

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

3430 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-2350

Voice/Relay

Valdis Lazdins, Director

FAX 410-313-3467

August 16, 2016

VRE, LLC c/o MBA 735c Grace Drive, Ste. B Columbia, MD 21044

RE:

WP-17-005, Holiday Hills, Section 6, Lot 100

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning considered your request for an alternative compliance from the Howard County Subdivision and Land Development Regulations.

As of the date of this letter, the Planning Director **approved** your request for an alternative compliance of Section 16.156(o)(1)(i) & 16.156(o)(2) to reactivate SDP-06-118, subject to the following conditions:

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Approval of SDP-06-118 is hereby reactivated and extended for 6 months from the date of the Alternative Compliance approval letter to apply for a building permit to initiate construction on the subject property (on or before February 16, 2017). The applicant shall comply with all building permit application requirements of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.
- 2. The applicant shall submit a standard red-line revision of SDP-06-118 to the Development Engineering Division processing that adds a general note on sheet 1 referencing this alternative compliance file number, request, section of the regulations and approval date of the six month extension to apply for building permits.

Our decision was made based on the following:

Extraordinary Hardships or Practical Difficulties:

Extraordinary hardship would result if the applicant were required to process a new site development plan for the subject property. The applicant has an approved site development plan on file, which still conforms to all County regulations and requirements. Requiring the applicant to go through site development plan process again for reviewing the proposed 1 single family detached dwelling would create unnecessary time delay and effort and cause practical difficulties and extraordinary hardship on the applicant, to start over with a new SDP plan.

## Alternative Proposal

Submission of a new site development plan will create an extraordinary hardship as the plan would have to be resubmitted with new fees and re-circulated through the County for review even though the site development plan has not been altered, thereby wasting County resources and creating an unnecessary additional time delay for the applicant. The SDP has an established file history and has been through previous review cycles and has received approval by the SRC agencies.

## Not Detrimental to the Public Interest

The alternative compliance request will not be detrimental to the public interest since the site development plan for this project has been reviewed by the SRC agencies for compliance of the County and State regulations and was approved. Therefore, the requested reactivation and extension of SDP approval to file for building permits will not have any adverse effect on the surrounding properties where the project is located.

Will not nullify the intent or purpose of the regulations

Approval of this alternative compliance request will not nullify the intent or purpose of the Regulations since the site development plan is in compliance with the County and State regulations and received signature approval. Therefore, approval of this alternative compliance request will satisfy the intent of the Regulations by permitting fairness and consistency in the application of the plan processing procedures. All SRC agencies have recommend approval of this alternative compliance request to reactivate plan approval for SDP-06-018.

This requested alternative compliance will remain valid for the time period specified in the conditions of approval, or as long as this site development remains in active processing.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Wellen at (410) 313-2350 or email at jwellen@howardcountymd.gov.

Sincerely.

Kent Sheubrooks, Chief

Division of Land Development

Research

DED

Real Estate Services

MBA