 feet away, that -- because there would be people out on the balconies at some time, that you would consider as infringing on the built, natural landscape, less so than if there was just a solid facade?

I mean, I guess I'm trying to wrap my head around what the $A$ and the $B$ scenario are here.

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, you captured it perfectly with one exception I would make. We're not entirely concerned about the second and third floor because they look down and don't relatively affect anyone that's on the ground level. We're more concerned

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about the eye-to-eye contact from an outside space on a private development to the boardwalk.

Again, they've given a recommendation and we've given a recommendation and we live with the wisdom of the board.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: I appreciate that.
Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you,
Mr. Chairman.
I'm going to be declaring a conflict on this project and so I'm not going to be providing any comment.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Durden.
Mr. Jones, online, please.
BOARD MEMBER JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
Again, I agree with the applicant and the
spirit of the flexibility that's needed in a robust master development plan like this.

I do have a tendency to agree with staff, so to the extent that we can keep that condition and just work through some of the granular details through the board process to

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the point that Mr. Parola just made.
That's it.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Jones.
Mr. Schilling, I'd like to ask, have you
seen the revision to Condition $G$ staff just provided to the board?

MR. SCHILLING: Mr. Chairman, yes, I have.
A couple of thoughts. And I think part of what I passed out is -- there are certainly parts of this that we have no objection to and we're in support of. In fact, I think the language that I offered reflects the first two sentences, so there are no -- no objections there.

It is the third and fourth sentences where we feel pretty confident right now there are going to be issues. Certainly -- and a couple of thoughts. One, certainly the current plan envisioned these units looking over the marsh, and -- and one of the whole reasons for buying a beautiful 32-acre parcel on the river and marsh is so you can take advantage of those views, and so -- and so that was part of the thinking.

We recognize staff wanting to have some
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buffering, and so why we did look at that 40-foot spacing, because we -- we believe that it is very likely there will be more than six units on Parcel 9B that will face the boardwalk and the marsh. And we certainly, fully expect that the end user -- again, it's a luxury, high-end home builder. They are going to want to have patios on the ground floor, looking out the back.

But we do envision there being landscaping so that -- and that was part of what we were trying to capture and encapsulate in what -- in the language that we had proposed, so there will be some screening, and those residents would not be looking right into the boardwalk. People on the boardwalk would not be looking right into the backyards.

But we feel confident that the third and fourth sentences are not going to work. And then the next sentence about the spacing no closer than 12 feet, we have no objection to that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. If I could ask Counsel, Ms. Durden would like to ask a question. She's recused herself. Is it okay

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if she continues dialogue?
MS. GRANDIN: Yes.
THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Actually, my question is to the staff and maybe the applicant, and it's really for the board's clarification.

I notice on the recommendation that the applicant handed out that there are two paragraphs identified as $F$, and the second $F$ is not in the staff report. So I -- before you vote or make a motion, I'm a little -- I just want to make sure that that is clarified.

Is that a new -- is that a new $F$ to add -office and hotel is allowed uses on Parcel 4A -- or was it just inadvertently left off the list of staff recommendations? And I'm just asking for clarity.

Thank you so much.
MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Board Member Durden, through the Chair, yes, correct, that was staff error. That was left off the -- that was part of the original modification request and that was an error by staff.

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wrapping these townhomes around the end so that we have more of a height transition as you're coming across from the single-family, where you're going from 50 feet, and then they'll have 120 feet behind it rather than 120 feet sitting right on the edge.

So I think the situation we're making is better in going to staff's concern about people looking right over the boardwalk. So I wanted to share that as well for the board members to consider.

THE CHAIRMAN: So as I see it, we've got a couple of options here in front of us. We can accept the staff's recommendation, we could accept the applicant's recommendation, or we could try to create something from both of them.

You know, I think my initial reaction is, because of the marsh and the Riverwalk and, as you suggested, Mr. Schilling, being in some places very close and very engaged and other places being apart and kind of hidden in this marsh, you will get a lot of that sort of in and out. And it seems difficult to place restrictions on this one corner in this one

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1 instance, although I would still like to hear any recommendations from the other board members on which direction we ought to take, but my inclination is to accept the applicant's recommendation.

I would also like to ask staff, if any deviations for Item H are needed, we would still have to come back before the DIA chief executive and DDRB. And if that's not the case, then I would like to add that.

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, as it is, if they deviate from the original Manfredi plan as modified -- and I see the way we're going here. As it gets modified then, if they deviate from that, they have to come back to the Downtown Development Review Board.

Again, our concern with the marsh wasn't the built side of the equation; it was the public is building the boardwalk and we were looking out for that.

If I'm reading the board correctly and you're agreeing with the applicant, what I would say is, if we can -- if staff can review any landscape and buffer plans prior to going into ten-set, then, if that were added to the

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applicant's condition, we at least would sleep better at night.

MR. SCHILLING: And, Mr. Chairman, I don't believe we have any objection to that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Schilling. Thank you, Mr. Parola.

Mr. Parola, so is that -- does that mean that this last sentence about concurrence with DIA's CEO and DDRB is redundant?

MR. PAROLA: It will be stricken. Yes, sir, it is redundant.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Allen, Mr. Jones, Mr. Brockelman, I look to your opinions.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Yeah. Again, I think the applicant's recommended language is very reasonable. I don't see any reason to put any additional red tape on their design plans. I certainly understand why they need to sell and market marshfront views. It makes sense to me.

I don't know if one is allowed to have a grill in this particular spot, but if I were going to buy a marshfront place, I'd want to put a grill on the ground floor. It just kind of makes common sense, so I -- I am strongly leaning towards the recommendation of the

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applicant.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I agree. And if Mr. Schilling doesn't have an issue with Mr. Parola's suggestion, to me that makes me feel a little more comfortable.

And I would just say in general, as we look across downtown and other projects that may come forward, whether it's dealing with the Emerald Trail or other things, I can't imagine that we would want to do things that restrict people's access to these types of assets, and especially in this case where the CDB that's funded by assessments on the property is helping to fund a number of the improvements as well.

I think it's fair to -- with the applicant's suggestion, Mr. Parola's suggestion, if you agree, Mr. Schilling.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jones.
BOARD MEMBER JONES: I do concur with my fellow member, Mr. Brockelman, in this context.

I just wanted to, you know, make it known
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that I was -- I agreed with staff's concern about that. And if there's just a way to create a happy medium here -- and I -- it appears that this is the best path forward for them to meet. And if the applicant is fine with that, I'm in full concurrence.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Jones.
So we'll accept the applicant's edits as submitted with the addition of staff reviewing landscape -- final landscape before ten-set approval?

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, yes, sir.
And staff, when we write the condition, understand you to mean engineering review and --

THE CHAIRMAN: Engineering review. Thank you.

So I think we have an agreement on that, H approval -- or a recommendation for modifications to the plan.

Let me ask staff or counsel to -- are we voting on each modification or can we approve modifications at one time?

MS. GRANDIN: You might have a discussion
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with the board to see if anybody has a problem with one of the -- you know, one of the changes. If you don't, take them all at once.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I'll open it to the board. If there any concerns with an individual one, please state so.

BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Hearing none, then we'll take them all at once.

Is there any further clarification that needs to be made on H or are we confirmed on the language? I'll look to staff.

MR. SCHILLING: And, Mr. Chairman, I was just going to state, as I understand it and as we're agreeing to it, that the landscape buffering would be subject to review by DIA staff prior to submittal for ten-set, and the applicant has no objection to that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.
Then I'll take a motion for approval.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: So moved.
THE CHAIRMAN: I have a motion from
Mr. Allen -- excuse me, Mr. Brockelman. Excuse me.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Second.
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mercantile suites, a restaurant space, and 24 studio and one-bedroom apartments. The building is a locally designated landmark designed by Henry Klutho and built in 1924. The project has received both NPS and HPC approval and has received a Certificate of Appropriateness.

So based on the foregoing, the Downtown Development Review Board staff supports final approval of DDRB Application 2020-015.

This concludes the staff report. Staff is available for questions.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers.

I'd like to recognize the applicant, Ms. Robbins.
(Audience member approaches the podium.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Please state your name and address. And since we are going through final approval, I think just the changes or any updates are all we need to review.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. I'm Brooke Robbins, principal architect with Robbins Design Studio, 40 East Adams Street, Suite 4,

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32202.

So, again, we're here to talk about 218 West Church Street, the Baptist Convention building adaptive reuse. So our design team members, all local engineering, design firms, construction firms.

Again, the building is in pretty significant disrepair, as we've discussed last time. We have, you know, an interior terrarium going on in the building. So the intent is to repair and restore the property to an adaptive reuse, mixed-use development of apartments, mercantile and restaurants, basically.

So, again, we'll skip through existing elevations.

Again, the site plan, as
Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers mentioned, we're at the corner of Church and Hogan Street, so you have the Baptist Convention building on Church Street and then the Federal Reserve is on the corner, which we'll talk about in the next presentation.

So, again, the site -- the property is bound on the east and west, we have two alleyways that separate it from adjacent

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properties.
And we have added, as discussed within the concept design presentation, the City streetscape standard; trash cans, bicycle racks. We do have a private residential bicycle rack that's located within the alleyway behind a gate that would be concealed from -from site, from the street frontage and the benches.

And, again, two live oak trees will go in to frame the front entry to the building, along with the street lighting and such to meet those requirements as well, so --

And showing the two new live oak trees going in (indicating).

New elevations. The front facade, this faces Church Street, so we're restoring the historic facades. There will be brick repair, limestone repair, new windows going in that meet the historic standards. So you have on the upper facade aluminum-clad wood windows and on the first floor aluminum storefront going in.

On the east facade -- and you'll see in a second the west facade. We, additionally,

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the building with some uplighting, highlighting

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have, on the lower -- you can see there on the image, the lower right-hand side where the basement and the half-level and the one-and-a-half level, we have steel replica windows going in that meet the historic standards as well.

Again, the back view. A new emergency egress there going in on the back side of the building, and that's -- the building currently only has one egress within it.

So a view from the courtyard that we'll talk about in the next presentation, but essentially the way the building is organized is you have half levels on back side of the property. There's a basement and a half level and a one-and-a-half level. So we're adding new entrances off of a courtyard that's going to be located on Hogan Street into the back of 218 Church Street that will provide access to the future restaurant spaces. So those have been incorporated on the side.

Exterior lighting. We are -- as this is predominantly residential, we are kind of highlighting the architectural components of
the cornice work and the detailed date and the limestone at the top, and highlighting the front entry with the canopies and such. So really taking a kind of gentle approach to lighting of the building to more highlight the architectural features of it.

These would be white LED lighting only, not color-changing (indicating).

And, again, just the lighting plan for your reference, predominantly along the front facade with security lighting down the alleyways for the egress path.

And then additional views of the exterior uplighting.

Signage. So we are -- as part of this project, there are a couple of signs that are already inherent in the building, incorporated into the stonework. So there's a -- erected in 1924 stonework at the top, and then also the Florida Baptist Building stonework below the cornice that will remain. And then down lower we will add (inaudible) letters -- or numerals that will just give the address of 218 Church Street. And then, additionally, just a vinyl graphic over the door with the address on it as

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well.
Floor plans. As you can see, we have a basement level. So as I mentioned, on the north side of the plan, which is actually plan right, we have a lower basement, so that would actually be building service areas. And then the upper basement, which we refer to as the basement-and-a-half level, is a future restaurant space.

And then the first floor, this is the main entry off of Church Street, so you come in off of Church and you have two future tenant spaces on either side, then you go up a half a level into the back of the building, which is also a future restaurant space, again, with an entry off of the courtyard.

We are adding an ADA lift -- (inaudible) ADA lift to get access to both the basement and the half level and the one-and-a-half level.

And then the upper floors, 2 through 5, each floor has five apartment units, so there are four one-bedrooms and two studio units, and all the floors are the same.

Materials. Essentially, we are restoring the existing facade of the building, so there's

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limestone that needs repair, brick that needs repair or replacement as it's missing. As I mentioned, we have the new windows going in, the residential windows, which are the aluminum-clad, double-hung, wood windows.

And then, additionally, on the -- in the restaurant spaces, the steel replica windows, which both of those have been approved by the National Park Service. And the front entry canopy, which would also be powder-coated steel. And then the new storefront, as previously mentioned, on the first floor would be clear, anodized aluminum to match the existing historic front.

Additionally, we have a gate that is going in to secure and screen the alleyway, which would be the equipment yard, location of dumpsters, and those sorts of things will be located. So this will be a powder-coated, aluminum, louvered gate to provide, again, that security for the alleyway.

And that is our presentation.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Robbins. Appreciate that.

Mr. Chisholm, do we have any public
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comments?
MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, I do not see any hands raised on Zoom and we do not have any public -- or speaker request cards.

THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Then I'll look to the board for comments. And this time, Ms. Durden, would you start us off? BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would just like to say that I think that everything that the applicant has proposed and your hard work, Ms. Robbins, really shows that through -- in this project, and the proposal.

I'm in support of the project and also staff's recommendation for final approval.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I'll echo the comments that were just made. This looks great. And thank you for everything you've got done. And I look forward to supporting this.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jones.
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BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
The motion passes.
MS. ROBBINS: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to move on to Item E, DDRB 2020-016, 424 North Hogan Street, adaptive reuse, final approval.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, could we have a staff report?

MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Yes. Thank you, Chairman Lee.

So I'll be providing the staff report for the Federal Reserve building.

So, again, DDRB application 2020-016 seeks
final approval for an adaptive reuse of the
Federal Reserve building built in 1923 and located at 424 North Hogan Street. This site is .22 acres in the Central Core Overlay District.

So at the meeting, again, on September 10th, 2020, the Downtown Development Review Board voted for conceptual approval of application 2020-015 subject to the following recommendations: Again, prior to submittal for final review, the developer shall meet with
staff to identify any deviations sought. At final review, the developer shall provide enough detail so as to illustrate that the pedestrian zone meets the definition of such in the ordinance code and that streetlights, benches and street furnishings shall be placed in the amenity area.

So, again, everybody is familiar, it is bounded to the north by Church Street; to the east, Hogan Street; to the south by Sweet Pete's; and to the west by the Baptist Convention building.

So the proposal is to convert the building into a mixed-use development, including restaurant, business and banquet space, along with an exterior courtyard for outdoor dining. Again, this project as well has received both NPS and HPC approval and has received a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Again, based on the foregoing, the Downtown Development Review Board staff supports final approval of DDRB Application 2020-016.

This concludes the staff report. Staff is available for questions.

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Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you,
Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers.
Ms. Robbins, I'd like to have you come back for your presentation. And, again, we've seen the project, so if you just want to stick to changes made since preliminary approval.

MS. ROBBINS: Okay. Again, this is Brooke Robbins, principal architect with Robbins Design Studio, 40 East Adams Street, Suite 4, Jacksonville, 32202.

So as Ms. Radcliffe mentioned, we are going over the Federal Reserve building adaptive reuse and the adjacent courtyard space.

MR. CHISHOLM: Give me one second. Sorry.
MS. ROBBINS: Okay.
MR. CHISHOLM: You can go now.
MS. ROBBINS: Thank you.
So, again, the same design team, a few additional consultants have been pulled in; ELN for the courtyard. And again, all local architects and engineers and constructors on this project.

So, again, the building was built in 1923
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1 well.

## operate.

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So, again, the streetscape, as previously mentioned, we are meeting all of the requirements along Church Street. We have added in the benches, the bike racks, the trash receptacles. There are two existing oak trees. And just as a reminder to the board, Hogan Street is not within our scope of the developer, that that is being done by the City of Jacksonville as part of the Emerald Trail route, so we have not added any amenities along Hogan Street.

So, again, the landscape plan. So the adjacent courtyard is -- actually will be accessible to all three buildings; the Federal Reserve, the Baptist Convention building, and Sweet Pete's. So we have essentially created three kind of separate seating areas as we have the potential between Sweet Pete's, two -- or a restaurant and bar in the Federal Reserve, and two separate restaurants potentially in the Baptist Convention building as well to kind of designate separate seating areas within the courtyard that each restaurant could manage and

So we have the -- so you have a central access off of Hogan Street that brings you up through to the two entrance in the back of -to the side of the Baptist Convention building. In addition, we have -- there's a side access into the Federal Reserve and another side access here (indicating) to the Federal Reserve.

The primary entrance to the first floor restaurant of the Federal Reserve is off of Hogan Street. And, in addition, we're adding a secondary entrance down to the basement, which is the -- a future -- a bar within the building as well, so you would have access to those either through the courtyard or directly from the street frontage.

So including shade trees, different plantings, water features, a fire pit, just different amenities to create different kind of aesthetics for this space. We have some shade structures going in, some built shade structures, aluminum canopies, we have three of those, in addition to a future bar.

At this time, we'll be building the shade structure for the bar until we get further

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North facade (indicating). I think we're half working with the --

The west facade, this actually faces the
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along with a leased tenant for the restaurant space, and then we'll build out the bar underneath the restaurant once we know their requirements for kitchen equipment and such as far as that goes. So as part of this project, we're bringing infrastructure to it at this time.

So we do have planters along Hogan Street to separate the kind of public way from the private realm. Those will be a combination of different types of plantings and materials. We'll look at that when we get to the next slide of the materiality.

I think I'm stuck. There we go.
So, again, this is an historic renovation, so essentially we are just restoring and repairing what is there. The existing windows on this building will remain. They will be restored and fixed in place. We are replacing the entry doors. They were replaced sometime in the '80s and we are replacing them with new --
alleyway in between the Federal Reserve and 218 Church Street, so we are creating a little vestibule that we'll show in a further slide for a private entrance into the back of the Federal Reserve if there's -- with the first floor being restaurant space and event space on 2 and 3. This would give private access into the building to get to the elevators, to go up to the upper floors without having to access through the courtyard or through the restaurant space.

So, again, here is an updated version of the courtyard space on the south facade of the building, including the shade structures that we mentioned and the planters separating the public way from the private realm.

Just another view (indicating). And this is where you can see kind of the dividing lines of Sweet Pete's. So the edge -- the edge of this building coming forward is the property line, so we're not putting the fence between the two. Essentially, this makes this large open space one contiguous courtyard between the three properties.

The night shots (indicating). Similar to
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the 218 Church Street, we are looking at, aesthetically, enhancing the architectural features of the building. A little bit different with this building. We've shown it as white uplighting, but the light fixtures on this building will have the option to be color-changing LED so that it could be blue or green or pink or purple, depending on, you know, the event that's going on before -- you know, with it being event and restaurant space, just having it -- giving more options to coordinate for different events within the facility.

Church Street. Again, just some uplighting to uplight the cornice work and highlight the features of the upper portion of the building.

Looking at the courtyard, a combination of low-level lighting as far as step-lighting and such with uplights for the trees and plants and festoon lighting, just creating different -different avenues of lighting aesthetics with the space.

Again, just a floor plan layout, indicating where we have all the different

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light fixtures.
Exterior lighting, courtyard plan. This just identifies the items that we just mentioned; the tree uplights, the festoon lighting, canopy downlighting, wall washers, and step lights.

Signage. Again, taking a relatively simple approach with this at this time as we do not have any tenants on board yet for the restaurant spaces. So at the top band there is existing limestone work that says the Jacksonville, you know, branch of the Federal Reserve Bank. So that will be highlighted with building lighting. That is to remain.

We will put a small, vinyl graphic over the front door that has the address on it. And then we have identified a few proposed locations for future restaurant signage, potentially the corner of the building, above the basement entry and then integrated within the planters for the restaurants, back in 218 Church Street. Those we would, of course, come back to once we have tenants on board for a signage review.

On the Church Street side, just two
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1 potential locations that would be added in the
future, potentially the corner of the building
here, and then also the -- what's this -- the northwest corner of the building as well. Again, we would come back for those as part of a future application.

Floor plans. As we mentioned -- so we have four levels here. We have a basement level, which would be a future bar, and then building services. The first floor is the future restaurant space. The second floor mezzanine and third floor will be open event space, so weddings, banquets, conferences, that sort of thing for the building.

Materials. Again, the building itself is being restored, so you have limestone repair. The south facade here is existing painted brick that will be repaired and repainted. We are adding -- replacing the emergency exits there that's currently falling off the building with a new emergency exit stair and a new storefront on the front entry.

As far as the courtyard goes, we'll have a combination of materials. So you'll have concrete paver tiles. You will also have

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pressed concrete. The planters will be a combination of powder-coated metal and then the board-formed concrete planters, and then the pergolas and canopies would be aluminum, dark gray color.

Again, just noting the materials on the north facade; the restored copper cornice, the limestone facade, and then the -- there is an existing front entry -- or side entry, I'm sorry, that will be replaced with anodized aluminum to match the existing features.

And then this is the new entry that we mentioned coming in through the alleyway, kind of an entry vestibule into the back of the building. That would be more for guests coming to a wedding or a conference upstairs. So this would have a kind of two-tiered gate. There's a first tier that is a decorative gate, which would -- you know, wrought-iron look, more garden-like with vegetated -- jasmine or such growing on it, more vegetated. Again, with the planters. And then beyond that is the additional screening gate that would hide the trash receptacles and the mechanical equipment and such.

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And, again, that's the conclusion of the presentation, so thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Robbins. Appreciate that.

Mr. Chisholm, do we have any public comments?

MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we do not have any speaker request cards and I don't see anyone in person. I also don't see any hands raised on Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Appreciate that.

Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This is a tremendous project. It's incredibly exciting to see and look forward to seeing it finished.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I couldn't agree more. This is amazing. Happy to support it today.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Davisson.
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BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: What I think is intriguing about this -- and we rarely get to see these. This is -- and as far as urban planning goes, a textbook example, where you can bring more than one project that -- you're actually pulling three projects together to create the better-good for the whole area as far as the synergy that can make things happen, instead of one building as a stand-alone and a destination. So, you know, I commend you for that. I think, you know, it's one of the best buildings in Jacksonville, so I hope to see it happen.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Davisson. Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you.
I'll echo everything that's been said so
far. The project looks great, and thank you
very much.
THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Mr. Chairman, I'll be declaring a conflict on this project.

It is one of my most favorite buildings in
Jacksonville. I'll leave it at that.
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Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: That you, Ms. Durden.
And I believe we have lost Mr. Jones?
MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, yes, he has left Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chisholm.
And I'll say I think it's a wonderful project and I don't think it needs any further commentary. So that being said, I'll take a motion for approval.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: I'll move approval.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: I have a motion for approval from Mr. Brockelman and a second from Mr. Schilling for DDRB Application 2020-016.

All those in favor, please say aye.
BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
(Board Member Durden abstains from voting.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, we have one recusal, Ms. Durden.

Motion passes.
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Thank you, Ms. Robbins.
MS. ROBBINS: Thank you all.
THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to offer the board a very quick ten-minute break. Be back here at 2:45; is that okay?

BOARD MEMBERS: Yes.
THE CHAIRMAN: Wonderful.
Thank you.
(Brief recess.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, could we have the staff report for Item F, 2021-009, 220 Riverside Avenue, special sign exception.

MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Yes. Thank you, Chairman Lee. I'll be providing the staff report for 220 Riverside Avenue, special sign exception.

DDRB application 2021-009 seeks approval
for a special sign exception to allow for the modification of the approved master sign package for additional tenant identification signage located on the parking garage wall facing Riverside Avenue and at the interior garage entrance to Unity Plaza. The signage will be located at 220 Riverside Avenue in the Brooklyn Overlay District.

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Staff reviewed the size and placement of the multi-tenant sign and there is concern with the fire department connection located on the same wall. If the sign were reduced in size, the placement of the sign could be shifted up to ensure there would be no conflict with the FDC.

Staff also reviewed the sign against the Downtown Overlay sign ordinance in regards to looking at freestanding garage wall signs for comparison to the proposed project. Per the ordinance, signage on freestanding garages can be up to 75 square feet by right. The reduction in the square footage of this sign would be in line with what is allowed on freestanding garage walls and could be placed clear of the FDC.

One of the other problems that is found on this site is the building is located on one parcel and the parcel lines are obviously fairly tight; the building is built to the parcel lines, and there are two additional parcels that are not owned by the building owner. And any other signage on the -anywhere on this site would be considered

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off-site signage and would not meet the Ordinance Code. So staff was also reviewing that in lieu of looking at where else they could put a sign compared to the wall sign.

So the proposal also includes the interior signage, which is 9 -and-a-half inches by 2 feet and is nonilluminated. The sign maintains the design intent of the master sign package with brushed aluminum and black lettering. And this sign is interior; it's inside the parking garage into the interior entrance, towards Unity Plaza.

So based on the foregoing, the DDRB staff recommends approval of DDRB application 2021-009 for a special sign exception to the Downtown Overlay District to allow for the modification of the master sign package with the following conditions: one exterior multi-tenant identification sign not to exceed 75 square feet and placed on the garage wall, providing a minimum of a 2 -foot clearance from the FDC; and one interior tenant identification sign not to exceed 2 square feet.

This concludes the staff report. Staff is available for questions.

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Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers.

I'd like to ask the applicant, Ms. Trimmer, to come for her presentation.
(Ms. Trimmer approaches the podium.)
MS. TRIMMER: Cyndy Trimmer, 1 Independent Drive, Suite 1200, on behalf of the applicant.

I have with me today Dianne Slotnick with MMA Ownership Group; Joe Riley in person and Matt Higgins remotely from Concept Unlimited Sign Group, and then Strayer University also tuning in remotely.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers did a fantastic job, so I'm just going to breeze through this pretty quickly. The whole purpose of this is recognizing that all tenants within Riverside Unity Plaza have struggled since the project's inception, so we're working with a new ownership group to get some more visibility for those tenants along Riverside Avenue.

So this sign has been very intentionally designed to be pedestrian and automobile scale, of a size that will engage both of them, but again, as Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers acknowledged, we

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can't do a monument sign which is typical for Riverside Avenue. So we've done this in a size and location that would be consistent with the other multi-tenant signage in the area, but also it's more urban with having it as a wall sign.

I will say out of the gate we are agreeable to reducing it to the 75 square feet that staff has proposed, and we would be perfectly fine with that condition. They have run another package, checked out the visibility, and it would still work for us. So hopefully, we can just get through everything quickly today.

The two signs that we are -- well, one sign that we're looking at that is part of the special sign exception is on the front, lower right side of the garage if you're looking at the building.

And then just for the sake of showing you the updates to the existing sign package since it's part of an existing sign exception, we have put the other ones in so that you can see the new tenant signage.

This is the multi-tenant sign proposed to
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be on the frontage of the garage that you would be able to see from Riverside Avenue (indicating).

All of the materials are detailed in there. It's aluminum, vinyl, and acrylic. All materials that are appropriate for the downtown area, considered the industry standard at this point.

We're going to be updating the rest of the tenant signage. And throughout the project there's a lot of wayfinding signs, but they are kind of small and more pedestrian scale, but those are going to be updated too.

So for the sake of brevity, I will stop there and just say that we have the entire team available for questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
Mr. Chisholm, are there any public comments?

MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we do not have any speaker request cards, no one in person, and I do not see any hands raised via Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chisholm.
Mr. Allen.
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original locations which were approved with that -- by that master sign package. So they are wanting to amend that sign package by adding the additional multi-tenant sign on the garage wall, which was not part of the original.

BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you.
I don't have any further questions or comments.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Durden.
Ms. Trimmer, the recommendation by the staff was to not only reduce the sign from 96 to 75 square feet, but also to provide 2 feet of clearance from the FDC. Is that okay as well?

MS. TRIMMER: Yes, it is.
Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: For clarification on the recommendation, since this is for final approval, do we need to vote and approve each recommendation or can we package these into the final?

MS. GRANDIN: (Off microphone.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We can package
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them.
I'll take a motion for approval.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: So moved.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion for approval from Mr. Allen and a second from Mr. Schilling.

All those in favor, please say aye.
BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you. The motion passes for DDRB 2021-009 unanimously.

Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
MS. TRIMMER: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to move on to Item G, DDRB 2021-006, Concealment Express special sign exception.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, or, Mr. Parola, can we have a staff report, please?

MR. PAROLA: Absolutely, Mr. Chairman.
Slide, please.
This is a special sign exception for a locally grown company that is growing in leaps and bounds, as we understand it, in their

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particular industry, called -- Concealment Express is the name of the company. They are on the Southbank. They are in an interesting location, that being next to the ramp for one of our bridges, north of Tidbits, and sandwiched between Tidbits and that parking garage for SoBA, which used to be Home Street Apartments.

Slide.
So here we go with our location. I particularly love this view because it goes to the reason why we are now recommending approval, whereas before we had recommended denial. So I do want to thank the applicant and the owner specifically. The owner came and met with us, with their agent, with the architect, and we walked ourselves through it and I think what you see in front of you today is much better and it makes sense.

Slide, please.
This was the front facade of the building (indicating). The exterior renovation work actually falls below the threshold that would require DDRB approval, but we can't really bring the sign to you and what it's affixed to

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without looking at the facade of the building.
So without getting into too much of the facade, we just want to say that's what it looks like. It's a nice-looking building.

They're not asking for any deviations from our requirements, so --

Slide, please.
This is another view of the building (indicating). You can see the front of the building, and then the top. I believe it's the rear of the building.

Slide, please.
This is really what I wanted to talk about. The application in front of you is for a special sign exception, not necessarily an architectural review approval.

As originally presented, staff's concerns were the following: It was 11 feet in the air above the parapet. Staff did not have a problem with the size of the sign. It's always been 24 square feet, but the vertical element of which it's affixed to was a little over 11 feet, standing above the parapet.

Also, when you look at this view shape -we went on Google Earth and looked -- it's a

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plain white roof or -- in fact, it is just a plain white roof. And so the 11 -foot, black element with the sign kind of, for want of a better term, juxtapositioned against the white roof. It seemed very out of context and drawing your eyes specifically to the sign, which we get.

After meeting with the applicant, we understand the need for the sign. The need for the sign is that not only is it kind of a warehouse or teaching facility, but they also have a showroom there, so they're going to -- I don't, frankly, know if they have a point of sale, but they certainly are bringing people in there, and my understanding is they have some teaching elements. And maybe Ms. Trimmer can go into that more specifically.

I do want to point out something that we worked more than a few hours on with them; and that is what you see on the roof right now, notice it's not white. It's a Kevlar mesh to add an interest to it. We think it blends the sign into it better and actually communicates an interesting message.

As I understand it, the Kevlar was chosen
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because it's reminiscent of the product that they make. If you go to Academy Sports, I think I have seen them there. Look at the holsters they make, the material. So it really speaks to what the building is and their overall message.

I don't know that I want to get into too much more. I think the applicant wants to get into it. But what I will say is we have two conditions, and that is; one, that the sign not exceed 24 square feet; two -- we understand it's going to be illuminated. Given its location next to the highway and to an FDOT facility, they will work with or have been working with the Florida Department of Transportation to make sure that it conforms to any standards that they have.

We particularly don't have any heartburn over the illumination of the sign, simply because it is only 24 square feet. We don't -it's not that powerful of a sign.

To that end, obviously, I know the applicant's agent wants to speak.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola.
Ms. Trimmer, could we have the applicant
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presentation?
(Ms. Trimmer approaches the podium.)
MS. TRIMMER: Cyndy Trimmer, 1 Independent Drive, Suite 1200, on behalf the applicant, Concealment Express.

I do want to take just a minute and give you kind of a brief introduction to Concealment Express because they are a really cool, local, homegrown company. It's three guys from our backyard that saw a problem with the gun holster business and started it out of the garage, and it has turned into, seriously, a national phenomenon.

They are in all of the big box retailers. They are on Amazon. The number of products that they are moving is astronomical. And they have chosen to stay local and they've chosen to try to move their headquarters downtown.

One of the challenges they have with their R\&D facility is you're trying to bring people with six-figure salaries. You can't stick them way out in the middle of nowhere, next to the warehouse. So they're wining and dining them, showing them downtown, and then telling them, "Oh, by the way, we're going to ship you over

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here."
So the whole point of this is to be able to bring talent to downtown, get them to stay downtown, live and work downtown. So they found this location. And as Mr. Parola pointed out, it is meek. And I normally breeze through these very, very quickly, but I'm going to go a little slower than I normally would through the map itself to point out that this building extends the entire way from Louisa to Home Street.

The Louisa Street frontage is sandwiched between the new SoBA parking garage and the back end of Tidbits, which is an alley. And then on the Home Street side, we are by the SoBA apartments, but it's a single-story, roll-up only. So I'm going to go through the images pretty quickly, but I wanted to give that context.

The building now is kind of drab and unfortunate and mismatched windows and lines. I'm going to let Michael Brown from Micamy Design just very briefly tell you the vision for the update to the facade. But this is the context that we have, and it is all
back-of-house alley, everything around us.
The challenge we had when the guys bought this building and started looking at branding and "How are we going to get people to our location?" was recognizing when you're driving north on Hendricks, you get one split second to see down this road. If you blink, you will miss it. And that's what this slide shows you. It is a 28 -foot, one-way road next to a 32-foot, built-after-the-fact overpass. And that's the challenge we're trying to tackle here.

So we did originally come in with a vertical element on the project that was 11 feet, that was designed primarily, we believe, to counter this beautiful situation that we have here, where we are butt up against the overpass, to try to get some visibility from the overpass.

But more importantly, we're trying to get visibility from Hendricks. That's the part that we're really caring about here because this is an R\&D facility. It is a showroom. They will be bringing people from all over the world to Jacksonville to this facility to show

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off the product.
They also work with smaller, independent retailers, and what they have done in this facility that's really cool is set up an entire retail display area to kind of show people how to market it, how to brand it, how to show it. So they are going to have stand-up displays and things like that to walk it through to teach people how to market the product.

So I'm going to stop briefly and let Michael kind of explain the vision for the building. And I'm not going to belabor the sign exception criteria. We have handed out the written narrative about it and went through all of the elements. And I think the fact that we were able to get to the point where we have a staff report -- we're agreeable to the conditions, and we would appreciate your support today.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer. (Audience member approaches the podium.) AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you very much.
I'm Mike Brown of 4887 Victor Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32207.

And we were hired as the principal design
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firm by the applicant. And as Cyndy pointed out -- great job of pointing out all the constraints.

If we could go back to the original slide that shows the existing facade.

MR. CHISHOLM: (Complies.)
MR. BROWN: That one is fine right there.
Going back just a moment, the building was originally constructed, the first portion of it, in 1952. And then some years after that on up until the '80s and early '90s, the building has been added to, modified, increased in size, and updated.

The previous owner took very good care of the building after their last renovation, albeit the interior partitioning was more focused on a signage fabrication company and not a holster company. So they retained our firm to give the look a -- you know, a wholesale look. And I said, well, thank you. You notice your property lines are against the paint edge on all four sides of the building and there's not a lot to work with. But the key elements were to introduce their branding into the building as well as make the interior

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functional for their needs and their programming.

As you see the exterior facade -- if we could go back one more frame. One more again. I'm sorry. Where is the facade? It's probably back up one more. Again. Again. Again.

Thank you.
As you can see, the facade on the front has a mismatch of sizes of windows. They are not vertically aligned. And in a technical case, they're not horizontally aligned. The one nice aspect about the building is that the entry feature seems to be a little Mid-Century Modern, very urban, with an inviting planter that draws you into the door. Short of that, there's nothing more on the facade.

And after additional review of the facade, we found that, due to its construction using 1952 technology, there's some challenges in it that left us with minimal opportunity to wholesale change the facade.

Things get additionally challenged by the fact that the planter is 4 feet deep and the outside edge of the planter signifies the property line on the right-of-way. So we had a

4-foot depth to work with and the facade that you see here.

The introduction of the vertical element was initially to pull together some shade awnings that we felt were important to bring a texture to the front of the building without adding anything to the building. And the vertical element also changed the proportions of the facade here and really kind of unified the windows together, in our opinion.

It also gave us an anchoring support area to bring a larger entry -- basically, entry canopy so that when you're coming in as a pedestrian, you had a little bit better rain guard and a little bit better approach than what exists now.

The sides of the building, we don't have any real estate to do anything other than clean and repaint and clean up the edges of the building.

This illustrates the view from Louisa Street looking north. This is an active alley that is shared by a number of businesses and is particularly used by the businesses that front on Hendricks Avenue, including Tidbits and a

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series of businesses working north until you get to Home Street.

To the left up there, you will also see a mechanical courtyard. And we changed the complexion of the mechanical courtyard. This is a pretty view of it here, to the extent we're adding decorative fencing and internal lighting inside the courtyard. Because the client would like to engage that as part of their internal program so that employees can come out there and use it, something more than just a mechanical courtyard. So that was the exterior architecture improvement on that side of the building.

And then the rear of the building, for the former client, served as a delivery and basically back-of-house access. Our goal was to change the facade slightly, remove it from the context of being a back-of-house delivery, provide a storefront in it that would provide some pedestrian access, and engage it in a scale that most of the openings to the left and the right in other buildings currently exhibit. Again, our property line is right at the back of the building.

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And as Cyndy noted, the vertical element that we applied to the front facade also gave us some immediate opportunity to put the 24 -square-foot sign on. The location of the sign and the ability to bring it as far south as possible gave us hope that this view window would allow you to see the sign when you're on Hendricks Avenue.

And if you haven't driven this, you have to look quick because the first meeting with the client I came to, I passed it and had to call them and ask, Well, where are you? I found Louisa Street, but I'm on the other end of it. This being a one-way road, you have one shot, and once you turn down it, then everything becomes clear, but you have to know to turn down it first.

Back to the front facade. So the only changes -- as you see here, we're introducing a screen on the two lower windows that help with sun control into the main conference room, and we're reusing the existing rooms as they are now. So it was not a goal to remove or change the windows' position, only to enhance it. The windows you see up on the upper level serve

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1 offices. That is what they served in the 2 previous design and that's what they'll serve in this design.

We worked the anchor on the left side, another vertical element that brought closure to the elevation. And what you can't see to the left, it also helps us guard a lot of unsightly electrical equipment and clean that edge up so that the facade has a nice wrapping finish to it.

This is the courtyard that I made reference to (indicating). We're constructing a new fence and we're proposing one of the branding logos that they use as a mural on the side of the building. And, unfortunately, due to its location, the only people that will get to see it are really the employees in the courtyard and the people using the back of the house at the Tidbits restaurant when they deliver the food.

And this is the Home Street elevation (indicating). Again, an integration of their branding on the back of the building and a sign. And then what you see there is a glass storefront. It's hard to see in this image.

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And it'll have a man door in it.
And this is the architectural finish on the west side of the building that faces the alley that also serves the apartments, our adjacent neighbors.

And, with that, if you have any questions,
I'm open.
Thank you.
MS. TRIMMER: So this shows you our "reduced to 6 feet above the parapet" vertical element.

And then running through the signage materials, again, very standard acrylic, aluminum, vinyl.

Internal illumination. We did confer with FDOT, and we're an urban area, so there's not a problem with the proposed illumination.

I kept this one in so you could see the original 11 foot and what we have reduced to so that everybody can get that appreciation.

And, with that, I will stop and be available for questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
Mr. Chisholm, do we have any public comments?

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MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we have one speaker's request card, which is Mr. Brown.

Did you have any further --
MR. BROWN: No.
MR. CHISHOLM: All right. I'm not seeing any hands raised on Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I'd like to say thank you to the applicant for working with the staff and the staff time that you put in to -- trying to find a solution for a very difficult, complicated site. And I think it's a thousand times better than what you originally had proposed.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I'll echo the same. You know, having seen the prior exhibits in last month's staff report and package, the changes, y'all have done a great job. And the signage is now so much more proportionate to the building. It looks great.

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Thank you. And I have no further comments.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Davisson.
BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: Nice project. No other comments.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Appreciate the staff and applicant working together to find a good solution. I think this is a great step forward versus the last one, which was deferred, so thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you.
Just a couple of questions. So if I'm looking at Page 23 versus 26 , what I see at 23 as far as the height of that sign is correct and not 26, right?

MS. TRIMMER: That's exactly right.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: The Kevlar that's on the top of that roof, do you have any product with you right now so I can see that?

MS. TRIMMER: That is just a paint, and it's going to be done in the carbon fiber Kydex material that is one of the holster patterns that they offer.

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BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: It's just -- when I'm looking at Page 23, it looks like that's a -it could be, depending on how the light reflects on it, a fairly bright blue. I was just wondering, the shading of that and how that looks.

MS. TRIMMER: The intent was to go with the black and gray, which is the carbon fiber look they have with their product, and to incorporate a teal in homage to the Jags.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: And I suppose no paint samples to that?

MS. TRIMMER: No. We're not here on a final approval for the architecture.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your vision and your work with the staff. I appreciate all of the effort that went into it.

I'd like to take a motion for approval.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: So moved.
BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion from
Mr. Allen -- or was that Mr. Brockelman again?
Thank you, Mr. Brockelman, for the motion and the second from Mr. Davisson.

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All those in favor?
BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
MS. TRIMMER: We really, really appreciate staff's work on this and thank everybody for their support.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
I'd like to move on to Item H, DDRB 2021-008, River City Restaurant conceptual approval.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, could we have a staff report, please?

MS. RADCLIFFE-MEYERS: Yes. Thank you, Chairman Lee. I will be providing the staff report for the River City Restaurant conceptual approval.

DDRB application 2021-008 seeks conceptual approval for a 3,500-square-foot indoor/outdoor restaurant space located at 0 Museum Circle, adjacent to the Friendship Fountain Park.

The site is bounded to the north by the St. Johns River, to the east by Friendship Fountain Park, to the south by Museum Circle,

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and to the west by the RD River City residential complex.

As the site plan shows, the restaurant space is tucked into a corner, adjacent to Friendship Fountain Park. The parcel consists of a portion of Parcel B, as seen on the previous slide, which is being used to expand Friendship Fountain Park and provide additional river frontage.

The proposal is to build a
3,500-square-foot restaurant space with indoor and outdoor dining. The architectural style of the building is modern with clean lines and large expanses of glazing, which helps connect the indoor and outdoor activities.

Changes in material used throughout the building creates visual interest without an excessive use of ornamentation, which is similar to the design of the multifamily residential complex.

As seen in the rendered image of the submittal package, the development of the restaurant also provides a visual break between the park and the residential complex. This, along with the existing mature tree canopy,

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helps break up the eastern wall of the residential complex.

Based on the foregoing, the Downtown Development Review Board staff recommends conceptual approval of DDRB application 2021-008 with the following recommendations:

Ingress and egress for the restaurant site shall be through the development parcel. The site plan shall be revised to remove ingress and egress to the restaurant through the park.

This concludes the staff report. Staff is available for questions.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers.

Ms. Trimmer, could we have the applicant report?
(Ms. Trimmer approaches the podium.)
MS. TRIMMER: Cyndy Trimmer, 1 Independent Drive, Suite 1200, on behalf of the applicant.

I have the entire development team with me available today. I have Jeff Robbins, locally, and Jennifer Jorgenson remotely from Related Development. I have Kevin and Nick Mousa from GAI. And I have Beatriz Hernandez and, I

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think, maybe, Anette Nolasco online for MSA, the architects.

Just by way of context, when we came in originally with this project, Related was not proposing to develop a restaurant, but we heard feedback loud and clear and went back to the drawing board and have now come up with this product that we were able to negotiate with the City so that we can maintain the
pedestrian activity between our project and Friendship Fountain and also to (inaudible) the corridors to the water.

The City is also contemplating additional waterfront activation in the restaurant vicinity. We have worked extensively with staff, with DDRB, and with Parks on the site planning for this.

So I will run through, just very briefly, our development agreement with -- the City requires us to do a minimum 5,000-square-foot restaurant; 1,800 indoor, 3,200 outdoor. This site plan meets that criteria.

Under our development agreement, we're also required to come in for conceptual approval today and then for final approval and
a Certificate of Occupancy -- or the other one that's not occupancy that I'm blanking on right now -- at the same time that we get the CO for the multifamily.

So all of these will be coming online at the same time. We are working on identifying a tenant presently. If you have any amazing ones in mind, let us know.

I would ask with regard to the condition -- we spent a lot of time with Jill Enz from Parks. She was with us last time when we were here, and we actually did coordinate this entrance to the project with her. So rather than the condition reading specifically that it has to be from our site, I would just ask that the condition be that we negotiate further with the Parks Department and DDRB and DIA to come up with an agreed-upon entrance to the project. We thought we had. I think there might be some miscommunication somewhere, but we will figure out what it is and we will resolve it before we come back.

I'm going to turn it over to Beatriz to run it through the architecture.
(Ms. Hernandez approaches the podium.)
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MS. HERNANDEZ: Beatriz Hernandez, MSA Architects, 8950 Southwest 74th Court, Miami, Florida 33156.

And hello again. I won't talk this much this time.

Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers, don't worry. You won't have to push me along.

As described in staff's description of the project, I mean, it's a little jewel inside this park, so we're really excited to bring this before you. It really stands as, like, a little glass box that will activate the park, draw people to it, both our residents as well as the city.

We feel that the -- there's going to be three sides to this project; the one facing the water, the one facing the park and, obviously, the one facing the front, the drop-off, how people will be coming by car to the project.

And then the back side, obviously, which is facing the courtyard, becomes a backdrop to our residential courtyard. And we still treated that, as you can see in some of the exhibits that we showed to you, in our scheduled models.

So I'll just run you right through -- I mean, I can certainly show you the architecture here. As you can see, we're using a combination of natural materials, composite wood panel, the Jerusalem stone. And then, obviously, we wanted to bring in some contemporary elements, so what we're calling "the arbor," which is like an indoor/outdoor seating area.

It feels like you're just sitting under a canopy of trees, but it's really sort of a metal trellis. And we're thinking that we can grow some ivy, some colored flowering plants, and things of that nature. So the experience in the outdoor seating is varied. It's not just one sort of outdoor seating space.

And this really speaks for it all (indicating). You can see how this building creates an incredible backdrop for the park, the -- all sides of the transparency and the varied seating opportunities for the restaurant.

We came up with this cute, little idea of creating almost -- because, you know, when you're sitting outside under the sky, you want

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1 to have a sense of scale. So this false canopy with baskets, with lighting for the top -- so it creates a really nice experience for the residents who are sitting out from beyond -under the canopy of the trees.

Other than that, I'm open to any questions that y'all may have, but I love this building. I hope you do too.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Mr. Chisholm, do we have any public comments?

MR. CHISHOLM: Through the Chair, we do not have any speaker request cards and I do not see hands raised via Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
I think the building looks great. I just
want to be double and triple and quadruple sure
that this is in writing, conditioned upon the
Certificate of Occupancy or whatever that
certificate is called with the overall
apartment; is that correct?
MS. TRIMMER: Thank you.
Through the Chair to Commissioner [sic]
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1 Allen, the development agreement that we have requires us to get the Certificate of Completion for the restaurant at the same time we get the Certificate of Occupancy for the multifamily; a certificate of Completion because it will be a shell until we do the interior buildout for the tenant.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: To the staff, is there any way for us to adopt that language and make that as a condition to what we're doing as well?

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, you absolutely could. You know, it would be a little redundant, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. What I will say is it's memorialized in the development agreement that's going to be ordained by City Council. So it would take City Council action to break.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Yeah, I certainly appreciate that. But, I mean, one of the reasons why I am behind this project is -- you know, right from the outset, I commented on the square footage that we were losing and the restaurant that is in now. I would not be able to sleep at night unless I know that, you know,

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this restaurant is coming forward as well. So I would like us to explore making that a condition to what we are being asked to do as well.

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, staff is more than willing to take verbatim language in the redevelopment agreement, as it will be approved by City Council, and mirror it in this final order.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Thank you.
MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair, that's agreeable. And I would just add that our incentives are tied to the completion of the restaurant as well, so we have all the incentive in the world to make sure we don't violate that.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: I know y'all do.
Thank you very much.
THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Question for the applicant, and I'm not sure who specifically, but I'll toss that to you guys.

How do you feel about the staff recommendation as far as this condition? And do you have -- without necessarily getting into

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specifics, do you have any sort of confidence as to a way forward for how you redesign the ingress and egress in a way that matches their recommendation -- or their condition, I should say.

MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair to Member Brockelman, we're obviously concerned with the recommendation as it stands today because the way the site is designed our trash compactor and things along those lines have been oriented towards the residential development.
Basically, we took one for the team there.
And we have designed this building so that when you're coming off the traffic circle, that's your grand entrance. And again, we did work with Jill Enz and the Parks Department to coordinate that. So we're confident we'll work it out. We've got time to figure out how to orient the building.

But we were very specifically trying to work to activate that circle drop-off space and keep all of the back-of-house towards residential so it was nowhere near the park.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you.
Mr. Chairman, if I may follow up just kind
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1 of with commentary?

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I sort of -- as I look at your site overall and the parcel and the shape of the parcel and how it comes to a very fine point at the south end, I would be concerned if this condition was written in a way that didn't allow any type of flexibility because I think the worst outcome would be if we come back for final and you-all are in a box where you have to have the ingress and egress sort of on the side of the multifamily as opposed to one that sort of takes advantage of the roundabout and has some interaction to the park.

I certainly understand the staff's concerns, and I'm wondering if perhaps there might be a way to soften the condition so it's not -- maybe it doesn't say "shall" so many times? I don't know if that even matters.

I guess what I would also try to avoid is a situation where, if they come back to staff, they worked through some of the challenges but they say: You know what? We've removed 80 percent of the ingress and egress from the City property, but there's a little bit of overlap.

But because our conditions say "shall," they wouldn't be able to bring it forward for final, for our consideration.

Maybe staff could comment on whether or not, in that situation, would it even come back to us or would we be unable to take it back up for final until they specifically met the condition?

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, I understand your concern. It's that we're putting an absolute on something that maybe can't be undone at final. I don't know if it can or can't, but I think I understand the desire and I think it's probably going to be echoed by your board.

So if Ms. Trimmer would like to give maybe some language that says, Yeah, we'll work with staff with no promises, but we won't, you know, cut it dead in the water at this point, we'll work it out at final, that would be great.

It does have to be an understanding that we would have zero interest in taking trash compactors through the park. So as long as we work with that understanding, staff is more than willing to work with them on a good-faith

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effort.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola.

And just to wrap up, Mr. Chairman, I think that would certainly give me a little more comfort.

And I would also say to the applicant, my expectation, and hopefully that of my colleagues, would be that there would be a good-faith effort to come to some consensus here in the intervening month.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Davisson.
BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: I think my comments are probably more geared towards when you get to final.

When I look at, like, Elevation 8, north and south, it's a lot of white in your sketch-up model. And I look at the rendering, and it's got cladding material. What exactly are you coming forth with?

I think the roofline of this project is going to be critical from Prudential, looking down, as well as your own housing project being a low roof. What do we see when we look down on top of it?

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And I understand it's a really -- it's a hard project because you're responding to a park, a marina, and loading, and cars, and trash and everything, but you kind of shied away from showing what is happening in the loading area of that. I don't see anything really in an elevation of what that's going to look like, and that's probably the hardest thing to make look good. So please come with something next time on that.

Thank you. That's all.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Davisson.
Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think I was following -- I think I'm on board with where Mr. Brockelman was going, in that -- I mean, my thought, in looking at the site plan, is that -- whether -- whether patrons for this restaurant are coming from the River City side or whether they're coming from the park. I mean, I think we want to make it as easy for people to get to this restaurant as possible.

So, honestly, I -- I agree that -- I think
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1 we need to make sure that the Recommendation $A$, 2 as written, provides more flexibility to the 3 applicant. And I hope that staff would look at

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any public sidewalks running right along the side of it. So looking at any deviations in regards to that, they're not going to be seeking a deviation for anything that would normally come with a project that's sitting, you know, on a right-of-way.

So, at this point, we wouldn't be looking at that. The main thing on this one is the ingress/egress and trying to figure out how we can move forward with that.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. Thank you. That's very helpful.

And then I was also going to share that I agree, for final, I would also love to see more of what the back-of-house and what this looks like from the cul-de-sac, the roundabout there.

And then, to share, I do think that the one rendering looks terrific. And again, I think this will be a great location. And certainly, I definitely support this at the conceptual level and look forward to some of the extra homework items I know you will be working on before it comes back for final.

So thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Schilling.
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comments about the Certificate of Occupancy versus the Certificate of Completion for the restaurant. And I wasn't sure if I heard correctly that the Certificate of Completion is only basically for the shell because I think the intent of Mr. Allen's comments -- and please correct me if I'm wrong about this, but the intent is that we want to see the restaurant open at the same time as occupancy. And I believe I heard that the Certificate of Completion is only the shell, that the interior will not be built out.

If that's accurate, then I think that some condition would be appropriate for making sure that the restaurant is operating within some specified period of time. Now, you may have a suggestion for that on behalf of the applicant, but I think that that's the goal of what our concerns were.

I do remember when we first talked about the -- losing the restaurant site, that it was really important to us that -- that we make sure that we maintain or create, you know, this restaurant site, not wait forever for it to be developed.

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I also recall that -- I believe that Ms. Boyer -- maybe this is through the Chair to the staff, but Ms. Boyer mentioned that there is work regarding a larger restaurant along the marina -- I'll call it the marina parcel -- but further -- closer to the bridge.

And I would just ask staff if you have any update on that. I know that -- as I recall, Ms. Boyer spoke and said that that was a very important project that she was working on.

So I'll stop and listen to -- for some comments in regards -- or responses to my comments.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Could we have the staff response to the additional restaurant first?

MR. PAROLA: Absolutely. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And through the Chair, the restaurant pad, if you will, is located on the western side -or will be located on the western side of what is now and will remain the boat launch. What you see in the zoomed-out site plan for the development itself -- so the multifamily with the marina shop and the marina -- is that the

City, as part of this agreement, is redesigning and reconfiguring the boat ramp area to make it more friendly. Frankly, it's dated, and we'll be working on that. That reworking will influence the configuration of the pad. So that is where we are right now. We don't have an exact configuration.

What I will tell you is -- and Mr. Steve Kelley in our shop said this to the Waterways Commission yesterday -- is that getting restaurants on our water and activating our waterfront is one of our highest priorities. I think we've all met Ms. Boyer, so if she wants something, I think we're going to work very, very hard to get it for her.

BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola.
Let me have some comments before you have a chance to respond, Ms. Trimmer, if I might.

I would also agree with Mr. Allen and copy the language that counsel provided for your development agreement with ours so that we're aligned and we're reinforcing that requirement. I do think, however, that having a restaurant in place is sort of like the other projects we

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approve, where we have approved shell retail.

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successful.
And then I'd ask: Is there access from -without going up to the Riverwalk and back down or down to the cul-de-sac and around, is there access from the apartment to the restaurant directly?

MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair -- or to the Chair, yes, there is. And when we get to the final approval for the multifamily, you will kind of see the interplay better in that regard.

THE CHAIRMAN: So could we have some dialogue on ingress/egress and the park?

MR. PAROLA: To the Chair, I think I have captured the will of the board here, what I presume is going to be the will of the board.

The applicant will work with DDRB staff to identify ingress and egress for the restaurant site prior to submitting for final approval. Everything else is stricken.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Trimmer, would that be acceptable?

MS. TRIMMER: I love everything about it.
THE CHAIRMAN: To the rest of the board, are we in agreement on that exception?

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BOARD MEMBERS: (Nod heads.)
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: I'm good.
BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: Yes.
THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Great.
And then we have one other recommendation
that we will add, which will be the language
from the development agreement that you already
have with DIA. We'll add to that, so we'll
have two recommendations with our approval.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.
THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: I did ask a question
and -- about what the Certificate of Completion
means. I just want to make sure that at least
the board members are clear on what that
condition out of the development agreement
provides for and that -- if I heard it correctly, it is the shell only; is that correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: That is correct.
So I'll take commentary from the board on understanding that the Certificate of Completion is for a shell only.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Just -- since I
started this ball rolling down the hill, my

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comments about the restaurant -- and that's why I appreciate yours so much, Mr. Lee, is I want this restaurant to succeed, and I want it to be there, and I think the City of Jacksonville does as well.

So I have no problem about, you know, the shell being there. I know y'all's investment is going to want to see that through as well.
I just want to make sure that the shell is there. I don't want this apartment to be built and we don't even get to the shell. And I know y'all's development agreement talks about that as well, but just for alignment purposes, I'd like to adopt that language.

MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair, if I may, this condition that we have in our development agreement was part of the process where we went through the Real Estate Committee of DIA for the disposition, understanding we were putting a multifamily project here.

We went through the Strategic
Implementation Committee -- subcommittee, that
Ms. Boyer was extensively involved in. So I would ask that you not rehash a negotiation that is charged to DIA, that we've worked out

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with DIA. We have no problem with carrying it forward. We do understand the importance of the restaurant, but I really am not in a position to renegotiate a condition today.

MR. PAROLA: Through the Chair, if I could just add --

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Parola.
MR. PAROLA: You had mentioned parking garages and the conditions for future retail. I think the big difference between maybe some of the situations we have seen with that and this situation is that they have a REV grant. And so they have got all the motivation in the world to make this an income-producing property because it affects, financially, what the City reimburses them through ad valorem taxes.

THE CHAIRMAN: So again, I think my recommendation to the board -- and I appreciate Mr. Parola's comments -- is to not modify the language.

BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Meaning, not adopt
the conditions they have already agreed to?
THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Adopt the conditions that they have agreed to, but not modify it.

Okay. Then I'll take a motion for
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approval.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: So moved.
THE CHAIRMAN: I have a motion from Mr. Allen.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: Second from Mr. Brockelman.
All those in favor of DDRB 2021-, conceptual approval, -008, please say aye.

BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Wonderful.
Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
With the recommendations as modified, Mr. Parola.

MS. GRANDIN: All right. Mr. Chairman, that's approved as amended, correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: Approved as amended.
Thank you.
I'd like to move on to Item I, DDRB
2020-023, RD River City Brewery, final
approval.
Ms. Radcliffe-Meyers -- or Mr. Parola, could we have a staff report?

MR. PAROLA: Absolutely, Mr. Chairman.
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at the workshop, which was going to be conceptual, that they had a Key West style, a resort style. It garnered some relatively strong opinions by the board. I think they took it really to heart and what you have now is reflective of those comments. They are not seeking any deviations. So to the extent they'd go through without a deviation, this is what the project will look like.

Slide, please.
I do want to spend some time talking about the Riverwalk. The Riverwalk is a separate parcel and is ultimately governed by the Riverwalk Park design criteria. That language is also mirrored in the redevelopment agreement, and then we may have attached it as a condition for final approval.

What you see on here is a whole lot of palm trees. I think you know staff's position on palm trees. And that position is also kind of reinforced through the Riverwalk Park design criteria.

The unfortunate thing -- we did not do the applicant any favors by not really aggressively stating that this has to be a joint project;

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that we have design criteria that, frankly, this board can't waive; and that those design criteria have to mix in a little bit of what the applicant wants.

The sympathies of the uplands are certainly encouraged to be part of the Riverwalk, but, ultimately, we have design standards that we need the Parks Department, we need us, as staff, and we need the applicant to get on board with. But, ultimately, they have to adhere to the Riverwalk Park design standards, and there's really no way to relax that requirement.

Slide, please.
I do want to point out -- because there was a lot of talk about the restaurant, and I think we haven't done enough talk about what we're really, really excited about, and it's that little yellow -- I don't know how you would describe it, but it's that little yellow shape there, because that is additional land for the public that is going to be incorporated into the St. Johns River Park. We're very, very excited about the node.

I think we have shopped it around, and
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that area's going to be Bartram's Park [sic] -yeah, Bartram's Park area. And it bleeds into that area right now. And one of the things it does is it gives us not only more park area, but it extends our riverfront property, so our Riverwalk. So there's a great opportunity there.

The reason I bring up the Riverwalk into that is because we do have the Riverwalk Park design standards, and we do need to make sure there's consistency between the Riverwalk that was reconstructed as part of Friendship Fountain improvements, this particular section of Riverwalk, which is outside of their project boundaries; it is not contiguous to their project boundaries and does not currently have a design to it. So that's why it's so important that we're working with the Parks Department and making sure that we have a visually cohesive Riverwalk all along that frontage.

Slide, please.
So this is, as you can see, Bartram's
Garden and how everything works together.
Slide, please.
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where it is. It's located on the southwest kind of corner of the building. It's also so that people can get to the marina, to and forth.

It is not intended to be the primary, "This is where we want you to go if you're on the Riverwalk" because, quite frankly, there is going to be a lot of conflict between the boaters and between vehicles. And we've already decided it makes more sense to have the Riverwalk extension go as illustrated by the red line.

Slide, please.
So I believe that gets us to where we'll be going. We do have one condition, and this condition is also mirrored in the redevelopment agreement. It says: Prior to commencement of Riverwalk improvement, the developer shall submit final plans and a budget for the same to the City for review and approval.

And you might be saying, Well, if it's a City project, why are they submitting for review and approval? It's because they are
the -- responsible for management and construction of that Riverwalk, so we're in

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this together, but, ultimately, we're bound by the same Riverwalk design standards.

Those were a lot of words. I'm here for any questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Parola. Appreciate that.

I'd like to have the applicant come up.
(Ms. Trimmer approaches the podium.)
THE CHAIRMAN: And we've -- obviously, we've seen this project a lot. We've been through a lot of design discussion. We've been through a lot of Riverwalk and path-to-travel discussion. So, if you could, just focus your presentation on just the things that have been updated or changed or if we asked for further clarification of. No need to take us through every single item.

Thank you.
MS. TRIMMER: Sounds like a plan.
Cyndy Trimmer, 1 Independent Drive, Suite 1200, on behalf of the applicant.

I'm going to skip through all of the beginning of this and get us to the site plan.

Short and sweet, the site plan is largely what you saw before. The changes are going to

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be more in the elevations and renderings. We were asked to further activate the waterfront and deal with all of the Riverwalk design criteria.

We have Don Wishart and Kevin Aust from GAI. They are going to walk us through the materials. But we have coordinated with Jill Enz. We have reached the point where we have the shade coverage. I'll breeze through that slide as well.

And I will let Beatriz talk through how we have activated the Museum Circle Drive frontage with different materiality and differentiation of the facades there.

We were asked to look at the frontage along Museum Circle to see if we could eliminate the green strip that we previously had proposed along the frontage and get a true pedestrian clear zone. We are now up over 10 feet. And we have reduced the drive aisle, so we have satisfied all of the amenity zone/pedestrian zone elements along there and the recommendation from conceptual.

Adopting all of the standard criteria for
the Riverwalk and the street frontage
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1 hardscape, landscape.
On our landscape plan, we are one of the first people to come through with the pretty onerous criteria of hitting the 70 percent shade along the Riverwalk. We have worked with the Parks Department, incorporated shade trees, so we have managed to achieve that. And we have achieved the shade coverage requirements on Museum Circle as well.

We're volumetrically still sound in terms of shifting from Zone $B$ and $C$ to get the desired height by narrowing the building and maintaining the view corridor.

On the floor plans themselves, the big feedback we had was about working on the fifth facade. So here is our proposal for activating the garage surface, which is something that MSA has had great success with on other projects, and we think will make this much more visually dynamic and tied to the screening that we've done on the garage. But we have done this, along with the rooftop trellises and veranda areas, to activate the fifth facade.

And I will let Beatriz run you through the architectural updates.

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THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Trimmer.
(Ms. Hernandez approaches the podium.)
MS. HERNANDEZ: Hi, again. I don't have to do the address -- I'm already -- or do I have to do it again for this, if you like?

THE CHAIRMAN: Please.
MS. HERNANDEZ: Beatriz Hernandez, MSA, 8950 Southwest 74th Court, Miami, Florida.

So, briefly, I am in this -- well, Cyndy is my Vanna White. She's going to walk around with the samples for the project.

You will see our paint samples, the glass samples, the frames for the window samples, the Jerusalem stone that we talked about in our last presentation. Those will go on the main facade elements at the end of the buildings at the stoops and at the amenity areas, really elegant contemporary palette.

I know there were comments about colors on the buildings. Here, these paint samples will show you the much more earthy tones than what sometimes renderings -- when we do -- artistic renderings don't always depict exactly the colors that we'd be picking.

So we actually have -- I don't know how
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strong she is. She's strong. She's strong.
There was a comment from the board the last time regarding the breeze block. We actually had it custom made so that you can get an understanding of what that material is like.

And here comes Cyndy to show it to you.
And these are probably, for me, the most interesting part of the building. They're going to be inserted as almost railing details for the stoops, used at the openings where the outdoor amenity spaces are. Again, the color is going to be a very natural, creamy color. And it's basically a cement block with decorative voids in it. Very cool, elegant look. It's actually coming back in style.

Thank you, Cyndy.
So those are our materials. In this rendering, really nothing has changed.

And I'm going to go all the way through the floor plans because we really didn't do anything to the floor plans other than develop the interior spaces further.

MS. TRIMMER: You're going backwards.
MS. HERNANDEZ: Am I going backwards? Oh, it's because I have it upside down.

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I missed my flight up here, so I had to drive up fast, so my apologies.

The fifth facade that Cyndy mentioned, in case you all have any questions about that, because it's a precast garage -- what's done in a precast (inaudible) is -- the pattern that we're going to give to the decking is going to be built into the top floor of that garage. So it will have a subtle sort of pattern, the wheel stops won't be shown. So as you're looking down, it'll look almost similar to the screening that we're going to be proposing on the side of the Acosta Bridge area. So very simple, nothing too fussy. We're definitely going to be screening the garage to the best extent we can.

So this view actually shows a little bit more detail, the stoops. We went back and refined them to provide -- each of the stoops have their own sort of individual identity. So, as you can see here, there's the frame element, then there's the floating balcony that's (inaudible) in stone. But each and every ground floor is going to have that breeze block railing with the stairs leading off the

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sides and directly out to the sidewalk.
We've also, in the recess of the stoops, brought in a new color palette, which is kind of like a sage green color, to give a little bit more of a pedestrian feel. And in between the stoops, as you can see in this rendering -in the previous proposal we had shown you where the windows were consistently the same from the first floor up to the eighth.

What we have done is, on the first two floors we have introduced Florida ceiling glass, widened the openings of the first two levels, then we have changed the window pattern on the third and fourth floor to sort of vertical windows that -- those are the living -- I'm sorry, the bedroom spaces.

And then you get up to the standard window treatment from the fifth floor up, which was, you know, standard five-by-five or six-by-five windows. And we also added a concrete eyebrow. So we added a little bit more dynamic look to that facade. I know that was something that the board had mentioned at our last meeting here. And then we added the stucco band to sort of break at the base of the building, at

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the sidewalk level as well.
And this is just another view of the corner stoop that wraps around -- the balcony that wraps around the corner and gets a wrapped balcony and the green sage color that we're putting at the recess of the stoops.

This is a little bit more pulled back version, again, showing you what it's going to look like and feel like. And you can see in both -- on both sides of the stoop that window pattern change that we're proposing at the base of the building.

This is the view from the water. This really hasn't changed. Now you can sort of put the materials together with what you see here on the rendering.

And this is an additional view that we didn't have at our last meeting. And this is showing you a view from the water, kind of coming up -- out from underneath the Acosta Bridge. And it really shows that side of the project, the recess of the courtyard, which I know we discussed a little bit about that and what that looked like and felt like.

And then the view of the garage and
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background and then the residential as it looks out over the boat basin or marina.

And this is actually if you're driving over the bridge at sunset and what you're going to be seeing as you're driving over the bridge. You really won't be seeing the tops of it from the bridge. Now, I know there will be some other buildings that you may be able to see the top of that garage, but as you can see we're almost at eye level with our building. Quite beautiful.

And these are just the elevations that -what we presented to you in the rendering. And I can walk you through it, but I think it's self-explanatory. Nothing really much has changed other than what I just mentioned.

So with that, I thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I appreciate that.

Mr. Chisholm, are there any public comments?

MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we do not have any speakers request cards, and I don't see hands raised on Zoom.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
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Then we'll move on to board comments.
Ms. Durden.
BOARD MEMBER DURDEN: Thank you very much.
I appreciate the explanations and bringing all those materials to show us. And I do think that the -- there's been a lot of changes over the course of our different meetings. It is a very large project, so, you know, it's kind of almost a leap of faith for me that -- to be reviewing, really, such a substantial location.

I think that all in all and overall, I think the project is going to be an improvement on our riverfront and will, in fact, activate our riverfront and our whole downtown. So I'm prepared, along with the recommendation of staff, to approve the project.

Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Durden.
Mr. Schilling.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

So one question. I noticed on -- as an example -- it's a question. On Sheet 47, there's a reference to signage. I'm assuming this is, I guess, a question for the applicant

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1 and maybe staff.
So today y'all aren't seeking any signage approvals? That would be something y'all would come back for; is that correct?

MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair to Board Member Schilling, that's correct. We're still working on the finalized sign plan. We are contemplating a monument that would be in the vicinity of the traffic circle, which would require a special sign exception, and the rest would be pretty standard wall signage.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: And then also, while you're at the podium, I have another question because you had me on the edge of my seat to hopefully see on the site plan how the restaurant and the building work together. So I was going to see if maybe you could take a minute and point that out to us.

MS. TRIMMER: This one will probably be the best for doing that.

So the box that we have right here (indicating) is the designed restaurant. So the way that it is right now -- and we will coordinate with staff -- you would come in off the travel circle through this little stretch

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of park that is between our site -- the restaurant site and the roundabout, and then enter into the restaurant.

The designs you were looking at -everything up here is the outdoor terrace seating. This side had the trellised area that we were talking about potentially being able to drop the flowers over. The views that Ms. Durden had asked about, there's one where I asked them to please put somebody inside the fountain, looking at the restaurant. So that's the fully rendered version, and that's what the view would be sitting on the most western side of Friendship Fountain, looking at the restaurant.

The other vantage points we gave you were from these corners (indicating). So when you were looking at the green wall that had -- the green wall and the wood cladding and the greenery planting on it, that is along here, and that's what we have done to kind of soften the back of the restaurant for the residents that are going to be looking down on it.

And then we have the back-of-house exiting from the side of the restaurant, down through

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here on our site. And we do understand the desire is to maintain the back-of-house and trash entry on here.

We will make a rendering that you can tell better, but what they have done is a really cool shielding concept where they have built a wall that kind of comes out from the front of the restaurant and around and will completely obscure that walkway for the trash exit from people coming into the restaurant, assuming that we're able to work something out to be able to have ingress and egress for pedestrians through that park space.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. That's very helpful. And I may be going a little bit backwards to the prior item, but for -- when y'all come back to final, it would be great to see that image with the restaurant laid into it for --

MS. TRIMMER: Through the Chair, we will have a unified site plan that reflects the restaurant when we come back with that.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: That would be great.
MS. HERNANDEZ: Sorry about that.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you.
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MS. HERNANDEZ: Sorry. They should have done it, but they didn't.

BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you for entertaining my question.

So then as far as comments -- so I want to share as well that I know that y'all have been on a tremendous journey since you made your first presentation for review here. And I would say that y'all have come a long, long way. And I applaud what y'all have done, and I think it looks really good. And I'm looking forward to supporting this today. And thank you for everything you've done.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Davisson.
BOARD MEMBER DAVISSON: I made comments regarding the concept approval. And I still stand on a lot of what I said then, you know, but then I look at where we have come from and it's come a long way.

And I know it's taken a lot of work to get to this point and a lot of effort, and I appreciate that. And I hope that when you take this project forward from conceptual to design development that you can take it a step further and use that as an opportunity to really refine

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this building into something that's sophisticated on our waterfront that we can all be proud of. And I think you have gone in the right direction from where we have came, so thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockelman.
BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just echo Mr. Schilling's comment. I know it's been quite a process, but I'm really happy with what y'all have done, and appreciate all the time and resources you've spent working with us, and I'm really looking forward to seeing this come to fruition.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Allen.
BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Echo the same comments and really appreciate Related listening and working with us as well.

And sign them up to do another project in Jacksonville, if you would, Cyndy.

MS. HERNANDEZ: Just be nicer then.
(Laughs.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.
I'd also say that I appreciate the hard work that went into making this rendition.

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I'd also like to thank Mr. Davisson for taking the extra time to work with you to make sure that we had a project this board could really support and get behind, so thank you to him.

That being said, I won't delay this any further. I'd look for a motion for approval with the staff recommendation.

BOARD MEMBER BROCKELMAN: So moved.
BOARD MEMBER SCHILLING: Second.
THE CHAIRMAN: I have movement by
Mr. Brockelman, a second by Mr. Schilling.
All those in favor, please say aye.
BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?
BOARD MEMBERS: (No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: The motion passes unanimously.

Thank you.
MS. TRIMMER: Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: That ends our regular agenda items. I'll move into old business. I have none. I'll hear any from the board or staff.
(No response.)
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THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, I'll close old business and then I'll open new business.

Is there any new business that the staff would like to bring up, or the board?
(No response.)
THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Hearing none, I'll take any public comments.

Mr. Chisholm, are there any public comments generally?

MR. CHISHOLM: To the Chair, we have no public comment at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Great. I'll close public comments and I'll move to adjourn.

Thank you, everybody.
(The foregoing proceedings were adjourned at 4:11 p.m.)

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STATE OF FLORIDA)
    )
COUNTY OF DUVAL )
I, Diane M. Tropia, Florida Professional Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.
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DATED this 20th day of May 2021.

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