ZONING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

1. FILE NAME: 337 W 7th / 366-372 Smith CUP & Variances

FILE # 19-103-475

2. APPLICANT: Northland Real Estate

HEARING DATE: December 12, 2019

- 3. **TYPE OF APPLICATION:** Conditional Use Permit
- 4. **LOCATION:** 337 7th St W, 366 Smith Ave N, and 372 Smith Ave N; Block bounded by Smith Ave., 7th St., Leech St., and Grand Ave.
- 5. PIN & LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 012823410021; 012823410012; 012823410011; EWING & CHUTES SUB OF L6-7B1&L EX ST LOTS 2 3 AND LOT 4 BLK 2; Lot 10 Block 2 of SAMUEL LEECHE'S ADDITION N 1/2 OF LOT 10 BLK 2; Lot 10 Block 2 of SAMUEL LEECHE'S ADDITION N 1/2 OF LOT 10 BLK 2

6. PLANNING DISTRICT: 9

PRESENT ZONING: T2

- 7. **ZONING CODE REFERENCE:** §61.501, §61.601, §63.401, §66.331
- 8. **STAFF REPORT DATE:** December 3, 2019

BY: Anton Jerve

9. **DATE RECEIVED:** November 21, 2019

60-DAY DEADLINE FOR ACTION: January 21, 2020

- A. **PURPOSE:** Conditional use permit for a maximum building height of 75 feet, variance to increase the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) from 3.0 to 3.44, and a variance to reduce the required number of loading spaces for proposed retail use from 1 to 0.
- B. **PARCEL SIZE:** 26,995 sf. (all three parcels, including alley); 80' of frontage on 7th, 78' of frontage on Smith
- C. **EXISTING LAND USE:** Commercial
- D. SURROUNDING LAND USE:

North: Commercial (T2/B3);

East: Multifamily (RM2);

West: Residential/Commercial (T1);

South: Commercial/Office (T2)

- E. **ZONING CODE CITATION:** §61.501 lists general conditions that must be met by all conditional uses. §61.601 provides for variances from the strict enforcement of the provisions of the code if specific required findings are made. §63.401 regulates loading space for commercial uses. §66.331 limits the floor area ratio (FAR) in T3 zones to 3.0 and provides for the proposed 75 foot building height with a conditional use permit.
- F. PARKING: Zoning Code §63.207 requires a minimum of 1 space per 1—2 room unit, 1.5 spaces per 3—4 room unit, and 2 spaces per unit with 5 or more rooms. Commercial uses require one space per 400 square feet. Zoning Code § 66.342 allows for residential parking in T3 districts to be reduced by 25%. The project proposes 94 vehicular parking spaces (90 required) and 70 bicycle parking spaces (68 required) within the building. The required parking includes reductions for residential uses in T3 (25% or 41 space), bicycle parking (10% or 17 space), shared vehicle parking (10% or 17 space), and shared parking (1 space).
- G. **HISTORY/DISCUSSION:** There is no zoning history for this site. There is a concurrent application to rezone this site from T2 to T3 (ZF# 19-103-464). The existing public alleyway is in the process of being vacated.
- H. **DISTRICT COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION:** The District 9 Council recommended approval of the conditional use permit and variances.
- FINDINGS:
 - 1. Zoning Code §66.331(g) provides that a building height up to 90 feet may be permitted with a conditional use permit. The application is to allow a 75ft. tall (6-story), mixed-use development with 153 residential units and 2,500 square feet of retail fronting West 7th Street.
 - 2. Zoning Code §61.501 lists five standards that all conditional uses must satisfy:

- (a) The extent, location and intensity of the use will be in substantial compliance with the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan and any applicable subarea plans which were approved by the city council. This condition is met. The proposed development is consistent with the 2030 Comprehensive Plan for the reasons listed in the application. The proposed development is also consistent with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. This location is identified as Mixed-Use and a Neighborhood Node. The following policies are particularly applicable:
 - Policy LU-1. Encourage transit-supportive density and direct the majority of growth to areas with the highest existing or planned transit capacity.
 - Policy LU-30. Focus growth at Neighborhood Nodes using the following principles:
 - 1. Increase density toward the center of the node and transition in scale to surrounding land uses.
 - 2. Prioritize pedestrian-friendly urban design and infrastructure that emphasizes pedestrian safety.
 - 3. Cluster neighborhood amenities to create a vibrant critical mass.
 - 4. Improve access to jobs by prioritizing development with high job density.
 - Policy LU-31. Invest in Neighborhood Nodes to achieve development that enables people
 to meet their daily needs within walking distance and improves equitable access to
 amenities, retail and services.
 - Policy H-16. Increase housing choice across the city to support economically diverse neighborhoods by pursuing policies and practices that maximize housing and locational choices for residents of all income levels.

The use is also supported by the following policies from the District 9 Area Plan:

- 12. Promote those stretches of West 7th between key nodes as the appropriate location for higher-density residential use, in order to add diversity to the housing stock while preserving the traditional neighborhood fabric and supporting existing and future transit investment.
- 16. Support "nodes" of retail businesses at the intersections of West 7th and Kellogg, Smith, St. Clair, Jefferson, Randolph, and Montreal/Lexington, rather than a continuous strip of retail throughout the length of West 7th.
- (b) The use will provide adequate ingress and egress to minimize traffic congestion in the public streets. This condition is met. Traffic egress/ingress is located off Smith Avenue, which has lower traffic than West 7th Street and has signalized intersections at either end of the block, which regulate traffic flow.
- (c) The use will not be detrimental to the existing character of the development in the immediate neighborhood or endanger the public health, safety and general welfare. This condition is met. There are similarly-scaled uses in close proximity to the site including:
 - The use abuts a new hotel of a similar scale (100 rooms and 5 stories);
 - RM2 zoning directly across West 7th Street allows for 50 ft. height;
 - B5 zoning, 220 ft. north of the site along Smith allows for unlimited height; and
 - Irvine Park Towers, which is 600 ft. west of the site along West 7th Street is a 15-story tall primarily residential, mixed-use building.

Additionally, there are other small-scaled commercial uses on Leech Street and West 7th Street that would be compatible. The use will not endanger public health, safety or general welfare.

- (d) The use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district. This condition is met. The use is consistent with the general scale of development of the area, which has evolved over time but has consistently remained many uses and scales close together. Higher density uses have generally been concentrated along West 7th Street and Smith Avenue (north of West 7th Street). The site's proximity to transit, and downtown and hospital jobs make it an appropriate location for multifamily housing.
- (e) The use shall, in all other respects, conform to the applicable regulations of the district in which it is located. This condition may be met subject to approval of variances for FAR and loading space.
- 3. Zoning Code §66.331 limits the floor area ratio (FAR) in T3 zones to 3.0. The application requests a variance to allow a FAR of 3.44. Zoning Code §63.401 requires one 500 sf. loading space for 1,401-20,000 sf. of commercial space. The application requests a variance to reduce the loading space requirement from 1 to 0. §61.601 of the Zoning Code states that the planning commission shall have the power to grant variances from the strict enforcement of the provisions of the code upon a finding that:
 - (a) The variances are in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning code. This finding is met. The intent of the T3 zoning district is to provide for higher-density pedestrian-and transit-oriented mixed-use development and development on sites large enough to support a mix of uses including residential, commercial, civic and open space uses in close proximity to one another. A variance from the maximum FAR to allow greater density in this area is in harmony with the purpose and intent of the zoning code. A variance from the loading space requirement will allow for more space to be dedicated to pedestrian-scaled retail and fewer curb-cuts that would disrupt the pedestrian environment.
 - (b) The variances are consistent with the comprehensive plan. This finding is met. As noted in finding 3.a. the proposed mixed-use building is consistent with the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, which calls for increased density along Mixed-Use Corridors, and with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which calls for increasing density in Mixed Use areas, Neighborhood Nodes and along transit corridors. Related specifically to the loading space and in addition to the policies identified in the application, the variance is supported by following policies from the 2040 Compressive Plan:
 - Policy LU-14. Reduce the amount of land devoted to off-street parking in order to use land more efficiently, accommodate increases in density on valuable urban land, and promote the use of transit and other non-car mobility modes.
 - Policy LU-15. Ensure that stand-alone parking uses are limited, and that structured parking is mixed-use and/or convertible to other uses.
 - (c) The applicant has established that there are practical difficulties in complying with the provisions, that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provisions. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties. This finding is met. The Comprehensive Plan and the District 9 Plan support higher-density mixed-use at this location. Providing a mixed-use building at the scale envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan requires more floor area than would be needed for a single-use building. The long, narrow shape of the parcel also provides fewer options for building configuration and site design. Providing a 500sf. loading space equal to 20% of a 2,500sf. commercial space on what is an already tight design would be impractical and could create other undesired consequences such as additional curb-cuts that may conflict with pedestrians, or higher commercial rents that may limit access to local businesses. It is reasonable that 2,500sf. commercial space could be serviced by smaller vehicles within the structured parking or by larger delivery vehicles from West 7th Street.

- (d) The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner. This finding is met. Generally, a project on a property that is zoned T3, where increased height and density are encouraged by the Comprehensive Plan, can apply for a CUP to allow for additional height but there is no corresponding provision in the Zoning Code to account for the corresponding likelihood of a FAR increase. Because the commercial area is close to the smallest required to provide a loading space, it is disproportionately affected by the requirement. Furthermore, Zoning Code §66.342 allows on-street parking to meet parking requirements in T3 districts to support the district's pedestrian-oriented intent. However, this provision does not include loading spaces, which can be equally vital in reducing the need for space dedicated to off-street parking and deliveries. Additionally, District 9 has expressed a desire to have a local business in the commercial space. Dedicating more area to the commercial use will increase cost and likely increase rents reducing the pool of potential local tenants.
- (e) The variances will not permit any use that is not allowed in the zoning district where the affected land is located. This finding is met. The proposed mixed-use building and future uses are allowed in the T3 zoning district.
- (f) The variances will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area. This finding is met. The proposed mixed-use building is consistent with the development in the surrounding area and the type of development the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and 2040 Comprehensive Plan supports.
- J. **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Based on the above findings, staff recommends approval of the conditional use permit for a maximum building height of 75 feet, a variance to increase the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) from 3.0 to 3.44, and a variance to reduce the required number of loading spaces for proposed retail use from 1 to 0, subject to the following additional conditions:
 - 1. Final plans approved by the Zoning Administrator for this use shall be in substantial compliance with the plan submitted and approved as part of this application.
 - 2. Rezoning of the lot from T2 to T3 is approved by the Saint Paul City Council.
 - 3. The alley vacation is approved by the Saint Paul City Council.



CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

Department of Planning and Economic Development Zoning Section 1400 City Hall Annex, 25 West Fourth Street Saint Paul, MN 55102-1634 (651) 266-6583

Zoning Office Use Only
File# 19-103@6-475
Fee Paid \$ PAID (see (9-103464)
Received By / Date ///2//2019
Tentative Hearing Date 12/12/19

Rev 7.4.2019

1	
	Name Brian Farrell - Northland Real Estate Group LLC (must have ownership or leasehold interest in the property, contingent included)
	(must have ownership or leasehold interest in the property, contingent included)
APPLICANT	Address 4324 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy. City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55410
	Email brian@northlandregroup.com Phone (612) 850-8443
PROPERTY INFO	Name of Owner (if different) Bonfe Properties LLP Email tom.bonfe@gmail.com
	Contact Person (if different) Aron Johnson - DJR Architecture Email ajohnson@djr-inc.com
	Address 333 Washington Ave. N., Suite 210 City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55401
	Address/Location 337 7th Street W., 366 & 372 Smith Avenue N.
PROPERTY	PIN(s) & Legal Description See Attachment
INFO	(attach additional sheet if necessary)
	Lot Area 25,348 sf or Current Zoning T2
	.582 acres
	- Candilland Llan Bormit under provisions of Zoning Code
TYPE OF PE	ERMIT: Application is hereby made for a Conditional Use Permit under provisions of Zoning Code Section(s) Sec. 66.331 for the following use or purpose:
,	
Increase t	the allowable height from 55 feet to 75 feet
If you are red needed and	NG INFORMATION: Explain how the use will meet all of the applicable standards and conditions for the use. questing modification of any standards or conditions for a conditional use, explain why the modification is how it meets the requirements for modification of special conditions in Zoning Code § 61.502. contains the recessary.
v	See attached Description of C.U.P.
	2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
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N Poquiro	d site plan is attached
	a religious institution you may have certain rights under RLUIPA. Please check this box if you identify as a religious institution.
Li ii you ale	
Applicant	o Signature Date 11/15/19
Applicant	s Signature DateDate



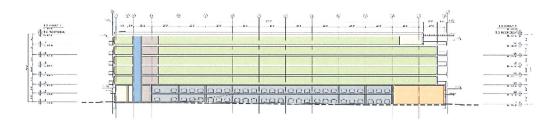
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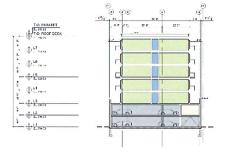
November 21, 2019

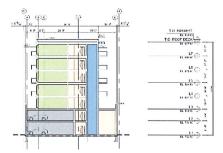
RE: The following is a description of the proposed use in regard to the **Conditional Use Permit for Height** for the proposed 337 West 7th project:

The height limit in a T3 district is 55 feet for a mixed-use building. The proposed height of the project is 75 feet to the top of the roof deck. The building is stepped back 10 feet on both the north and south side yards. See sectional images below and included preliminary design package.

The additional height of 20 feet will be used for residential purposes and allow a retail space on the 7th Street West side of the building possible. The project is proposing to build two levels of parking above ground in with the intent of minimizing construction costs (shoring, excavation, foundation etc.) that burden the end user or tenants. Geotechnical studies suggest that bedrock is present at shallow depths under the adjacent existing surface parking lots which may prevent the possibility of underground parking. The additional height will allow the project to avoid these issues and place parking on the first and second floor above ground concealed from the public view and add retail on West 7th for a mixed-use building as encouraged in the Comprehensive Plan and the District Council (Fort Road Federation).









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November 21, 2019

RE: The following are the findings under Article V. 61.500 for the **Conditional Use Permit for Height** for the proposed 337 West 7th project:

The height limit in a T3 district is 55 feet for a mixed-use building. The proposed height of the project is 75 feet to the top of the roof deck. The proposed height meets the following criteria for a Conditional Use Permit.

The extent, location and intensity of the use will be in substantial compliance with the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan and any applicable subarea plans which were approved by city council.

Allowing a C.U.P. for height to 75 feet for concentrating density near thoroughfares and transit are highly consistent with the City's land use plans. The LU-B and LU-J plans of the 2030 Comprehensive plan designate this site as Mixed-Use Corridor. The LU-F plan also designates a major institutional employment center in near proximity to the site location. The added height with the C.U.P. is intended to serve this employment center. Figure H-K (map) of the Comprehensive plan designates this site as a "opportunity area for potential new housing", in which the proposed rezoning is consistent with. The proposed C.U.P. is also consistent with the following policies of the 2030 Comprehensive plan:

LU Policy 1.2 Permit high density residential development in Neighborhood Centers, Mixed-Use Corridors, the Central Corridor, and Downtown.

LU Policy 1.21 Balance the following objectives for Mixed-Use Corridors through the density and scale of development: accommodating growth, supporting transit use and walking, providing a range of housing types, and providing housing at densities that support transit.

LU Policy 1.24 Support a mix of uses on Mixed-Use Corridors.

LU Policy 1.25 Promote the development of more intensive housing on Mixed-Use Corridors where supported by zoning that permits mixed-use and multifamily residential development.

LU Policy 1.28 Promote conditions that support those who live and work along Mixed-Use Corridors, including frequent transit service, vibrant business districts, and a range of housing choices.

H Policy 1.1. Increase housing choices across the city to support economically diverse neighborhoods.

H Policy 1.2. Meet market demand for transit-oriented housing.

H Policy 1.3. Revitalize the city by developing land-efficient housing.

A small area plan for the West 7th Corridor is currently being studied but not adopted and no further information about that plan has been available to the applicant or the general public.

The use will provide adequate ingress and egress to minimize traffic congestion in the public streets.

The proposed site currently has one curb cut on Leech Street at the intersection of 7th Street West. This curb cut is currently used for vehicles to access the existing auto shop. The project is proposing that this curb cut will be closed and vehicular ingress/egress to the project is proposed off of Smith Avenue. Closing the curb cut on Leech will reduce congestion and potential collisions because the existing curb cut is in very close proximity to the intersection of 7th Street West. The height requested by this C.U.P. will not affect the ingress and egress of vehicular traffic.

The use will not be detrimental to the existing character of the development in the immediate neighborhood or endanger the public health, safety and general welfare.

The site is adjacent to two recent developments (2015 & 2017). Both developments have built surface parking lots adjacent to the site. The general purposes of height limits are to maintain access to light and air for surrounding properties, to preserve important views and to mitigate shadowing — particularly of residential properties and significant public spaces. Since this site borders two new surface parking lots access to light is preserved and the project will not be detrimental to adjacent development or endanger the public health, safety and general welfare.

The use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district.

The added height to 75 feet will not impede any development or improvements to surrounding properties. The building to the north (Residence Inn, 2017) is 55 feet tall and separated by a surface parking lot, where the added height will not impede the adjacent property from adding solar to the roof.

The use shall, in all other, conform to the applicable regulations of the district in which it is located.

The added height in all other aspects will conform to the regulations of the district. The project has was introduced to the Fort Road Federation Transportation & Land Use Committee on November 6, 2019 and the Fort Road District Council on November 11, 2019. Both groups supported the project and the request for a C.U.P. for additional height.

PD=9

Tentative Hearing Date _



ZONING VARIANCE APPLICATION

To Board of Zoning Appeals
Dept. of Safety & Inspections
Zoning Section
375 Jackson St., Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806
(651) 266-9008

Applicant's Signature

To Planning Commission

Dept. of Planning & Econ. Devt.
Zoning Section

1400 City Hall Annex, 25 W 4th St.
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1634
(651) 266-6583

Zoning Office Use Only	
File #	
Fee Paid \$ PAID (See 19-103 46	4)
Received By / Date 11/21/2019	

Rev 7.4.2019

APPLICANT	Name Brian Farrell - Northland Real Estate Group LLC (must have ownership or leasehold interest in the property, contingent included) Address 4324 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55410 Email brian@northlandregroup.com Phone (612) 850-8443 Name of Owner (if different) Bonfe Properties LLP Email tom.bonfe@gmail.com Contact Person (if different) Aron Johnson - DJR Architecture Email ajohnson@djr-inc.com Address 333 Washington Ave. N., Suite 210 City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55401
PROPERTY INFO	Address / Location 337 7th Street W., 366 & 372 Smith Avenue N. PIN(s) & Legal Description See Attached (attach additional sheet if necessary) Lot Area 25,348 sf or Current Zoning T2 .582 acres
another zoning	EQUEST: Application is hereby made to the Board of Zoning Appeals (or to the Planning Commission with application) for variance from the following section(s) of the Zoning Code _Table 66.331 State the requirement and variance requested, increase FAR under the T3 designation for a mixed use development from 3.0 to 3.44.
Practical diproperty wo The plight o	in information: Explain or demonstrate the following. Attach additional sheets if necessary. If it is in complying with the provision of the code from which a variance is requested, and that the build be used in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provision. See Attached If the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner. See Attached If the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner. See Attached If the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.
4. The variand ☑ Required s	See Attached ce will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area. See Attached site plan is attached religious institution you may have certain rights under RLUIPA. Please check this box if you identify as a religious institution.



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November 21, 2019

RE: The following are the findings for a **variance to increase FAR from 3.0 (79,764 SF) to 3.44 (91,641 SF)** for the proposed 337 West 7th project:

The project proposes a vacation of an existing alley for the whole block. The portion of the alley that is being vacated with ownership transferred to the project is being factored into the site area for the purposes of calculating FAR.

(a) The variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning code.

The general purpose of the FAR limit is to limit buildings from obstructing light and air and limit urban density to align with a district intent. Currently the proposed parcels are bordered by two surface parking lots of relatively new developments (2015 & 2017). Due to the location and size of the adjacent surface parking lots, light and air would not be obstructed for the neighboring properties. The density proposed by the additional FAR would not deviate from the zoning codes intent of the T3 designation, as stated below:

The T3 traditional neighborhood district provides for higher-density pedestrian- and transit-oriented mixed-use development. It is designed for development or redevelopment of land on sites large enough to support:

- -A mix of uses, including residential, commercial, civic and open space uses in close proximity to one another;
- -A mix of housing styles, types and sizes to accommodate households of varying sizes, ages and incomes;
- -A system of interconnected streets and paths that offer multiple routes for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists, and are connected to existing and future streets;
- -A system of open space resources and amenities; and incorporation of environmental features into the design of the neighborhood.

The proposed project would be in harmony with this intent by providing a mix of uses, mix of unit types & sizes and a large amount of secured bicycle storage for to support multi-modal transportation of the district. Due to the location and narrow size of the subject site, opportunities for open space are limited.

(b) The variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan.

The increase in FAR will allow for concentrating density near thoroughfares and transit which is highly consistent with the City's land use plans. The LU-B and LU-J plans of the 2030 Comprehensive plan designate this site as Mixed-Use Corridor. The LU-F plan also designates a

major institutional employment center in near proximity to the site location. The added density is intended to serve this employment center. Figure H-K (map) of the Comprehensive plan designates this site as a "opportunity area for potential new housing", in which the proposed rezoning is consistent with. The proposed FAR increase is also consistent with the following policies of the 2030 Comprehensive plan:

LU Policy 1.2 Permit high density residential development in Neighborhood Centers, Mixed-Use Corridors, the Central Corridor, and Downtown.

LU Policy 1.21 Balance the following objectives for Mixed-Use Corridors through the density and scale of development: accommodating growth, supporting transit use and walking, providing a range of housing types, and providing housing at densities that support transit.

LU Policy 1.24 Support a mix of uses on Mixed-Use Corridors.

LU Policy 1.25 Promote the development of more intensive housing on Mixed-Use Corridors where supported by zoning that permits mixed-use and multifamily residential development.

LU Policy 1.28 Promote conditions that support those who live and work along Mixed-Use Corridors, including frequent transit service, vibrant business districts, and a range of housing choices.

H Policy 1.1. Increase housing choices across the city to support economically diverse neighborhoods.

H Policy 1.2. Meet market demand for transit-oriented housing.

H Policy 1.3. Revitalize the city by developing land-efficient housing.

A small area plan for the West 7th Corridor is currently being studied but not adopted and no further information about that plan has been available to the applicant or the general public.

(C) The applicant has established that there are practical difficulties in complying with the provision, that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provision. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties.

Practical difficulties exist with delivering the type of development that is desired by the existing comprehensive plan and of the interests and character of the neighborhood. The inclusion of retail along West 7th Street for a mixed-use development is the desired land use for the site, which is encouraged by the mixed-use corridor designation in the comprehensive plan. Including a retail space with the components that accompany a retail use, such as, added parking, higher ceilings and back of house spaces contribute to a higher density. Furthermore, the placement of a retail space in a project is placed by default of the most desirable location for retail which affects the efficiency of other components. Lastly, practical difficulties exist in providing enough density to support the retail space desired by the comprehensive plan and better ensure the success of the retail component.

(d) The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.

The designation of a mixed-use corridor or inclusion of retail as written in the comprehensive plan is not created by the landowner. The properties location and unique urban context are circumstances that determine the chosen land use and need for additional FAR.

- (e) The variance will not permit any use that is not allowed in the zoning district where the affected land is located.
 - Both the multi-family and retail uses are permitted uses in this designation per St. Paul zoning code.
- (f) The variance will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

 The variance for additional FAR will not alter the essential character of the Fort Road Federation neighborhood. The intention of the increase in FAR is to build upon and expand the existing character of the neighborhood, which is known for its vibrancy and accessibility to public transit.
- (g) The application for a historic use variance under title IX, city planning, at section 73.03.1 of this Code, as authorized by Minn. Stats. § 471.193, subd. 3(6), shall be granted only to a property that is a locally designated heritage preservation site and the use variance is the minimum needed to enable the property to be used in a manner that will have the least impact upon its historic character and the character of the surrounding area.
 - N/A This site is not designated as historic.

SAINT PAUL MARA

ZONING VARIANCE APPLICATION

To Board of Zoning Appeals
Dept. of Safety & Inspections
Zoning Section
375 Jackson St., Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806
(651) 266-9008

Applicant's Signature _____

To Planning Commission

Dept. of Planning & Econ. Devt.

Zoning Section

1400 City Hall Annex, 25 W 4th St.

Saint Paul, MN 55102-1634

(651) 266-6583

Zoning Office Use Only
File# 19-103475
Fee Paid \$ PAID (See 19-103 464

Received By / Date 1// 2

Tentative Hearing Date

	Name Brian Farrell - Northland Real Estate Group LLC (must have ownership or leasehold interest in the property, contingent included)
APPLICANT	Address <u>4324 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy.</u> City <u>Minneapolis</u> State <u>MN</u> Zip <u>55410</u>
	Email brian@northlandregroup.com Phone (612) 850-8443
	Name of Owner (if different) <u>Bonfe Properties LLP</u> <u>Email tom.bonfe@gmail.com</u>
	Contact Person (if different) Aron Johnson - DJR Architecture Email ajohnson@djr-inc.com
	Address 333 Washington Ave. N., Suite 210 City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55401
PROPERTY	Address / Location 337 7th Street W., 366 & 372 Smith Avenue N.
NFO	PIN(s) & Legal Description See Attached (attach additional sheet if necessary)
	Lot Area 25,348 sf or Current Zoning T2
	.582 acres
VARIANCE RI	EQUEST: Application is hereby made to the Board of Zoning Appeals (or to the Planning Commission with
	g application) for variance from the following section(s) of the Zoning Code Sec. 63.401
	State the requirement and variance requested.
Variance to	reduce required number of loading spaces for retail use from 1 to 0.
,,,,,	
SUPPORTING	SINFORMATION: Explain or demonstrate the following. Attach additional sheets if necessary.
Practical di property wo	fficulties in complying with the provision of the code from which a variance is requested, and that the buld be used in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provision.
	See Attached
2. The plight of	of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.
	See Attached
3. The variance	ce will not permit any use that is not allowed in the zoning district in which the property is located.
	See Attached
4. The variance	ce will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.
	See Attached
⊠ Required s	site plan is attached
	e variance will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

Date_



333 Washington Ave N Suite 210 | Union Plaza Minneapolis MN 55401 612.676.2700 | www.djrarch.com

November 21, 2019

RE: The following are the findings for a **variance to reduce required loading from 1 space to 0 spaces** for the proposed 337 West 7th project:

Per Sec. 66.331 of the St. Paul zoning code, one loading space is required for providing a retail use of more than 1,400 SF and less than 20,000 SF. The retail space proposed in this project is 2,500 GSF.

(a) The variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning code.

The retail space proposed is 2,500 GSF. The retail space per definition of "floor area" in the St. Paul zoning code is 2,138 sf, which is 738 sf over the limit for not providing a loading space. The intent of the code is to not require small single tenants to provide a loading area, because the small area would limit receipt and distribution of materials. The 2,138 sf retail space proposed is in harmony of the intent of the code because the space and area imply a small single tenant with limited kinds of tenants base on the overall area.

(b) The variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan.

The variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan because multiple policies are encouraging a retail or mixed-use in this location designated as a "Mixed-use Corridor." The LU-B and LU-J plans of the 2030 Comprehensive plan designate this site as Mixed-Use Corridor. The proposed reduction of loading spaces will allow a retail or mixed-use to be possible on this site and is consistent with the following policies of the 2030 Comprehensive plan:

LU Policy 1.2 Permit high density residential development in Neighborhood Centers, Mixed-Use Corridors, the Central Corridor, and Downtown.

LU Policy 1.21 Balance the following objectives for Mixed-Use Corridors through the density and scale of development: accommodating growth, supporting transit use and walking, providing a range of housing types, and providing housing at densities that support transit.

LU Policy 1.24 Support a mix of uses on Mixed-Use Corridors.

LU Policy 1.25 Promote the development of more intensive housing on Mixed-Use Corridors where supported by zoning that permits mixed-use and multifamily residential development.

LU Policy 1.28 Promote conditions that support those who live and work along Mixed-Use Corridors, including frequent transit service, vibrant business districts, and a range of housing choices.

A small area plan for the West 7th Corridor is currently being studied but not adopted and no further information about that plan has been available to the applicant or the general public.

(c) The applicant has established that there are practical difficulties in complying with the provision, that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provision. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties.

Practical difficulties exist with providing a loading area (10' x 50') for the small retail space in proposed in this project. The subject site is very narrow (77'-10") and has very limited access from the public way. There are two street frontages, one on 7th Street West and one on Smith Avenue. Loading access from 7th Street West is problematic because it would increase congestion on 7th Street west and significantly limit the potential for a retail space to happen from the amount of street frontage it would consume. Providing a separate loading access from Smith Avenue is problematic because it would eliminate the ability to provide parking on multiple floors and meet the parking requirements for the project due to the narrow width of the site. Providing the right amount of parking was highly desired by the neighborhood group for this location. The applicant proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner by managing and coordinating loading within the structure away from the public way. Currently, a 30-minute parking are does exist on 7th Street West adjacent to this site.

(d) The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.

The narrow dimensions of this parcel that limits opportunities for vehicular access to the site and potential to include retail are unique to this site and are not created by the landowner.

(e) The variance will not permit any use that is not allowed in the zoning district where the affected land is located.

Both the multi-family and retail uses are permitted uses in this designation per St. Paul zoning code.

- (f) The variance will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.
 - The variance to reduce the loading requirement will not alter the essential character of the Fort Road Federation neighborhood. Reducing the loading requirement will allow retail and a mixed-use development to happen as desired in the comprehensive plan and the surrounding neighborhood.
- (g) The application for a historic use variance under title IX, city planning, at section 73.03.1 of this Code, as authorized by Minn. Stats. § 471.193, subd. 3(6), shall be granted only to a property that is a locally designated heritage preservation site and the use variance is the minimum needed to enable the property to be used in a manner that will have the least impact upon its historic character and the character of the surrounding area.

N/A – This site is not designated as historic.



West 7th / Fort Road Federation

882 West 7th Street, Suite 6
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651.298.5599
www.FortRoadFederation.org

December 2, 2019

Councilmember Noecker City of Saint Paul 15 Kellogg Blvd. West 310-B City Hall Saint Paul, MN 55102

Subject: Support for 337 West 7th Street Mixed-Use Building

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

At its November 11, 2019 Board meeting, the West 7th Street / Fort Road Federation (Planning District Council 9) heard a presentation for a mixed-use, 75' tall apartment building at 337 West 7th Street. After the presentation and discussion, the Board voted to support the requests by Northland Real Estate Group for proposed mixed use building at 337 West 7th Street:

- Rezone the parcel from T2 to T3,
- o Building height of 75',
- Vacating the alley that runs through the proposed site, and
- General support for their development plan for the parcel

The Board vote of support for the above was unanimous, with Federation Board Member, and City Planning Commissioner, Wendy Underwood abstaining.

Smith Avenue is an important bicycle connection to downtown and nearby trails. We encourage a traffic management plan that accounts for vulnerable road users. Specifically, the Fort Road Federation Transportation and Land Use committee recommends restricting left-hand turns in and out of the parking ramp and having a loading and unloading zone in the parking ramp to prevent cars waiting for entry on Smith Avenue. Space for residents moving in and out should also be accounted for. The Board also supports prioritizing local businesses in the retail space.

The Fort Road Federation coordinates participation in advocacy and planning and builds community connections for the residents, businesses, and nonprofit organizations of the West 7th neighborhood so that it is a place where people want to live, work, and play.

If you have any questions, please call or email Emily at 651.298.5599 or emily@fortroadfederation.org.

Sincerely,

Dana DeMaster

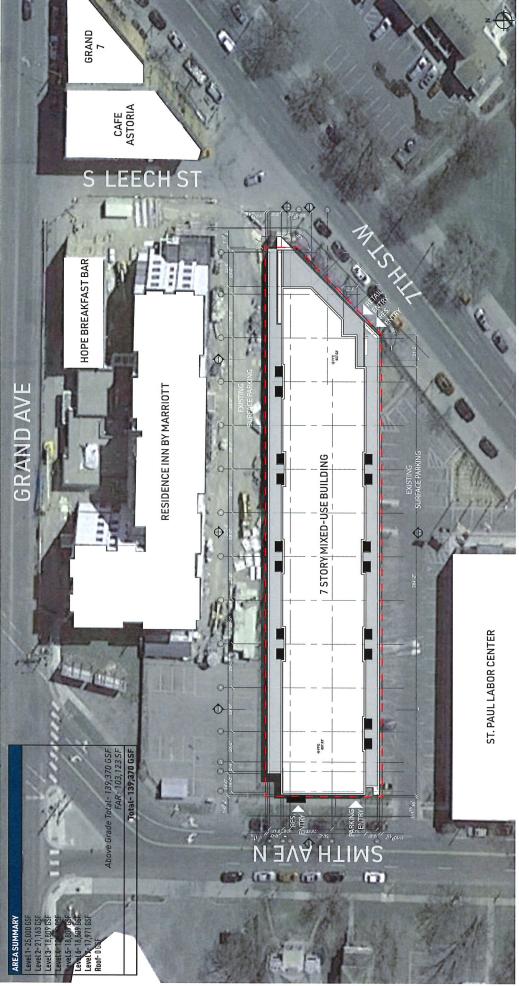
Dana DeMaster President

CC: Michael S. Margulies, Northland Real Estate Group Aron Johnson, DJR Architecture Dean Dovolis, DJR Architecture Tom Bonfe

Anton Jerve, City of Saint Paul Dept. of PED

Debbie Crippen, City of Saint Paul, DSI

SITE PLAN



DJR ARCHITECTURE

SITE PLAN
11.21.2019
337 WEST 7TH ST.
St. Paul, Minnesota
19-086.00

ZONING AND BUILDING DATA

	_									
	Acres	0.27	0.20	0.10	0.57	0.61		Cum. Ht	(ff.)	75'-4"
	SF	11,817	8,873	4,525	25,215	26,588		Fir. To Fir.	(ff.)	N/A
	PID Number	012823410021	012823410012	012823410011	Total	Total w/ Alley	ight Data:	Clear Ht.	(ft.)	N/A
Site Area:	PIDA	_01282	_01282	_01282		Total	Area & Height Data:	Elev.	(ft.)	857.83

	Stalls	(connt)							47	47	94	
	Units	(count)		53	31	31	31	31	0	0	153	
	Parking	(st)							16597	17568	34165	
	Res.	(st)		17205	15934	15934	15934	15934	0	0	80941	
	Retail	(st)								2499	2499	
	ВОН	(st)		402	402	402	402	402	1754	2639	6403	
	Core	(st)		622	622	622	622	622	622	622	4354	
	Common	(st)		2742	1821	1851	1851	1851	2149	1672	13967	
	FAR	(st)	0	16471	17258	17258	17258	17258	1898	4240	91641	Contract of the last of the la
	GSF	(st)	0	17971	18809	18809	18809	18809	21163	25000	139370	
	Cum. Ht	(ft.)	75-4"	75-4"	64'-2"	53:-0"	42'-4"	31-8"	21:-0"	11-6"		
	Fir. To Fir.	(ff.)	N/A	11'-2"	11:-2"	10'-8"	10'-8"	10'-8"	.9-j6 6	9-6"/11'-6"		
Il Dala.	Clear Ht.	(ft.)	N/A	90	9-0-	.0-,6	.0-,6	.0-,6	"9- 8	8'-6"/10'-6"		
Aled & neight Data.	Elev.	(ff.)	857.83	846.66	835.50	824.83	814.17	803.50	794.00	784.5/782.5		
		Floor	Roof	77	PP	5	L4	្ន	7	7	Total	

Bike Stalls (count)

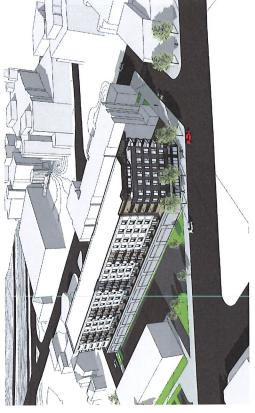
	Parking Dai	Parking Data: Per Chapter 63	er b3			
		Vehicula	Vehicular Parking		Bike P	Bike Parking
	Stalls	Standard	ADA	Compact	Lg. Term	Sh. Term
7	47	4	2	3	0/	0
7	47	4	7	က		
Total	94	88	4	9	70	0
Required	06	*/9	4		89	N/A

"Includes Standard & ADA (Non-compact)

Parking Reductions:
Sec. 66.342 T3 Reduction
Sec. 63.207 Shared Parking
Con

Sec. 66.342 T3 Reduction 25% or 41 stalls Sec. 63.207 Shared Parking Comp of 1 stall Sec. 63.207 Bicycle Parking 10% or 77 stalls Sec. 63.207 Shared Vehicle parking 10% or 17 stalls

Site Applications:
Rezoning: T2 to T3
C.U.P. for Height: 55' to 75'
FAR increase: 3.0 to 3.44
Loading reduction: 1 stall to 0 stalls
Alley Vacation: Vacate alley for whole block



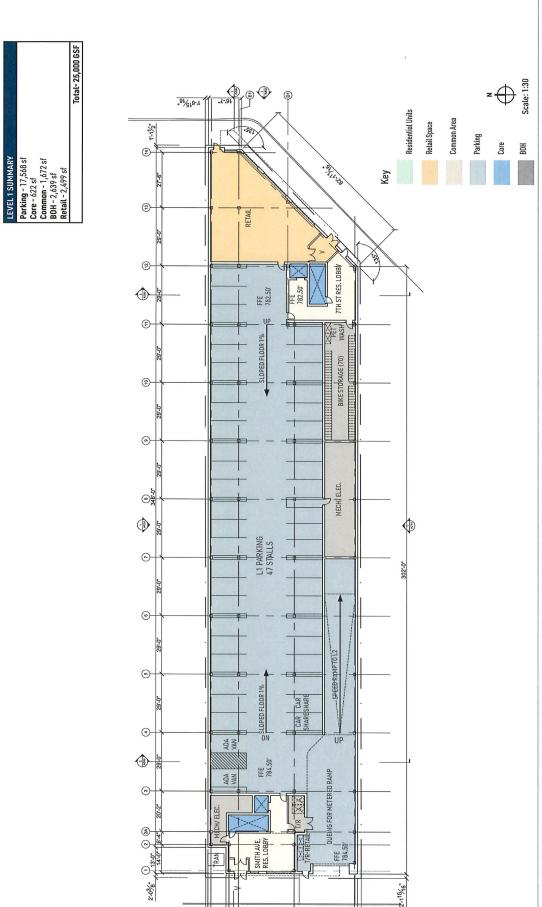
Aerial View from South

ZONING & BUILDING DATA

337 WEST 7TH ST.

St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00





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99-99

.91/601-11



m

FLOOR PLANS - LEVEL 1

337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00

Total-21,163 GSF Parking - 165,597 sf Core - 622 sf Common - 2,149 sf BOH - 1754 sf LEVEL 2 SUMMARY

Scale: 1:30 -L'-91 (ii) 1-616/16" Residential Units Retail Space Common Area 1-1/2 Parking Core BOH (<u>‡</u>)-Key OPEN OPEN O (2) (2) OPEN 70 FFE 794.00' **(E)** (2) **(a)** 348-0" QUEING FOR METERED RAMP L2 PARKING 47 STALLS FFE 794,00° (P) (9) -1-SPEED RAMP TO L2 (0) • ADA (m)-AMENITY FITNESS 2'-03% (14:0" (2 ®) 2-115/16" .0-.6/28.1¢ .0-.6 □ .0-.93 1), (ii) .8-,99 "81/601-11

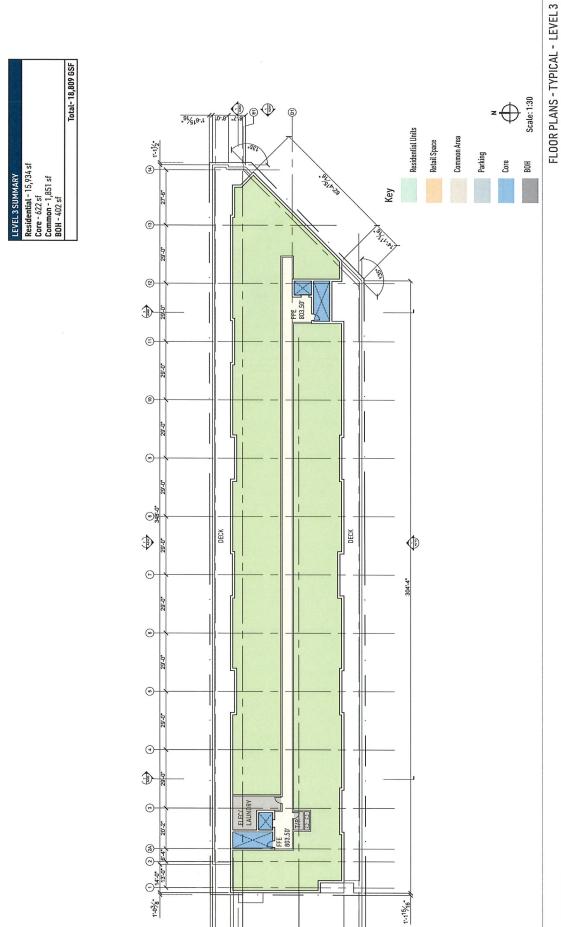


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337 WEST 7TH ST.
St. Paul, Minnesota
19-084.00

FLOOR PLANS - LEVEL 2

11.21.2019



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1.-11/4.

"91%01-'I

11.21.2019 337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00

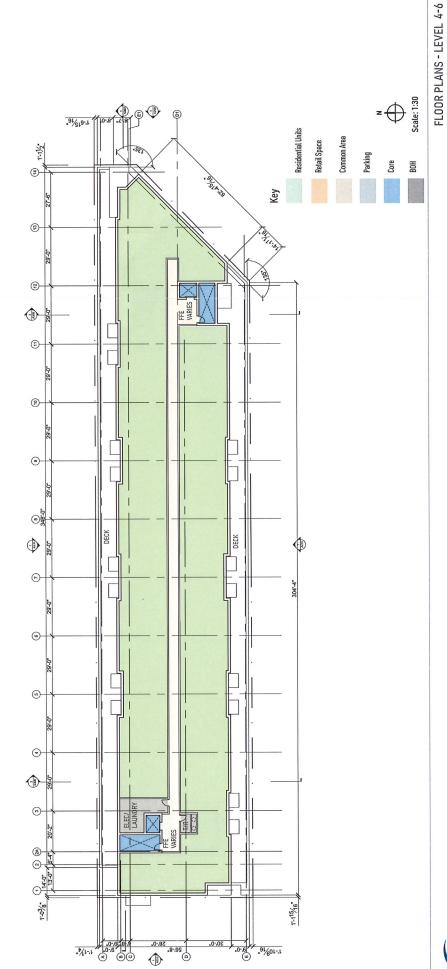


11.21.2019

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337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084,00

Total- 18,809 GSF LEVEL 4-6 SUMMARY
Residential - 15,934 sf
Core - 622 sf
Common - 1,851 sf
BOH - 402 sf



Total- 17,971 GSF Scale: 1:30 1-912/19-1 Residential Units Common Area Retail Space 1:-1/2 Parking LEVEL 7 SUMMARY
Residential - 17,205 sf
Core - 622 sf
Common - 2,742 sf
BOH - 402 sf Core BOH (1)-Key @-AMENITY (2) FFE 846.66' **(E)** (2) (e) <u>-</u> 323.-0. DECK DECK (c) <u>_</u> (a) • 1.03% (1.0° (2.0)

.º/,1-,1 .º.6 19.6 .º.6 29.6 .º.6 29.6 .º.6 29.6 .º.6 29.6

.87.98

1,-109/16" (m)

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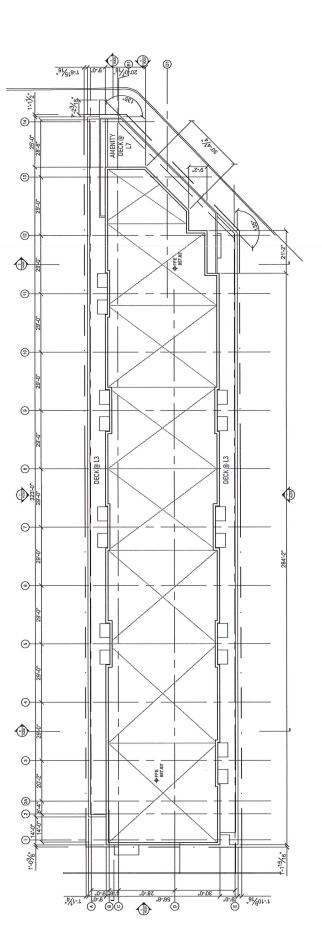
FLOOR PLANS - LEVEL 7



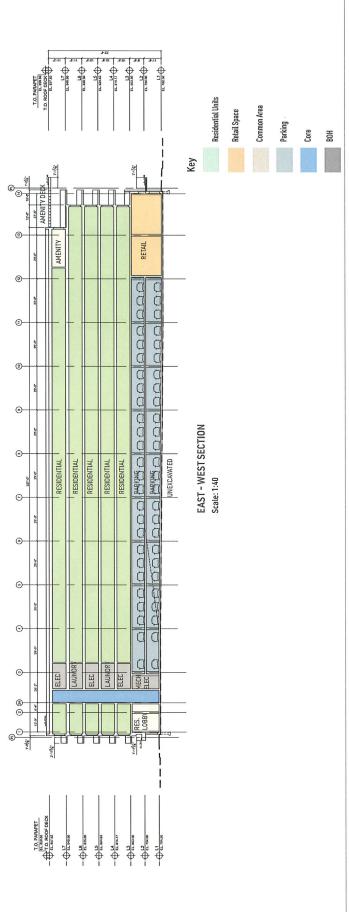
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FLOOR PLANS - ROOF 11.21.2019 337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-066.00





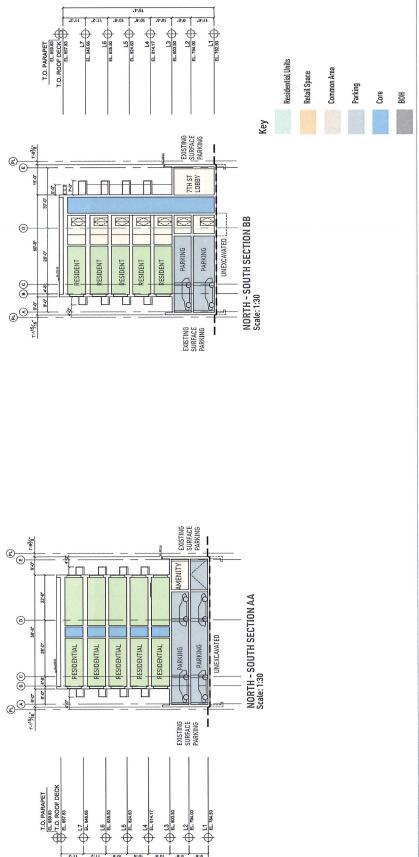






BUILDING SECTIONS

337 WEST 7TH ST.St. Paul, Minnesota
19-084,00





BUILDING SECTIONS

337 WEST 7TH ST.
St. Paul, Minnesota
19-084.00

MATERIALS - EXTERIOR MATERIALS AND FIXTURES



BR1 - BRICK

Vendor/Supplier: Glen Gery or similar Model: Cool Grey, Motded, Modular Color: Cool Grey Use: Podium Material

CP1 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (WHITE)
Vendor/Supplier: Hardie or similar
Model: 5716 * Panel
Color: to match SW 7566 Westhighland White
Use: Field Material



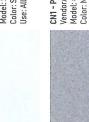
CP2 - METAL PANEL (LIGHT GRAY)
Vendor/Supplier: Pac-Clad or similar
Model: Aspyre Artisan Panel
Court: martch SW 6256 Serious Grey
Use: Field Material



CP3 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (WOOD)
Vendor/Supplier: Nichliha or Similar
Model: Vintage Wood
Color: Spruce



MTL1 - METAL PANEL (CHARCOAL)
Vendor/Supplier: Pac-Clad or Similar
Model: Futush Panel
Color: to match SW 7069 fron Ore
Use: Field Material, Trim



GL1 - LOW-E GLASS Vendor/Supplier: Vitro Model: SN 68, Insulated, Low-E coating Color: Starphire Use: All glass





CN1 - PRECAST CONCRETE (SLATE)
Vendor/Supplier: Stoneworks
Model; #1000
Color: Natural Gray
Use: Podium base

LT1 - WALL LIGHT 1 Vendor/Supplier: TBD Model: TBD Color: 4000K Use: Podium Sconce



MATERIALS - EXTERIOR MATERIALS AND FIXTURES

St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00 337 WEST 7TH ST.

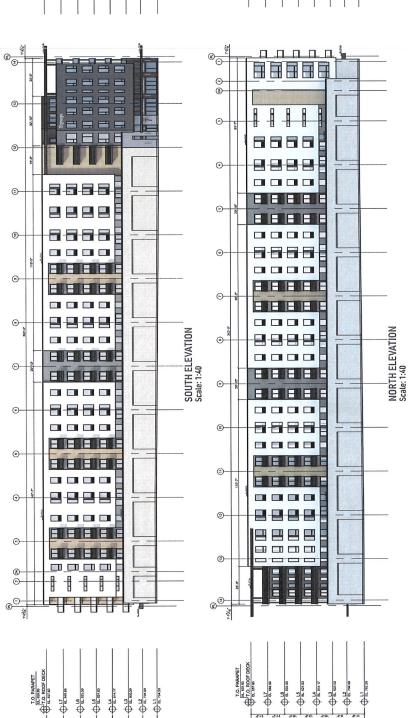


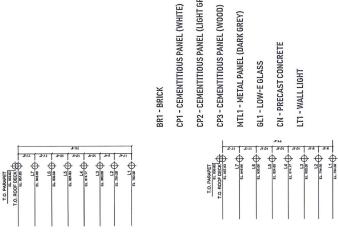
NORTH & SOUTH ELEVATIONS

Exterior Material Areas:

NORTH ELEVATION	SF	PERCENTAGE	SOUTH ELEVATION	SF	PERCENTAGE
Glass	5,584sf	20.5%	Glass	4,561sf	17.1%
Brick	7,778sf	28.5%	Brick	6,351sf	24.5%
Precast Concrete	370sf	1.4%	Precast Concrete	322sf	4.2%
Cementitious Panel (White)	9,275sf	34%	Cementitious Panel (White)	7,482sf	28%
Cementitious Panel (Wood)	1,152sf	4.2%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	3,301sf	8.2%
Cementitious (Light Gray)	2,262sf	8.3%	Cementitious (Light Gray)	1,996sf	7.5%
Metal Panel (Black)	0sf	%0	Metal Panel (Black)	Js0	%0
Total	27,250 sf		Total	26,696 sf	
Total Glazing	20.5 %		Total Glazing	17.1%	

Ä	OVERALL TOTALS	SF	PERCENTAGE
%	Glass	10,145sf	18.8%
%	Brick	14,309sf	26.5%
%	Precast Concrete	692sf	1.3%
%	Cementitious Panel (White)	16,757sf	31.1%
%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	3,353sf	6.2%
%	Cementitious (Light Gray)	4,259sf	7.9%
%	Metal Panel (Black)	Js0	%0
	Total	53,946sf	
_	Total Glazing	18.8%	





CP2 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (LIGHT GRAY) CP3 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (WOOD) MTL1 - METAL PANEL (DARK GREY) CN - PRECAST CONCRETE GL1 - LOW-E GLASS LT1 - WALL LIGHT



ELEVATIONS - NORTH & SOUTH

337 WEST 7TH ST.

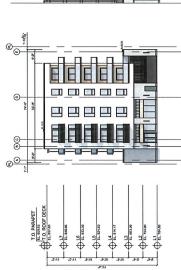
St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00

EAST & WEST ELEVATIONS

Exterior Material Areas:

WEST EL EVATION	CF	PERCENTAGE	FAST ELEVATION 1	SF	PERCENTAGE	EAST ELEVATION 2	SF	SF PERCENTAGE	6
WEST ELEVATION		PENCENIADE	_	;					
Glass	1.368sf	31.8%	Glass	1,935sf	31.4%	Glass	1,565sf	33.3%	Glas
Brick	520sf	12.1%	Brick	428sf	6.8%	Brick	429sf	9.1%	Bric
Precast Concrete	47 sf	1.1%	Precast Concrete	79sf	1.3%	Precast Concrete	64sf	1.4%	
Cementitious Panel (White)	1.863sf	43.4%	Cementitious Panel (White)	0sf	11.9%	Cementitious Panel (White)	0sf	%0	
Cementitious Panel (Wood)	378 sf	8.8%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	733sf	8.6%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	145sf	3.1%	Cem
Cementitions (Linht Grav)	80 sf	1 9%	Cementitious (Light Grav)	2.405sf	39.1%	Cementitious (Light Gray)	1,595sf	33.9%	
Metal Panel (Black)	0sf	%0	Metal Panel (Black)	547sf	8.9%	Metal Panel (Black)	,801sf	17.0%	
Total	4295sf		Total	6,158sf		Total	4,704sf		ř
Total Glazing	31.8 %		Total Glazing	31.4 %		Total Glazing	33.3 %		Tota

11	SF	PERCENTAGE	EAST ELEVATION 2	SF	PERCENTAGE	OVERALL TOTALS	SF	PERCENTAGE
	1,935sf	31.4%	Glass	1,565sf	33.3%	Glass	3,303sf	31.6%
	428sf	9.8%	Brick	429sf	9.1%	Brick	938sf	8.9%
	79sf	1.3%	Precast Concrete	64sf	1.4%	Precast Concrete	125sf	1.2%
/hite)	0sf	11.9%	Cementitious Panel (White)	0sf	%0	Cementitious Panel (White)	1,863sf	17.8%
(pool	733sf	8.6%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	145sf	3.1%	Cementitious Panel (Wood)	1,111sf	10.6%
ay)	2,405sf	39.1%	Cementitious (Light Gray)	1,595sf	33.9%	Cementitious (Light Gray)	2,485sf	23.8%
	547sf	8.9%	Metal Panel (Black)	801sf	17.0%	Metal Panel (Black)	673sf	5.2%
	6,158sf		Total	4,704sf		Total	10,453 sf	
	31.4 %		Total Glazing	33.3 %		Total Glazing	31.6 %	



WEST ELEVATION Scale: 1:40	SF PERCENTAGE	138 sf 40.5% 340 sf 59.5%	
WEST Scale:	WEST ELEVATION	Salid Solid	

(C) 1/2		Sca
TO PRRAPET TO ROOF DECK	→ 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
®		
25/1/25 26/25 26/25 26/25 27/25 25/2		EAST ELEVATION 1 Scale: 1:40

		,@ <u>!</u>
	T.O. PARAPET EL 63-83 T.O. ROOF DECK	770
	CL. 646.00	
	Teresson Teresson	
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	EL BIA.T	
	LL 803.50	
	EL MAJOR	
	L1 05.00	•
10N 1		EAST Scale: 1

EAST ELEVATION	SF	PERCENTAGE
Glass	618 sf	63.5%
Solid	359 sf	26.5%

T.O. ROOF DECK	EL Manso	OF ST	F. Exercise S. Comp.

<u>o</u>-

<u></u> (a)-



2	
NO	
VAT	
H	:40
E	e: 1

BR1 - BRICK	CP1 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (WHITE)	
	. 5.5	1.9
EL BILL IT	F. marsh	EL 704.00

EL (LIGHT G	EL (WOOD)
CP2 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (LIGHT GR	CP3 - CEMENTITIOUS PANEL (WOOD)
CP2 -	CP3

(DARK GREY)
L PANEL
· METAL
MTL1

GL1 - LOW-E GLASS

LT1 - WALL LIGHT

CN - PRECAST CONCRETE

ELEVATIONS - EAST & WEST

11.21.2019 337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084.00



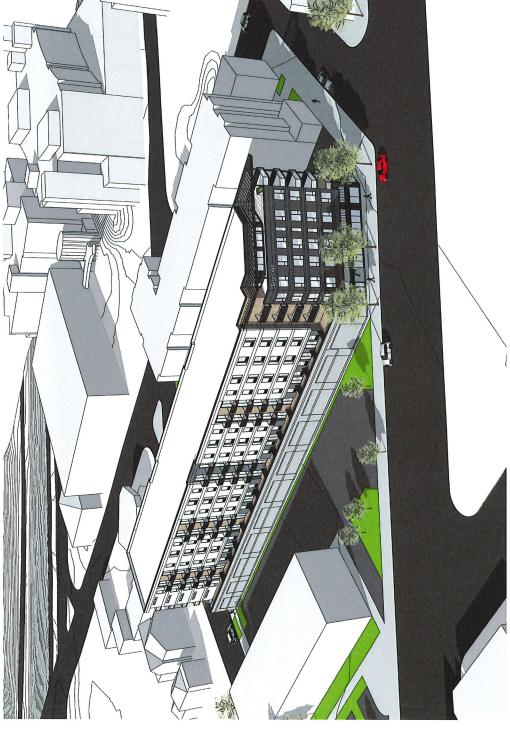
PERSPECTIVES
11.21.2019
337 WEST 7TH ST.
St. Paul, Minnesota
19-084,000





Aerial View looking Northwest







PERSPECTIVES













SUMMER SOLSTICE JUNE 21



WINTER SOLSTICE DECEMBER 22

337 WEST 7TH ST. St. Paul, Minnesota 19-084,00

SHADOW STUDY 11.21.2019



FILE #19-103464/103675 | AERIAL MAP Application of Bonfe Properties LLP

Application Type: Rezone/CUP/Variance Application Date: November 20, 2019 Planning District: 9

Subject Parcel(s) Outlined in Blue

160

This document was prepared by the Saint Paul Planning and Economic Development Department and is intended to be used for reference and illustrative purposes only. This drawing is not a legally recorded plan, survey, official tax map or engineering schematic and is not intended to be used as Such. Data sources: City of Saint Paul, Ramsey County, Metropolitan Council, State of Minnesota.

240

320

