	Page 1
1	HUDSON COUNTY
_	PLANNING BOARD
2	RE:
	:
3	REGULAR MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF
	OF THE :
4	HUDSON COUNTY PLANNING : PROCEEDINGS
	BOARD :
5	:
_	
6	OPEN SESSION
7	Bergen Square Center
8	Floor 9A
0	830 Bergen Avenue Jersey City, New Jersey
9	Tuesday, February 15, 2022
,	5:30 p.m.
10	5 5 F · · · ·
11	VIA ZOOM:
12	
13	SAMANTHA LUGO, Chairwoman
	RUSHABH MEHTA, Commissioner
14	YRAIDA APONTE-LIPSKI, Commissioner
	FRANCES KENNY, Commissioner
15	FLOYD JETER, Commissioner
	THOMAS MALAVASI, PE, Commissioner
16	KENNEDY NG, Commissioner
17	
18 19	
20	A L S O P R E S E N T: JENNIFER BOGDANSKI, ESQ., Board Counsel
21	FRANCESCA GIARRATANA, PP, AICP, Secretary
22	MARCELLA TRAINA, Assistant Planner
23	GREGORY GITTO, PE
24	
25	

800-227-8440 973-410-4040

Page 2	Page 4 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	
1 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Good evening,		
2 everybody. I would like to call the February 15th,	2 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.	
3 2022 Hudson County Planning Board meeting to order.4 Has the meeting properly been advertised?	g to order. 3 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter. 4 Commissioner Jeter. Commissioner Kenny.	
5 MS. BOGDANSKI: Yes. The meeting was	5 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye. 6 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	
6 properly noticed to the Jersey Journal and the Star	6 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner 7 Malayasi.	
7 Ledger. And it was also noticed by posting on the 8 County Clerk's Bulletin Board and the Bulletin Board		
9 for the County Commissioners, and the notice	8 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye. 9 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.	
10 specified that this would be a virtual meeting in		
11 accordance with the Public excuse me, the Open	11 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Ng,	
12 Public Meetings Act. 13 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you, Can we	12 absent. Chairwoman Lugo. 13 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.	
13 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. Can we 14 have a roll call, please.	13 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye. 14 MS. GIARRATANA: The next item on the	
15 MS. GIARRATANA: Yes, Chairwoman.		
16 Commissioner Allen. Absent. Commissioner	15 agenda are matters scheduled for public hearing, and 16 the first item is Item A, is selection of officers.	
	, and the second	
17 Aponte-Lipski. 18 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Here.	17 I will turn our meeting over to our counsel,	
19 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	18 Jennifer Bogdanski. She will go through the	
20 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Present.	19 nomination and selection process. 20 MS. BOGDANSKI: Okay. First officer	
	,	
21 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner 22 Glembocki. Absent. Commissioner Jeter.	21 up for the position of Chairperson. Do we have any 22 nominations?	
23 COMMISSIONER JETER: Present.	23 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I would like to	
24 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	24 nominate Commissioner Lugo as Chairwoman.	
25 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Present.	25 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Second.	
25 COMMISSIONER REINT. Tresent.	25 COMMISSIONER MEITA. Second.	
Page 3	Page 5	
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2 (Pages 2 - 5)

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Page 6	Page 8	
1 to close nominations.	1 Malayasi and Choffo. The other committee is our	
2 MS. BOGDANSKI: Can we have a second	2 Site Plan and Subdivision Review Committee, for that	
3 on Mr. Choffo?	3 meeting. Commissioner Malavasi. Do I have another? 4 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: I can volunteer for	
4 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Second.		
5 MS. BOGDANSKI: Okay. So on the	5 that. It's really hard to hear you guys. I don't	
6 motion to close nominations, all in favor, please.	6 know if anyone else does?	
7 (The Board votes unanimously in favor	7 COMMISSIONER KENNY: I'm having a	
8 of the motion.)	8 hard time as well.	
9 MS. BOGDANSKI: Any opposed? Okay.	9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Yes.	
10 So let's take a vote on Commissioner Mehta as vice	MS. GIARRATANA: The background noise	
11 chair. All in favor?	11 or my volume?	
12 (The Board votes unanimously in favor	12 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Commissioner Jeter	
13 of the motion.)	13 wrote in his chat that he can't really hear.	
MS. BOGDANSKI: Anyone opposed?	MS. GIARRATANA: Does this sound	
15 Okay. Congratulations.	15 better? When one of us is not talking	
16 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Thank you very	16 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: That's better.	
17 much everybody for the vote.	MS. GIARRATANA: Does that sound	
18 MS. BOGDANSKI: And the last of the	18 better?	
19 group is Chairperson Pro Tempore. 20 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I would like to	19 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Much better.	
	20 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes.	
21 nominate Floyd Jeter.	MS. GIARRATANA: Great. Okay. Thank	
22 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Second. 23 MS. BOGDANSKI: Any other	22 you for the Site Plan and Subdivision Committee	
23 MS. BOGDANSKI: Any other 24 nominations?	23 vote. The next item on the agenda is the adoption	
	24 of 2022 Hudson County Planning Board Bylaws. It's	
	25 really a formality because we have made changes to	
Page 7 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Second.	Page 9 1 the bylaws over the course of the year. But	
2 MS. BOGDANSKI: On the motion to	2 annually we adopt them as a whole. Do I have a	
3 close nominations all in favor?	3 motion?	
4 (The Board votes unanimously in favor	4 On a motion made by Chairwoman Lugo and	
5 of the motion.)	5 second by Commissioner Jeter.	
6 MS. BOGDANSKI: Any opposed? And the	6 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.	
7 vote Commissioner Jeter as Chair Pro Tempore, all in	7 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.	
8 favor?	8 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	
9 (The Board votes unanimously in favor	9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.	
10 of the motion.)	10 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.	
11 MS. BOGDANSKI: Any against? Okay.	11 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.	
12 Commissioner Jeter, you are Chairperson Pro Tempore.	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	
13 So that leaves the committee positions which are	13 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.	
14 appointed by the Planning Board and Francesca.	14 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	
15 MS. GIARRATANA: Thank you, Jennifer.	15 Malavasi.	
16 The next item is that of committee members, and we	16 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.	
17 have two committees that are active. One is our	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.	
18 County professionals.	18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.	
19 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: What's that	19 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.	
20 for?	20 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.	
21 MS. GIARRATANA: It's the selection	21 MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has	
22 of the professionals.	22 passed, and the bylaws have been adopted. The next	
	22 item on the goods is the adoption of the Healtengest	
23 COMMISSIONER KENNY: I would	23 item on the agenda is the adoption of the Hackensack	
23 COMMISSIONER KENNY: I would 24 volunteer too. 25 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny,	24 River Greenway Plan. We held a public meeting in 25 January, which had been noticed for the proper	

3 (Pages 6 - 9)

P 10	P 12
Page 10 1 amount of time, 20 days, and there was a public	Page 12 1 difficulty hearing you still. I'm sorry.
2 hearing and we were able to have it. It was open to	2 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.
3 members of the public for questions and received a	3 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.
4 lot of positive feedback for the plan. The staff	4 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner
5 answered comments about the plan. And it's on the	5 Malavasi.
6 agenda for approval.	6 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.
7 Was there any questions or comments about	7 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.
8 the plan? If not, do I have a motion?	8 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.
9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I'll make a	9 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.
10 motion.	10 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.
11 COMMISSIONER JETER: I'll second.	11 MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has
12 MS. GIARRATANA: Thank you. On a	12 passed. The next item on the agenda is
13 motion made by Commissioner Choffo, and seconded by	13 memorializations of resolutions considered at the
14 Commissioner Jeter.	14 previous meeting, the December meeting. First
15 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.	15 application is 2021-032-SP; Singh Realty, LLC; at
16 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.	16 3294 Kennedy Boulevard; Block 4301, Lot 45 in Jersey
17 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	17 City. On a motion made by Commissioner Mehta and
18 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Aye.	18 seconded by Commissioner Lugo.
19 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.	19 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.
20 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.	20 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.
21 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	21 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.
22 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.	22 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.
23 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	23 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.
24 Malavasi.	24 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.
25 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.	25 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner
Page 11	Page 13
1 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.	1 Malavasi.
2 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.	2 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.
3 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Ng.	3 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.
4 I'm sorry, not present. And Chairwoman Lugo.	4 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.
5 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.	5 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.
6 MS. GIARRATANA: Thank you so much.	6 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.
7 The motion has passed. The next item on agenda are	7 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I think you
8 the adoption of changes to the Hudson County Land	8 forgot me. That's okay.
9 Development Regulations. There was language about	9 MS. GIARRATANA: Oh, no, Dan. I
10 electric vehicles and stormwater management. This	10 don't believe you were at the December meeting.
11 was introduced a few months ago now, as the staff	11 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Oh, I'm sorry.
12 worked on it. There's been no comments or questions	MS. GIARRATANA: The next item on the
13 on it. Are there any questions at this time? If	13 agenda is 2021-047-SP; Apex Real Estate, LLC; at
14 not, do I have a motion?	14 4401 Bergen Turnpike; Block 102, Lot 60.01; in North
15 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Motion.	15 Bergen. Do I have a motion?
16 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Second.	On a motion made by Chairwoman Lugo, and
MS. GIARRATANA: On a motion made	17 seconded by Commissioner Jeter.
18 Chairwoman Lugo, and seconded by Commissioner	18 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.
19 Choffo.	19 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.
20 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.	20 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.
21 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.	21 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.
22 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	22 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.
23 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Aye.	23 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.
24 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.	24 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner
25 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye. I'm having	25 Malavasi.

4 (Pages 10 - 13)

Page 14	Page 16
1 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye. 1 MS. TUBITO: Di	•
2 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta. 2 Demetrios yet?	
	No, not yet. I'm here.
	II: I was looking to
5 Chairwoman Lugo. 5 swear you in. I couldn't fine	-
6 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye. 6 (The witness is swo	•
- I	I: And if you can state
8 passed. The next application is 2021-043-SP; Walfam 8 your name for the record, sp	·
9 Properties Association; at 2650 Secaucus Road; Block 9 last name, and also giving the	- ·
	Sure. It's Demetrios
On a motion made by Commissioner Mehta, 11 Kaltsis, Kaltsis Architects.	
12 and seconded by Commissioner Aponte-Lipski. 12 D-E-M-E-T-R-I-O-S; last n	
13 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski. 13 K-A-L-T-S-I-S. My busine	-
14 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye. 14 Boulevard in North Bergen.	-
,	I: And if you could go
16 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye. 16 over your qualifications for	
17 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny. 17 qualifying?	
18 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye. 18 MR. KALTSIS: S	Sure. I've been a
19 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner 19 registered architect for over	the last 15 years.
20 Malavasi. 20 I've appeared before a numb	·
21 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye. 21 throughout Hudson County	_
MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta. 22 I've also appeared before the	-
23 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye. 23 fact, at the previous meeting	
24 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo. 24 still current.	
25 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye. 25 CHAIRWOMAN	LUGO: You're accepted.
Page 15	Page 17
1 MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has 1 Thank you.	
2 passed. The next item on the agenda is Item G, site 2 MR. KALTSIS: T	Thank you.
3 Plans, Subdivisions and other Matters Scheduled for 3 MS. TUBITO: Go	ahead, Demetrios.
4 Public Hearing. The first application is 4 MR. KALTSIS: S	So the property in
5 2021-051-SP; the applicant Kennedy Hudson Corp., at 5 question here is on the corn	er of 85th Street and
6 8501 Kennedy Boulevard; Block 361, Lot 44.02; in 6 Kennedy Boulevard. The p	roperty is one hundred feet
7 North Bergen. It's a site plan application to 7 by 93.6 feet, has a lot area of	of 1,986 square feet
8 construct a 4-story mixed use building with 20 8 and is located in a C1A Cor	nmercial Zone District.
9 residential units and 31 parking spaces. 9 It's a relatively flat site with	approximately three
10 MS. TUBITO: Hello? 10 feet change in elevation slop	ping down as you go west
11 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes. 11 down the hill when you go s	straight. Currently there
12 MS. TUBITO: Hi. This is Rose 12 is a one-story bank on the p	roperty that has been
13 Tubito, the attorney on behalf of Hudson Kennedy 13 demolished. That bank tool	k up 1,543 square feet.
14 Corp., 8501 Kennedy Boulevard, North Bergen, and I 14 Also, that property ha	nd ingress and egress
15 have my professionals here tonight to present the 15 both from Kennedy Bouleva	ard and 85th Street, which
16 application, and I would like to start with 16 you can see here on the top	
17 Demetrios Kaltsis. 17 SP-1. This is the bank site a	
17 St 1. This is the built site of	at the corner of the
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 18 property, and the parking is	
	an L-shaped
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 18 property, and the parking is	an L-shaped isting building. This
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 18 property, and the parking is 19 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes. 19 configuration around the ex	an L-shaped isting building. This for a new four-story
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 19 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Yes. I heard 18 property, and the parking is 19 configuration around the ex 20 property received approvals	an L-shaped isting building. This for a new four-story ound floor commercial
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 19 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Yes. I heard 21 this application at the North Bergen Planning Board, 18 property, and the parking is 19 configuration around the ex 20 property received approvals 21 mixed use building with ground the parking is 21 mixed use building with ground the parking is	an L-shaped isting building. This for a new four-story ound floor commercial ing, a 4,000 square feet
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman. 19 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Yes. I heard 21 this application at the North Bergen Planning Board, 22 so I have to recuse myself. 18 property, and the parking is 19 configuration around the ex 20 property received approvals 21 mixed use building with ground ground floor park	an L-shaped isting building. This for a new four-story ound floor commercial ing, a 4,000 square feet the second floor on the

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1 of the proposed building.

The structure has a height of 45 feet and a footprint of 8,779 square feet. We're proposing a six-foot rear yard setback on the ground floor, and then prine feet extends recovered extends on the

5 then nine-foot setback, rear yard setback on the

6 residential floors. The other side and front

7 elevation vary from zero feet to three feet, which

8 you can see here on the front and the left side and

9 then a zero-feet setback on the right side.

Looking at Sheet A-2 -- I'm sorry, A-1,
I'll describe the ground floor. Essentially the
ground floor has two, two main entrances. We have a

13 main entrance on the corner. This is solely for the

14 professional office space located on the second

15 floor. We have a two-story high entry which you can

16 see here on the corner, that's a glass enclosed

17 space that you saw on the three dimensional

18 rendering. We also have a separate waiting area on

19 the side, a separate elevator exclusively for the

20 professional office space. On the left side here we

21 have a second entrance which is solely for the

22 residential units. There is a small office adjacent

23 to that. We have a small area for mailboxes and a

24 small package area directly behind that, a separate

25 elevator for the residential units, and then direct

1 from Kennedy Boulevard, we have modifiers to

2 encourage right turn only exiting from the building.

3 We do have a right-only sign as you exit. We also

4 provide a No Left Turn sign that is facing south so

5 northbound traffic, we could discourage that left

6 turn into the building from Kennedy Boulevard. We

7 also have one on the building near the exit and then

8 provided a small curb, concrete curb in the center

9 which will also encourage right turn only.

Looking at the next sheet, to describe the 11 other floors in the building, this is the second

12 floor. As we mentioned before, we have a

13 4000-square-foot professional office space towards

14 the front of the building which has access from the

15 two-story high entrance and the second means of

16 egress on the north side of the building. Behind

17 this office we have four dwelling units, and they're

18 divided by the office space with a corridor that

19 connects the north-south stair towers, and then the

20 third and floor plans are identical. Essentially

21 they have four residential dwelling units along the

22 back and four dwellings units on the front, all of

23 which are one-bedroom units, one bathroom and

24 approximately eight or 900 square feet.

The elevations of the building, it's a

Page 19

25

1 access to the fully enclosed garage on the ground 2 floor.

3 This garage has ingress and egress only at

4 Kennedy Boulevard. We eliminated the access coming

5 from 85th Street so we have a total of nine parking

6 spaces located towards the front which are

7 traditional parking spaces, nine by eight feet --

8 I'm sorry eight and a half by eight feet with one

9 compact space which you can see here. Two parking

10 spaces are handicapped accessible and then along the

11 back we have a lift design elevated parking system

12 for 21 parking spaces, which is basically a two

13 level parking structure that's located in the back.

We also have a garbage and recycling room 15 in the center which has a garbage chute that works

16 with the second, third and fourth floors. We also

17 have a side entrance from 85th Street which the

18 garbage and recycling will be brought from this room

19 out to the side to be picked up by the township.

20 That would be done by either a super in the building

21 or another individual hired by the ownership. Also

22 we do have a bike rack adjacent to the stairwell, a

23 second means of egress to the building.

24 And finally, looking at the building, we

25 do have as I said before, ingress and egress solely

 $$\operatorname{Page}\ 21$$ 1 modern building as you saw from the rendering. We

2 have that two-story high glass enclosure on the

3 entrance of the building for the professional office

4 space. We have white brick or stucco. These areas

5 are in white, on the stair towers on the side. We

6 also have a brick veneer finish along the base, the

7 front and the sides. Looking down at the site plan,

8 I just want to point out a few things that we did.

9 We are proposing to replace the entire sidewalk

10 along Kennedy Boulevard and 85th Street. We are

11 also proposing three shade trees along Kennedy

12 Boulevard and three trees along 85th Street.

We are requesting a couple of design waivers, one of which is the aisle width is

15 22.8 feet. That's one design waiver. The second

13 22.8 feet. That's one design warver. The second

16 waiver is the single ingress and egress from Kennedy

17 Boulevard. We're requesting a design waiver on

18 that. We did put a note on the plans allowing for

19 the center line delineators on Kennedy Boulevard in

20 the event they were needed. As I mentioned before

21 we did also get the No Left Turn signage and also

22 Right Turn Only signage as you're exiting the

23 building.

And finally one other comment was is

25 stormwater design that we have on the property. We

6 (Pages 18 - 21)

Page 22 Page 24 1 had 25 units in the building, and that traffic study 1 do have a landscaping bed along the back of the 2 building which we are proposing to disburse the 2 didn't find any issues or any problems. With five 3 overflow from that system so that is one of the 3 less units, we're talking about a little bit less 4 other items that we're requesting. That is 4 traffic. I think really the key here though is we 5 have a site that was occupied by a bank, and if that 5 essentially all of the items regarding the design to 6 bank theoretically reopened, it would have generated 6 the building. We do have a traffic expert here if 7 more traffic and actually generated slightly more 7 there are any questions relative to the level of 8 traffic than what we're proposing. If you look at 8 service and the vehicle trips. 9 the ITE, the Institute of Transportation Engineers Does anybody have any questions about the 10 design of the building that I could answer? 10 trip generation rates, we're actually generating a 11 reduction of three trips in the morning peak hour MS. TUBITO: I would just like to let 12 the Board know that Demetrios did go through the 12 and 20 trips in the evening peak hour. 13 whole checklist from the board's comments and 13 So reducing that traffic impact, we're 14 getting rid of kind of an unusual driveway 14 feedback. He went by the Board's comments. If 15 configuration that existed on Kennedy Boulevard 15 anyone has any questions for Demetrios we can do 16 where you had the bank drive-through exit pretty 16 that or if there aren't any, I would like to 17 introduce the traffic expert for his testimony. 17 much right up against the sidewalk and the driveway 18 here is full movement, right in, right out. So it's 18 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Commissioners, does 19 anyone have any questions? Anyone in the public? 19 overall I think an improvement from a traffic impact 20 Okay. Move on, ma'am. 20 perspective. We're generating less traffic and 21 putting in a more conventional driveway design. 21 MS. BOGDANSKI: Okay. Great. Thank 22 you. Let's get you sworn in for your testimony. 22 That's all I have unless anybody wants to 23 23 hear anymore details or boring traffic testimony. (The witness is sworn.) 24 MS. BOGDANSKI: Okay. And if you can 24 MS. TUBITO: Can you just speak 25 state your name for the record, spelling your first 25 little bit to the ingress and egress and how we're Page 23 Page 25 1 and last name and giving the name of your firm. 1 going to have no left turns, right turns only? 2 MR. PEREGOY: Sure. My name is Craig 2 MR. PEREGOY: Yes. The existing 3 Peregoy, C-R-A-I-G; P-E-R-E-G-O-Y, Dynamic Traffic, 3 driveway does allow left turns in and out. There is 4 business address, 245 main street, Chester, New 4 no signage or anything like that, so we are going to 5 Jersey. 5 propose No Left Turns signs to prevent that from MS. TUBITO: And if you could state 6 happening. My original study included left turns in 7 your qualification for the Board so you could be 7 and out and found that the driveway worked 8 accepted as an expert witness. 8 acceptably, so obviously even better now being we're MR. PEREGOY: I have a bachelor's 9 restricting the left turns in that location and 10 degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech. I'm 10 eliminating that existing condition where you have a 11 a licensed professional engineer in New Jersey. I 11 full movement driveway. 12 testify pretty much on a daily basis including here 12 MS. TUBITO: Thank you. If there are 13 in Hudson County a number of times in the past. 13 any questions of this expert? 14 MS. TUBITO: Is your license current? 14 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: We're having some 15 MR. PEREGOY: It is. 15 problems hearing the question. 16 16 MS. TUBITO: Okay. Great. I offer COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: My question, 17 him as a traffic expert. 17 now, you've asked for a waiver. I didn't hear any 18 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Accepted. Thank 18 testimony as to why that driveway is on the 19 you. 19 Boulevard. We're trying to minimize the traffic on 20 MS. TUBITO: Okay. Could you give 20 the Boulevard. So can you testify as to that 21 the Board a little bit testimony about how our 21 waiver? 22 proposal works from a traffic perspective. 22 MR. PEREGOY: Yeah. The access to

7 (Pages 22 - 25)

23 the 85th Street, 85th is a very narrow street. It's

24 a one-way away from the Boulevard, and it goes

25 down -- it leads to a residential neighborhood, goes

MR. PEREGOY: We prepared a traffic

24 impact study for the project for North Bergen. Back

25 at the outset, we actually had a larger project. We

23

Page 26 Page 28 1 down a pretty steep hill, so we didn't really think 1 enacted favorably upon, you would also put a note on 2 it was appropriate, particularly with the commercial 2 the plans indicating that you would include center 3 use to have traffic utilizing that residential 3 line delineators if left turns into the site became 4 street, and also you know, parking is at a premium 4 a problem further down the road? 5 particularly in that area. Again, it's a MS. TUBITO: Yes, we can do that. 6 residential area along homes with parking, so by 6 The applicant does want to do that, absolutely. 7 7 getting rid of that driveway, we're able to put MR. GITTO: And that cost would be 8 pretty much one and a half essentially parking 8 fully borne by the applicant? 9 spaces on the street. We thought that was a better MS. TUBITO: Yes. 10 condition. 10 MR. GITTO: Okay. Everything else in 11 If you exited the site on 85th Street, you 11 our review letter was addressed by the applicant. I 12 want to go back to Kennedy Boulevard, you're going 12 just want to add that. 13 to quite a journey down the hill, past two streets CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. Thank 14 to Grand Avenue, turning right and then coming back 14 you. Anyone else comments or questions for this 15 up to 88th Street. So it's a little more than a 15 witness? Anyone from the public? Okay. Do you 16 half a mile trip to get back. So it really doesn't 16 have another witness, ma'am? 17 serve any particular benefit that we saw, and we 17 MS. TUBITO: No, that would be all my 18 thought it was better to kind of keep that, 18 witnesses this evening, and I would just like to say 19 especially with the commercial use, keep that 19 very quickly in closing, you know, we believe the 20 traffic off of 85th Street and give those one and a 20 project is a very good project, and we've addressed 21 half parking spaces back to the neighborhood. 21 all of the professionals issues. We're willing to 22 MR. TRIDENTE: Madam Chair, I have a 22 take on many responsibilities, you know, as 23 question. 23 designated, and you know, we appreciate your time 24 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Go ahead. 24 and respectfully request an approval for our waivers 25 MR. TRIDENTE: The street is very 25 and our application in its entirety. Thank you. Page 27 Page 29 1 narrow, are you saying that the street further down CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: If there is no more 1 2 below is too tight because exiting the building, 2 questions or comments, do I have a motion? 3 there is no parking across the street from the 3 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I'll make a 4 project so there is a very wide turning radius 4 motion to approve. 5 that's, you know, provided there? MS. TUBITO: Excuse me. Before you MR. PEREGOY: Yeah. You know, those 6 vote, I just want to be clear. Are you going to be 7 are garage doors for the auto repair place across 7 approving both the aisle width and single ingress 8 the street, but then immediately beyond that, 8 egress from JFK waivers as part of this motion? 9 parking on both sides of the street, and it's a --9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Yes. 10 it's a fairly tight street with, you know -- it 10 MS. TUBITO: Okay. COMMISSIONER NG: I'll second the 11 drops down pretty steeply as most of those street do 11 12 in that area. 12 motion. 13 MR. TRIDENTE: Are you anticipating 13 MS. GIARRATANA: Chairwoman, I would 14 any truck traffic exiting out of the building? 14 like the record reflect that Commissioner Ng did 15 MR. PEREGOY: No. No truck traffic. 15 arrive only a few minutes into the presentation so 16 It's designed for automobile traffic only. 16 he was present. 17 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Anyone else any 17 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. 18 questions? I'm having a hard time hearing. 18 MS. GIARRATANA: Okay. On a motion 19 MS. GIARRATANA: Greg, do you want to 19 made by Commissioner Choffo. Seconded by 20 add? 20 Commissioner Ng. 21 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski. MR. GITTO: Yes, if the Commissioners 21 22 are finished, I would like to add a couple of 22 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye. 23 things. 23 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo? 24 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Sure. Thank you. 24 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.

8 (Pages 26 - 29)

MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.

25

MR. GITTO: So as far as if this is

25

D 20	D 22
Page 30 1 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.	Page 32 1 couple of weeks.
2 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	2 And so I have three witnesses here
3 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.	3 tonight. The first one is Chris High, the pastor of
4 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	4 Grace Community Church, followed by architect Ciaran
5 Malavasi. 6 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Due to the	5 Kelly and Lee Klein, our traffic engineer. So I 6 would like to bring Pastor High up, and have him
7 access or lack of access of 85th Street, I'm	7 sworn in.
8 generally not in favor of traffic on the Boulevard,	8 (The witness is sworn.)
9 but when it comes to 85th Street, my thoughts, we'll	9 MS. BOGDANSKI: Okay. If you could
10 see if it works here. If not, it will come back to	10 state your name for the record, spelling your first
11 the Board.	
	11 and last name, and then give your affiliation to the
12 MS. TUBITO: Okay. 13 MS. GIARRATANA: Thank you,	12 applicant. 13 PASTOR HIGH: Yes. So my name is
14 Commissioner. Commissioner Mehta. Commissioner	3
	14 Chris, C-H-R-I-S; last name is High; H-I-G-H, and I
15 Ng.16 COMMISSIONER NG: Aye.	15 am the lead pastor of Hoboken Grace Community
,	16 Church. Would you like me to share, Jeff? 17 MR. BURTON: Is he sworn? You were,
17 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.18 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.	18 okay.
19 MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has	19 MS. BOGDANSKI: Yes, he was.
20 passed. Thank you. The next item on the agenda is	20 MR. BURTON: Okay. So Pastor, what I
21 Application 2022-004-SP. It's Hoboken Grace	21 would like you to do is explain why you wanted to
22 Community Church, Inc. It's at 409 14th Street	22 purchase this building for the church purpose and
23 Block 114, Lot 14.02; in Hoboken. It's a site plan	23 give the Board and staff some background about the
24 application to retrofit a movie theater into a	24 type of usage you would contemplate.
25 community center for use by various not-for-profit	25 PASTOR HIGH: Yeah. I think in order
Page 31	Page 33
1 organizations.	1 to understand the usage, you have to understand a
2 MR. BURTON: I just joined. I was	2 little bit of the history of Hoboken Grace. We have
3 the Jersey City zoning board ten seconds ago. I	3 been in Hoboken for 14 years. We came out of
4 guess that's the beauty of Zoom. You can jump from	4 several churches across the New York metro Jersey
5 one to the other. But here I am. I am the attorney	
C for the conditions And first I seemed to consider	5 area. Our goal from the beginning has to impact and
6 for the applicant. And first I want to appreciate	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do
7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things
7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I 8 appreciate staff for moving this along as quickly as	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things 8 we just did is provide gift certificates for the
7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I8 appreciate staff for moving this along as quickly as9 it has done.	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things 8 we just did is provide gift certificates for the 9 teachers inside of our city. Coming out of the last
 7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I 8 appreciate staff for moving this along as quickly as 9 it has done. 10 A brief history, as was just mentioned, 	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things 8 we just did is provide gift certificates for the 9 teachers inside of our city. Coming out of the last 10 couple of weeks, they were a little bit frustrated,
 7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I 8 appreciate staff for moving this along as quickly as 9 it has done. 10 A brief history, as was just mentioned, 11 this involves what used to be the Bow Tie Cinema 	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things 8 we just did is provide gift certificates for the 9 teachers inside of our city. Coming out of the last 10 couple of weeks, they were a little bit frustrated, 11 and so we wanted to love them.
 7 the Board for hearing this so quickly, and I 8 appreciate staff for moving this along as quickly as 9 it has done. 10 A brief history, as was just mentioned, 11 this involves what used to be the Bow Tie Cinema 12 Theater. Due to COVID it closed, it's been vacant, 	6 love our city as best as we possibly can. So we do 7 that in a lot of different ways. One of the things 8 we just did is provide gift certificates for the 9 teachers inside of our city. Coming out of the last 10 couple of weeks, they were a little bit frustrated, 11 and so we wanted to love them. 12 But whether it's our Easter egg hunt or
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1 Syndrome across Hudson County, all of these

- 2 organizations True Mentors, which is the largest
- 3 mentoring organization in our city, they're
- 4 scrambling to find both operational space and find

5 office space.

And our dream for years now has to

- 7 establish a space that would resolve that for
- 8 nonprofits inside of our community. When we found
- 9 this location, it was amazing to see what was
- 10 possible, and one of the things that's been
- 11 interesting is that we've been able to kind of
- 12 demonstrate what it is that we want to do with this
- 13 because during COVID, we weren't allowed to meet
- 14 indoors so we had to actually establish an outdoor
- 15 location, and we secured an empty parking lot and
- 16 met there as a church outside, and then we also used
- 17 that space for nonprofits all weeklong, and that was
- 18 actually one block from this current location. That
- 19 was on the corner of Adams and 15th.
- 20 I know one of the questions that was asked
- 21 in the letters was Okay, this is the location, it's
- 22 a mile from the previous location because we
- 23 currently meet on 3rd and Garden, do we feel like
- 24 people will drive more because it's further? A
- 25 couple things to speak to on that. Number one,

- 1 not a separate building or a separate part that's a
 - 2 church. As a matter of fact, one of the things that

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- 3 we're doing with the space is all the signage
- 4 internally is electronic so that when you walk into
- 5 the space, you don't thing that you're at the
- 6 Hoboken Grace space. We can change all of the
- 7 signage to accommodate whatever nonprofit is using
- 8 the site, using the building that evening or that
- 9 afternoon.
- 10 So if True Mentors is using it for
- 11 training for their mentors, when they walk in, all
- 12 of the signage will say True Mentors. It won't say
- 13 Hoboken Grace or Community Lifestyle, which
- 14 organization that serves the children inside of our
- 15 community, specifically unprivileged children, and
- 16 when they walk into that space, they're having those
- 17 activities for kids, it's going to going to say
- 18 Community Lifestyles everywhere. This is why when
- you look at the design of this space, all of the
- 20 assembly halls are completely flat. There is no set
- 21 stages in any of those rooms, because we want for
- 22 community lifestyles to be able to come in and have
- 23 activities for kids. We want the arts organizations
- 24 to be able to have art activities, whether it's for
- 25 kids or adults. We want for all these different

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- 1 almost all of our church attendees are from Hoboken.
- 2 Almost all of the -- completely all of the nonprofit
- 3 organizations are within the city, and when we were
- 4 meeting on 15th and Adams, one block away, they were
- 5 just as willing to walk there as they were to 3rd
- 6 and Garden, and the people who attend are not
- 7 concentrated in South Hoboken. We are spread across
- 8 the city really eventually, and so we've already
- 9 seen that happen. We've been able to really love
- 10 nonprofits and equip nonprofits with that space over
- 11 the course of the last year and a half, and now
- 12 we're looking to do that with this space.
- And I think one of the misconceptions that
- 14 people frequently have and maybe even this Board has
- 15 to understand is that we're looking to build a
- 16 community center in which our church meets. This is
- 17 not a church building and a community center. So
- 18 Hoboken Grace has always met in a school gym. We
- 19 don't have a sanctuary. I was working through this
- 20 one of the Council Members here in Hoboken, and they
- 21 kept asking, Where is the sanctuary going to be?
- 22 And I say, no, that's not how it works.
- 23 We're just meeting in one of the assembly halls on
- 24 the weekend, and then throughout the week it will be
- 25 used by all sorts of other organizations. There is

- 1 nonprofits to be able to use the space. It really
- 2 is a nonprofit community center that again, we'll
- 3 need it on weekends, but it's not -- we don't want
- 4 this to be a Hoboken Grace building. We want this
- 5 to be a community building. And we're excited to be
- 7 And I think that one of the reasons why we
- 8 were able to be unanimously approved by the Hoboken
- 9 Planning Board is because of the fact there is an
- 10 understanding of how much of a need there is for
- 11 this inside of our city, and I think that they've
- 12 seen our passion for the community and what we've
- 13 been able to do, and they know what it is that we
- want to be able to do moving forward.
- 15 MR. BURTON: Pastor, specifically
- 16 let's talk about the church services. You're
- 17 talking about 600-seat church in a 19,000 square
- 18 foot community center. You're saying it's really
- 19 one in the same. It's not a separate space?
- 20 PASTOR HIGH: Yeah. There is 1900 --
- 21 I'm not sure of the exact square footage. It's the
- 22 whole building and we'll meet inside. If you see,
- 23 if you look we've taken -- there used to be five
- 24 theaters. If you look at it now, it's four because 25 we combined two them, and maximum capacity, like you

10 (Pages 34 - 37)

Page 38 Page 40 1 will be owned by the local Grace Church, but it's 1 probably could fit 600 in there, but if you look at 2 your attendance, it's not even a goal of ours. We 2 our intention to provide this free of charge with 3 have multiple services because we wanted to space 3 maybe like a cleaning fee when they use it to clean, 4 that out across Sunday morning. That's not 4 but it's our intention to provide this free of 5 charge for nonprofits inside of our city. One of 5 something that would be a reality, and on Sunday 6 the things that we've said as a church as we looked 6 mornings, I know that question was asked whether the 7 service, the like the services going on and other 7 to establish this is that we're not looking to 8 things. No, on Sunday morning it will be 8 establish a church building that sits empty all week 9 specifically the Sunday gatherings, and then 9 long. We want that building to be utilized in a way 10 throughout the week, you'll see the different 10 in which it can consistently love the community, it 11 can consistently impact the community, and this is 11 nonprofits utilize this space. 12 MR. BURTON: Okay. You already 12 not something we were look to make money off the 13 testified, this is just for the Board's benefit, 13 space. That's not what we're doing. And that's 14 specifically why we're working with nonprofits. 14 once you've congregated, the users come from Hoboken 15 Even if you look at the office space 15 or nearby, that don't drive to the facility, and 16 inside of the drawings, it's almost like a work 16 when you go to service, you're not a town away. You 17 don't get the traffic pattern increasing 17 space for nonprofits. Computers for People just 18 contacted me today, I don't know if you know who 18 dramatically. 19 PASTOR HIGH: Yeah, one of the things they are, but they provide thousands of free 20 that I really appreciated that we actually came to 20 computers for families that are in difficult 21 situations all throughout our County and they're one 21 our services with a traffic expert. He actually 22 came to our services, we've always had -- we've 22 of the big -- they just keep contacting me saying 23 always met in Hoboken. We've never had parking, and 23 when is office space opening because these 24 so everybody has always walked to the space. That's 24 nonprofits they're constantly -- they're using all 25 of their time and their resources to find space, 25 been our reality since we started Hoboken Grace when Page 39 Page 41 1 we met on 15th and Adams. That was the one block 1 whether it's office space or operational space, and 2 further north. We met there for a year and a half 2 it makes them so much less productive, and we can 3 because we couldn't meet indoors. We had to meet 3 actually address that. 4 outside. And we had no parking problems, no traffic COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Thank you. One 5 problems, because people were just willing to walk 5 more question. The area you mentioned you are not 6 changing the footprint of the building, and so I 7 MR. BURTON: Okay. Thank you. Does 7 assume that the architect will go into more detail, 8 the Board have any questions of Pastor High? 8 right? CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Any Commissioners 9 PASTOR HIGH: Yes. 10 10 have any questions? COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Thank you, 11 COMMISSIONER NG: I have no 11 Pastor. 12 questions. 12 PASTOR HIGH: Thank you. 13 COMMISSIONER JETER: I had one CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Any members of the 14 public? 14 question. Pastor High, you also said that so that 15 15 no one feels like they're in a church, the COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Chairwoman, just 16 a couple of questions. So Pastor, you mentioned 16 electronic signage; I think that is a beautiful 17 nonprofit organization, and the ownership of the 17 idea. That's just me personally. But how is that 18 property will be combined or the ownership of the going to incorporate what they're going to use for 19 property will be by the Grace Church, and nonprofit 19 the space, or is the room just allocated space? 20 20 organizations will be the tenant of the church? PASTOR HIGH: So they'll be able MR. BURTON: So the owner, the 21 to -- each nonprofit will be able to choose the room 22 question, you testified about the not-for-profits. 22 that works best for them. For example, one of the 23 Are they renters? How do they agree to use the 23 spaces is going to be a finished concrete floor. 24 space? How does that work out? 24 One of the spaces is going to be carpeted floor.

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25 One of the spaces is actually going to stay as a

PASTOR HIGH: Yeah, so the building

25

1	Page 42	1	Page 44
	movie theater. So let's say True Mentors wants to		accepted.
_	do a movie night for the kids who are part of their	2	MR. BURTON: All right. Thank you
3	program. They would reserve the movie theater for		very much. There was before some questions by the
	Thursday night between five and eight o'clock, and		Board, and I think, you know, as far as providing the interior renovations that will go on. The first
	that's the space that they would use. And there		thing you should say, again, is that you can state
	maybe a Girl Scout meeting taking place on the first floor in the area that's carpeted at the same time.		for the record, except for siding there's going to
8	And so they'll reserve those different		be no exterior changes, correct?
		9	MR. KELLY: That is correct. With
	architectural official design, but our plan is to	_	your permission, I will start. I'll share my
	have a welcome table there that will just direct		screen, and I'll give a brief overview of the
	people to where they need to be or where they're		location of the building itself, and then describe
	organization is utilizing that space. Does that		briefly the scope of work. Can everybody see the
	make sense?		screen?
15	COMMISSIONER JETER: Yes. Thank you	15	Actually, you're familiar with the
	so much.		building, but this is just this is the last sheet
17	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Anyone else any		in the drawing plan which was previously submitted
	questions? Anyone from the public? Okay. We can		to this Board to familiarize you. The building is
	hear your next witness.		on the southern side of the 14th Street; 14th Street
20	MR. BURTON: Okay. Thank you. The		being the County road. It's bounded on the east by
	next witness is Ciaran Kelly, who is the architect.		Grand Street and the west by Adams Street, and
	I see him there. He can be sworn in.		you'll see it here, you can see it's overgrown. The
23	(The witness is sworn.)		viaduct, as you travel up and down and also on the
24	MS. BOGDANSKI: And if you could		lower end of 14th Street below the viaduct. So this
25	state your name for the record, give your first and	25	being the significance of this application is in
	Page 43		Page 45
1	last name, spelling that and giving the name of your	1	fact an interior renovation what we're doing here.
	firm.	2	It's a social affairs center. We're
3	MR. KELLY: Yeah. My name is Ciaran	3	taking relatively new, it was built in 2007, but
4	Kelly. It's spelled C-I-A-R-A-N. Last name Kelly,		it's a very highly sophisticated building in terms
	K-E-L-L-Y, the firm is MVMK architecture.		of, you know, existing systems of a movie theater,
6	MR. BURTON: All right. So Ciaran, I		from the sound system and the acoustics and so on.
7	hear some questions from the board	7	And changing them and repurposing them into a very
8	MS. BOGDANSKI: Excuse me. Could you	8	compatible use having a multiple functional
9	qualify your witness? Qualify your witness first,	9	community center and because the use is so
10	please.	10	compatible I think work is very limited. It doesn't
11	MR. BURTON: Sure. Are you a	11	need to be very sophisticated.
12	licensed architect in the state of New Jersey?	12	I think perhaps the best way to explain it
13	MR. KELLY: I am. I've been a	13	to you, we're going to go through each of the floor
14	licensed architect in New Jersey for the last ten	14	plans. This is a section through the building which
15	years, License No. 18826. The license is current		illustrates, you know, all the floors at once, and
16	and is in good standing.		that's the talking point. So as the pastor had
17	MR. BURTON: And you're a principal		said, there was five movie theaters in the building.
	of an architecture firm?		If you see them here, there's the four units in this
19	MR. KELLY: Yes, correct.		building. I've taken two movie theaters and
20	MR. BURTON: And you've appeared		converted it into one assembly hall, but essentially
	before a couple of boards in the County?		you have four large spaces in the building, each of
22	MR. KELLY: I have, including this		those two stories in height, three of them this one
	Board.		here being Assembly Hall A, this one here, Assembly
24	MR. BURTON: Okay. Thank you.		Hall B and the upper level the large Assembly Hall
25	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. You're	25	C, and the final page auditorium for concerts. It

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1 remains a movie theater. There, the new space in

- 2 the three assembly halls are actually
- 3 multifunctional. So it's really just removing the
- 4 theater and creating those spaces, and obviously,
- 5 you know refinishing flooring as a result. But
- 6 that's really it. Between the larger spaces or the
- 7 assembly spaces are supported function of the
- 8 building.

9 So the first floor, you have your lobby,

10 and then you come up to the first floor mezzanine

- 11 level, and that area shown here in green is the
- 12 office space. That's the area we have to rework
- 13 that space for use by the various nonprofits that
- 14 the building is planned for. The second floor is
- 15 the lobby which will access the two upper assembly
- 16 spaces, and then on the top floor, again, we have a
- 17 lobby, which acts as the projector room for the
- 18 theater space which is to remain, and also serves as
- 19 a secondary means of egress.
- But that's it. That's the only work.
- 21 It's all interior. There is no work being proposed
- 22 on the exterior with the exception of signage, and I
- 23 just want to make it clear that the signage that
- 24 we're proposing, there is no new signage being
- 25 proposed. We are replacing the existing signs on

- latter. The first would be treed. So just to
- 1 place. They're all in very got condition. And so 2 there is no exterior work proposed. There were a
- 3 number of questions that came up in the engineering

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- 4 letter. The first would be trash. So just to
- 5 explain, there is a trash company picking trash up
- 6 on the first floor on the Adam Street side of the
- 7 building, let me scroll here, That the movie theater
- 8 used. The same room, here it is, the same room
- 9 would serve as the collecting and storing room, and
- 10 then taken out to the sidewalk for municipal pick up
- 11 as per the schedule. The only thing I think was
- 12 given the new use, the amount of trash generated as
- 13 far as in a movie theater, of course, people are
- 14 eating popcorn and sodas. That's the trash.

15 The other question was bike racks. There

- 16 are no exterior bike racks proposed on the
- 17 application because there are existing two large
- 18 bike racks at the Grand Street side on the base of
- 19 the two columns. Its hard to see here, but at each
- 20 of this structural supports, there are bike racks
- 21 for 12 bikes. So that's 24 bikes then. In addition
- 22 to that on the Grand Street, there is a Citi Bike
- 23 rack for 19 Citi Bikes directly catty-corner to
- 24 this. And the public bike racks are rarely if ever
- 25 used, so there are certainly plenty to accommodate

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1 the building with the same size and the same height

- 2 with signage that reflects obviously the new name,
- 3 the Grace Center. There is a large sign that's on
- 4 the 14th Street side which faces the viaduct that
- 5 will say Hoboken Grace, and then there are two
- 6 smaller signs on the east and west sides, and you
- 7 see one here on the Adams Street side. I know
- 8 they've already been referenced, it's the same sign.
- 9 They're smaller signs. They are facing the street 10 level.
- 11 There are six related signs or projecting
- 12 signs which stick out the face the building, and
- 13 what we're proposing is to keep the brackets, but
- 14 replace them with traffic signs which can be
- 15 replaced depending on the various events that might
- 16 be posted for such events. So we will be replacing
- 17 the existing signage. The building itself runs on
- 18 14th Street, but at street level, 14th is not a
- 19 traverse street for vehicle travel. There are
- 20 bollards on both Adams Street and the Grand Street
- 21 side to prevent vehicles from traveling down along
- 22 the building, and essentially 14th Street below the
- 23 viaduct, you have open space and the building.
- There is no site improvements or changes
- 25 for the sidewalks or the street trees. They're in

1 that.

2

- I know that there was a question of green
- 3 initiatives. So of course, this is an interior
- 4 renovation, and we expect to dramatically reduce the
- 5 energy consumption in the building. The first one
- 6 would be through the lighting. The lighting is
- 7 being replaced with high efficiency LED lighting,
- 8 and we will propose motion-activated lighting so
- 9 that it shuts off when not in use. Wherever
- 10 lighting needs to be replaced, these fixtures or
- 11 bulbs overtime, they will be replaced with low
- 12 energy fixtures.

The other things would be the plumbing

- 14 fixtures. Although the bathrooms are in great
- 15 conditions, what we can do is replace the flush
- 16 valves in the toilet fixtures with a low flow, you
- 17 know, low water use flush valves to reduce the
- 18 water. Currently, it was operating as a theater,
- 19 the projectors generate a lot of heat to run
- 20 properly, and when you take away that use, you could
- 21 adjust the system so it's more appropriate to the
- 22 activities in the space at the time. But also by
- 23 staying on a schedule of monitoring the system more 24 regularly, we could make it more responsive to the
- 25 use and reduce the energy.

13 (Pages 46 - 49)

Page 50 Page 52 1 The final green initiative, of course, is 1 Commissioner. 2 the green feature adaptive reuse of the building is COMMISSIONER KENNY: I would also 3 in itself a green use. The other thing and this is 3 like to say, Hoboken born and raised, this is much 4 the last thing I will talk about, this application 4 appreciated, and it's great for the city so. MR. BURTON: We do have one more 5 has reviewed and approved by the zone administrator 6 witness. 6 in Hoboken. But that building is at elevation 7.2, 7 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Do we really 7 and we are required to bring the building up to 8 14 feet which is the flood elevation here, so we are 8 have to hear from Lee Klein? Come on. Quickly. 9 proposing flood panels, these are removal of course, (The witness is sworn.) 10 10 to be installed at all entrances in the building, MS. BOGDANSKI: You could state your 11 and that would be required. That's really all I 11 name for the record, spelling your first and last 12 have, unless anyone has any questions. 12 name and giving the name of your firm. 13 MR. BURTON: So if the Board doesn't 13 MR. KLEIN: Lee. L-E-E, middle 14 have any questions, thank you for your presentation. 14 initial D as in Daniel, K-L-E-I-N, principal of 15 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. Does 15 Klein Traffic Consulting. I'm a licensed 16 anyone else have any questions? Or Mr. Malavasi, do 16 professional engineer in the state of New Jersey. 17 you have anything? 17 My license is current. I'm also a nationally 18 MS. GIARRATANA: Yes, so thank you 18 certified professional traffic operations engineer, 19 for touching on the green techniques, and your 19 and that certification is also current. I have 20 testified before this Board on several occasions. 20 energy reduction and readaptive reuse fulfill the 21 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Okay. You're 21 requirements of the County Planning Department. I 22 also would like to know that this is something that 22 accepted. 23 23 came up site plan committee meeting. The viaduct is MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Madam Chair. 24 County property, and it is regulated by our Planning 24 MR. BURTON: So Mr. Klein, you 25 Department. So if any organizations were to have 25 prepared a report for the Hoboken Planning Board. I Page 51 Page 53 1 would like you to the summarize the report while 1 events in that space, they would have to apply for a 2 permit and sign our insurance and liability forms to 2 addressing some of the points raised in the planning 3 our County Planning Department. 3 report. 4 MR. KLEIN: I will. I prepared a 4 MR. BURTON: Understood. Thank you. 5 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Anyone else have 5 traffic engineering and parking evaluation report 6 dated October 8, 2021, and it was submitted to the 6 any comments or questions? 7 Hoboken Planning Board, and they reviewed that and COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Madam Chair, I 8 provided comments. In that report I put together a 8 have a comment. I just thing it's an exceptional 9 trip generation calculation, a comparison of the 9 use of the existing space that shows a unique 10 previous multiplex movie theaters with over a 10 approach to changing times from a movie theater that 11 we probably didn't even know it existed and to see 11 thousand seats and compared the trips on a weekday 12 it go to good use for the community for nonprofits 12 evening, a Saturday and Sunday with the proposed 13 support. I would like to see more of that 13 recreational community center of 19,000 square feet, 14 throughout our County. 14 and also the church with 600 seats on a Sunday. 15 15 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you, And the conclusions of that were the 16 Commissioner. I agree wholeheartedly. Any other 16 community center on a weekday evening or Saturday 17 would generate less traffic, significantly less 17 comments or questions? 18 COMMISSIONER NG: I think this is the 18 traffic, close to 250 during the p.m. peak hour and 19 great project and I like it. Just to clarify, 300 less trips on a Saturday, but only a slight 20 increase on a Sunday, about 30 trips, and actually 20 actually the application for the movie theater and 21 through the County, we have a lot of comments about 21 that was relatively conservative. As you heard from 22 Pastor High, the Grace Community Center won't have 22 parking spaces and everything, but I guess they 23 any activities other than the church services on a 23 never have problem, so I don't see a problem now. I 24 Sunday so that difference really makes up for the 24 like the project. 25 25 recreational use. We also looked at parking, CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you,

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	required in Hoboken would be 14 parking spaces,		really have to go to another meeting. I hate to say
	19,000 square feet minus the first five thousand,		that if I can vote, I have no problem with this
	leaves 14,000 square feet, one per thousand is		project, and if I can vote legally before I leave, I
	what's required. As you heard the pastor explain,		would say yes to the project.
	98 percent plus of their congregants walk. They	5	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Okay. Do we have
	live within Hoboken. They walked no matter where		anybody from the public with any questions or anyone
	this facility is, down on Garden or up on 15th and		else have any questions? If not, then I think I'm
	Adams, and now when it's going to be here on 14th		taking Commissioner Ng as a motion.
	Street. It's still going to be people walking	9	COMMISSIONER NG: Thank you.
	there, bringing their strollers on Garden. They	10	MS. GIARRATANA: Do I have a second?
	park their strollers outside this facility. They'll	11	On motion made by Commissioner Ng, and second by
	be able to bring their strollers in the lobby.	12	Commissioner Jeter.
13	So we looked at trip generation is not	13	Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.
	going to be an impact. In fact, it's going to be a	14	COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.
	reduction on weekdays and Saturday, and there is	15	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.
	going to be a slight increase on a Sunday. And	16	COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.
	there are about six or so parking facilities within		Good luck.
	a couple of blocks of this facility if people were	18	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.
	to drive, but we feel that it's a community center	19	COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.
	for the community for Hoboken, focusing on the	20	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.
	residents within the town. We really feel that the	21	COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.
	vast, vast majority will be walking. When I	22	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner
	observed Garden Street, I saw only a couple of Uber		Malavasi.
	and Lyfts pick up people, the older congregants on	24	COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.
25	the Garden Street side, only a couple trips on a	25	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.
	Page 55		Page 57
1	•		aye.
2	In conclusion there would be no traffic	2	COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.
	impact by converting this from a five multiplex	3	MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Ng.
	theater to a recreational communities center, 19,000	4	COMMISSIONER NG: I vote aye.
	square feet and church services on the Sunday.	5	MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.
	There is not impact on parking or traffic in the	6	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.
	area.	7	MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has
8	MR. BURTON: Thank you. You actually		passed.
	went down there on a Sunday and observed, correct?	9	MR. BURTON: Thank you. Again, thank
10	MR. KLEIN: I did. I was there in		the Board professionals and staff for moving this
	September to observe in between the ending of the		along a quickly as you did. We greatly appreciate
	first service and the beginning of the second and	12	
	the third service. There is enough space in	13	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Thank you. Good
	between, about a half an hour. People leave. They		luck, Pastor.
	go do their thing, and the next group comes in. So	15 16	PASTOR HIGH: Thank you. MS. GIARRATANA: The next item on the
	it's really not even crowded, but again it was a movie theater with a thousand seats, movies starting		
	_		agenda, Item H, applications to be Dismissed.
	and stopping at different staggered times just like this, and I didn't note any problem.		2021-046-SP. The applicant is 80 Journal Square Partners LLC; at 2895 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
20	MR. BURTON: Thank you. That		Block 9403, Lot 16; in Jersey City. A site plan
	concludes our presentation. If there is other		application to construct a 26-story residential
	questions, for Mr. Klein, please ask them.		tower above the current CH Martin retail store with
23	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Anyone have any		368 residential units. We're going to dismiss this
	questions?		without prejudice. They let their 90-day window
25	COMMISSIONER NG: Madam Chair, I		expire for the application.
	The state of the s		r

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1 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I'll make a	1 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.	
2 motion to dismiss.	2 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	
3 COMMISSIONER JETER: I'll second. On	3 Malavasi.	
4 a motion made by Commissioner Choffo and seconded by	4 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.	
5 Commissioner Jeter.	5 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.	
6 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.	6 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.	
7 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.	7 MS. GIARRATANA: And Chairwoman Lugo.	
8 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	8 Chairwoman Lugo?	
9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.	9 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I think she	
10 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.	10 said aye.	
11 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.	MS. GIARRATANA: We still have enough	
12 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	12 votes for it to pass so the motion has passed. The	
13 COMMISSIONER KENNY: Aye.	13 next two items are old business, and there is none.	
14 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner	14 For new business we just have changes to the fee	
15 Malayasi.	15 schedule. I'm just going to share or screen really	
16 COMMISSIONER MALAVASI: Aye.	16 quickly. We'll be adding a line to the fee schedule	
MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Mehta.	17 in order to reflect the process the County has had	
18 COMMISSIONER MEHTA: Aye.	18 to take on that are necessary for the	
19 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Ng.	19 telecommunication infrastructure, and this will	
20 Absent. And Chairwoman Lugo.	20 streamline the process a little more, and we worked	
21 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Aye.	21 with the Law Department on this to do a site review	
22 MS. GIARRATANA: The motion has	22 on the use, and then there is also going to a fee	
23 passed. The next item on the agenda is Item I,	23 associated with it. If anyone has any questions?	
24 Applications to be Exempt. There are four	24 CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: I'm sorry, you	
25 applications. 2021-003-SP; Applicant 9001 River	25 guys.	
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1 Road, LLC, at 9001 River Road; Block 440, Lot 27; in	1 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: It's okay.	
2 North Bergen. A site plan application not along a	2 That fee schedule that you're talking about, did you	
3 County road.	3 say that you can charge that one thousand plus 250	
4 Application 2021-058-SP; the applicant,	4 annually to Verizon?	
5 Cypress Equity Investments, LLC, East 23rd Street;	5 MS. GIARRATANA: We charge one	
6 Block 451, Lot 1.01; in Bayonne. A site plan	6 thousand for both, and that's the standard that set	
7 application not along a County road.	7 federally.	
8 Application 2021-070-SP; it's the County	8 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Thanks. That's	
9 of Hudson; 826 Central Avenue; Block 6702, Lot 1; in	9 in addition to whatever is that any additional	
10 Jersey City. A subdivision application related to	10 revenue to the County?	
11 the new Hudson County Justice Complex, and it's not	11 MS. GIARRATANA: I don't believe so.	
12 along a County road.	12 I think there is a cap on it.	
Application 2022-001-SD; the applicant,	13 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: But can you	
14 Veris Residential, Inc., 150-200 Hudson Street;	14 send me the fee schedule? We're installing them in	
15 Block 11603, Lot 18; in Jersey City. A subdivision	15 the town, I want to see what we're getting. I don't	
16 application not along a County road.	16 think we're getting that much.	
On a motion made by Commissioner Mehta,	MS. GIARRATANA: Okay. Yes, and I'll	
18 and seconded by Commissioner Choffo.	18 send the federal regulations that sets that cap.	
19 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski.	19 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Thank you.	
20 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.	20 MS. GIARRATANA: All right. And then	
21 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Choffo.	21 next meeting is March 15 at the 5:30? One other	
22 COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: I vote aye.	22 note I just want to say to the Board that we had an	
23 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Jeter.	23 applicant look for the option for a special meeting	
24 COMMISSIONER JETER: Aye.	24 and the voting requirements. Look for Jennifer's	
25 MS. GIARRATANA: Commissioner Kenny.	25 invite, and we have to have a date where we have a	

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	quorum, so that's in discussions, and I will be	
	reaching out.	
3	COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Do you have a	
4	date already in mind or no?	
5	MS. GIARRATANA: No. We still have	
6	things to work out.	
7	COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Okay.	
8	MS. GIARRATANA: All right. Thank	
9	you so much, Commissioners.	
10		
	can you have Marcella send me a list of the meetings	
	dates again for the year? I mean tomorrow just	
- 1	e-mail it to me.	
14		
15		
	COMMISSIONER CHOFFO: Thank you.	
	Good night.	
17	CHAIRWOMAN LUGO: Good night,	
	everyone.	
19		
	concluded at 7:10 p.m.)	
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
	D (2)	
	Page 63	I .
1	Page 63 CERTIFICATION	
1 2	CERTIFICATION	
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2 3 4	CERTIFICATION I, SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR, License No. 30XI00234700, and Notary Public of the State of New	
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