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#### VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE Report for the Village 1/21/2025

SUBJECT:	SUBMITTED BY:
844 Warren Avenue - Planned Unit Development Amendment	Stan Popovich, AICP Director of Community Development

#### SYNOPSIS

The petitioner is requesting approval for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) Amendment to PUD #61 to construct a restaurant with a year-round outdoor dining area at 844 Warren Avenue.

#### STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The goals for the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan include acting as a *Strong and Diverse Local Economy*.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

#### RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the February 4, 2025 active agenda per the Planning and Zoning Commission's unanimous 9:0 positive recommendation.

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### Property Information and Zoning Request

The petitioner is seeking approval of an amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 (PUD #61), to allow the construction of restaurant with a year-round outdoor dining area and related improvements at 844 Warren Avenue. The currently vacant property is located at the northeast corner of Washington Street and Warren Avenue.

PUD #61 was established in 2019 to also allow the construction of a restaurant with a year-round outdoor dining area and related improvements, but it was never constructed and the site was restored to green space. While the current proposal is similar, the amendment is needed as significant changes have been made to the originally approved development plan.

The petitioner is proposing to construct an L-shaped two-story, 15,642 square foot restaurant building with a basement. The front of the building will be oriented toward the intersection of Washington Street and Warren Avenue, surrounding a large outdoor patio area for patrons to use year-round. The building facades will be composed of brick veneer, masonry, heavy timber, steel, and glass. Indoor seating will be provided along with a private dining room, golf simulator modules and dart throwing areas. Only one curb cut, located on the far southeast side of property along Warren Avenue, is proposed to accommodate deliveries and trash pick-up.

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### Compliance with the Comprehensive Plan

The proposed development meets the Comprehensive Plan's key concepts for this subarea as summarized in the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) staff report, including recommendations as development that is pedestrian oriented and walkable, encourages outdoor seating for restaurants and promotes a diverse mix of uses including dining and entertainment in downtown.

The Comprehensive Plan also states that the downtown should be characterized as an environment within which to shop, dine, work and live. Furthermore, the Comprehensive Plan recommends that ground floor uses are primarily retail, entertainment, and personal service.

#### Compliance with the Zoning Ordinance

The property is zoned Downtown Business (DB)/Planned Unit Development #61 (PUD #61). Per Section 28.5.010 of the Zoning Ordinance, a restaurant is a permitted use in the Downtown Business Zoning District. The petitioner is requesting relief from various aspects of the Zoning Ordinance as outlined in Table 3 of the PZC staff report.

#### Compliance with the Downtown Design Guidelines

The Downtown Design Guidelines provide guidance for building and site design, which will assist in creating a vibrant downtown. The guidelines are divided into seven separate sections: site design, building design, building base, building middle, building top, utility considerations, and parking facilities. Each section describes elements, which support good design, and provides visual references, which identify both encouraged and discouraged elements. The proposed development meets the guidelines as demonstrated in Table 1 of the PZC staff report.

#### **Public Comment**

Prior to the public hearing staff received one public comment which is included in the attachments to the PZC staff report. During the public hearing, four residential neighbors of the project expressed support for the project, while one resident expressed concern about traffic flow on Washington Street.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Aerial Map Ordinance Staff Report with attachments dated January 6, 2025 Draft Minutes

PUD #61 - Amendment 24-PCE-0034

ORDINANCE NO.
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# AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT #61 TO PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OF A RESTAURANT WITH YEAR-ROUND OUTDOOR DINING AT 844 WARREN AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Village Council has previously adopted Ordinance No. 5806, on December 17, 2019, designating the property described therein as Planned Unit Development #61; and,

WHEREAS, the Petitioner has filed a written petition with the Village conforming to the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and requesting an amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 to permit construction of a restaurant with year-round outdoor dining; and,

WHEREAS, such request was referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission of the Village of Downers Grove, and the Planning and Zoning Commission has given the required public notice, conducted a public hearing for the petition on January 6, 2025, and has made its findings and recommendations, all in accordance with the statutes of the State of Illinois and the ordinances of the Village of Downers Grove; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the requested petition, subject to certain conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the Village Council has considered the record before the Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as the recommendations of Planning and Zoning Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

- <u>SECTION 1</u>. That the provisions of the preamble are incorporated into and made a part of this ordinance as if fully set forth herein.
- <u>SECTION 2</u>. That a Planned Unit Development Amendment is hereby adopted authorizing construction of a restaurant with year-round outdoor dining.
- <u>SECTION 3.</u> That approval set forth in Section 2 of this ordinance is subject to the findings and recommendations of the Downers Grove Planning and Zoning Commission regarding File 24-PCE-0034 as set forth in the minutes of their January 6, 2025 meeting.
- SECTION 4. That the restaurant with year-round dining allowed use is consistent with and complimentary to the overall planned unit development site plan and with the requirements of the "DB/PUD #61, Downtown Business/Planned Unit Development #61" zoning district.
- SECTION 5. The DB/PUD #61, *Downtown Business/Planned Unit Development #61*, plans are hereby approved to permit a Planned Unit Development authorizing a commercial redevelopment, subject to the conditions and restrictions contained therein, and subject to the following:

- 1. The Planned Unit Development and Rezoning shall substantially conform to the staff report dated January 6, 2025; architectural drawings prepared by DXU Architects dated October 16, 2024, and last revised on December 18, 2024, and engineering and landscaping drawings prepared by Weaver Consultants Group, October 25, 2024 and last revised on December 5, 2024, except as such plans may be modified to conform to the Village codes and ordinances.
- 2. No delivery vehicles may be parked or stand on Washington Street at any time.
- 3. All rooftop equipment must meet the screening requirements outlined in Section 28.8.040(c) of the Municipal Code.
- 4. All signs shall comply with Section 28.9 of the Municipal Code.
- 5. The sidewalk adjacent to the development shall be maintained and cleaned in a manner acceptable to the Community Development Director.
- 6. Outdoor seating is permitted year round as shown in the architectural drawings prepared by DXU Architects dated October 16, 2024, and last revised on December 18, 2024.
- 7. No outdoor entertainment shall be allowed past 10:00 pm.
- 8. A photometric plan shall be submitted prior to the issuance of a permit.

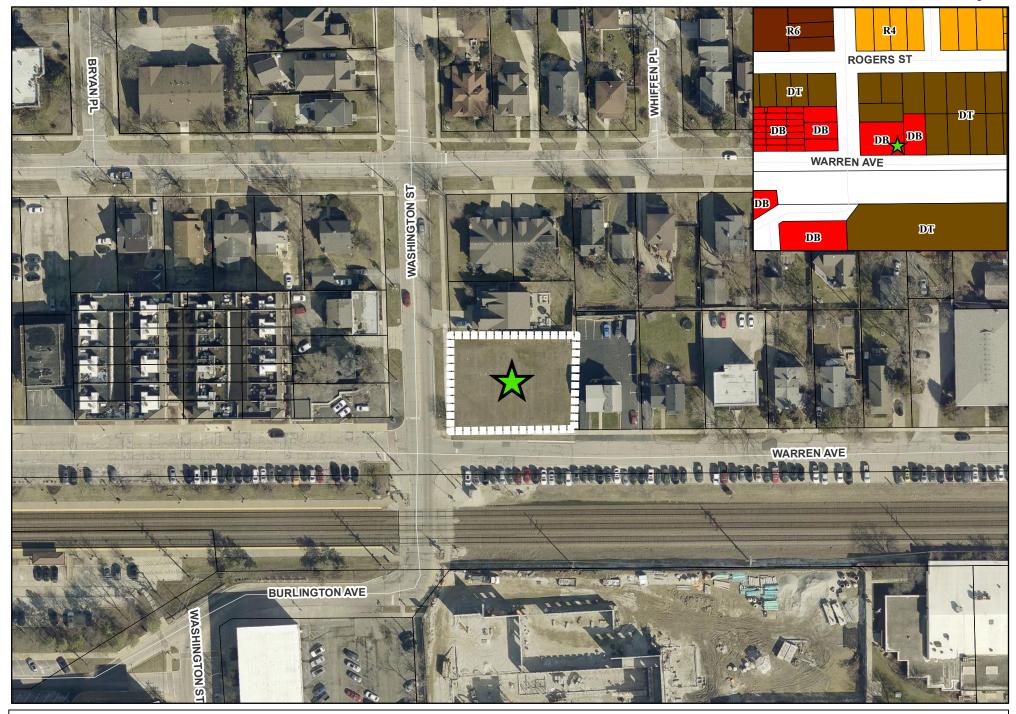
<u>SECTION 6</u>. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

<u>SECTION 7</u>. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

	Mayor
Passed:	·
Published:	
Attest:	
Village Clerk	

1\mw\ord,25\PUD#61-AMD-844-Warren-24-PCE-0034

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0 100 200 400 600 Feet

Subject Property

★ Sign Location

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# VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE REPORT FOR THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION JANUARY 6, 2025 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
24-PCE-0034	Planned Unit Development	Emily Hepworth, AICP
844 Warren Avenue	Amendment	Planner

#### REQUEST

The petitioner is requesting approval for a Planned Unit Development amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 to construct a restaurant with a year-round outdoor dining area at 844 Warren Avenue.

#### NOTICE

The application has been filed in conformance with applicable procedural and public notice requirements.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

OWNER: Timothy Canning

1109 W Washington Blvd. Apt. 2C

Chicago, IL 60607

**PETITIONER:** Stop It Yes

Eric Styer, DXU Architects

412 S. Wells Street Chicago, IL 60607

#### **PROPERTY INFORMATION**

**EXISTING ZONING:** DB/P.U.D. #61, Downtown Business/Planned Unit Development #61

**EXISTING LAND USE:** Vacant

**PROPERTY SIZE:** 13,210 sq. ft. (.303 acres)

PIN: 09-08-125-004

#### SURROUNDING ZONING AND LAND USES

ZONING FUTURE LAND USE

NORTH:DT, Downtown TransitionDowntownSOUTH:DT, Downtown TransitionDowntownEAST:DB, Downtown BusinessDowntownWEST:DB, Downtown BusinessDowntown

#### ANALYSIS

#### SUBMITTALS

This report is based on the following documents, which are on file with the Department of Community Development:

- 1. Project Narrative
- 2. Planned Unit Development Criteria

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- 3. Plat of Survey
- 4. Project Renderings
- 5. Architectural Plans
- 6. Engineering Plans
- 7. Landscape Plan
- 8. Parking Impact Study

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The petitioner is seeking approval of an amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 (PUD #61), to allow the construction of restaurant with a year-round outdoor dining area and related improvements at 844 Warren Avenue. The property is located at the northeast corner of Washington Street and Warren Avenue. The parcel is currently vacant.

PUD #61 was established in 2019 to also allow the construction of with a year-round outdoor dining area and related improvements, but it was never constructed and the site was restored to green space. The 2019 PUD approval included the renovation, addition and repurposing of an existing service station into a restaurant with similar outdoor dining opportunities along Washington Street and Warren Avenue. While the current proposal is similar, the amendment is needed as significant changes have been made to the originally approved development plan.

The petitioner is proposing to improve the now vacant property by constructing an L-shaped two-story, 15,642 square foot restaurant building with a basement. The front of the building will be oriented toward the intersection of Washington Street and Warren Avenue, surrounding a large outdoor patio area which will be programmed with space for patrons to use year-round. The basement will have direct access to the Washington Street sidewalk in addition to having interior access. The building facades will be composed of brick veneer, masonry, heavy timber, steel, and glass. Indoor seating will be provided along with a private dining room, golf simulator modules and dart throwing areas. Only one curb cut, located on the far southeast side of property along Warren Avenue, is proposed to accommodate deliveries and trash pick-up. The petitioner is providing landscaping along the western side and along a portion of the south side of the building.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan places this property within the Downtown Focus Area. The Downtown Focus Area key concepts include:

- Development that is pedestrian-oriented and walkable
- Maintain a commitment to quality architecture
- Encourage outdoor seating areas for restaurants
- Placement of restaurants with sidewalk cafes maintain visual interest and generate foot traffic.
- Promotion of diverse mix of uses including dining and entertainment uses

The Comprehensive Plan also states that the downtown should be characterized as an environment within which to shop, dine, work and live. Furthermore, the Comprehensive Plan identifies that in order for the downtown to maintain a pedestrian-orientation it is recommended that ground floor uses are primarily retail, entertainment, and personal service. Lastly, the proposal could potentially encourage commuters to stay in the downtown longer.

The proposed development is consistent with the intent of the Comprehensive Plan.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH DOWNTOWN DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The Downtown Design Guidelines provide guidance for building and site design which will assist in

creating a vibrant downtown. The guidelines are divided into seven separate sections: site design, building design, building base, building middle, building top, utility considerations, and parking facilities. Each section describes elements which support good design and provides visual references which identify both encouraged and discouraged elements. As recommended by the Downtown Design Guidelines, the proposed development incorporates the following features:

Table 1: Downtown Design Guidelines Review		
<b>Downtown Design</b>	Summary of Compliance	
<b>Guideline Elements</b>		
Site Design	<ul> <li>Structural articulation is included by breaking the plane of the building by offsets, insets for entryways and the second story in addition to the utilization of alternative roof structures and varied roof lines.</li> <li>As the outdoor dining is critical to the design intent of the site, the physical gaps to the streetwall are minimized by providing outdoor dining and gathering spaces in addition to a pergola along Warren Avenue and landscaping along Washington Street.</li> <li>The outdoor dining will activate a currently vacant street corner, and the remainder of the structure is proposed in the build-to zone.</li> </ul>	
Building Design	<ul> <li>The façade is visually appealing through articulation, detailing, openings and materials of each elevation.</li> <li>Consistent building materials and detailing on all sides of the structure that are open to public view has been provided.</li> <li>The building will feature stone-cladding and brick façade base with batten siding, heavy timber accents and windows through the middle with a combination of pitched and flat roof lines.</li> <li>Windows line the Warren Avenue facades and the materials at this base level wrap around the south and western facades.</li> <li>The proposed construction will contain high-quality building materials that differentiate the base, middle, and top of the building.</li> <li>The Warren Avenue and Washington Street façades, in addition the northern facade each provides multiple planes which provides visually appealing façades.</li> <li>The northern facade includes detailing that provides privacy for the neighbors while incorporating articulated panels to provide visual interest for those traveling southbound on Washington Street</li> </ul>	
Building Base	<ul> <li>The building's base provides masonry veneer, windows, landscaping, and a patio space to provide a friendly pedestrian space.</li> <li>The majority of the south and west facades incorporates the use of windows and differentiated materials to provide interest and activity at the street.</li> <li>Light fixtures are placed on the building to add visual interest while highlighting building details.</li> </ul>	
Building Middle	<ul> <li>The middle of the building includes windows in rhythm with the base level, reflect proportionate shapes and patterns and is visually appealing through detailing, openings and materials.</li> <li>The presence of windows and the balcony on the second floor creates a void to balance the cast stone and masonry veneer façade.</li> </ul>	
Building Top	The variation of the proposed truss roofs and modern flat roofs provide distinction.	
Utility Considerations	<ul> <li>The design of maintenance, utility and service areas were integrated into the overall design of the building.</li> <li>The proposed rooftop utility equipment will be screened in accordance with the screening ordinance.</li> </ul>	
Parking Facilities	No private on-site parking is proposed.	

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#### **COMPLIANCE WITH ZONING ORDINANCE**

The property is zoned DB/P.U.D. #61. The eating and drinking establishment business is a permitted use in the Downtown Business Zoning District. The bulk requirements of the proposed development in the Downtown Business Zoning District are summarized in the following table:

Table 2: Zoning Ordinance Requirements

844 Warren Avenue	Downtown Business Bulk Requirements	Proposed
Street Setback – West property line	0-10 feet minimum	0.22 feet
Street Setback – South property line	0-10 feet minimum	0 feet
Side Setback – East property line	0 feet	4.4 feet
Side Setback – North property line	0 feet	4.5 feet
Building Coverage	N/A	59.6% (7,863 sq. ft.)
Minimum Open Space	N/A	0%
Building Height	Minimum Building Height of 32 feet	36.6 feet
Build-to-Zone – Washington Street	30 percent	50 percent
Build-to-Zone – Warren Avenue	80 percent	40 percent*
Build to Zone – Corner	The building must be within the required build-to zone for the first 25 feet extending from the intersection of the two rights-of way.	0 feet*

The following proposed improvements require relief from the Zoning Ordinance:

Table 3: Summary of Requested Deviations

Table 3: Summary of Requested Deviations		
Improvement	Relief Request	Petitioner's Rationale
Build-to-Zone	Requirement:	The building's "L" shape is intended to focus the energy of the
(BTZ)	Percent of Building in	building towards the southwestern corner of the property,
(Warren	Primary Street BTZ:	towards the public streets and railroad. This area is proposed
Avenue)	80 Percent	to be activated with outdoor seating, which impedes the
		development of this site to meet the BTZ requirements.
	Proposed: 40%	Although it is not a building wall, a pergola structure is
		proposed along Warren Avenue, which assists in extending the
		feeling of a streetwall.
Build-to-Zone	Requirement: On corner	The unique outdoor dining experience impedes the
(Corner Lots)	lots, the building's façade	development of this site to meet the BTZ requirements. This
	must be within the required	area is proposed to be activated with outdoor seating under a
	build-to zone for the first	pergola and within the landscape and beacon element on the
	25 feet extending from the	hard corner.
	intersection of the two	
	rights-of way.	
	Proposed: 0 feet	

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Walkway	Requirement: 1 foot	A walkway is required to provide a path of egress from the
	setback	doors on the north and east sides of the building to the public
		sidewalk.
	Proposed: 0 feet	
Fire Pit	Requirement: Permitted in	The unique outdoor dining concept and location of the building
	side and rear yards.	places all available open space in the street yard. In order to
	-	program the outdoor space relief is required.
	Proposed Yard: Street	
Year Round	Permitted: Between March	To maximize the unique outdoor dining concept and design
Outdoor Seating	15 and November 15	layout the availability of year-round outdoor dining is being requested.
	Proposed: Year-round	
Pergola	Requirement: 6 foot	The pergola is included to create an activated area near the
	setback	sidewalk where a building is typically required to meet the
		build to zone requirements.
	Proposed: 1 foot 5 inches	

Regarding parking, the subject property and proposed use do not require minimum off-street parking. However, per the recommendation provided in the Comprehensive Plan, a parking demand study was included with the petition submission, further summarized below. All signage and exterior lighting will be required to meet the Village's regulations.

#### **ENGINEERING/PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS**

The site is currently served by a public sidewalk along both Warren Avenue and Washington Street. Only one curb cut is proposed on the southeastern side of the property to provide access for deliveries directly into the kitchen. Water, stormwater and sanitary sewer service lines are located within both Warren Avenue and Washington Street and will serve the development.

It should be noted that the subject property receives credit for the impervious surface that existed with the previous automobile service station located on the subject property. The net new impervious surface area will not exceed the amount required to install post construction best management practices. The petitioner is proposing to install a permeable paver patio area. All improvements shall meet the Stormwater and Floodplain Ordinance.

#### TRAFFIC AND PARKING

A parking demand study for the proposed development was completed by the petitioner. The study examined the peak parking demand and the available parking in downtown parking lots near the site, using information from the applicant's planned operations and data from recent parking occupancy data, from the Village, in the downtown parking public lots. The study also accounted for a reduction in minimum parking requirements by considering this development's proximity to a transit oriented district, walkability and car sharing.

The parking study demonstrates for the peak period (weekday evening and weekend) there is sufficient parking available in the three nearest public parking lots, Lots, B, C and F. During the lunchtime weekday time period, it was identified that the available parking for the three nearest parking lots can accommodate the projected demand and that the petitioner has noted that they do anticipate parking demand can be accommodated, based on their proposed business model.

Lastly, all deliveries will occur on Warren Avenue at the southeast entrance of the building. Delivery vehicle parking will be prohibited along Washington Street via a condition of approval. This is in place to not impede northbound traffic and to ensure traffic remains clear of the railroad crossing located immediately south of the subject property.

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#### **PUBLIC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

The Fire Prevention Division reviewed the proposed development and determined that sufficient access to the site is provided for emergency vehicles.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COMMENT**

Notice was provided to all property owners 250 feet or less from the property in addition to posting public hearing notice signs and publishing the legal notice in the *Daily Herald*. Staff has received one public comment, which was supportive of the project, but expressed concern for parking in the downtown north of the railroad.

#### STANDARDS OF APPROVAL

The petitioner is requesting a Planned Unit Development amendment. The review and approval criteria is listed below.

The petitioner has submitted a narrative that attempts to address all the standards of approval. The Planning and Zoning Commission should consider the petitioner's documentation, the staff report and the discussion at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting in determining whether the standards for approval have been met.

#### Section 28.12.040(c)(5) Review and Approval Criteria

The decision to amend an existing PUD development plan are matters of legislative discretion that are not controlled by any single standard. In making recommendations and decisions regarding approval of planned unit developments, review and decision-making bodies must consider at least the following factors:

- a. The zoning map amendment review and approval criteria of Sec. 12.030.I.
- b. Whether the proposed PUD development plan and map amendment would be consistent with the comprehensive plan and any other adopted plans for the subject area.
- c. Whether PUD development plan complies with the PUD overlay district provisions of Sec. 4.030.
- d. Whether the proposed development will result in public benefits that are greater than or at least equal to those that would have resulted from development under conventional zoning regulations.
- e. Whether appropriate terms and conditions have been imposed on the approval to protect the interests of surrounding property owners and residents, existing and future residents of the PUD and the general public.

#### **DRAFT MOTION**

Staff will provide a recommendation at the January 6, 2025 meeting. Should the Planning and Zoning Commission find that the request meets the standards of approval for a Planned Unit Development amendment, staff has prepared a draft motion that the Planning and Zoning Commission may make for the recommended approval of 24-PCE-0034:

Based on the petitioner's submittal, the staff report, and the testimony presented, I find that the petitioner has met the standards of approval for a Planned Unit Development amendment as required by the Village of Downers Grove Zoning Ordinance and is in the public interest and therefore, I move that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommend to the Village Council approval of 24-PCE-0034, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Planned Unit Development and Rezoning shall substantially conform to the staff report; architectural drawings prepared by DXU Architects dated October 16, 2024, and last revised on December 18, 2024, and engineering and landscaping drawings prepared by Weaver Consultants Group, October 25, 2024 and last revised on December 5, 2024, except as such plans may be modified to conform to the Village codes and ordinances.

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- 2. No delivery vehicles may be parked or stand on Washington Street at any time.
- 3. All rooftop equipment must meet the screening requirements outlined in Section 28.8.040(c) of the Municipal Code.
- 4. All signs shall comply with Section 28.9 of the Municipal Code.
- 5. The sidewalk adjacent to the development shall be maintained and cleaned in a manner acceptable to the Community Development Director.
- 6. Outdoor seating is permitted year round as shown in the attached drawings.

Staff Report Approved By:

Stanley J. Popovich, AICP

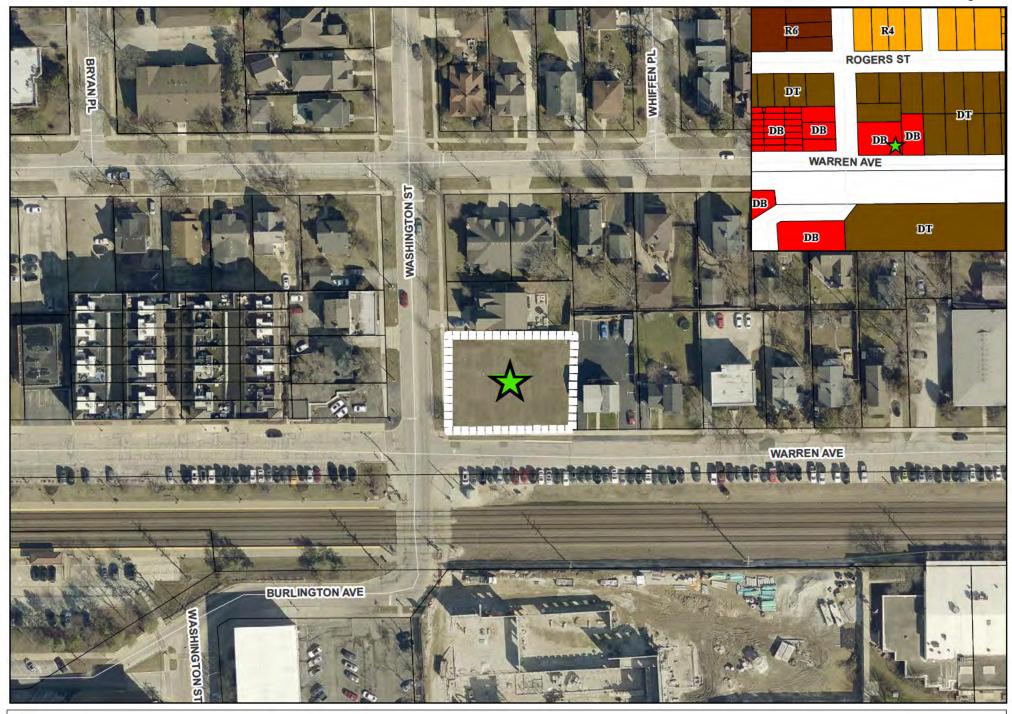
Director of Community Development

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0 100 200 400 600 Feet

844 Warren Avenue - Location Map

Subject Property

Sign Location

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Date: December 18, 2024

Village of Downers Grove 650 Curtiss Street Downers Grove, IL 60515

Attn: Stan Popovich – Community Development Director

Nora King – Building Division Manager Jason Zawila – Planning Manager

Re: Application for Planned Unit Development

The Rec League - Project Narrative Revised per Staff Comments dated 12/12/2024

844 Warren Ave, Downers Grove, IL

Stop It Yes (Petitioner) is an entrepreneurial group that is proposing 'The Rec League', a new eating, drinking and entertainment concept located at 844 Warren Avenue. The petitioners are part of the DG community and have been successfully operating Cadience and The Foxtail restaurants in the downtown district. This proposal consists of a new two-story building with a walk-out lower level and large outdoor patio. The first floor will offer a casual dining experience including a large bar, multiple outdoor dining vignettes and areas to hang out with family and friends. On the second floor you can enjoy golf, darts. billiards or just relaxing with a cocktail and friends in a cozy, refined environment. Each floor area is approximately 7,100 square feet with a total building area of 20,312 square feet including the 5,524 square foot lower level (area is from the inside face of the exterior wall). The building is designed to reflect a California mountain vernacular with a combination of flat and pitched rooflines to break up the scale of the building. Rough stone foundations with board and batten siding and heavy timber accents are intended to provide an aesthetic that offers the local community a pedestrian friendly destination that will be an escape from the day to day. The patio is intended to be used most of the year with the intent to blur the boundary between indoor and outdoor experiences. While a portion of the actual building structure is not orientated at the sidewalk line, the energy and proposed design implies, creates a streetscape that is consistent with the goals of the comprehensive plan.

The petitioners are requesting a Planned Unit Development amendment to the existing PUD #61. Currently the site is vacant land. The property was used as an automotive service station in the past, but that use has been abandoned and the existing building was razed several years ago.

The site is located at the northeast corner of Warren Avenue and Washington Street across from the BNSF railway. The building is 'L' shaped and is situated tight to the north and east boundaries of the property with the legs projecting towards Warren and Washington. The space between will be activated by the patio and landscaping. All the energy and activities from the building will be focused towards the South and West public streets and railroad. There is no proposed onsite parking and all outdoor areas of the property will be a pedestrian friendly part of the dining experience with proposed seating, fire pit, and trellis. The two existing curb cuts will be closed off and one new curb cut is proposed for access to the enclosed trash room.

The petitioner understands that a condition of approval will be to stipulate that all delivery truck parking takes place on Warren Ave.

The petitioners are requesting relief for the following:

a. Section 4.010 Build-To-Zone (BTZ) at the Southwest corner of the property. The intersection of Warren Ave and Washington Street. Per 4.010 the building should project a min of 25 from the corner. This proposal does not include any portion of the building in this area (0%), however as

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illustrated in the drawings this area is activated with outdoor seating under a trellis, outdoor seating within the landscape and a sculptural element (monument sign) at the hard corner.

- b. Section 4.010 BTZ on Warren Ave. The boundary dimension along Warren is 132.16 feet. Per the requirement the building shall be within the BTZ for at least 80% of that dimension or 105.72 feet. The proposed building occupies 49.11 feet (37%) in the BTZ. In addition, the proposal includes a permanent trellis in the BTZ for another 52 feet. The requested relief is based on the idea that the use along Warren is consistent the use inside the building and although outdoors is a continuation of the streetscape of the building with the trellis and patio being intended for use year-round.
- c. Request to utilize outdoor dining in the street yard year-round.
- d. Request use of a fire pit in the street yard
- e. Request for the private sidewalks on the north and east side of the building to be allowed to extend to the property in lieu of the 1-foot setback requirement per Sec24.14.100 Setbacks. These walks are for emergency exits and building maintenance only.
- f. Request for the Trellis on the south side of the patio to be allowed to extend into the required 6-foot setback requirement per Sec24.14.100. The trellis is located 1.52 feet north of the south property line. The request is a solution to provide a permanent structure within the 'build to zone' and activate this portion of the site.
- g. Request for the monument to be setback less than 3 feet from the lot lines with no landscaping. The sign is meant to be sculptural and for people to interact with.

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Date: October 23, 2024

Village of Downers Grove 650 Curtiss Street Downers Grove, IL 60515

Attn: Stan Popovich – Community Development Director

Nora King – Building Division Manager Jason Zawila – Planning Manager

Re: Planned Unit Development Review and Approval Criteria – Supplemental Information

Form #PC01 The Rec League 844 Warren Ave, Downers Grove, IL

A detailed response to all of the standards shall be provided, specifying how each standard is or is not met. Section 28.12.040.C.6. Review and Approval Criteria (Planned Unit Development)
The decision to amend the zoning map to approve a PUD plan and to establish a PUD overlay district are matters of legislative discretion that are not controlled by any single standard. In making recommendations and decisions regarding approval of planned unit developments, review and decision-making bodies must consider at least the following factors:

1. The zoning map amendment review and approval criteria of Sec. 12.030.I. See the analysis of zoning map amendment review and approval criteria in separate document.

The petitioner is requesting a PUD overlay to accommodate the deviations from the requirements of the DB zoning district of the subject property. The deviations are outlined in the petitions narrative document.

2. Whether the proposed PUD plan and map amendment would be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and any other adopted plans for the subject area.

The proposed development is consistent with the guidelines illustrated in the comprehensive plan as outlined below:

- Utilizing the entire site area, creating a more urban, pedestrian friendly environment
- Provides a streetscape along Warren and Washington that will energize the corner
- Provides a destination with multiple activities that will utilize the site throughout the day and night
- Family oriented proposed diverse use with dining, entertainment and a variety of spatial vignettes to experience
- The project focuses the uses on the public ROW and BNSF railway
- Provides no onsite parking, utilizes the nearby public parking facilities
- Improve the stormwater management on the site
- Reduces the impervious area of the site in comparison to the previous development
- Proposed design combats the 'big box' architecture by breaking up the façade with different roof types and heights and horizontal movement
- Improve the site utility connections and capacity: sanitary, stormwater, electric and water
- Provides enhancements of and pedestrian utilization of open spaces

#### 3. Whether PUD plan complies with the PUD overlay district provisions of Sec. 4.030.

In continuance with the response above the proposed development will provide a use that is needed in the community and complementary to the existing uses in the area. It will provide a welcoming place to ORD 2025-10658 Page 17 of 42



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relax, dine, compete and socialize. The concept and design are intended to become part of the neighborhood fabric, a place to build memories. The project will be conscious of sustainability and conservation principles. The deviations requested as part of this proposal, in our opinion, are consistent with the spirit of the zoning ordinance and in compliance with the goals of the comprehensive plan.

4. Whether the proposed development will result in public benefits that are greater than or at least equal to those that would have resulted from development under conventional zoning regulations.

The benefits will be equal, as noted above, the deviations are minor and propose an alternative solution to the regulations. In addition, the proposed project will provide additional employment and tax opportunities for the Village and its residents.

5. Whether appropriate terms and conditions have been imposed on the approval to protect the interests of surrounding property owners and residents, existing and future residents of the PUD and the general public.

The subject property borders the BNSF railway to the south and the building and open spaces are orientated towards the south. To the north there is an existing residence (DT zoned). The walls that border the residence do not have any openings other than an emergency exit door and door from the storage room in the lower level. The property to the west is a commercial use and to the one to the east is being redeveloped, both share the DB zoning classification, same as the subject property. The proposed development will be an amenity to the surrounding properties and residents.

The project will comply with all local municipal codes including but not limited to building, fire, life safety and stormwater management.

ORD 2025-10050 Fage 10









THE REC LEAGUE

LICENSE EXPIRES ON: MM-DD-YYYY
DATE OF SIGNATURE: MM-DD-YYYY

A R C H I T E C T S
412 S. Wells Street = 2nd Floor = Chicago = IL = 60607
P: 312 955 0334 = d x u a r c h . c o m
NSULTANTS

nber: 24-415

: ES Approved By: ES

ue

Date

10-16-2024

ID COMMENTS (CONCEPT R)

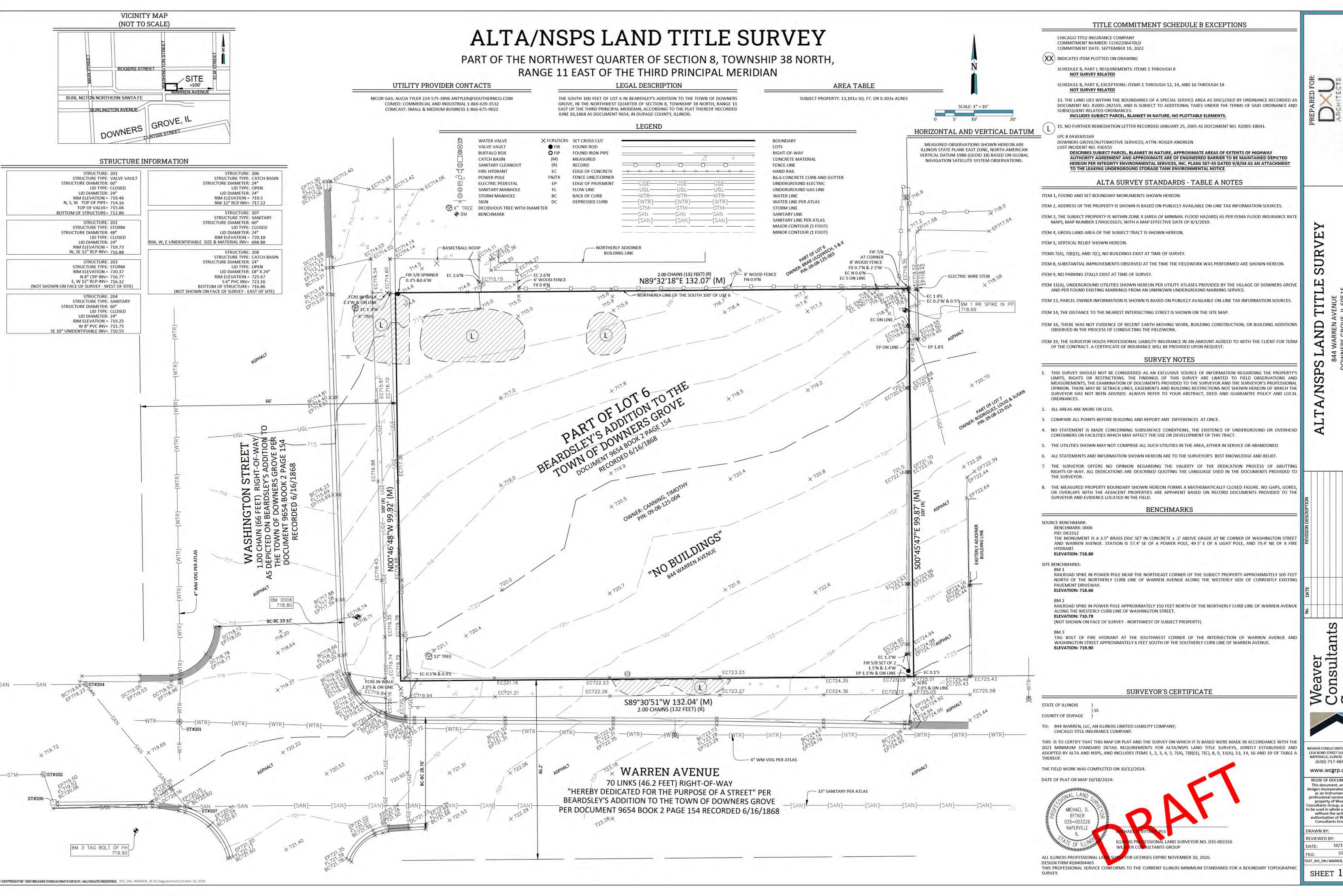
ID COMMENTS (CONCEPT S)

ID COMMENTS (CONCEPT T)

CONCEPT T1 RENDERINGS

se documents are confidential and shall be in the posse

ORD 2025-10658



1316 BOND STREET SUITE 108

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60563

(630)-717-4848 www.wcgrp.com

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Consultants Group. 10/18/2024 5547-303

547\_303\_DXU WARREN\_ALTA.dwg



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SITE DATA

SITE AREA: 13,215± SF

Page 21 of 42 **EXIT FROM 2ND FLOOR STAIRS** EXIT/ -1HR ENCLOSURE AROUND 2ND FLOOR EXIT STAIR PROPOSED FDC & KNOX BOX — LOCATION RAMP UP 1:8 ELECTRIC OPTION FOR 1HR ENCLOSURE LOWER LEVEL STORAGE 5,524 SF FIN FLR 711.33 OFFICE **ELEVATOR** THE REC LEAGUE 123'-1" -SUMP PITS, PROPOSED TO SPLASH AT GRADE SAN SAN SAN KITCHEN WASTE PROPOSED— DOMESTIC WATER SERVICE PROPOSED FIRE— PROTECTION SERVICE **EMPLOYEE LOCKERS** PROPOSED WATER SERVICE 10'-111/2" LICENSE EXPIRES ON: MM-DD-YYYY

DATE OF SIGNATURE: MM-DD-YYYY PROPERTY LINE FOUNDATION WALL ---CONCEPT T LOWER LEVEL PLAN SCALE: ¼"=1'-0"

1 LOWER LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

1/4" = 1'-0"

ORD 2025-10658 Page 22 of 42 119'-4" GRADE LANDSCAPE 715/716 FF 719.33 ELEC C/T, METER & SERV CE DISCONNECT 36R UP TO 2ND FLOOR 2T 2T 2T 2T DINING 56 SEATS (2,267 SF) **2T** 2T 2T **2T 2T 2T 2T** 2T **2T 2T 2T** RESTROOM 2T 2T TOTAL INDOOR DINING (not including bar) 122 FIN FLR 723 **2T 2T** 2T **2T** 2T **2T** 2T PRIVATE DINING / SPILL OVER 16 SEATS 76 SEATS (1,037 SF) BAR 37 SEATS EXIT ONLY 2T **ELEVATOR 2T** 2T HOST **2T** 2T 2T LANDING VESTIBULE KITCHEN (2,127 SF) 1ST FLOOR 7,134 SF (INSIDE EXT WALL) MAIN ENTRY FIN FLR 723 TOTAL OUTDOOR DINING 16 SEATS PATIO DINING 8 SEATS 120 SEATS LICENSE EXPIRES ON: MM-DD-YYYY
DATE OF SIGNATURE: MM-DD-YYYY RAMP UP 1:1 LANDING LANDING TRELLIS 28 SEATS INTERIOR TRASH ROOM FIN<sub>2</sub>FLR 725 LANDING 14' OVERHEAD DOOR **PUBLIC SIDEWALK** CONCEPT T 1ST FLOOR 10'-8" PLAN WARREN AVENUE (32 FT± PUBLIC WAY)

ORD 2025-10658 Page 23 of 42 MUNICIPAL APPROVAL STAMP TASTING COUNTER **DARTS** DARTS DARTS LOCKER / WHISKEY ROOM PROPERTY LINE RESTROOM FIREPLACE FIREPLACE RESTROOM LOUNGE 32 SEATS GOLF EXIT ONLY BAG STAGING AREA 2ND FLOOR 7,407 SF FIN FLR 740.33 GOLF 18R DN OPEN STAIR SIM BAR W/ LADDER 21 SEATS 14'-6" 15'-0" BOTTLE SHELVES BOTTLE SHELVES VESTIBULE BELOW 16 SEATS GOLF \_\_\_\_\_\_ 20 SEATS CANOPY ABOVE GOLF LICENSE EXPIRES ON: MM-DD-YYYY

DATE OF SIGNATURE: MM-DD-YYYY DARTS OUTDOOR LOUNGE --- DECORATIVE SCREEN MASONRY VENEER -PROPERTY LINE CANOPY ABOVE ROOF TO ALIGN W/ FACE OF BUILDING

SCALE: \frac{1}{4}"=1'-0"

1 2ND FLOOR PLAN

1/4" = 1'-0"

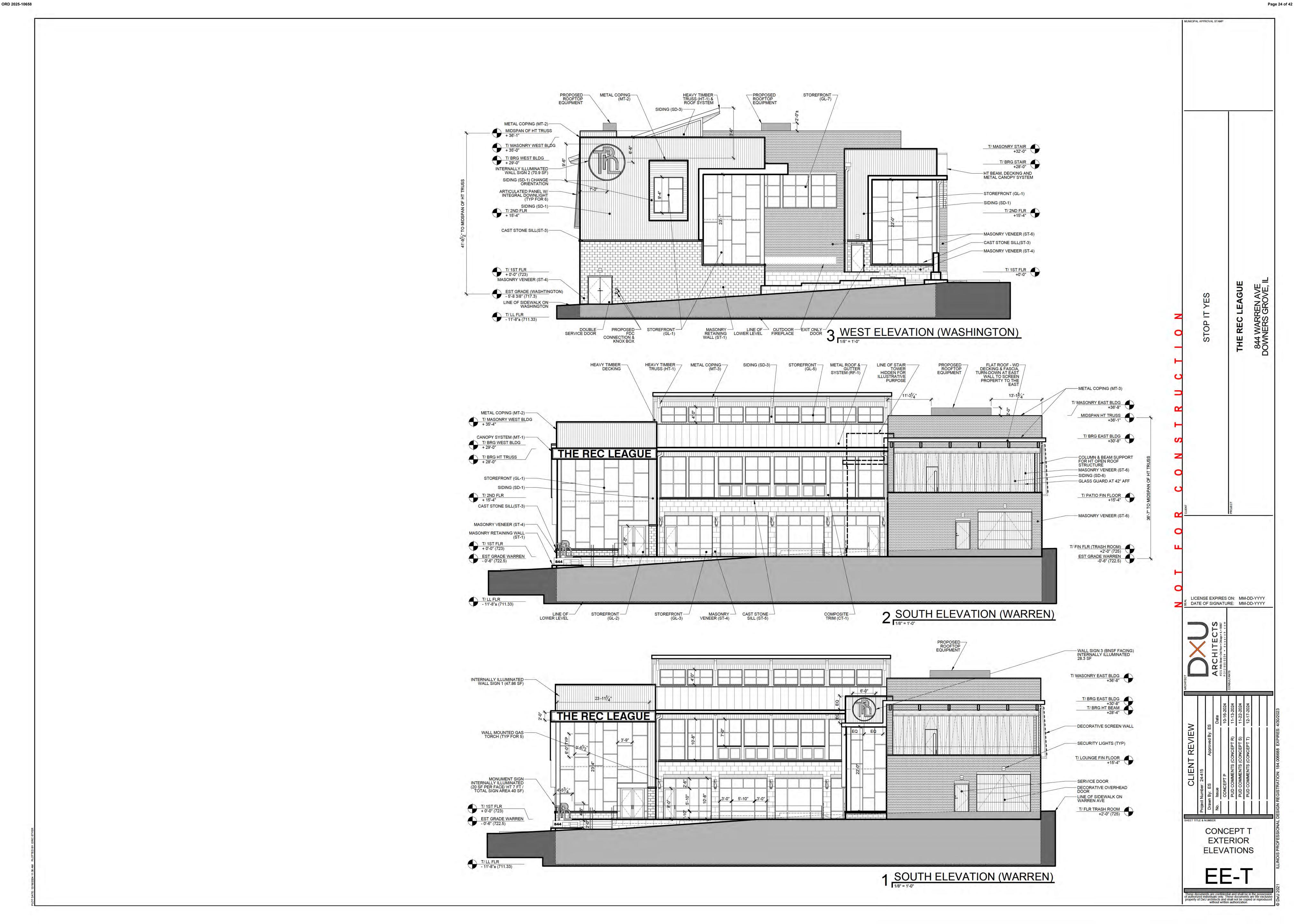
SCALE: \frac{1}{4}"=1'-0"

A-2

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CONCEPT T 2ND FLOOR

PLAN



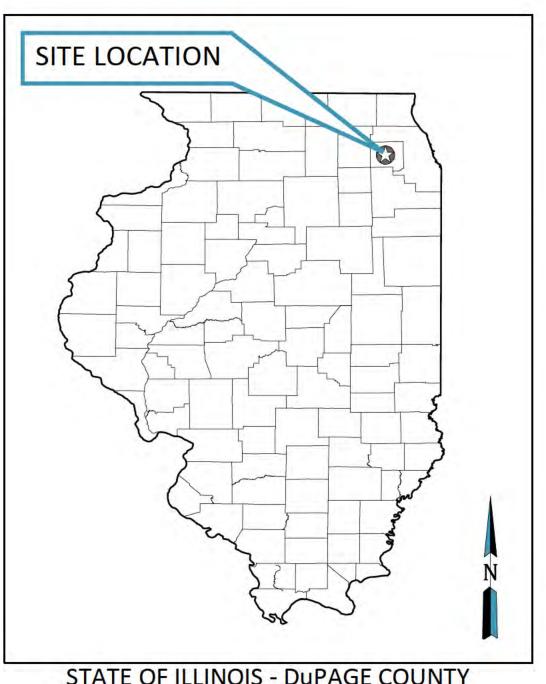
PROPOSED ROOFTOP EQUIPMENT PROPOSED ROOFTOP EQUIPMENT T/ MASONRY EAST BLDG +36'-8" T/ MASONRY STAIR +32'-0" T/ BRG EAST BLDG + 30'-8" HT TRUSS BEARING + 28'-0" T/ BEARING STAIR +28'-0" B/ STRUCT STL B/ STRUCT STL — LEAGUE 6 WEST ELEVATION/ SECTION THE REC METAL ROOF & GUTTER — SYSTEM (RF-2) OVER HT TRUSS SYSTEM ARTICULATED PANEL W/
INTEGRAL DOWNLIGHT
(TYP FOR 10) PROPOSED -ROOFTOP EQUIPMENT COMPOSITE TRIM (CT-2) SIDING (SD-7) SIDING (SD-1) -METAL COPING (MT-3) T/ MASONRY EAST BLDG + 36'-8" METAL COPING (MT-2)

T/ MASONRY WEST BLDG
+ 35'-4" T/ BRG EAST BLDG + 30'-8" T/ BRG HT TRUSS + 28'-0" T/ BRG WEST BLDG + 29'-0" - SIDING (SD-1) MASONRY VENEER (ST-6)-SIDING (SD-1)-T/ 2ND FLR +15'-4" --- CAST STONE SILL(ST-3) MASONRY VENEER (ST-6)-ELECTRIC SERVICE-- MASONRY VENEER (ST-4) T/ 1ST FLR + 0'-0" (723) T/ LL FLR
- 11'-8"± (711.33) LICENSE EXPIRES ON: MM-DD-YYYY

DATE OF SIGNATURE: MM-DD-YYYY 5 NORTH ELEVATION PROPOSED — ROOFTOP EQUIPMENT/ — ARTICULATED PANEL W/ INTEGRAL DOWNLIGHT (TYP FOR 6) (SD-7 W/ BLACK FRAME) T/ MASONRY EAST BLDG + 36'-8" -SIDING (SD-1) T/ BRG EAST BLDG + 30'-8" T/ BRG HT BEAMS + 28'-4" — ARTICULATED PANEL W/ INTEGRAL DOWNLIGHT (TYP FOR 6) DECORATIVE SCREENING-FROM PROPERTY TO THE EAST — MASONRY DETAIL: PROJECT BRICK 3/4" EVERY 3 COURSES T/ 2ND FLR + 15'-4" -MASONRY VENEER (ST-6) CAST STONE SILL(ST-3) - MASONRY VENEER (ST-4) T/ 1ST FLR + 0'-0" (723) CONCEPT T EXTERIOR **ELEVATIONS** T/LL FLR - 11'-8" (711.33) EE-T 4 EAST ELEVATION

# THE RECLEAGUE

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PLANS 844 WARREN AVENUE DOWNERS GROVE, IL





STATE OF ILLINOIS - DuPAGE COUNTY

# CITY & UTILITY **CONTACT INFORMATION**

PROJECT ARCHITECT DXU ARCHITECTS 412 SOUTH WELLS STREET 2ND FLOOR CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60607 (312) 955-0334

**DESIGN TEAM** 

**CONTACT INFORMATION** 



LAND SURVEYOR WEAVER CONSULTANTS GROUP 1316 BOND STREET, SUITE 108 NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60563 (630) 717-4848



CIVIL ENGINEER WEAVER CONSULTANTS GROUP 1316 BOND STREET, SUITE 108 NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60563 (630) 717-4848 DESIGN FIRM#: 184004465



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT WEAVER CONSULTANTS GROUP 1316 BOND STREET, SUITE 108 NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60563 (630) 717-4848



VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE 850 CURTIS STREET DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515 PLANING MANAGER: JASON ZAWILA PH: (630) 434-5520 DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING: SCOTT VASKO PH: (630) 434-6804

AT&T ROW MANAGER JACKIE FROST AT&T ILLINOIS 815-7746773 JC1243@ATT.COM

NICOR GAS BRUCE KOPPANG DOT LIASON 1844 FERRY ROAD NAPERVILLE, IL 60563 630-388-3046 BKOPPAN@AGLRESOURCES.COM

COMCAST ROW ENGINEER FRANK GAUTIER COMCAST CABLE 688 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE ELMHURST, IL 60126 630-600-6348 FRANK\_GAUTIER@CABLE.COMCAST.COM

# SHEET INDEX SHEET NO. SHEET NAME SPECIFICATIONS & LEGENDS DOWNERS GROVE DETAILS DOWNERS GROVE SAN DETAILS PROJECT DETAILS 1 PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

## **AS-BUILT NOTE:**

SURVEY (PRINTED TO SCALE) MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO SCHEDULING THE FINAL STORMWATER/RIGHT-OF-WAY INSPECTION FOR THE PROJECT. AS APPLICABLE IT SHOULD INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE ITEMS LISTED IN SECTION 26.700.C OF THE DOWNERS GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE. AS APPLICABLE, IT SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE AS-BUILT STORAGE VOLUME OF ANY RESIDENTIAL STORMWATER STORAGE (RSS) OR POST CONSTRUCTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (PCBMPs). BEFORE THE PERMIT CAN BE CLOSED, AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE APPROVED AS-BUILT GRADING SURVEY IS REQUIRED.

## SURVEY INFORMATION: ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY

SURVEY DATE:10/18/2024 SURVEY NUMBER: 5547-303

DATUM: NAVD88

# REFERENCE BENCHMARK:

THE MONUMENT IS A 3.5" BRASS DISC SET IN CONCRETE ± 3.2' ABOVE GRADE AT NE CORNER OF WASHINGTON STREET AND WARREN AVENUE. STATION IS 57.4' SE OF A POWER POLE, 49.5' E OF A LIGHT POLE, AND 79.4' NE OF A FIRE HYDRANT. ELEVATION: 718.80

APPROXIMATELY 105 FEET NORTH OF THE NORTHERLY CURB LINE OF WARREN AVENUE LONG THE WESTERLY SIDE OF CURRENTLY EXISTING PAVEMENT DRIVEWAY.

RAILROAD SPIKE IN POWER POLE NEAR THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY

# **BENCHMARK #2:**

RAILROAD SPIKE IN POWER POLE APPROXIMATELY 150 FEET NORTH OF THE NORTHERLY (NOT SHOWN ON FACE OF SURVEY - NORTHWEST OF SUBJECT PROPERTY)

**NOTE:** CONTRACTOR(S) TO VERIFY THEY HAVE THE CURRENT PLAN SET PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.



THESE PLANS HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE **GOVERNING AGENCY AND ARE SUBJECT TO** CHANGE.

# CIVIL ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE

COUNTY OF DUPAGE )

I, STEPHEN C. SIMAK, A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE CIVIL ENGINEERING PLANS, AS LISTED IN THE INDEX, THAT ARE PREFIXED WITH LETTER "C". HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY WEAVER CONSULTANTS GROUP UNDER MY PERSONAL DIRECTION.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER NO. 62-072229 LICENSE EXPIRES: **NOVEMBER 30, 2025** 

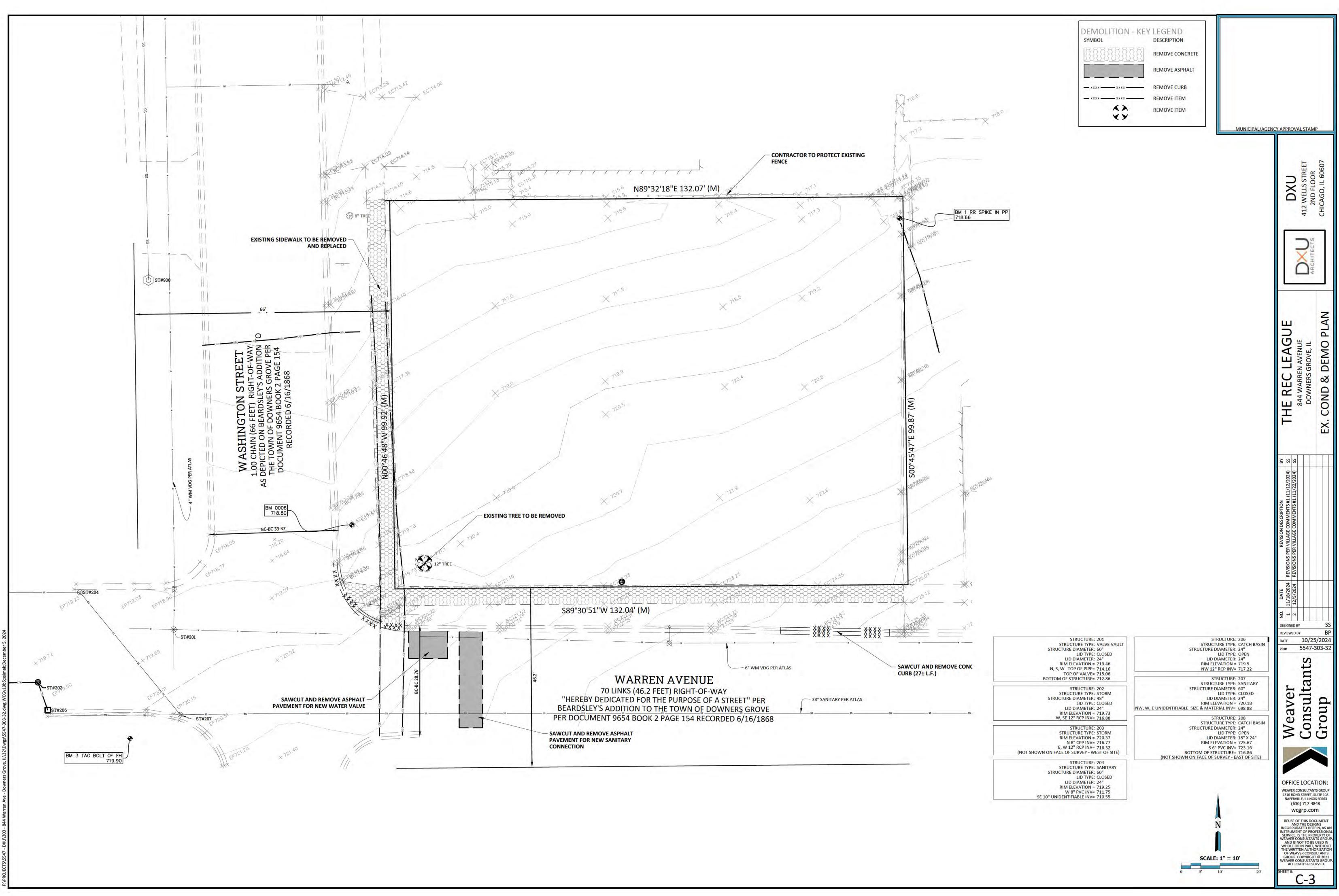
STEPHEN C. SIMAK PE

DESIGNED BY 10/25/2024 5547-303-32 1316 BOND STREET, SUITE 108 NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60563 (630) 717-4848 wcgrp.com REUSE OF THIS DOCUMENT AND THE DESIGNS INCORPORATED HEREIN, AS A NSTRUMENT OF PROFESSION SERVICE, IS THE PROPERTY WEAVER CONSULTANTS GRO AND IS NOT TO BE USED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, WITHOU

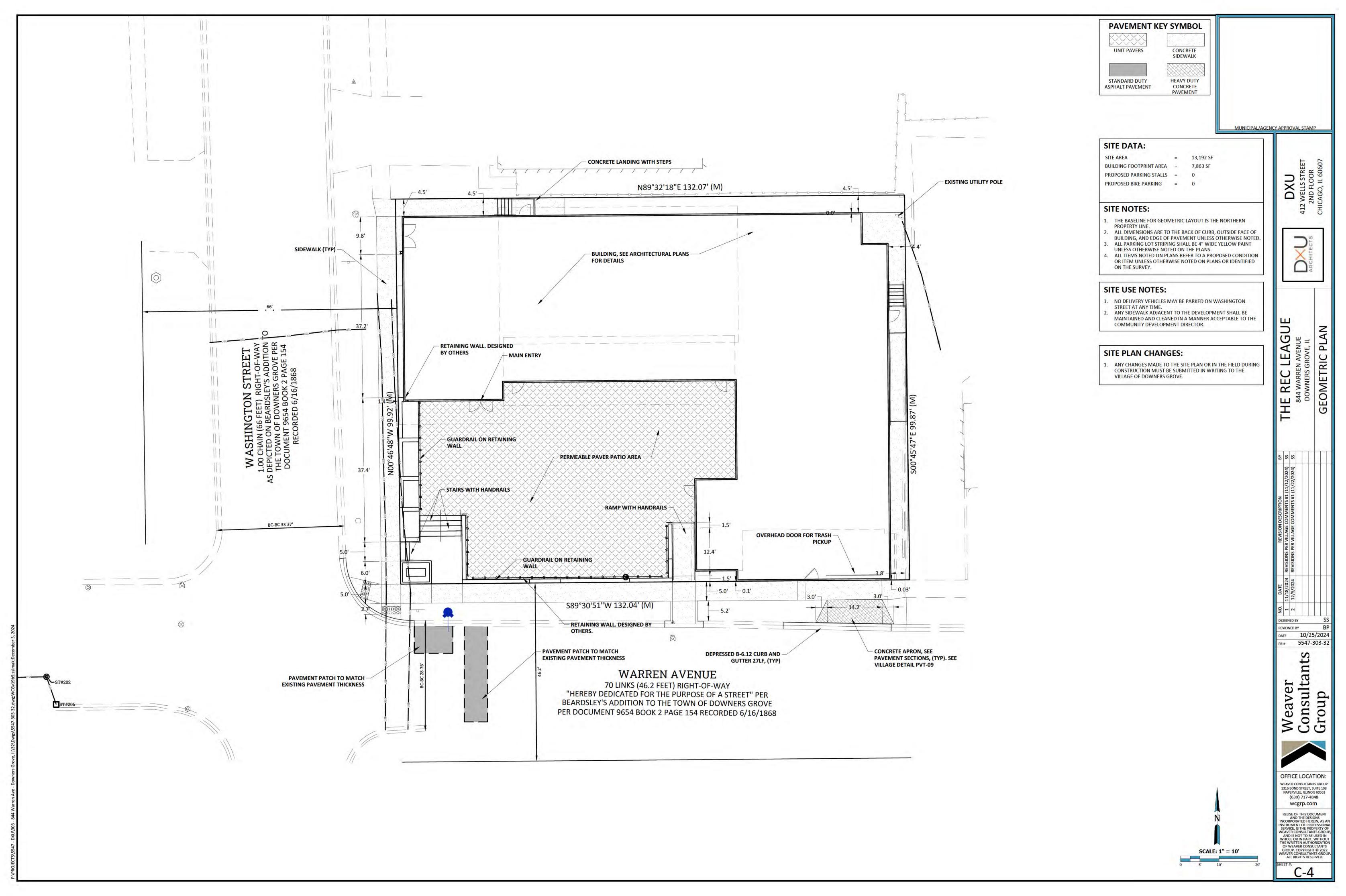


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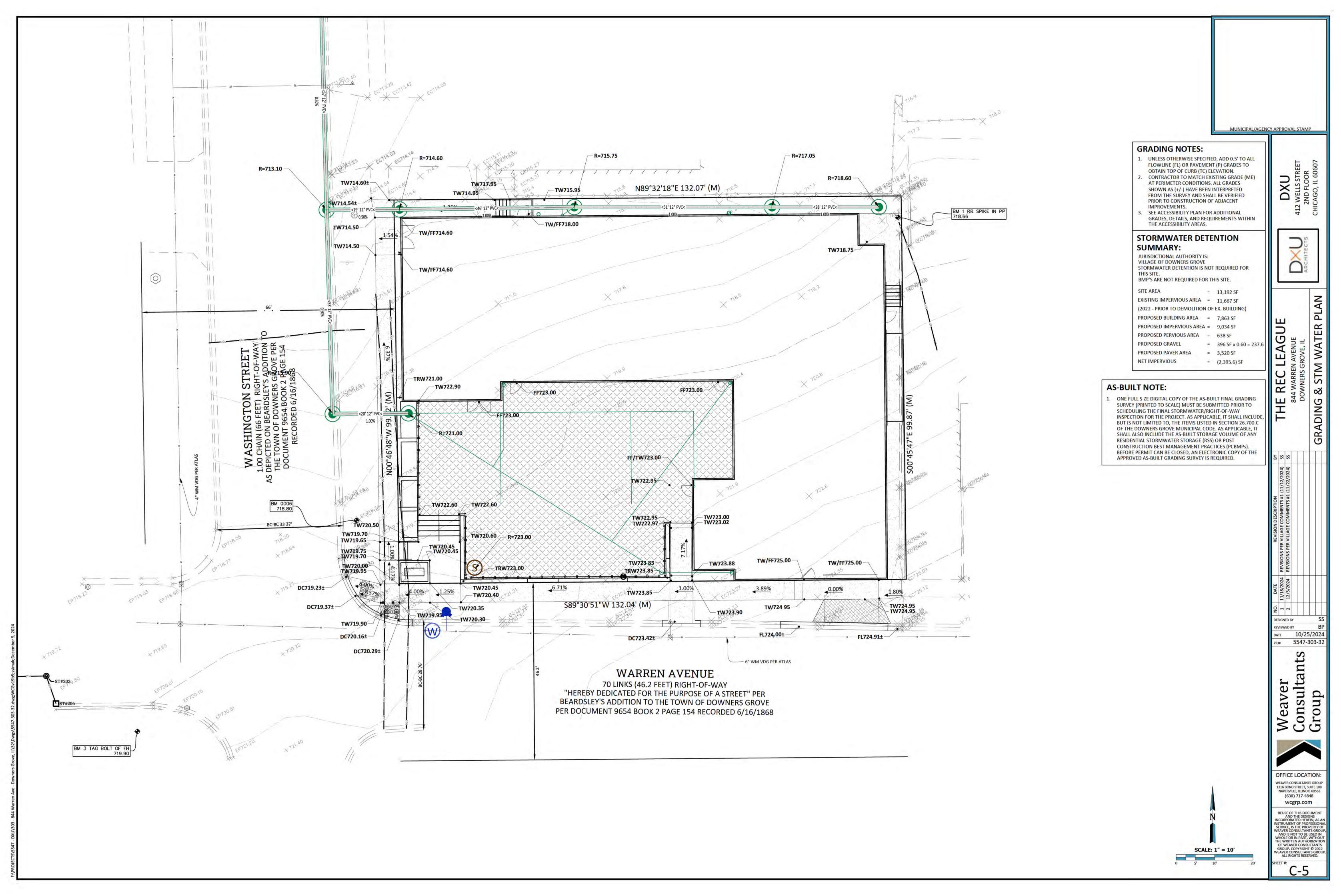
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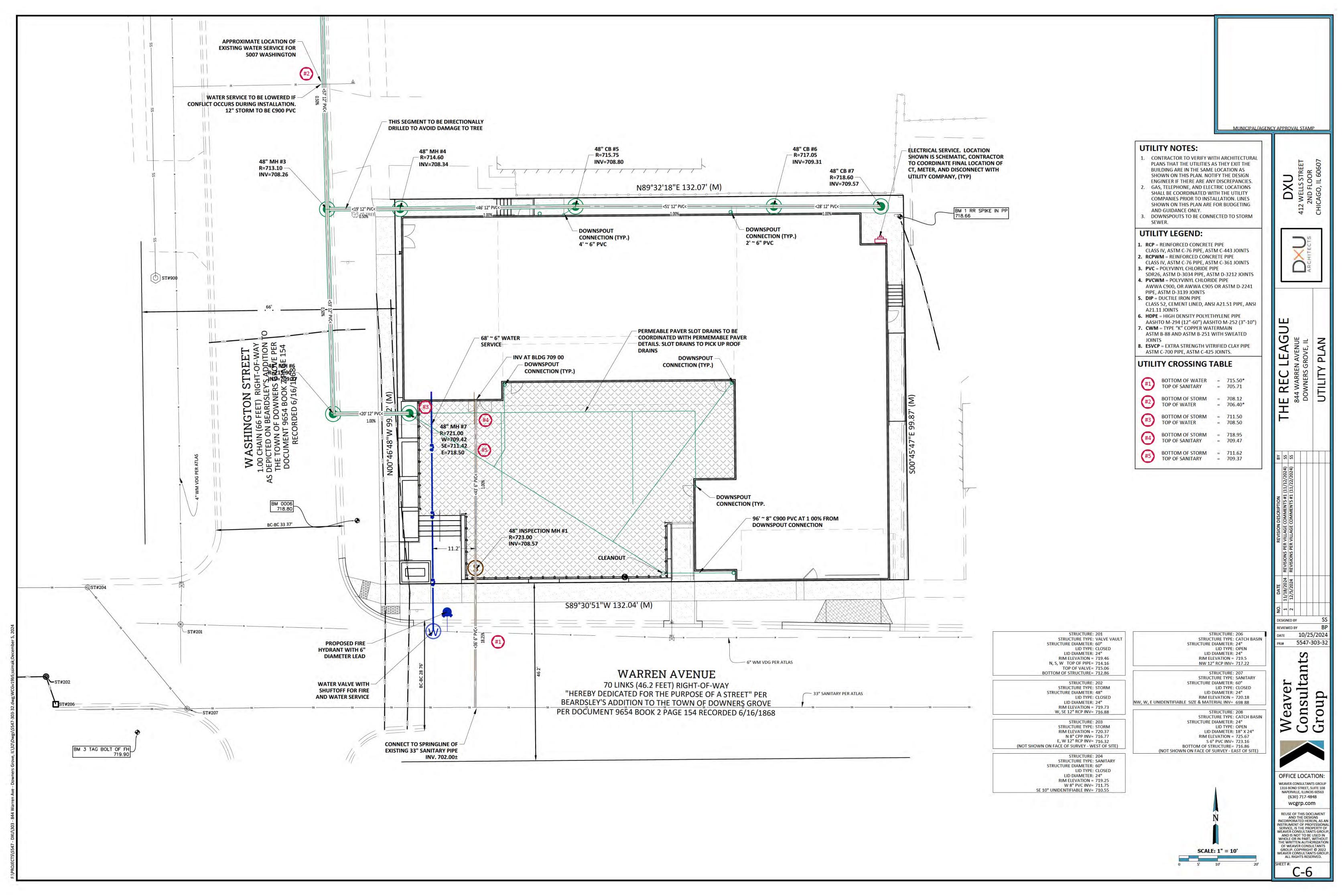
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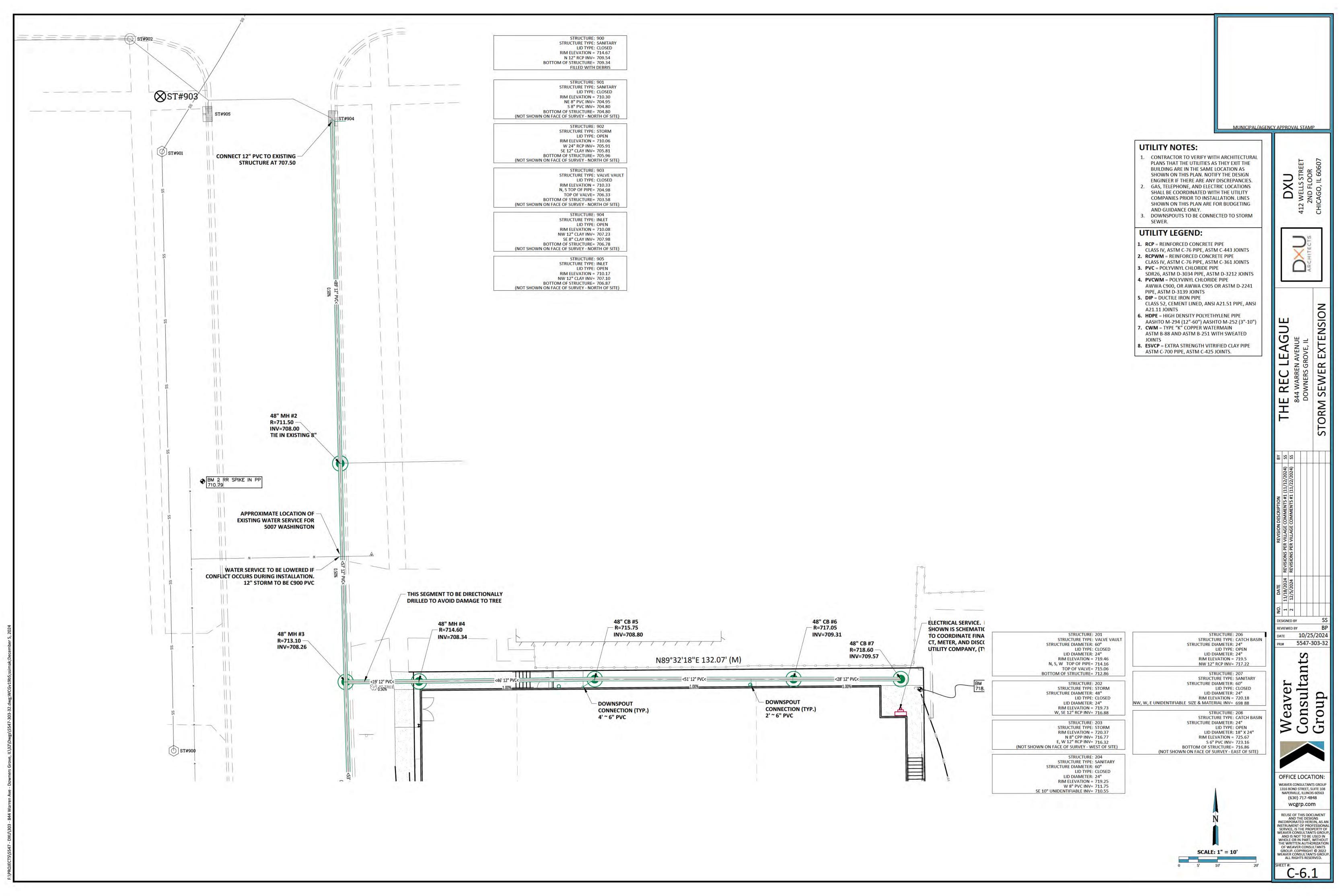
Page 29 of 42



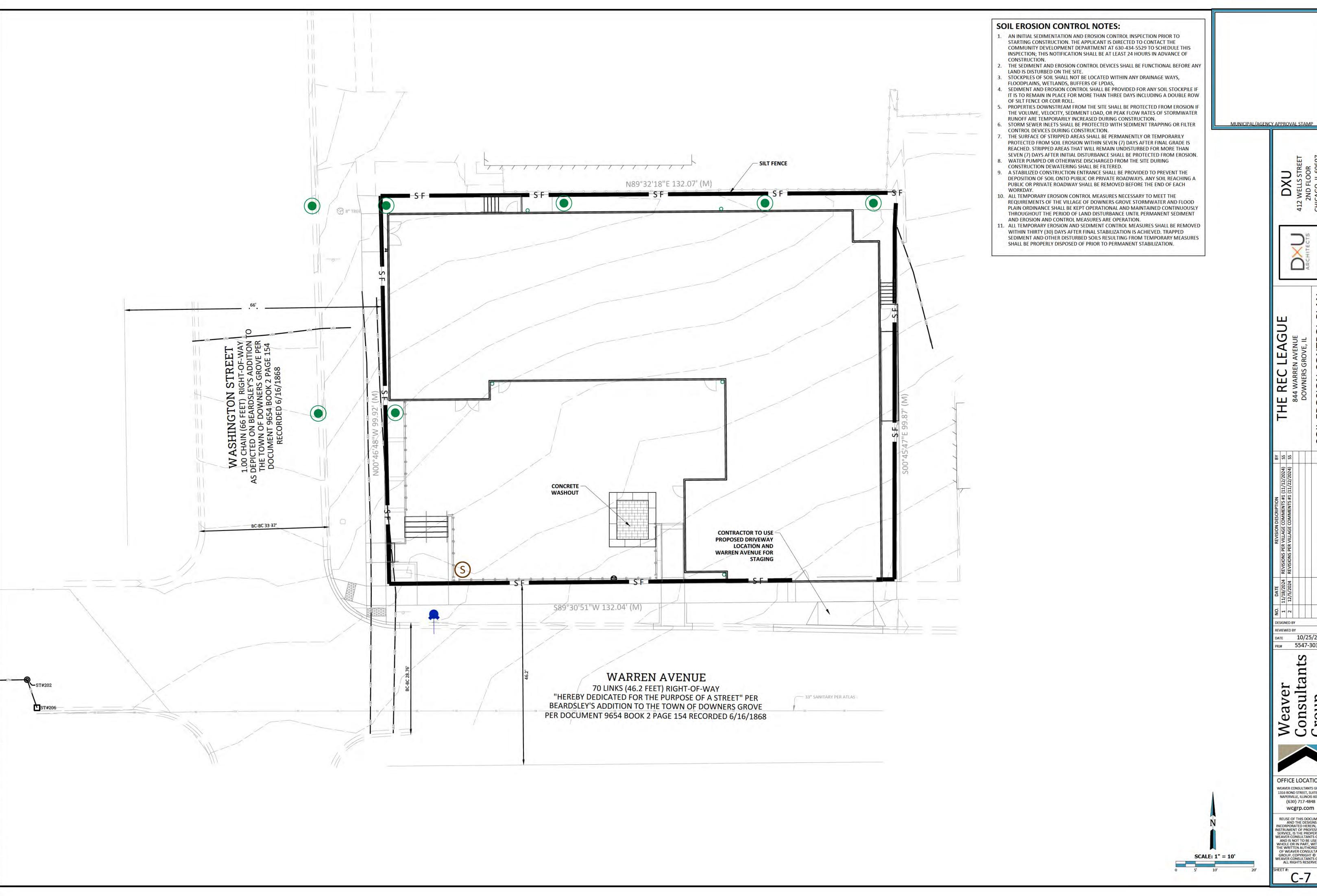
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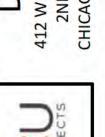


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Weaver Consultants Group



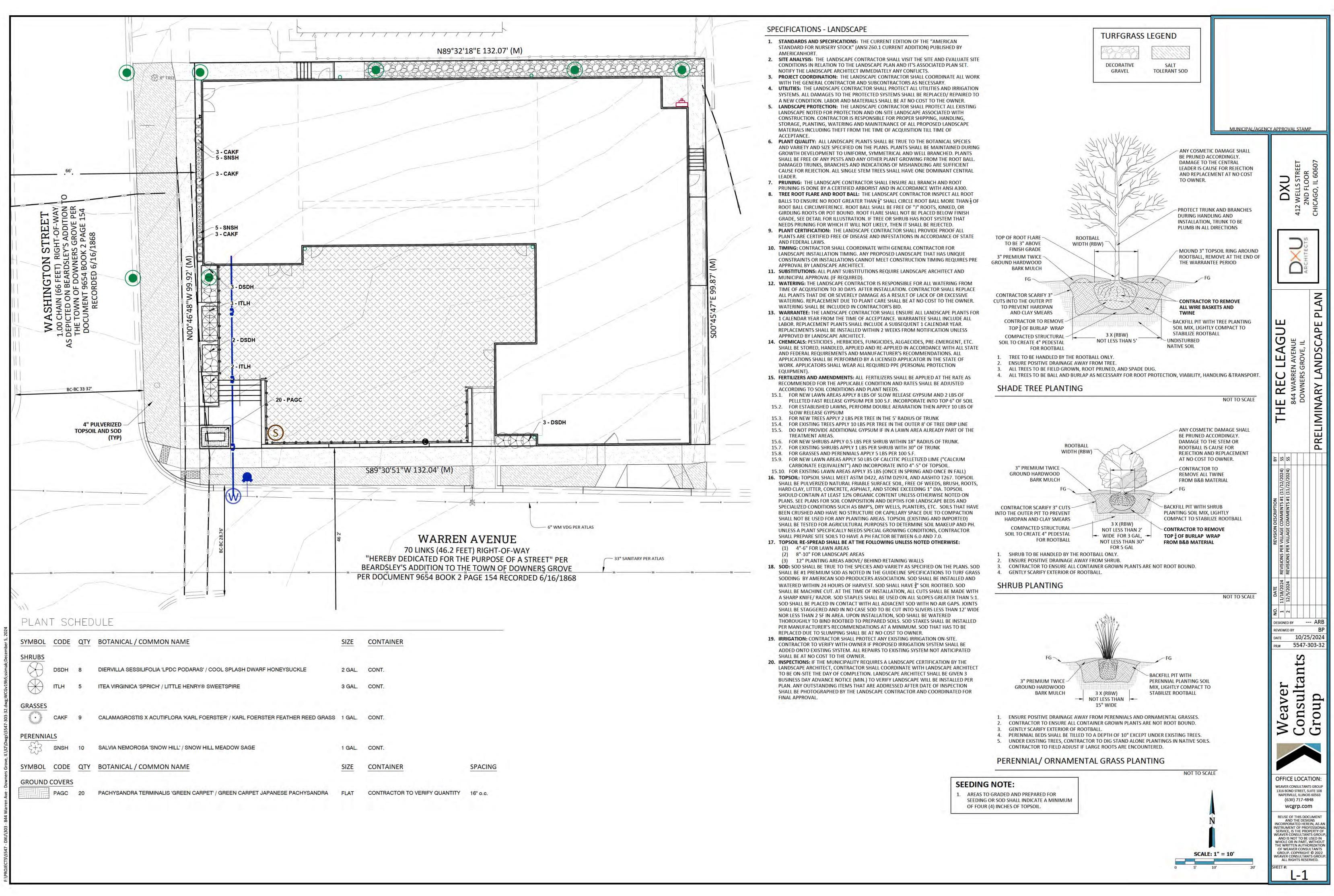
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ORD 2025-10658



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ASSOCIATES, LTD.

#### Memorandum

TO: Mr. Eric Styer

**DxU Architects** 

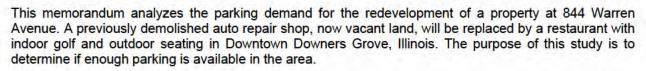
FROM: Stephen B. Corcoran, P.E., PTOE

Director of Traffic Engineering

DATE: October 28, 2024

RE: Parking Demand Study

Restaurant/Golf 844 Warren Avenue Downers Grove, Illinois



#### Redevelopment Plan

The redevelopment site is located at 844 Warren Avenue east of Washington Street. It is in the northeastern part of the Downers Grove Downtown District with commuter parking and railroad tracks to the south, businesses to the east and west, and residential uses to the north.

An auto repair shop had occupied the site (2,265 square feet) with 13 parking spaces and an access drive on Warren Avenue and one on Washington Street. The site is currently vacant.

The proposed restaurant will be a two-story building totaling 15,642 square feet with an outdoor patio. No parking or access is proposed. Four bays within the building are for golf simulation games. Seating will be provided for 403 persons as follows:

Please note that during cold or inclement weather, the outdoor seating would be unavailable, and the capacity of the building would be reduced by 40% to 241 seats.

#### **Downers Grove Parking Requirement**

Minimum off-street parking requirements do not apply in the Downtown Business (DB) zoning district. The site is within the DB district and requires no parking. Patrons and employees would park in the neighboring public lots around the downtown.

The Village Zoning Code would require 12.5 spaces per 1,000 sq. ft. or 1 space per 4 seats, whichever is greater, for a restaurant with a lounge outside of the downtown area. One hundred and ninety-six parking spaces would be required if this restaurant was located elsewhere based on the square footage. Only 101 spaces are required based on seating. Given its location in the downtown area and nearby public parking, the need for parking is minimized.

#### **National Parking Data**

National parking data for restaurants was reviewed to estimate the parking demand for the site. The Institute of Transportation of Engineers' publication <u>Parking Generation</u>, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition provides parking demand data on quality restaurants (Land Use Code 931) for Monday thru Thursday (210 vehicles), Friday (254 vehicles),

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2 Mr. Eric Styer • 10.28.2024

and Saturday (189 vehicles). The peak parking demand occurs from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the evening. The ITE parking estimates are based on a suburban location with no adjustment for the downtown location. The village downtown parking study indicated that 18% of visitors did not drive to the downtown. This would reduce the ITE demand to 208 vehicles on a Friday.

#### **Downers Grove Downtown Parking Study**

The Village of Downers Grove staff provided parking information of public parking lots near the site including Lot F across the street from the site, Lots B and C west of Washington Street, and the new municipal center lot south of the tracks. The four lots have 394 total spaces. Peak morning occupancy counts at each lot are shown on **Table 1**. For the new municipal lot, it was assumed that 125 spaces of the 172 public spaces would be occupied by village and school district staff and public visitors during the day. After 4 PM, the commuter lots empty out and would be available for use by other users.

Table 1
Available Parking Spaces

Lot	Spaces	Peak AM Vehicles
Lot B	66	41
Lot C	66	40
Lot F	90	61
Lot H	172	125
Totals	394	267
Spaces Available		127

#### **Analysis**

Based on the Village requirement of 196 spaces and the estimated demand estimate of 208 vehicles, there is sufficient parking available near the site to accommodate the requirements during the evenings and weekends. During lunchtime, the 127 available parking spaces will meet the projected lunchtime demand.

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11/22/24, 9:28 AM



#### Emily Hepworth <ehepworth@downers.us>

#### 844 Warren - official comment

**Chris Johnson** 

Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 5:36 PM

To: ehepworth@downers.us

I am in favor of the proposed development at 844 Warren and the idea of expanding the downtown. With that said, and not contingent on the approval of this project, I strongly recommend the village build a parking deck on the north side of the tracks to better serve the customers and employees of the existing and forthcoming businesses.

Chris Johnson - CEO

Classic Cinemas, a division of Tivoli Enterprises, Inc.

603 Rogers Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515

www classiccinemas com

If you like what we do, please give us a review! If you have concerns, please let me know.

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# VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING

January 6, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

FILE 24-PCE-0034: A PETITION SEEKING APPROVAL FOR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF WASHINGTON STREET AND WARREN AVENUE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 844 WARREN AVENUE, DOWNERS GROVE, IL (PINS: 09-08-125-004). ERIC SYTER, PETITIONER AND TIMOTHY CANNING OWNER

(This hearing was opened at the December 4, 2024 Meeting, but continued to the January 6, 2025 Meeting)

Eric Syter presented the petition, which proposed to improve the property with a new dining and entertainment facility that will provide multiple dining experiences, golf simulator, darts, billiards, and lounging areas. He expressed their goal is to provide an energetic, family-friendly, pedestrian-oriented neighborhood designation. He described the 15,000 square foot property as a two-story, L-shaped structure. He explained that the areas between the building, along the north and east property lines will be used for building maintenance and emergency egress and the property to the north and east will be residential, noting that they want the property to be as least disruptive as possible. Mr. Syter also discussed the basement level, patio levels, main entry, restaurant, kitchen, trash barrier, bar, outdoor lounge, elevations, materials, and the center bay, etc. He stated that the proposal is compliant with the comprehensive plan, meets and/or exceeds the requirements of the downtown design guidelines, and meets the approval of criteria.

Chairman Rickard asked for questions for the petitioner.

Commissioner K. Patel inquired about the intended hours of operation. Mr. Todd Davies stated 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. on the weekends and 10 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Sunday through Thursday.

Commissioner Eberhardt asked for clarification on what relief they were asking for. Chairman Rickard added for them to address those five relief items. Mr. Syter responded that first they are asking for relief from the Build-to-Zone of 80%. Commissioner Eberhardt noted that the façade is supposed to be within 25 feet of the corner but they are at almost 50 feet. Mr. Syter stated that the orientation of the building was to open up the corner for the public and direct most of the energy to the south towards the railway and the main entrance to the building.

Commissioner Eberhardt asked how they would seat people in outdoor dining all year long. Mr. Syter responded that they have a snowmelt paving system and the goal is to utilize that as much of the year as possible. Commissioner Eberhardt expressed that she did not understand the rationale for not abiding by the zoning ordinance for the downtown by saying this area is going to be inhabited and active all year long and struggled with how dining could work year round.

Mr. Davies stated that the zoning requirements for the downtown put them at a certain height for the building and that would put them back in a corner into other people's backyards. He explained that they asked for relief on this L-shaped property because it felt more inviting than having a 32-foot

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wall, and people would see an inviting courtyard and fire pit instead of walking straight into a lobby or restaurant.

Commissioner Eberhardt asked if they are expecting people to walk 50 feet to the front door unprotected and why the pergola is not on that side to provide a protected walk. Mr. Syter commented that they never thought about covering the walkway to the front door, as they wanted to leave that open an inviting. Commissioner Eberhardt asked how someone in a wheelchair would get to the front door versus the rest of their party. Mr. Syter responded they would all follow the same path where the ramp is located. Commissioner Eberhardt noted that the ramp is more then 90 feet from where the rest of people would walk. She also why the stairs are not near the ramp. Mr. Syter stated the ramp was in an area where the ramp only needed to be 12 feet, whereas if they put a ramp near the stairs, the ramp would have to be 80 feet. Mr. Zawila noted they review the building and accessibility codes on with every project that submits a building permit.

Mr. Syter discussed the rest of the relief they are asking for, which include a walkway 1 foot setback on the east and north side for the emergency egress and building maintenance purposes only, for the firepit be in the front yard, year round outdoor seating, and for the pergola to be tied to the property line instead of the required setback of 6 feet.

Commissioner Eberhardt stated she liked how they are facing everything away from the homes behind the property, but she did have an issue with the ramp and stairs being apart and the elevator on the inside being out the way from the stairs. Chairman Rickard commented that the extent of their input on the building design has to do with the exterior, as the interior is outside of their purview.

Commissioner Lincoln agreed with the inviting nature of the building and also agreed with striking some balance to allow patrons to share the same entrance. He asked how the operation would impact the neighborhood for people carrying golf bags around town for the golf simulator. Mr. Davies responded that they will have storage for 80 to 90 bags, and they also will provide clubs for people to use that do not bring clubs.

Commissioner Boyle expressed the biggest question for him was in terms of parking. Mr. Davies shared they had an expert study that a bulk of the business would be coming on Saturday and in the evenings, and the amount of parking they have and people walking 50-60 feet from other parking area should not be an issue.

Commissioner Toth agreed it has a very welcoming appearance.

Commissioner Eberhardt asked for clarification on dimensions of the outdoor seating. Mr. Syter responded that the outdoor area is 3,500 square feet and the actual dimensions were approximately 90 x 40 x 30. Commissioner Eberhardt asked if they looked at having anymore outdoor seating on the second level instead of having it all on the patio. Mr. Syter said there is an outdoor lounge on the second floor. He added they did consider an additional balcony with seating, but the look of it did not make sense and they felt they had enough on the first floor to handle the outdoor seating they would need.

Commissioner Lincoln voiced they are tasked with trying to weigh the relief and differences proposed versus the zoning code as written. He asked if they worked up any plans that followed the

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zoning code just to see how it would work. Mr. Davies responded that it would become an eyesore if they did not ask for the relief. Commissioner Lincoln stated there was something to be said for something with so much diversity, but he wanted to make sure they are articulating specifically the benefit of this plan and that the reliefs outweigh what they could have done by following the rules.

Commissioner Frankovic asked about some of the options for using the outdoor space year round and how to keep it weatherproofed and usable. Mr. Davies answered that their belief was if it is a comfortable environment, people will definitely go out and have a cocktail and sit outside, even though they may not dine out there when it is cold, and they wanted to remove the outdoor parameters of March 15 to November 15. Mr. Syter added one option they had was upscale ice fishing huts, but the idea was to use the patio all year.

Commissioner Frankovic asked if the fire pit having space for 8 people was a specific required size or could they make it larger. She added that would be a wonderful for the community. Mr. Syter responded that the seating is not fixed.

Commissioner Eberhardt asked if the new house behind them had any comments, as they are going to be in the shade most of the year now. Mr. Davies responded that they did.

Chairman Rickard asked for public input.

Daniel O'Donnell voiced his support for the project. He believed it was a cool concept, is excited about expanding the downtown area into his neighborhood. He added that he likes the fact that Todd and Mike are Downers Grove residents and he trusts them.

Kelsey Brar stated she is also in support of the project. She said it was important to give them an opportunity, as they have shown to be true assets to the community and have their best interests at heart. She also agreed with having the open area out front instead of in their backyard. She noted having the building go up would also eliminate some of the train noise.

Greg Boltz commented that these guys give a lot to their community and having people from the community giving back to the community is fantastic.

Janet Winningham, wondered what consideration was given to the interaction with the train crossing. She noted that she has respect the restaurant operators, but 6:00 on a winter or fall night will be dark and they are going to have use parking lots on the other side of the train tracks, which could be dangerous. She voiced there is crosswalk now at the tracks on the north side and there is no place to stop, and worries about people having to stop on the tracks, and she fears these types of activities at this property could exacerbate that.

Dan Fryer explained that when they first moved to this community 11 years ago, he did not feel like downtown had much of an identity, but now it is a destination for people inside and outside of the community, and this new concept is unique and will further elevate the community.

Chairman Rickard asked for the staff report.

Emily Hepworth, Development Planner, stated this is a Planned Unit Development Amendment at 844 Warren Ave, located on the northeastern corner of the Warren Ave and Washington St

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intersection downtown. She expressed that they provided a mailing notice to all property owners within 250 feet, a legal notice in the Daily Harold, posted two public notice signs, and received one public comment. She covered the site plan and provided a background on the PUD. She explained the petition was requesting deviations from the zoning ordinance that is similar to what was requested and approved in 2019. Ms. Hepworth went over renderings and downtown design guidelines. She voiced that the Comprehensive Plan placed the property within the downtown focus area and staff found the proposed development consistent with the intent of the Comprehensive Plan. She added that staff also found the proposal met the standards for a PUD Amendment.

Chairman Rickard asked for questions for staff.

Commissioner Boyle asked if the driving factor of pushing the pergola to the street to recreate frontage drove the deciding factor on the stairs being on one side and the ramp on the other. Ms. Hepworth deferred to the petitioner.

Commissioner Boyle voiced that given this is downtown business, the parking would be in the head-in spaces for the trains. Ms. Hepworth noted that the three lots identified where people can park are B, C, and F.

Commissioner Boyle asked what the intention was of the people parking in those spaces to go to a business on the north side of the street. Ms. Hepworth believed it is encouraged for everyone to use the pedestrian crossing, but if they park on Lot C, there is a sidewalk that runs between the parking spaces and the train tracks.

Commissioner Boyle added he does not want the decision to put the pergola up against the front to be the deciding factor in not softening the entrance more to give the applicant more opportunity to interact with the sidewalk. He asked if there was any street lighting or ambient lighting. Ms. Hepworth responded that as part of the building permit, they would require that they submit a photometric study to show where light would be.

Commissioner Lincoln expressed that having a crosswalk on the south side of Warren and Washington does seem concerning, as you cannot fit cars on the other side of the track.

Commissioner Eberhardt added that she was caught in that spot today and it was harrowing. She asked about the parking and if they would add any on the north side of the tracks. Mr. Zawila responded there are currently no plans to add any parking on the north side of the tracks, but they are going through the process to review the downtown with the Comprehensive Plan update.

Chairman Rickard asked the petitioner to come back up and address any comments or questions.

Mr. Syter stated that they are going to light the patio and the accessibility and entrances had to do with the substantial grade change. He added there also have been multiple concepts in regard to the pergola.

Chairman Rickard asked for discussion from the commissioners.

Commissioner Toth voiced it is a wonderful design and the layout will help it blend into the neighborhood better and will be well-received by the community. He was in support and also

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agreed with the standards for a PUD. He noted that in regard to the outdoor year round seating, most outdoor dining experiences are on a sidewalk or in the street, which have safety concerns.

Commissioner Lincoln liked that thought about the location of the courtyard and had a lot of communication with the neighbors, and it seemed like it will be a nice variety to downtown. He commented in regards to the standards, he was leaning towards yes, but wished they had more say on the flow of people and the railroad tracks. He was still on the fence about the outdoor dining and wondered if they needed to change the typical rule in the zoning code of March 15 to November 15.

Commissioner Boyle supported the project and believed it was well thought through and agreed that providing relief made sense in this lot. He noted he would be willing to look beyond the elevation requirement to allow ingress/egress to have the ramp and stairs in the same location and allow people to congregate at the corner.

Commissioner Frankovic agreed with her fellow commissioners and believed the criteria was met for approval for a PUD. She added that she would like to see more diversity in activities since it is a family friendly destination. She also agreed the outdoor year round seating was part of the business plan and was incorporated in the plan.

Commissioner K. Patel concurred it was a great concept and idea and they were creative in the way they are using the space. He said the standards of approval for the PUD were met and supported it.

Commissioner V. Patel commented that it seemed like they have a plan around using the year round space and they met the criteria.

Commissioner Rutledge agreed they met the standards and criteria for the PUD Amendment. She liked the project and the diverse use of space. She is excited for the potential different types of people this would draw and noted it would add a flavor to the community. She added that in regard to the year round seating, she did not think they should restrict something that is part of their business plan, and she was in favor of the project.

Commissioner Eberhardt believed they met the requirements for the PUD but agreed to hold off on the year round idea. She was happy to hear the nearby and immediate neighbors were in support of this. She did note her concern on the railroad crossing and parking for safety reasons. She was in support of approval. She disagreed that the outdoor year round seating was part of the business plan, but they wanted the option to let people sit outside.

Chairman Rickard felt the standards were met and the five relief requests were acceptable for this location. He also agreed that the outdoor year round seating was part of the project and the fact that this was a PUD gave them the leverage to take this unique concept and get relief from it as part of the overall plan.

WITH RESPECT TO FILE 24-PCE-0034 BASED ON THE PETITIONER'S SUBMITTAL, THE STAFF REPORT, AND THE TESTIMONY PRESENTED, IT IS FOUNDED THE PETITIONER HAS MET THE STANDARADS OF APPROVAL FOR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT AS REQUIRED BY THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE ZONING ORDINANCE AND IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND THEREFORE, COMMISSIONER BOYLE MADE A MOTION THAT THE PLANNING

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AND ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL APPROVAL OF FILE 24-PCE-0034, SUBJECT TO THE SIX CONDITIONS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

#### SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TOTH

#### **ROLL CALL:**

AYE: BOYLE, TOTH, FRANKOVIC, K. PATEL, V. PATEL, RUTLEDGE, LINCOLN, EBERHARDT, CHAIRMAN RICKARD

**NAY: NONE** 

**MOTION APPROVED. VOTE: 9-0** 

/s/ Celeste K. Weilandt
Recording Secretary

(As transcribed by Ditto Transcripts)