MINUTES CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL ST. CHARLES PLAN COMMISSION TUESDAY OCTOBER 4, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Todd Wallace, Chairman

Brian Doyle Curt Henningson Tom Schuetz Sue Amatangelo Thomas Pretz

Members Absent: Tim Kessler, Vice Chairman/Secretary

Also Present: Rita Tungare, Community Development Director

Russell Colby, Planning Division Manager

Matthew O'Rourke, Planner Thomas Good, City Attorney Sonntag Court Reporter

1. Call to order

A meeting of the St. Charles Plan Commission was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairman Wallace.

2. Roll Call

3. Presentation of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed by voice vote to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING

4. Lexington Club PUD (Lexington Homes LLC)(North of Dean and State Streets, east of 12th Street, west of 5th Street, and south of the railroad tracks)

Application for Map Amendment (M-1 Special Manufacturing to RT3-Traditional Single Family Residential and RM-2 Multi-Family); Application for Special Use as a Planned Unit Development; Application for PUD Preliminary Plans

Supporting Documents:

- PUD Preliminary Plans
- Traffic Study Revised 9/27/11
- Water Modeling
- Sanitary Sewer Evaluation

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The following exhibits were entered into the record:

Exhibits:

- M. Traffic Study by KLOA, dated September 27, 2011
- N. Recognized Environmental Conditions plan by Huff and Huff submitted October 4, 2011

The attached transcript prepared by Sonntag Reporting Service, Ltd., is by reference hereby made a part of these minutes.

Ms. Amatangelo made a motion to close the public hearing. Mr. Schuetz seconded the motion.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Doyle, Pretz, Henningson, Schuetz, Amatangelo, Wallace.

Nayes: None Absent: Kessler Motion Carried.

MEETING

5. Meeting Announcements

Plan Commission Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 7:00pm at Council Chambers **Plan Commission** Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers **Plan Commission** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

- **6.** Additional Business from Plan Commission Members, Staff, or Citizens None.
- 7. Adjournment at 9:50 P.M.

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1	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: The St. Charles Plan
2	Commission will come to order.
3	Call for the roll call.
4	Wallace. Here.
5	Doyle.
6	MR. DOYLE: Here.
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Pretz.
8	MR. PRETZ: Here.
9	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Kessler. No.
10	Henningson?
11	MR. HENNINGSON: Here.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Schuetz.
13	MR. SCHUETZ: Here.
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Amatangelo.
15	MS. AMATANGELO: Here.
16	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. Item 3 on
17	the agenda, presentation of the minutes of the
18	September 20, 2011, meeting.
19	Motion to approve?
20	MS. AMATANGELO: So moved.
21	MR. SCHUETZ: Second.
22	MR. DOYLE: Second.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All in favor?
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1	(The ayes were thereupon
2	heard.)
3	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Opposed?
4	(No response.)
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Motion passes.
6	Item 4 on the agenda is the Continued
7	public hearing, Lexington Club PUD, Lexington
8	Homes, north of Dean and States Streets, east of
9	12th Street, west of Fifth Street and south of the
10	railroad tracks.
11	Application for Map Amendment (M-1 Special
12	Manufacturing to RT3-Traditional Single Family
13	Residential and RM-2 Multi-Family.)
14	Also Application for Special Use as a
15	Planned Unit Development and Application for PUD
16	Preliminary Plans.
17	Supporting documents: PUD Preliminary
18	Plans, traffic study revised 9/27/11, water
19	modeling and sanitary sewer evaluation.
20	Last time, we had Exhibits A through L. We
21	have one additional exhibit for the record. And
22	that is Exhibit M, the revised traffic study by
23	KLOA dated September 23, 2011.
24	All right. Anything else before we begin?

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1	MR. COLBY: Yes. I just wanted to make
2	a couple brief comments.
3	At the last hearing on September the 20th,
4	there was discussion of the traffic study. I
5	wanted to clarify that that study was conducted by
6	KLOA who is a traffic consultant working on behalf
7	of the developer, Lexington Homes. And KLOA will
8	be presenting more information on that traffic
9	study this evening.
10	The scope of that study, the methodology,
11	and the findings were all reviewed by the City's
12	traffic engineer, H.L.R. And we have a
13	representative from H.L.R. at the meeting as well.
14	Secondly, there was discussion at the
15	previous meeting about the affordable housing
16	proposal.
17	I wanted to direct the Plan Commission to
18	consider the recommendations of the Housing
19	Commission that were included in the staff memo
20	for the previous meeting and to consider those in
21	your review of the affordable housing request.
22	That is all.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. Thank you.
24	All right. I think unless there are any

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1	objections from members of the Plan Commission I
2	would like since a lot of the discussion and a
3	lot of the requests for additional information
4	from the last meeting had to do with the traffic
5	study I think once we give an introduction to
6	the public hearing we should go with commentary
7	from the person who that did the revised
8	traffic study. And then after that, we will
9	proceed with questions and comments.
10	Does that sound okay to everybody?
11	(No response.)
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. All right. So
13	this is a continued public hearing. For those of
14	you who have been here before, you are going to
15	have to hear me again on this.
16	The Plan Commission is commissioned by the
17	City Council to hold public hearings on
18	applications that come before us that come
19	before the City.
20	We hold a public hearing. We take
21	testimony from the Applicant and from anyone else,
22	any member of the public who wishes to offer
23	evidence to us either for or against the
24	application. During this time, members of the

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1	public are allowed to ask questions or make
2	comments regarding this application.
3	Once we feel that we have enough
4	information, the public hearing will be closed.
5	And the Plan Commission will make a recommendation
6	for either approval or denial to the City Council.
7	The last time, we went through a portion of
8	that process. Because there were multiple members
9	of the public here who wished to make comments and
10	ask questions, basically we did primarily that
11	last time. We will do some more of that this
12	time. But also, Plan Commission members I
13	understand have additional questions and comments
14	that we wish to make as well.
15	So as soon as we feel that we have enough
16	information, then there will be a motion to close
17	the public hearing. And then we will at a later
18	date vote on whether to recommend denial or
19	approval of this application to the City Council.
20	Any questions from members of the public
21	regarding procedure?
22	(No response.)
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
24	Because of the way that the public hearing

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1	is set up and sometimes we kind of allow these
2	two things to bleed into each other. But because
3	of the way the public hearing is set up, what I
4	would prefer to do is to take testimony and then
5	allow people to ask questions specifically
6	regarding that testimony.
7	After we have all those questions asked,
8	then we can make comments or offer evidence that
9	doesn't have to do with that testimony. And I am
10	going to be a little bit more strict about that
11	this time just in the interest of efficiency.
12	So at this point in time, anyone who wishes
13	to offer any testimony, including asking any
14	questions, I would ask that you be sworn in.
15	If you would, raise your right hands.
16	(The witnesses were duly sworn.)
17	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Thank you.
18	And just to remind everyone, there is a
19	court reporter here that is here taking down
20	everything that is being said here tonight. And
21	therefore, only one person can talk at a time.
22	So I will remain in control of who can and
23	can't talk. I would ask that you respect that.
24	If I haven't recognized you, please don't shout

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1	out anything from the back of the room.
2	And when you do wish the speak, approach
3	the lecturn, state your name, spell your last name
4	for the record, and also state your address.
5	All right.
6	So if we could proceed with the Applicant,
7	if you would like to tell us about the traffic
8	study.
9	MR. STILLWELL: Again, just for the
10	record, my name is Henry Stillwell, 300 East
11	Roosevelt Road, Wheaton, Illinois. Last name
12	S-t-i-l-l-w-e-l-l. I am the attorney for the
13	Applicant.
14	Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the guidance.
15	And I would like to suggest that if it pleases the
16	Chairman and Commission what we will do is first
17	have two witnesses provide some supplemental
18	testimony.
19	First, as the Chairman has indicated, there
20	were questions about the traffic report. There
21	has been a revised report submitted pursuant to
22	the discussion at the last hearing. And so
23	Mr. Luay Aboona from KLOA will address that with
24	the Commission.

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1	In addition, one of the Plan Commission
2	members requested that Mr. Huff, who is the
3	environmental consultant, overlay the
4	environmental locations identified on his plan
5	onto the site plan so that you could better see in
6	relationship to the known sites how they relate to
7	the plan itself. So that has been done. I don't
8	have that electronically. But Mr. Huff will
9	address that and hand out paper copies for you to
10	take a look at.
11	We thought we would start by covering those
12	two areas and then, as you said, allow the public
13	questions to ensue and subsequent comments toward
14	the later part of the meeting.
15	Then if I could, once the public has had an
16	opportunity raise questions and ask comments, I
17	will conclude with my summary including addressing
18	the standards. There were some specific comments
19	made at the last meeting which I want make sure we
20	address, especially with the PUD standards and how
21	this plan interrelates with some of the objectives
22	of those standards. I would conclude with
23	comments.
24	So if that is acceptable, I would ask

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1	Mr. Luay Aboona to step forward and testify
2	relative to the revised traffic study.
3	MR. ABOONA: Thank you. Good evening.
4	My name is Luay Aboona, A-b-o-o-n-a. I am
5	a traffic engineer with KLOA.
6	And as was indicated, we submitted a
7	traffic study with a revision date of
8	September 27. The study, even though it is a
9	revision, it is the methodology and the
10	analysis and the conclusions that were included in
11	the original study have not changed.
12	What we what we did with the revised
13	study is address a couple of comments or issues
14	that were raised at the last hearing.
15	One was to correct a typo in terms of Table
16	2 on Page 12 which compared the traffic that would
17	be generated by the Lexington Club with the
18	industrial use that was or could occupy the site.
19	There was some typo in terms of the numbers
20	between Table 1 and Table 2. We corrected that
21	and now they match.
22	That table, as you see, still indicates
23	that the traffic from Lexington Club would be 50
24	to 60 percent less than it would be if it was an

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1	industrial use. So obviously, that is a
2	considerable reduction in the impact.
3	And we also included on Page 7 a
4	description of the traffic count summary sheets
5	that were included in the appendix of the report.
6	It goes into the detail in terms of what page the
7	summary sheet corresponds to. But as it is
8	included in the report, we rely on the 60-minute
9	count summaries. That is the snapshot that we
10	look at, the one-hour peak in the morning and
11	one-hour peak in the evening, to ascertain the
12	operation of the street system and the impact of
13	the development.
14	So you know, we do these counts. We count
15	them at 15-minute intervals and summarize them at
16	60-minute intervals. But as is the practice in
17	the industry and as is accepted by the City, the
18	City's consultant, and other agencies, we look at
19	60-minute intervals to analyze the impact of the
20	development.
21	And then finally, I believe there was a
22	question of whether we looked at the intersection
23	of Main and 7th. And as you can see in the
24	report, both the original report and the revised,

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1	we have. That was one of the intersections that
2	we conducted counts and then looked at the
3	operation of that intersection. So that was part
4	of the study and part of the analysis that we
5	conducted.
6	And those are really the only changes in
7	the revised study. Like I said, everything else
8	remains the same and our findings have not
9	changed. With that, I would conclude and answer
10	any questions.
11	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
12	MR. ABOONA: Thank you.
13	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Thank you.
14	MR. STILLWELL: Mr. Chairman, I will
15	hand out copies of a document that I would like to
16	have marked as, I believe it would be, Exhibit N.
17	This would be the overlay prepared by Huff & Huff
18	of the environmental locations on the underlying
19	site plan.
20	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
21	Any objections?
22	(No response.)
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. So be it.
24	MR. HUFF: Good evening. James Huff,

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1	H-u-f-f, Huff & Huff, Incorporated.
2	I was asked two questions at the end of the
3	last hearing. The handout Exhibit N is the
4	response to one which was the overlay of the 11
5	recognized environmental conditions that have been
6	identified on this site on the proposed
7	development plan. And so you have that.
8	The second question which was a little more
9	abstract was something along the lines, "What if
10	the remediation fails?"
11	And I am not quite sure where you are going
12	with that question. And in this case, our plan is
13	to excavate and take off site the contaminated
14	soil. We will rely on the City's Groundwater Use
15	Ordinance that has been adopted community wide and
16	then meet the other remedial objectives toward a
17	No Further Remediation letter.
18	So I think the question is what if our
19	estimate is underestimates the extent of the
20	contamination. And we have got what I think is a
21	pretty good contingency on our estimate. We have
22	not fully defined any of these areas. There is
23	still additional investigation.
24	And I think the answer is if there is

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1	additional contamination we are going to remove it
2	is the direction that Lexington Homes is prepared
3	to take.
4	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. All right.
5	Anything else?
6	MR. STILLWELL: That would conclude it.
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: First of all,
8	questions from the Members of the Plan Commission.
9	I would say let's specifically start with the
10	evidence that was given tonight. And then we will
11	move on to things that were saved from last time.
12	Does that sound okay?
13	(No response.)
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Brian, you looked at
15	me as though you had something to say.
16	MR. DOYLE: No. Thank you for asking.
17	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Any questions?
18	MR. PRETZ: I wanted to say that you did
19	answer the question.
20	MR. HUFF: Thank you.
21	MR. PRETZ: Thank you.
22	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. We can go
23	to did you have something?
24	MR. HENNINGSON: No.

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1	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. I will
2	move to the members of the audience for questions.
3	Anyone have any questions at this time?
4	Yes, sir.
5	MR. WARDEN: How are you doing? My name
6	is Jason Warden, 517 Cedar Street, St. Charles.
7	This is in regards to the traffic study,
8	the most recent one, September the 27th.
9	And a couple of just looking through
10	it and I am not a professional on traffic
11	studies. So I have a couple of questions and
12	things I want to bring up.
13	One of the items being is the the times
14	that the traffic study was done. And if you go to
15	their times, it starts at 4:00 o'clock in the
16	afternoon. The morning is good. But the
17	afternoon starts at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon
18	and goes beyond that.
19	The main peak hours for school are, you
20	know, from probably 2:30 probably up until 4:00.
21	The local schools get out at 3:00. I think there
22	is 3:00 o'clock and 3:20. So they didn't really
23	take that into account, the hours of you know,
24	the main school hours.

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1	And this is specifically addressing the
2	area at 7th and Main. I will give you some page
3	numbers that you can reference here.
4	Well, the traffic study doesn't the
5	summary doesn't have all the page numbers. I am
6	sorry. It does. Page 7. If you look at that,
7	there is no commentary on 7th and Main at all
8	regarding the traffic you know, the traffic
9	issues there.
10	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Can you tell me which
11	page?
12	MR. WARDEN: Page 7. It references 9th
13	and Main, but it doesn't reference 7th and Main.
14	If you are familiar with the area, it is an
15	extremely busy intersection. And the time that
16	this study was done, it was done on Wednesday,
17	December 2nd, 2009, between 6:00 and 9:00 a.m.
18	Now, that is in the middle of the winter.
19	There is not a lot of kids walking to school at
20	that time. And at this area, which is going to be
21	one of the main arteries going into the proposed
22	development, there is a lot of kids walking there.
23	And the kids are actually what cause the problems
24	with the traffic.

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1	Now, last Thursday at 3:20, we had a local
2	resident go in front of Thompson Middle School.
3	And if you are on the south side of 64 going
4	northbound
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Let me stop you for a
6	second.
7	Were you the one that did this?
8	MR. WARDEN: No.
9	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Is the person that
10	did this in the room?
11	MR. WARDEN: Yes.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. Well, in that
13	case, I will ask him to give the evidence.
14	MR. WARDEN: Okay.
15	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I don't want it to be
16	objected to as hearsay.
17	MR. WARDEN: Okay. That is fair enough.
18	Fair enough.
19	So he will address the you know, the
20	amount of traffic and getting through the lights
21	this time of year with that many children walking.
22	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Let me stop you for a
23	second.
24	Would you like for the traffic engineer to

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1	come up and respond as we go through each of the
2	questions regarding the traffic report?
3	MR. WARDEN: If that is what you would
4	like.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I would prefer that
6	since we are asking questions right now.
7	MR. WARDEN: Absolutely.
8	MR. ABOONA: The counts were done from
9	6:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00
10	p.m. simply to capture the highest amount of
11	traffic on the street system.
12	There is no doubt when the schools are
13	letting out, you know, there will be a spike in
14	the traffic. But based on our experience in this
15	field, even though there is a spike, it is not
16	going to come close to what the traffic is when
17	the commuters are either going to work in the
18	morning which coincides with the school traffic
19	and coming back in the evening which is normally
20	much higher than it is in the morning.
21	So even though there is the school traffic
22	and there will be interaction of traffic in the
23	area, the 4:00 to 7:00 will capture the highest
24	amount of traffic. So we are looking at a

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1	worst-case scenario.
2	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Let me stop you.
3	I understand that that is a
4	generally-accepted practice, the time periods.
5	Does proximity to school ever change or
6	to multiple schools ever change the time
7	period?
8	MR. ABOONA: Only to a certain extent.
9	When you have a route like 64 that is being
10	influencing the area, influencing the traffic, you
11	know, that really carries the day as far as the
12	traffic volumes and design conditions in the area.
13	And then, similarly, given that this is a
14	residential development, the characteristics of
15	the residents, future residents, is going to
16	mirror what happens on the street system.
17	They are going to leave in the morning and
18	will coincide with the morning peak hour and
19	return coinciding with the evening peak hour.
20	So if we can address those critical time
21	periods, the rest of the time even though there
22	might be slightly different traffic patterns
23	but the overall volume is going to be lower.
24	And then regarding the question for the

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1	intersection of 7th and Main on Page 7, we do cite
2	it as an intersection that we studied. And then
3	on Page 20 of the report, we go into a discussion
4	of what the operation of the intersection is and
5	the impact. So we have it addressed in the
6	report.
7	MR. WARDEN: Thank you. Okay. I
8	understand what he just stated. And this is I
9	believe some of the revisions they made at Page 20
10	where he says they did address 7th and Main.
11	What it says on their report is, "the
12	amount of delay in the queue will increase for the
13	southbound approach. However, the queue analysis
14	for year 2015 conditions shows that the southbound
15	queue on 7th Street will not spill back to State
16	Street.
17	It already does every single day. It is
18	already down to State Street. So unless the new
19	development is going to bring down traffic, then
20	maybe they are right. I don't see that happening
21	because there is going to be more people living
22	down there. It already spills down to State
23	Street And I just know this because I live right

in there.

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1	So you can just any morning feel free to go
2	over there and see it does spill down to State
3	Street. Where they did address it, it goes go
4	down to State Street. I know the document says
5	otherwise but
6	MR. DOYLE: Yes, sir. Would you just
7	clarify which portion of the report you are
8	referring to?
9	MR. WARDEN: Page 20.
10	MR. DOYLE: Regarding 7th and Main
11	Street?
12	MR. WARDEN: Correct. If you look at
13	the second sentence
14	MR. DOYLE: Thank you.
15	MR. WARDEN: It says it won't spill
16	back. Okay. So just addressing where he
17	mentioned that it did care of that, it is not
18	accurate. Okay.
19	If you want to stay up here, I have got
20	some other
21	MR. ABOONA: I am right here.
22	MR. WARDEN: Give me a minute here. I
23	will get you some of the other questions that I
24	have here.

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1	Okay. Another one that I had is Page 12,
2	Table 2, which was another one of their revisions
3	regarding Comparison of Former and Proposed Land
4	Use Traffic Volume.
5	Basically, the way I interpret this if I
6	am wrong, please correct me this is a
7	comparison of what the old site was and then what
8	their subdivision will be providing as far as
9	traffic goes.
10	Now, they had I think they are just
11	using a standard use code of a light industrial
12	220,000 square foot building has the potential of
13	1500 cars daily.
14	Well, based off of the people that live
15	there, the other businesses around there, and
16	actually based off of the satellite images that
17	you can pull up on the Internet and you can still
18	go walk there and find out where the parking is,
19	there is no more than about 225 spots there at the
20	Applied Composites site.
21	So if you take 225 spots, you are telling
22	me that it is at capacity every day and they are
23	going in and out seven times a day to make that
24	1500.

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1	Now, anyone that lives around that area and
2	works around that area, they are running three
3	shifts over there with about 30, 35 cars a shift.
4	That is how many cars were and then you
5	obviously have some trucks coming in and out.
6	You have 35 cars per shift or 30 at that
7	site. Comparing that, they are saying that it is
8	going to be he just said 50 to 60 percent less
9	than that. If it is 50 or 60 percent less than 50
10	cars every eight hours, I am all for it. I have
11	no issues with that. But I don't see that
12	happening.
13	So that is based off of Page 12, that
14	Table 2. Instead of just using a general rule of
15	thumb, I think you need to take a look at what the
16	actual traffic is or I should say was
17	compared to what they are going to have.
18	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I guess my question
19	for the traffic engineer would be: Was there a
20	traffic count done while the former site was
21	operating?
22	MR. ABOONA: No, there wasn't.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: And the numbers that
24	you are taking, what are the source of those

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1	numbers?
2	MR. ABOONA: Those are based on the same
3	source that we used to generate the traffic for
4	the Lexington Club. And those are trip rates
5	published by the Transportation and Trip
6	Generation Manual. That would be an industry
7	standard.
8	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: So that is based on
9	the Land Use Code multiplied by the number of
10	square feet.
11	MR. ABOONA: Right. Trip rates in the
12	morning and trip rates in the evening and then
13	daily traffic.
14	MR. WARDEN: Okay. So that is just
15	addressing the actual traffic that was there.
16	All right. 9th and well, one other
17	thing. I didn't see anything in the traffic study
18	regarding Mark Street which would be the street
19	that runs west and east along the north side of
20	the property and where that is going to dump to
21	and how you are going to get out because State and
22	2nd, State and 31 is already terrible. And there
23	is nothing that addressed 4th Street, 5th Street,
24	6th Street.

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1	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Let me clarify what
2	you are asking.
3	Are you asking if there is a plan for Mark
4	Street to do anything other than it is doing right
5	now which is basically hitting 4th Street at a
6	90-degree angle and the traffic from Mark would go
7	onto 4th?
8	MR. WARDEN: Exactly. And not just
9	there. I mean, already 31 and North Avenue is
10	I mean, you can't get down State onto 31. If you
11	are one of the lucky ones, you are one of the four
12	cars making the turn.
13	So you are going to have a lot more traffic
14	that is heading down I do it. I cut down any
15	road I can to get out of there. It is 4th, 5th,
16	6th are all going to be impacted and 3rd are
17	all going to be impacted, you know, hugely.
18	And I don't see any study, any counts, or
19	anything of that nature taken shown on this report
20	which I think it needs to be because people
21	already use those sidestreets to cut through
22	anyways. So it is going to be even worse. So I
23	would like to see something addressing the other
24	main streets leading to that area.

164 1 And then maybe you can answer this again. 2 On Page 20, that chart, also, it is showing Main The first line item on Table 5, it is 3 Street. showing the existing giving it a "B" rating. You 4 5 know, they give the ratings. It explains what 6 they are. And then they show it in year 2015 being a 22. This is at 7th and Main. 7 8 Again, it is addressing the traffic on 64, 9 not the traffic on 7th. 7th is the real problem. You know, 64 is going to be -- you know, it will 10 keep moving. But 7th is going to continue to back 11 up farther and farther in each direction because 12 13 you are not going to be able to get out because of 14 all the kids. 15 And then if have a Lexington Home 16 subdivision with a lot more kids, you are going to have a lot more foot traffic walking to the 17 school. 18 It is actually the kids that cause the 19 backup. There is a crossing guard that comes out 20 there. You are going to get a couple cars through 21 on that turn and that is it because there is kids 22 non-stop walking through. 23 So I would like -- I don't see any of the 24 information there on 7th Street. It is giving you

	165
1	a grade for Main Street, not 7th Street which is
2	the road that is going to be impacted most. So I
3	would like to see something on that, or maybe they
4	have something they can explain.
5	MR. DOYLE: Mr. Chairman?
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Yes.
7	MR. DOYLE: Could we hear from the
8	traffic consultant on that point right now? As I
9	am reading that, those grades, my understanding is
10	that the grade is based on delay times on 7th
11	Street, not delay times on Main Street. I would
12	like clarification on that.
13	MR. ABOONA: For signalized
14	intersections which is the case of Main and 7th,
15	the level of service and delay is the average for
16	the overall operation of the intersection. So it
17	is not only Main. It is all four approaches of
18	the intersection.
19	For a stop sign controlled insection, the
20	level of service and delay is for the approach
21	that is under a stop sign.
22	MR. DOYLE: Okay. So so it is
23	overall performance of the intersection in all
24	four directions.

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1	MR. ABOONA: Yes.
2	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Is it possible I
3	mean, I know, for example, on that street, it
4	is I mean, there is a significant difference
5	between if you are heading east or west on 64
6	versus north or south on 7th Street to give an
7	average of what really is that telling us?
8	MR. ABOONA: Well, you are right. It
9	depends on which approach you are coming from,
10	which movement, the left through or the right and
11	what time of the day. You know, we can go into
12	the analysis and you know, there is enough data
13	that will tell us for each individual movement
14	what the level of service and the delay and
15	everything else is.
16	But this gives kind of an indication of how
17	the intersection is operating overall. "B" and
18	"C" is a very good operation. There is no doubt
19	on 7th Street there is a delay because these
20	vehicles have to wait longer to get out onto 64.
21	IDOT, which controls 64 and controls the
22	signal, they favor the green light the green
23	light favors the traffic on 64.
24	And minor streets suffer because of that.

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1	And they have to wait sometimes a cycle,
2	sometimes two cycles. That is why those queues
3	are filled up.
4	But for a signalized intersection, the
5	standard way of looking at it is the operation of
6	the intersection.
7	For a stop sign intersection because the
8	through traffic doesn't stop and they don't have
9	any delays, then you look at the approaches that
10	have to wait and you know, to get to turn
11	onto the main line.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: So would I be correct
13	in saying that on the same chart, last one, 2nd
14	Street and State Street where we are only
15	measuring the performance of the stop sign heading
16	eastbound on State Street, the delay almost
17	doubles with that; is that correct?
18	MR. ABOONA: Yes.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: It goes from 32
20	seconds to 58.3 seconds. That would be an
21	accurate representation of one particular movement
22	and the delay that will be caused.
23	MR. ABOONA: On an average, yes.
24	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.

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1	MR. ABOONA: So sometimes if you are
2	here and there is a gap available, you can make a
3	turn without any delay. Other times, you will
4	have to wait.
5	Now, I just want to point out again this is
6	a 2015 condition. This assumes the occupancy of
7	the existing industrial building and also factored
8	in a growth factor in the background traffic. We
9	brought that traffic level higher as well.
10	So this is not just purely the impact of
11	Lexington Homes. There are other factors that
12	impact that as well.
13	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: And on that, if I
14	may, I have one other question. Under the raw
15	data, back at the existing traffic count section,
16	am I reading this correctly that these counts were
17	actually taken on December 2, 2009?
18	MR. ABOONA: Yes, they were.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. All right.
20	Questions?
21	I am sorry. Did you have anything else,
22	Brian, first of all?
23	MR. DOYLE: I am going to wait until
24	this gentleman is

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1	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
2	MR. WARDEN: I will find the page. But
3	again, it addresses 9th and State also which is
4	the other other street right there by Dairy
5	Queen. It states
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Page 21.
7	MR. WARDEN: Page 21. Thank you.
8	It states it will continue to operate at an
9	acceptable level of service under year 2015
10	conditions.
11	Well, currently the traffic at that
12	intersection is not that heavy because nobody goes
13	onto it because you can't get out onto 64. That
14	is the bottom line. If you live around there, you
15	don't go up 9th and try to get out on 64 unless
16	you are going at 2:00 or 3:00 o'clock in the
17	morning.
18	So what is going to happen is you are going
19	to have the backups on 7th. And if you have
20	increased traffic on Main Street, it is only going
21	to make trying to get out onto 64 worse.
22	And I believe it says in here that it
23	doesn't see a need for a stoplight of any sort.
24	With a stop sign, it will be like Frogger trying

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1	to get out. You are not going to do it.
2	So that was just something I wanted to
3	address about 9th and State Street. It says it is
4	going to operate at acceptable levels into 2015.
5	It says no roadway or control improvements are
6	needed at that intersection. And I just nobody
7	uses it because it is almost a useless
8	intersection because you can't get out onto 64.
9	That is probably something that probably should be
10	addressed without Lexington Homes. But that is
11	for another time.
12	One thing that I saw that I was kind of
13	confused about and maybe I am reading it wrong,
14	but it kind of jumped out at me was at 9th and
15	State if you look at this is the eastbound
16	approach. It is from 12/3/09. I don't know if
17	there is a page. It is on these charts. There is
18	no page number on it.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Hold on. I am sorry.
20	Yeah. That is in the appendix, the traffic
21	counts.
22	MR. WARDEN: Correct.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
24	MR. WARDEN: Okay. This is for on

	171
1	the top it says $10/7/15$. That is the page I am
2	looking at. It is State and 9th. And it is
3	showing the eastbound approach of the four cars at
4	State and 9th.
5	So I don't know if you guys are familiar
6	with where that is at. It is one street east of
7	Dean Street. State kind of comes and then turns
8	into Dean there. And then if you look at the Dean
9	and State eastbound approach now, again, if you
10	are familiar, I would say from State I am
11	sorry from State and 9th to Dean and State is a
12	distance of about 200 feet. There is two houses
13	there.
14	And they are showing at State and 9th a
15	total of four cars heading eastbound. At Dean and
16	State, which is 200 feet away to the east, you
17	have got 397 cars coming.
18	Now, I don't know if they have got really
19	big garages and there is a lot of cars coming out
20	of there. But it doesn't make any sense. There
21	is two houses between the two streets and showing
22	a change of 400 cars coming across, unless I am
23	reading it wrong.
24	MR. ABOONA: I am not sure what you are

I r	
	172
1	looking at. But I would suggest if you look at
2	Figure 4 in the report it shows very clearly what
3	these counts are. It summarizes at 60-minute
4	intervals.
5	MR. WARDEN: Right.
6	MR. ABOONA: So, you know, you have got
7	westbound. You have 115 in the morning; 120 in
8	the evening. Going eastbound at 9th, you have 235
9	in the morning and 120 in the evening. And, you
10	know, it is similar to what you would see turning
11	in and out of Dean and 9th Street. So these
12	numbers are reflected in Figure 4. That is what
13	we used for our analysis.
14	MR. WARDEN: I am just going off of your
15	chart here. You have 4 cars, and you have 397
16	cars.
17	MR. ABOONA: These are 15-minute counts,
18	like I said.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I couldn't hear.
20	MR. ABOONA: He is looking at a sheet
21	that is a 15-minute count. And like I said
22	earlier in my presentation, we look at 60-minute
23	intervals.
24	MR. WARDEN: I am okay with that. You

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1	can multiply it, you know, times four. But what I
2	am saying is there is a difference of 400 cars.
3	There is not 400 cars coming out of two houses.
4	What I am saying is there is a discrepancy in the
5	report.
6	MR. ABOONA: Figure 4 clearly shows that
7	these volumes balance and these numbers are
8	accurate if you go eastbound or westbound on State
9	Street between 9th and Dean Street.
10	MR. WARDEN: So then, obviously, their
11	charts and their reports are different and they
12	contradict. That is what I am seeing. So maybe
13	we should, you know, have them so they sync up.
14	So those are just some of the major issues
15	that kind of stand out with the intersections that
16	they are talking about and then also some of the
17	intersections that they are not addressing that
18	need to be addressed because there is also
19	parking on all of those sidestreets currently.
20	And if you add more traffic to it you have to
21	wait for cars to come through already on all those
22	sidestreets to get through. You know, wait for
23	one so you can get through. If there is more
24	traffic, it is going to be even worse.

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1	And they don't take into account any of the
2	festivals or any of that stuff. But that is all
3	right. That is why we like living here.
4	That is all I have. Thank you.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Thank you.
6	Other questions?
7	Yes.
8	MR. AMUNDSON: My name is David
9	Amundson, A-m-u-n-d-s-o-n, 500 Cedar Street in
10	St. Charles.
11	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Did you want to ask
12	questions or give
13	MR. AMUNDSON: I was going to dovetail
14	off of what Jason was saying in part because he
15	was citing my evidence. Should I save that for
16	later?
17	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I would prefer that.
18	Let's go with the rest of the questions right now.
19	And we will get back to that later, I promise.
20	All right. Any other questions?
21	MR. DOYLE: I have a question about the
22	traffic study.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Just a minute.
24	Go ahead, Brian.

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1	MR. DOYLE: So on the top of Page 21,
2	discussing the intersection at 9th Street and Main
3	Street, the narrative says that that intersection
4	will operate at an unacceptable level of service
5	for the future condition; however, that this level
6	of service for a minor approach intersecting a
7	major arterial is typical.
8	I think the intersection at 2nd and 31st
9	was similar, an minor approach to a major
10	arterial. It is typical that it has an
11	unacceptable level of service.
12	I think my question really is and it
13	then goes on to so to talk about spillback
14	and as sort of a mitigating consideration as to
15	how we factor what I guess we would term "net
16	acceptability."
17	What I am wondering is if the the
18	grading on the capacity analysis says that it is
19	unacceptable and we are asked what we are
20	trying to do here is determine whether or not
21	there is sufficient capacity, what criterion
22	and I would really like to hear from the City
23	consultant on this as well what criteria are we
24	to ugo to dotormino that unaggontable garagity is

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1	acceptable for the purposes of our findings of
2	fact?
3	MR. ABOONA: Let me let me attempt to
4	explain that.
5	The analysis that we have done normally
6	looks at an isolated condition. In other words,
7	it doesn't take into account the availability of
8	traffic signals upstream and downstream. So it
9	assumes that the traffic is arriving randomly as
10	opposed to in platoons because signals, what they
11	do is regulate the flow of traffic. What happens
12	if traffic is stopped at a nearby traffic signal
13	is it creates those gaps in the traffic stream
14	allowing people to enter and exit into the flow of
15	traffic.
16	This analysis assumes everything is random.
17	Therefore, it is more difficult for traffic to
18	enter and exit the traffic stream. So that is a
19	very conservative approach to the analysis.
20	The other thing is, as I indicated earlier,
21	we looked at other factors in the analysis so the
22	industrial building across the street and the
23	additional background traffic. So we brought a
24	lot of additional conservative assumptions into

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1	the analysis.
2	And even though it shows an "F," if you
3	look at Table bear with me for a minute. On
4	Page 19, if you look at the definition of level of
5	service under the unsignalized intersection, the
6	threshold for "F" is over 50 seconds. So you
7	know so we are very close to that threshold.
8	If this was in the hundreds of seconds of delay, I
9	would definitely be concerned about the capacity
10	of those intersections and the ability of traffic
11	to enter and exit safely.
12	I think we are close enough even though
13	it is "F," it is indicating that people will have
14	to wait on average less than a minute under
15	those conditions where we looked at, you know,
16	random traffic arrival and conservative
17	assumptions in terms of what the background
18	traffic conditions are.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. Thank you.
20	All right.
21	Ma'am, did you have a question?
22	MR. DOYLE: I am going to do one
23	follow-up with our third-party consultant here. I
24	am sorry. You probably need to

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1	MR. GARBE: Alexander Garbe, G-a-r-b-e,
2	with Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, 380 Shepherd
3	Drive in Elgin.
4	MR. DOYLE: My basic question for you
5	here as the expert consultant is based on
6	questions in the exchange we just had.
7	Would you concur that the mix of factors
8	here with an unacceptable grade combined with the
9	other mitigating factors that were just introduced
10	into evidence would you concur that there is
11	sufficient capacity at these intersections for the
12	future conditions?
13	MR. GARBE: Yeah. I think we would.
14	Yes.
15	One of the things one other point that
16	he didn't bring up is the level of service grades.
17	There is a lot of discussion going on in our
18	industry right now, actually, that the grade
19	letter system is kind of unfortunate that we have
20	chosen to use that. Because those higher levels
21	of delay, the "Ds" and "Es" and "Fs," when you
22	think about comparing it to a school report card,
23	that sounds pretty bad.
24	But in reality, especially in

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1	highly-populated areas like Chicago and Chicago's
2	metropolitan area, those kinds of delays are
3	typical for sidestreets, especially along a street
4	like Route 64. It is not to say that it is
5	perfect, obviously. But it is typical. It has
6	grown to be more accepted.
7	MR. DOYLE: Okay. Thank you.
8	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
9	Anything else?
10	Okay. Ma'am.
11	MS. ROESNER: Wendy Roesner,
12	R-o-e-s-n-e-r, 712 West Main Street.
13	This is the first time I have been here
14	since the project first started. I was living in
15	the area. And I moved out. And I am back in the
16	area. So I am kind of blind on what is going on.
17	As far as the traffic and stuff, I am a
18	school bus driver for the district, also. So the
19	traffic as far as 4:00 o'clock the schools let
20	out over there by 3:05, 3:15. Traffic is backed
21	up all the way around 7th onto 64. It is backed
22	up on north, south, east, and west.
23	The other thing that I wanted to bring up
24	is the fact that there is a new school bus garage

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1	through a different company that is over there off
2	of Dean and Randall Road. It houses the old
3	Siegle's and the BMW.
4	There is so much traffic with those new
5	buses. I don't know if they have ever considered
6	anything like that. This is something new that is
7	in the area. You look and all you see is this
8	Illinois Charter Bus system.
9	I have a couple other questions that is not
10	related to it, but because I haven't been here I
11	don't know if I could ask it and if you could
12	answer it at the answering session.
13	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Well, what types of
14	questions?
15	MS. ROESNER: I was just wondering what
16	this is what this is going to cost the
17	taxpayers? Are we held responsible for any of the
18	projects that are going on the surveys, the
19	removal of any contaminated dirt?
20	Also, do they plan on widening Route 64
21	again and 7th Street to make up for all of the
22	traffic and sidestreets?
23	And the other question was with the housing
24	prices that are falling so drastically and our

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1 properties are not worth hardly anything any more,	1
what do they plan on pricing those? Because I	2
know what the houses are being sold for in my	3
4 area. And I am just wondering what value they are	4
5 placing on them.	5
6 CHAIRMAN WALLACE: And of those	6
questions, half of them are within our purview.	7
8 And perhaps, Mr. Stillwell, there could be a	8
9 couple quick answers to those questions.	9
But beyond that, really anything the	10
last time that the TIF financing came up, that is	11
not really in the Plan Commission that is not	12
anything that we consider.	13
And perhaps, our counsel could give more	14
guidance on that. But that is something that is	15
the subject of a completely separate hearing	16
before the City Council itself.	17
MR. GOOD: To summarize, what you	18
indicated last meeting and was one of the topics	19
of discussion, the Plan Commission's role by	20
statute and the City Code is to consider matters	21
relating to development of property, specifically	22
the zoning ordinance, subdivision ordinances,	23
relief requested both with respect to new zoning	24

182 or zoning and deviations from any zoning 1 2 requirements. That is their role to make recommendations by law. 3 TIF issues -- and it may not be a direct 4 5 apples-to apples comparison. But TIF is a form of 6 financing mechanism. It does involve property tax moneys that are collected. But it is a financing 7 8 mechanism. It does not relate to the development 9 of the land itself. 10 There is a specific statute regarding TIF 11 requests. And it does not mention the Plan 12 Commission as a body having any jurisdiction over 13 a TIF request. That process involves the City 14 Council in its legislative capacity and also involves what is known as the Joint Review Boards 15 16 which has representatives from the other taxing 17 bodies that are impacted by TIF. And there will be at a future date an 18 opportunity for the public to comment on the TIF 19 20 either at a Joint Review Board meeting or before 21 the Council when they are considering the matter. 22 Typically, on the agenda of the City Council, there is an opportunity for the public to 23 24 address the Council and ask questions.

183 1 With respect to remediation -- and 2 Mr. Stillwell can certainly jump in and add -- the Applicant has indicated there a number of sites 3 4 that are contaminated. And there is a process 5 under Illinois statutes -- again, under the jurisdiction of the Illinois EPA -- known as the 6 Site Remediation Program. And in that process, 7 8 the Applicant has indicated that it is cleaning up 9 the site. And the intended result of doing that 10 is to get what is called an NFR letter, No Further 11 Remediation. 12 That letter when issued indicates the 13 property has been decontaminated to acceptable 14 levels. And that letter will indicate that --15 what type of land use is permitted by that level 16 of remediation. 17 So the NFR letter they will obtain in order to build on the site must indicate the IEPA has 18 19 indicated it is safe for future development.

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Future purchasers are notified that an NFR letter

must be recorded in the chain of title so there is

called a brownfield site and has been remediated.

CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.

notice to the world that this was a -- it is

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1	Any further questions?
2	MR. AMUNDSON: David Amundson,
3	A-m-u-n-d-s-o-n, 500 Cedar Street, St. Charles.
4	If this is a if this is continued or if
5	you would be willing to or the Plan Commission
6	would be so generous, I have a colleague at Judson
7	who is has spoken nationally on new urbanism
8	and smart urban development. And he is an
9	urbanist. This is what he lives and breathes and
10	does and thinks about and lectures on.
11	And if his interests dovetail perfectly
12	with what this site is about. It is about how to
13	work to regenerate and rejuvenate and restore and
14	add onto an existing area in a way that is very
15	sensitive to that. His entire that is his
16	thing professionally.
17	Would the Commission entertain taking
18	outside professional testimony? I don't know what
19	to call it. Obviously, it can't be tonight
20	because he couldn't be here.
21	But if there was continuation or add
22	testimony or maybe type a letter or something to
23	communicate to you he can review the plans
24	they are all on-line and have input in terms of

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1	a professional who thinks about urban development
2	from an urbanist sustainability, walkability,
3	all those kind of things mixed use that is
4	what he lives and breathes.
5	And the question is is there any way to
6	enter into the record or enter into your
7	consideration some information from him?
8	MS. TUNGARE: If the Plan Commission
9	I don't know if my microphone is working.
10	If the Plan Commission wishes to consider
11	any other information in a generic sense, maybe a
12	presentation for educational purposes, that would
13	be fine.
14	But at this time, the Plan Commission has
15	an obligation to consider the plan that has been
16	presented by the Applicant. And to try to review
17	that in the form of an academic exercise would not
18	be appropriate, in my opinion in my
19	professional opinion.
20	I believe staff has conducted a review of
21	the plan from a technical standpoint and has
22	applied all the City's codes, ordinances, and
23	regulations that would be applicable to a project
24	such as this one.

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1	And after consideration of all the
2	testimony presented by the Applicant and staff's
3	analysis, I would urge the Plan Commission to
4	consider that and make the recommendation.
5	I do value what Mr. Amundson has presented.
6	And from an educational standpoint, I believe if
7	there is a resource out there that the Plan
8	Commission can benefit from in a larger sense, we
9	would be happy to schedule a separate presentation
10	before the Plan Commission at a future date.
11	Thank you.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Just so I am clear on
13	what you are suggesting, are you suggesting
14	keeping the public hearing open?
15	MS. TUNGARE: I am suggesting
16	considering the Applicant's plan as-is with all of
17	the testimony and staff's review that has been
18	presented.
19	But in the spirit of this resource being
20	available, generally speaking, that could be
21	considered as one of the training sessions that
22	the Plan Commission has conducted in the future
23	separate from the application.
24	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.

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1	MS. TUNGARE: That is what I am
2	suggesting.
3	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
4	MR. AMUNDSON: Thank you.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Hold on one second.
6	Right over here. This gentleman right here. And
7	then you are next.
8	MR. VANDERHEYDEN: Tony Vanderheyden. I
9	am a resident.
10	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: How do you spell your
11	last name?
12	MR. VANDERHEYDEN: Vanderheyden,
13	V-a-n-d-e-r-h-e-y-d-e-n.
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Can you pull the mic
15	down?
16	MR. VANDERHEYDEN: Sure.
17	My statement is I live right on Cedar and
18	7th, the northeast corner. And just this morning,
19	quarter to 8:00, the bus three, four buses
20	go by and the traffic is backed all the way back
21	to State Street. My son couldn't come in the
22	driveway to come to work this morning.
23	We can't get out it takes us five
24	minutes to get into 7th Street to go anywhere we

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1	have to go. So the traffic is already bad. I
2	don't understand how it is going to get better
3	with this unless they widen the street some more.
4	And in fact, we call it the Chernobyl
5	7th Street. Okay. That is my statement.
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Thank you.
7	Yes, sir.
8	MR. SHELY: My name is William Shely,
9	S-h-e-l-y. I work at 602 North 12th Street in
10	St. Charles. I live just outside the community,
11	just off Randall Road. I have lived here for 35
12	years.
13	I just moved my company from Chicago,
14	Foster Avenue, not too far from Wrigley Field out
15	here to get away from the congestion and the
16	housing.
17	Now, I don't know if you know where my site
18	is. Let me show you on the diagram here. This is
19	the building I occupy. Three shifts now. And I
20	have houses backed up to it now closer than when I
21	was in the city. I had an alley behind here.
22	I had no idea that Lexington was doing this
23	development. When I saw 142 units on 26 acres, I
24	had to laugh. I have got a daughter that lives in

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1	Manhattan. She lives in a lot more spacious area
2	than that.
3	I feel like I am in the Wizard of Oz.
4	Trying to put that many units in that situation is
5	a no-go. We sat in on the planning committee,
6	compressive planning committee, when they talked
7	about open space. This committee must be on
8	closed space.
9	I would have not moved out here into that
10	building had I known that there was an effort to
11	rezone that M-1 property exclusively into this
12	development. I didn't know about Lexington Homes.
13	I am sorry.
14	But I have been there now just under two
15	years. I even see there is a proposed drive
16	across my parking lot. I don't know how that gets
17	there.
18	I don't own the property. I have
19	significant moneys down on an option to buy that
20	property. But I am absolutely dismayed by the
21	concept of that parcel going in.
22	And then the traffic problems, I I have
23	lived here a long time. I know, too, the traffic
24	problems. My wife is a Dairy Queen fan. We get

	190
1	stuck in that property at all hours of the night.
2	That is all I have to say.
3	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
4	Thank you.
5	Ma'am? Yes.
6	MS. PENZANO: My name is Barb Penzano,
7	P-e-n-z-a-n-o. I live at State and 6th Street
8	right at the stop sign.
9	And I don't know. If the traffic study was
10	done in 2009 as of this year, I have two kids.
11	One in first grade, and one in third grade. They
12	are now getting bused. This is the first year
13	that busing has happened from the north side of 64
14	over to the school.
15	So I can't believe how many buses are
16	
	coming down my road every day. And St. Pat's
17	isn't even there any more. It has to be the
18	buses are lined up around the corner. So I just
19	wanted to make mention of that that as of this
20	year it is new that there is more busing. Kids
21	are being bused from this side of town over to the
22	school. So there is more bus traffic compared to
23	2009.
24	There are no left turns onto 64 going east

191 except for at the three main stoplights which are 1 2 already backed up. 3 I go down State Street and try to get out onto 2nd Street most of the time. But I am out at 4 5 7:00 o'clock in the morning primarily to avoid the 8:00-to-9:00 traffic which when it is backed up on 6 2nd Street to turn east onto 64, there is about --7 8 two cars can get in because 64 has taken all the spots they can. And turning left, there is 9 actually no room to go. We have to wait through 10 11 another light, and it is the same thing again. 12 So turning left going eastbound, which is 13 most of the morning traffic -- I don't go onto 31. 14 I go straight down State Street a couple blocks 15 from 31. I can't turn right onto 31, let alone 16 turn left on 64 from 31. 17 If I go the other way at 7th Street, it is the same thing. The buses are so backed up they 18 19 are backed up to State Street and around the 20 corner down State Street towards Dean just to get 21 out of State Street to cross the road to go to 22 school. 23 So I can only imagine that all the moms 24 that are going into that subdivision are going to

	192
1	take their kids to school and pick up their kids
2	after school trying to get through that
3	intersection.
4	The 3:00-to-5:00 time slot I think is
5	worse, not just the commuters that are working
6	4:00 to 6:00 which is bad enough.
7	But the 3:00-to-5:00 time slot and the
8	morning time slot, too, for the parents who want
9	to drive their kids and take them to after-school
10	activities there is a lot going on with the
11	football fields there, too.
12	I think that whole time period we need take
13	in to account some of the buses and moms and kids,
14	junior high kids walking down the street. There
15	are all kinds of junior high kids walking down my
16	street, State Street, at 7:00 in the morning
17	because they have before-school activities. I
18	can't imagine having more traffic than there is
19	now.
20	And the I heard some phrasing saying
21	that in the traffic study it is "typical" to be
22	unacceptable. Since when is unacceptable okay
23	just because it is typical in other places? I
24	don't get that at all. You know, this is a good

	193
1	town. So I don't think we need to be typical.
2	Thank you.
3	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. Thank
4	you.
5	Anything else? Other questions?
6	Ma'am, in the back row.
7	MS. SCHWENDNER: My name is Carline
8	Schwender, S-c-h-w-e-n-d-n-e-r. I live at 615
9	Cedar Street, one block one house, I should
10	say, east of the corner of Cedar and 7th. And I
11	have lived there 25 years.
12	And in the morning the traffic there
13	is it does go back to State Street. I actually
14	have to go right in order to go west. So I get up
15	to that corner. I can't get out onto 7th because
16	of the buses. So I go right. I go down to State.
17	I turn left. And head out Dean in order to go
18	west.
19	In the afternoon it happened just
20	yesterday I had to sit through two lights in
21	order to go right because of the crossing of
22	children when Thompson and Haines let out.
23	The crossing guard stops the traffic, of
24	course, as the kids are coming across the street

	194
1	heading north. And so we sat there waiting to
2	turn right because he has it stopped.
3	That is all.
4	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
5	Yes.
6	MR. WALSH: My name is James Walsh. I
7	live at 21 North 5th Street. W-a-l-s-h.
8	I just want it noted for the record that
9	St. Pat's still has a preschool functioning there.
10	And there is also pre- and after-school enrichment
11	programs to take into consideration that also
12	brings traffic in and out of the area. And there
13	also could be some safety considerations being
14	that there are small children in the area at those
15	times of day that they did the traffic study.
16	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
17	Any other questions any other questions
18	from any member of the audience?
19	MR. AMUNDSON: Save comments for later;
20	right?
21	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Right.
22	All right. Plan Commission?
23	MR. SCHEUTZ: I needed a clarification
24	or a common sense answer, I guess, here. What I

	195
1	put together here on Table 2, Page 12, if you look
2	at the Lexington Club, the amount of rides, cars
3	coming in and out daily, you have 1,043. And if
4	you have 142 homes, units, whatever you want to
5	call them, with I am guessing a couple cars and
6	they make I figured out that they would make
7	852 in and out daily if they make three three
8	trips. Say somebody leaves, comes back, maybe
9	goes shopping or something. I am guessing here.
10	But I figured out maybe three trips. Kind of
11	guessing what I do daily.
12	And then if you look at the light
13	industrial, there is a gentleman over here who
14	made a comment there was 225 parking spots. Well,
15	if they make if they have three shifts
16	correct? Somebody made the comment? that would
17	come out to 675 trips daily.
18	So my comment, I guess, is that Lexington
19	Club appears to be very comparable, a little bit
20	higher, 852 versus 675. These are just
21	guesstimates. And it looks to me as though it is
22	possibly lower than what you are using as a
23	formula. I was interested in your comments.
24	MR. ABOONA: Well, the first

	196
1	clarification is those daily trips are in and out.
2	So you know so it is 1043, if it is
3	about 500 and some change in and 500 and some
4	change out for the Lexington Club. And the 1500,
5	half of it is in, half of it is out for the
6	industrial if it would be industrial.
7	But I didn't catch the question.
8	MR. SCHUETZ: The question is generally
9	it appears as though your in and outs are a little
10	higher than what I am estimating a normal person
11	would do.
12	MR. ABOONA: Well, I mean, for
13	residential, we have got I mean, you have
14	got you could if the parents both work and
15	each drive, each is a trip. You know, you have
16	got deliveries. You know, garbage, school buses.
17	You know, all the trips associated that you
18	would see typically in a subdivision.
19	And then for industrial, you have got
20	employees. You have got different shifts. You
21	know, there is contractors coming in, visitors.
22	You know, truck traffic, deliveries both in and
23	out. So those all go into the calculation of the
24	daily traffic.

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1	MR. SCHUETZ: All right. I didn't
2	consider the trucks coming in and out.
3	MR. ABOONA: That is typically a very
4	important element of industrial use.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
6	Brian?
7	MR. DOYLE: Are you talking about
8	questions about the presentation thus far? There
9	are a couple other items that we are going to hear
10	from the Applicant. I have questions. But I want
11	to wait to hear from the Applicant about, for
12	instance, the PUD points.
13	So are we are we I guess my question
14	is, in terms of agenda, are we is the Applicant
15	finished with his presentation? Are we moving
16	into our general questions?
17	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Yes.
18	Are you finished? Do you have anything
19	else to present?
20	MR. STILLWELL: Normally what would
21	happen is, in response to your comments, I would
22	wait until the general public has completed all
23	their questions and comments and anything the Plan
24	Commission has. And then I would provide my

	198
1	summary as well as an overview of the standards
2	and how they relate to the elements that have been
3	brought forward in the hearing. So I don't
4	usually interject at this juncture.
5	Are you asking me
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I think what he is
7	asking is there any additional testimony or any
8	additional presentation
9	MR. DOYLE: I am trying to figure out
10	when to ask my questions. If we are in the
11	general question period, I still have some
12	questions that may be answered later on when the
13	Applicant makes his summary. So I am going to
14	hold off on that question right now.
15	One question that I have concerns the staff
16	analysis regarding the building forms in the plan.
17	There was a comment there that although the
18	building forms differ from direct recommendations
19	of the Comprehensive Plan and then there is
20	some bullet points there that talk about some of
21	the characteristics of the plan I was just
22	trying to find those direct recommendations to
23	understand what the recommendations of the
24	Comprehensive Plan are in terms of the building

199 1 form. 2 MR. COLBY: Yes. There is a section of the staff memo that discusses building 3 architecture. And primarily, it highlights the 5 fact that the townhome buildings that are proposed are more of what you consider a suburban-style 6 townhome versus what you might consider a 7 8 urban-style row home where you typically have the 9 front of the home facing the street and the garage and automobile access is usually in the back or 10 11 hidden somewhere else on the property. 12 The Comprehensive Plan Amendment discusses 13 in sort of generic terms using more of an urban 14 style of development and includes as an appendix 15 to that amendment with pictures of the types of 16 units that we envisioned. So that includes 17 townhomes that are primarily with garages located 18 in the rear so that they are more oriented to the 19 pedestrians than to the streetscape. So those are 20 different than the types of townhomes that are 21 being proposed primarily by the Applicant. 22 purpose of that comment was to highlight that discussion. 23 24 But I would refer to those photos in the

	200
1	Comprehensive Plan for comparison.
2	MR. DOYLE: So it is the front-loading
3	driveways front-loading garages as well as
4	maybe some aesthetic aspects of the
5	MR. COLBY: Yeah. Primarily, the
6	orientation of the garages and the proportion of
7	the garage door and driveway opening relative to
8	the width of the front of the building.
9	MR. DOYLE: Okay. So and again, this
10	is sort of a quick comment for the Applicant.
11	One of the things that I will be looking
12	for as we approach your summary and our discussion
13	is for the Commission's findings of fact. Again,
14	the basis of the factors that we need to consider
15	in looking at the PUD application, one of which
16	is, I believe well, actually the PUD
17	application does it reference the Comprehensive
18	Plan? Is that one of the findings of fact that we
19	look at?
20	MR. COLBY: It is one of the factors.
21	MR. DOYLE: Okay. So this is one of the
22	things that I will want to just sort of be
23	thinking about as we progress.
24	MS. TUNGARE: And if I could also

	201
1	comment, the Comprehensive Plan amendment that we
2	are referring to is in the executive summary.
3	There is a link attached to that off of the
4	executive summary if you want to review those
5	things that he was referring to.
6	MR. DOYLE: Thank you.
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
8	Additional questions? Curt? Do you have
9	anything?
10	MR. HENNINGSON: No.
11	MR. PRETZ: Is this general?
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Yes.
13	MR. PRETZ: This would be in reference
14	to Exhibit L, the vinyl siding sample. I am not
15	sure who I should address from your group?
16	MR. STILLWELL: What kind of question is
17	that? Then I will know
18	MR. PRETZ: My question is the rationale
19	for the presentation of that exhibit in your
20	development as it relates to the ordinance from, I
21	believe, it is 2006.
22	MR. STILLWELL: One of the things that
23	we will address when I get into the summary and
24	some of the standards is the fact that any time

	202
1	you come to a site there are certain guidelines
2	that you are seeking to incorporate into the plan.
3	Invariably, you come upon conflicting
4	objectives and limitations. And you try to
5	balance some of these suggestions. I will go into
6	more detail with that.
7	But specifically, the siding issue. You
8	will recall that we were first before this body
9	four years ago, approximately three years
10	ago with the initial concept plan. And that
11	had a totally different product concept.
12	And I don't want to go through the detail.
13	We did show you that 175-unit plan. That was what
14	we originally started with. We also had the
15	neo-traditional with all the motor courtyards.
16	As time evolved and we were working with
17	various competing issues, including working with
18	staff and other interested parties, it became
19	clear that with the site constraints, some of the
20	complications with this site relative to
21	topography, as well as just economic parameters,
22	the neo-traditional didn't lend itself to
23	accommodating the bigger-picture goals of the
24	Comprehensive Plan relative to redevelopment of

	203
1	this site with a mixed style of residential
2	components. And so we then moved away from the
3	motor courtyards.
4	What was happening is you were you ended
5	up with a much higher level of improvements on
6	this site by incorporating the motor courtyards.
7	So by going with the more traditional townhomes,
8	except for what is referred to as the row homes in
9	the northeast portion where we have the
10	neo-traditional design, we we ended up moving
11	back.
12	Now, in relationship to that, we then have
13	to look at the broad picture of economic
14	parameters. And one of them was, "Where do you
15	get equal benefit and a cost element that made
16	sense given all of the parameters?"
17	One way was the vinyl siding. It is our
18	position and belief, as we testified earlier, that
19	vinyl actually provides a quality exterior at a
20	better price that lends itself to the objective of
21	this site as long as it is of the quality that
22	gives the continuity and serviceability and
23	appearance that you would receive with any other
24	siding.

	204
1	Now, that is what the architect discussed
2	when we went through the exterior building plans.
3	That is why we submitted a sample so that you
4	would have an opportunity to touch and see what we
5	are dealing with, why we think this is an
6	appropriate material because it is a heavier-gauge
7	material. It has proven itself worthy of
8	utilization in a numerous number of settings
9	throughout the industry. So that is why we have
10	gotten to that.
11	There has just been a myriad of issues over
12	the last four-and-a-half, five years in working on
13	this project that have had to be balanced. And
14	that was one of them, along with a lot of others.
15	MR. PRETZ: Thank you.
16	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
17	Sue?
18	MS. AMATANGELO: So I guess I am still
19	not understanding why we went from 125 units in
20	2009 to 142.
21	MR. STILLWELL: Well, there are a few
22	reasons for that. One of the reasons is that
23	early on in the design plan we were looking at a
24	park contribution. That eventually came out of

	205
1	the plan when the park elected the park
2	district elected to acquire what is referred to in
3	the Staff Report as the Belgian Town Park site.
4	And that is located south of the Holm Industry
5	facility.
6	As a result of that, we met with the park
7	district board representatives to see where they
8	were at that point. And we were advised that they
9	would rather shift to cash contributions. So that
10	opened up available additional land for
11	development. So that had an impact upon the unit
12	count.
13	It was also a matter, then, of laying out
14	the site plan in determining what worked based
15	upon the product that was proposed and also
16	addressed all the economic parameters that drives
17	any development. Density generates revenue as
18	long as it is done within the guidelines that are
19	established by the community.
20	I am positive we were guided by the
21	Comprehensive Plan in the identification of
22	two-and-a-half to six-and-a-half units per acre.
23	The Plan expressly says that that should be an
24	overall average density. It says there is

	206
1	portions that can be greater than that so that
2	ultimately on a project-wide basis it doesn't
3	exceed 6.5. And this project comes in at 6 units
4	per acre which is identified in the staff summary.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
6	Any other questions for the Plan
7	Commission?
8	(No response.)
9	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. If
10	anyone from the public wishes to offer testimony
11	either for or against the Application, including
12	comments, you can do that at this time.
13	I would just ask that if anything has
14	already been said, we are the purpose of the
15	Plan Commission is to take evidence and consider
16	that evidence. So if it has already been said, I
17	would just ask that you hold off on repeated
18	evidence and comments.
19	But if anyone wishes to say anything at
20	this time, this would be the appropriate time for
21	that.
22	Mr. Amundson.
23	MR. AMUNDSON: David Amundson. Again,
24	A-m-u-n-d-s-o-n. 500 Cedar Street. And I suppose

	207
1	I should probably preface my comments tonight. To
2	be very clear, I sit on the Housing Commission. I
3	am not speaking for the Housing Commission in any
4	capacity. I am speaking as a concerned resident.
5	It is my neighborhood. We care.
6	I have a laundry list. So I apologize for
7	the length I will be standing here.
8	First is a comment on the you know, the
9	discrepancy of car traffic on and off the site in
10	the past. And I am the one who sat there and
11	counted the spaces. I paced off what used to be
12	the parking lot. It is 225 cars. I have yet to
13	find a resident whose memory that I have talked
14	to directly whose memory predates 1985.
15	So at some point in time, there was a
16	potential of 225 cars to park on that lot whether
17	they were running with one, two, or three shifts.
18	I haven't found and if there is anyone whose
19	memory does go back that far, I would like to hear
20	from them tonight.
21	What I do have testimony on is going from a
22	business owner who is on 6th Street who says he
23	has been there from 1986 until things were winding
24	down in the early 2000s. The most he was ever

	208
1	aware of was about 35 cars per shift, three shifts
2	a day. So again, we are talking about a miniscule
3	fraction of what they are saying the site used to
4	handle.
5	Unless somebody can say there were three
6	shifts with 225 cars, this is conjecture at this
7	time. It has the potential. Historical records
8	going back to '86 indicates far, far, far less
9	than that. And if you go through other mitigating
10	factors that 64 wasn't as busy then as it is
11	now, 31 wasn't nearly as busy then as it is now
12	if there were cars coming and going from the
13	factory, they would have had a much easier time
14	getting out of the secondary and arterial streets
15	to get away from the site. Not the congestion and
16	gridlock that we already have. So that is one
17	point.
18	The other point is the standardized way of
19	looking at signalization of an intersection. I
20	don't think I understand and I appreciate the
21	position of, you know, this is the professional
22	rationale of the way we analyze things.
23	But I don't care about the cars flowing
24	through 64 at the intersection of 7th. I care

	209
1	about what happens at 7th. 7th is already a mess.
2	And two examples I can give you. Today
3	walking home with my boys, cars were trying to
4	head south on 7th. 30-second green light. Two
5	cars got through because the lead car was trying
6	to turn right on green. You can't turn right on a
7	green because there is a crossing guard telling
8	him he can't do it.
9	The second car wants to turn left. But he
10	is competing with all the cars that are turning
11	left onto Main and doesn't want to do it from the
12	cars that are headed northbound.
13	That intersection does not work now,
14	period. And when you add to it more walkers
15	because all of the kids who will live in Lexington
16	will be walkers to Richard, Davis, and Thompson
17	they will slow down and clog that intersection
18	even more because of the crossing guard.
19	They are doing a very important job. I say
20	"thank you" to that crossing guard twice a day
21	every day. And I have been walking there six
22	years now. Unless it is raining or below zero, we
23	walk. That is our house rule.
24	So again. I understand the professional way

of looking at it; that the intersection as a whole works fine. We can deal with some "F" ratings on secondary streets. But the secondary streets are the important ones. Those are the ones that are under discussion. Those are the ones that will be impacted.

In terms of delays, last Thursday at 3:20 there were 18 cars stacked up I counted on 7th Street trying to head northbound. First signal, 8 of them got through. Second signal, 9 of them got through. The ninth got through only by running the red. And not just sort of coming close. It was a full red before he entered the intersection. He clipped it that short. That meant car number 18 sat through three full 130-second cycles. That is a long time to sit and wait for a light. That is what we are dealing with right now.

And yes, that is only during school comings and goings. But it is something -- we are part of the neighborhood, and we are part of the comings and goings. We have to go pick up our kids, drop off our kids, or whatever. We have got to get in and out of our own neighborhood to do those tasks. That is already kind of difficult right now. I

	211
1	have heard nothing on the table to try and relieve
2	that problem. So that is the traffic issue.
3	And I really don't even like talking about
4	the traffic issues because that is not the heart
5	of the matter for me.
6	I am going to spend the rest of my time
7	talking about the PUD application, the findings of
8	fact. I will start out with Point I, Subpoint 1.
9	And these are the things that we have to find in
10	the positive to be able to give the PUD a proper
11	recommendation.
12	Point 1, "To promote a creative approach to
13	site improvements and building design that results
14	in a distinctive, attractive development that has
15	a strong sense of place, yet becomes an integral
16	part of the community."
17	That last phrase jumps out at me because in
18	a neighborhood that is egalitarian it is
19	grid-like, it is not a suburban enclave to
20	build a suburban enclave with a sign in front that
21	says, "Lexington Club," does not say integration
22	to me. It says segregation to me. It says, "We
23	are different. We are distinct. We are away from
24	you. You have to enter our neighborhood to be

	212
1	part of our neighborhood."
2	You know, walking down the street, walking
3	my dog, "Whoa. Can I go back there? Is it
4	legitimate for me to walk my dog back there?"
5	I live in St. Charles. I don't live in a
6	club. I don't live in an enclave. I live in the
7	city. And that is not integration.
8	A strong sense of place? Yes. It has a
9	strong sense of place. But the strong sense of
10	place it has is that it is not part of everything
11	else. That is the only strong sense of place it
12	has.
13	Point 2, "To create places oriented to the
14	pedestrian that promote physical activity and
15	social interaction, including but not limited to
16	walkable neighborhoods, usable open space, and
17	recreational facilities for the enjoyment of all."
18	Jane Joyce, if you look in here, the front
19	porch is where it is at. Getting rid of the
20	garages in the front is where it is at. You have
21	to encourage people to interact with one another
22	other.
23	The townhomes have no front porches and
24	front-facing garages. The homes, only three of

	213
1	them have front porches.
2	These are intended to be secluded,
3	suburban. "I drive in. I drive out. I never
4	meet my neighbors."
5	There is no life on the street. It is a
6	dead street. It is devoid of life. That is what
7	is being designed right now. So it does not
8	encourage social intersection. It physically
9	actively and research can prove this
10	discourages social interaction.
11	It is not a walkable neighborhood. You
12	need to be on a grid. You need to have lots of
13	places to turn. You need to not have dead-end
14	streets.
15	You need to give people options for
16	movement. The site plan has a little bit of that
17	but not a whole lot. So it is not really a
18	walkable neighborhood, again, because it is a
19	dead-end zone. I can't walk through it to
20	anywhere. I can only walk into it and then come
21	back out of it. It doesn't make for an
22	interesting or enjoyable walk.
23	Point 3, "To encourage a harmonious mix of
24	land uses and a variety of housing types and

	214
1	prices."
2	We can debate all night about harmonious
3	use. Land uses? There is no land use mix. It is
4	pure residential with no respect really for the
5	industrial.
6	The gentleman we heard from earlier we
7	have an industrial owner who is terrified of his
8	new neighbors because what we are going to have is
9	a classic situation of someone moving in next to
10	the pig farm complaining to the City Council that
11	it stinks like pigs.
12	So you buy in next to an industrial site,
13	and the neighbors say to the City Council, "It is
14	too bright. His trucks come and go and they make
15	noise at night. Shut this guy down. Regulate
16	him."
17	He is a business that provides tax dollars
18	and provides employment. There are people in our
19	neighborhood who work and live in our neighborhood
20	and walk to work in our neighborhood. That is the
21	way a city is supposed to work.
22	We have talked about sustainability, green
23	initiative, reducing our carbon footprint,
24	reducing our dependence on foreign oil, reducing

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1	the CO2 emissions. The list goes on and on and on
2	and on. That is where we need to go.
3	Integration. Not segregation.
4	Point 4 oh. And the last it has.
5	(Brief interruption.)
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Please. Go ahead.
7	MR. AMUNDSON: Point 3, "a variety of
8	housing types and prices."
9	Again, we can argue variety. I would say
10	variety looks like this. We have a very narrow
11	band that looks like this.
12	The affordable housing at the moment is
13	being stripped from this. We can certainly add
14	variety to the housing prices. And instead of
15	adding that kind of variety, they are proposing to
16	have relief from that to restrict the variety of
17	housing prices that are in their subdivision.
18	Point 4, "To preserve native vegetation,
19	topographic, and geologic features and
20	environmentally sensitive areas."
21	I have heard nothing in terms of that kind
22	of testimony. The only testimony I have heard is
23	that rather than preserving topographic and
24	geologic features they are going to level the site

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1	as much as they possibly can and have asked for
2	remediation for the costs associated with that.
3	9,000 cubic yards' worth if I remember right.
4	Point 5, "To promote the economical
5	development and efficient use of land, utilities,
6	and street improvements, drainage facilities,
7	structures, and other facilities."
8	I am not exactly sure what to do with this
9	one. Economical we can argue about. I know we
10	can't talk about the TIF. But there it is, and
11	one can argue about whether the necessity for the
12	TIF indicates whether this is an economical
13	development or not.
14	Beyond that, again, it is an efficient use
15	of land because it crams as much stuff in there as
16	it possibly can. But that doesn't necessarily
17	make it a good development. More is not
18	necessarily better.
19	And the industrial folks would beg, I am
20	sure, to say, "Give me a buffer," you know. We
21	need a little less efficiency than there is right
22	now.
23	Point 6, "To encourage redevelopment of
24	sites containing obsolete or inappropriate

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1	buildings or uses."
2	I don't know if the building was obsolete.
3	It happened to be vacant. It happened to need a
4	new tenant. It was not an inappropriate building
5	use because our area is a mixed-use environment.
6	There is light industrial across the street.
7	There is light industrial to the west. There is
8	light industrial to the south. So it was not an
9	inappropriate building or use.
10	And obsolete? Beauty is in the eye of the
11	beholder. I look at that building or what used to
12	be the building. I see the potential for a small
13	start-up in there. Because old buildings, yes,
14	they are delapidated. But they are cheap.
15	When I helped to found the Habitat for
16	Humanity Restore up in Elgin, we needed to get the
17	business launched with a big volume of space
18	20,000 square feet on a very, very little
19	budget.
20	We didn't even look at the new buildings.
21	We couldn't afford them. They wanted \$16 or \$20 a
22	foot. We looked at the old buildings in Elgin
23	coming in at \$3 or \$4 a foot. That is where small
24	upstarts get their founding is when they have

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1	access to cheap real estate which is in the market
2	and in the demand. This comes from buildings that
3	are, quite frankly, probably toward the end of
4	their life cycles. And there is not an option for
5	that any more because the building is now rubble.
6	Point 7, "To encourage a collaborative
7	process among developers, neighboring property
8	owners and residents, and governmental bodies in
9	the community."
10	I think everybody from the neighborhood
11	here would argue there has been no collaborative
12	process amongst the neighboring property owners
13	and residents.
14	We had to find out about this by accident
15	almost. There may have been collaboration among
16	the government bodies. The community as a whole,
17	I don't think so.
18	And developers, if we count the possibility
19	of the non-profit developers to assume the
20	production of the affordable housing criteria,
21	there has been no contact with them either that I
22	am aware of. And I have asked about it in the
23	past and been told that option is dead. It
24	doesn't work. So that has been shut down to the

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1	best of my knowledge. I wish that was not the
2	case.
3	So the next page the factors listed in
4	Section 17.04.400.B shall be used to justify
5	relief from requirements of the zoning district.
6	No. 1, "The PUD will provide community
7	amenities beyond those required by the ordinance,
8	such as recreational facilities, public plazas
9	gardens" I think this is a typo "public
10	areas, pedestrian and transit facilities."
11	I have seen evidence of, I think, two or
12	three pedestrian paths. And they deeded a small
13	neck of the land to get to Belgian Town Park.
14	Somebody correct me if I am wrong. But that is
15	what I remember from the plan.
16	That does not seem to be a terribly big
17	concession to me for a \$42 million development. I
18	don't know. You might be able to figure out how
19	many dollars we are talking about to provide these
20	kind of amenities. But it is not that much.
21	"The PUD will preserve open space, natural
22	beauty, and critical environmental areas in excess
23	of what is required by ordinance or other
24	regulations."

220 1 The only open space I see is the leftover 2 land around the detention pond where they couldn't physically pack another house. I don't see much 3 evidence of purposeful open boulevards. Clipping 4 corners back at the intersection so you can see. 5 There is no buffer zones. There is no transition 6 zones between the residential and industrial that 7 8 There is boundary territory around bound it. 9 detention ponds, but that is the best I can define 10 what has been provided for us. 11 Three, "The PUD will provide superior landscaping, buffering, or screening." 12 13 I am not a landscape architect. I don't 14 know how to comment on that. I don't know that it 15 is superior. I don't know that it is inferior. 16 It is in there providing landscaping. Whether it 17 is superior or not, that could be a point for discussion. 18 19 4, "The buildings within the PUD will offer 20 high quality architectural design." 21 The buildings represent to me, personally, 22 the worst of what is being done to suburbia which is exactly why we all live in the neighborhood 23 24 where we do. We chose to live there to get away

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1	from this kind of stuff. And now, this stuff is
2	following us into our neighborhood.
3	The architect described his buildings as
4	inserting design elements "to relieve the
5	monotony." I don't know. If that was if I was
6	sitting in a design class at a school and a
7	student said to me, "I inserted the elements to
8	relieve the monotony," I the first question I
9	have after stopping him in his tracks is, "Why did
10	you design a monotonous building then?"
11	This is what tract homes are. That is what
12	we have all gotten used to as if is good enough.
13	But that is not our neighborhood. We moved to our
14	neighborhood to get away from that.
15	And, you know, taking the townhomes, they
16	are just these you know, bam, bam, bam a
17	wall of garages and four front doors with no
18	porches. The row houses I actually like better
19	because the garages are backloaded so they offer
20	some friendliness to the pedestrian on the street.
21	And the houses, looking at them, there were
22	eight that were shown. Three with porches.
23	Basically, to my eye and without plans and
24	everything else you need to know about it, it

	222
1	looks like the same house dressed up eight
2	different ways, which doesn't necessarily
3	constitute a variety or a sympathetic meeting up
4	with the neighborhood that is around it.
5	Because, again, our neighborhood will have
6	literally originally a 600-square foot limestone
7	hut next to a really nice early 20th Century
8	four-square brick, maybe 1700 or 1800 square feet.
9	We have a huge variety in our neighborhood. I
10	don't see that in what they are offering.
11	I see mass-produced townhomes having been
12	described as having monotony-relieving devices and
13	houses that look like just left-handed and
14	right-handed versions of the same thing dressed up
15	eight different ways.
16	Five, "The PUD provides for
17	energy-efficient building and site design."
18	I heard nothing in the testimony about
19	that. I see no evidence in looking at the
20	elevations of these houses that are oriented to
21	take advantage of solar energy or make the use of
22	shade at appropriate times of the year or they are
23	pitched in such a way to prevent cold north winds
24	from penetrating in the winter or screening set up

such to help them be more energy efficient, or that they have solar energy incorporated into any of them, or that they have wind turbines, or the street lighting is LED or -- you know, the list goes on and on.

And on the aesthetic design, where is the energy efficiency on that? I have seen the same mistakes we have made as a society being repeated again and again and again.

6, "The PUD provides for the use of innovative stormwater management techniques."

I see a detention pond. We could argue whether that is creative or not. I don't know. What about grasses? What about hard surfaces that we would have to ass for the exception of zoning laws to allow driveways made from appropriate materiels instead of the materials which create runoffs and forces us to have detention ponds? We are living in our own engineered nightmare.

And I haven't seen -- but again, I am not a landscape person. I am not a site engineer. I don't know what constitutes innovative. But looking at it, I don't see that.

7, "The PUD provides accessible dwelling

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1	units in numbers or with features beyond what is
2	required by the Americans with Disabilities Act or
3	other applicable codes.
4	The Applicant themselves state that
5	they will meet ADA. They don't say they will
6	exceed it.
7	8, "The PUD provides affordable dwelling
8	units in conformance with, or in excess of, the
9	City policies and ordinances."
10	They are asking for complete relief from
11	this point.
12	9, "The PUD preserves historic buildings,
13	sites, or neighborhoods."
14	And I would argue strenuously this PUD does
15	violence to our historic neighborhood
16	irreparable violence. Violence that may drive out
17	some of our employers or some of the other
18	residents that work there. Violence that forces
19	us into a car culture as we covert what is a very
20	happily-coming-along mixed-use community into a
21	more strictly residential community where we all
22	have to drive to get to our jobs. I don't think
23	that is good.
24	The next goes through all the things they

	225
1	want relief from. And that extends for more than
2	a full page.
3	And under Item 4, "The proposed PUD will
4	eliminate blighted conditions." This is their
5	response. The question being, "The proposed PUD
6	will be beneficial to the physical development,
7	diversity, tax base, and economic well-being of
8	the City."
9	Their response is, "The proposed PUD will
10	eliminate the blighted condition."
11	And I would love to have a great discussion
12	on what defines "blight." "Blight" to me is an
13	intractable problem that come boom or bust or boom
14	or bust does not go away under any conditions,
15	under any economic conditions whatsoever.
16	If you drive through small towns in
17	southern Illinois and you go to Main Street or
18	what is left of Main Street and you see all the
19	second- and third-floor windows boarded up,
20	boarded up since probably 1967, that is blighted.
21	That is a condition that no one has been willing
22	to invest in for decades.
23	"Blight" has been used as political
24	football. We did some research on a county in

	226
1	California that declared the entire county
2	blighted just so they could get Federal stimulus
3	dollars. It is a term that is thrown around to my
4	mind a little bit too easy to say, "Oh. It is
5	blighted."
6	Well, what does it mean to be blighted?
7	Because not too many years ago this was a
8	functioning, employable, useable building. It
9	needed a new tenant. So it got knocked down.
10	It will address the environmental
11	challenges. That is fine.
12	"Covert the subject property into an
13	attractive residential community." That is just a
14	personal aesthetic standpoint. I don't think it
15	is attractive. I think it does violence to our
16	neighborhood.
17	"Which provides diversified and affordable
18	housing for residents of the community." They are
19	asking for relief from the affordability clause.
20	"Places the property on sound footing for
21	improvement of the City's tax base." After the
22	TIF, the improvement of the City's tax base will
23	happen in 23 year's time.
24	So again, I will say what I said last

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1	time and forgive me for repeating myself a
2	little bit here I am not against development.
3	I don't think anybody in our neighborhood is
4	against development.
5	What we are for is good development that
6	integrates with our neighborhood and respects who
7	is there already.
8	To the point of the industrial folks, they
9	need a little relief. The current plan doesn't
10	give them any. I would be nervous if I owned an
11	industrial building that was going to back up to
12	residential units 10 feet off my property line. I
13	would be very nervous. The gentleman who spoke
14	earlier has a good right to be nervous.
15	I think the plan needs to respect the
16	diversity of our neighborhood. This residential
17	plan does not respect that diversity. Within
18	500 feet of my house, I have a church, school,
19	retail, office, light industrial, single-family
20	homes that have been converted to rentals,
21	single-family homes that are owner occupied,
22	multi-family. There used to be a liquor store and
23	a barber. Oh. And a bank. In other words, we
24	have everything. And I think any smart

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1	development of this plat of land needs to
2	incorporate and accept that.
3	And the everything that we are is what
4	makes our neighborhood work. It is why and I
5	have been amazed knocking on doors these past few
6	weeks how many residents who have been in our
7	neighborhood no further than two or three
8	blocks from where they live now for 65 years.
9	People come. They settle down. They stay because
10	what is there works.
11	And part of what works is the messiness of
12	it all. But we all get along. I have 18-wheeler
13	trucks going down the street to service the
14	industrial. That is okay. I have people parking
15	on my street to go to St. Pat's. That is okay.
16	You know, we are there is give and take
17	on that. We feel a little pushed right now
18	because we have all the bus traffic and other
19	issues that have come up. Some of the traffic
20	issues I think are making a lot of us nervous.
21	When we see a whole massive influx of people who
22	are going to be on the exact same schedule
23	kids, work, kids, work that will only add to
24	that.

Now, if as part of the development we had -- and Jane Jacobs talks about this -- mixed uses, multi-uses happening in any one district -- we could have industrial happening on one site and residential happening on another site and maybe office or something happening on another site -- I mean, you need the movement of people at different times of day, which is what we presently have, to make the neighborhood work and function and be healthy and be walkable and be sociable.

And you know, this is a huge opportunity for the City. And you know, I wouldn't be spending my time if I didn't care. I care about the long-term vision. I want the industrial partners in our neighborhood to stay there. I don't want to get rid of them. They employ people. They give us tax base. They need to stay. They need to be made to feel welcome, not threatened.

And this is an opportunity that there will be none other like it for -- I don't know if there is another chance in this City's history to have this much land to keep as a mixed-use historic neighborhood. And I think we can do better than

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1	what has been proposed. That is the bottom line
2	for me.
3	I am not going to say don't develop it. It
4	needs to be developed. Something needs to happen.
5	But I think we can do better.
6	Thank you for your time.
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
8	Ma'am, do you have something quick because
9	I was going to take a quick break?
10	MS. VANDERHEYDEN: Well, it will be
11	quick.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
13	MS. VANDERHEYDEN: It will be quick
14	because I can't stand very long.
15	Can you hear me? Okay.
16	I am the old lady in the neighborhood, and
17	I sit outside.
18	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Hold on one second.
19	If you could, just state your name and
20	spell your last name.
21	MS. VANDERHEYDEN: Oh. Lorraine
22	Vanderheyden, V-a-n-d-e-r-h-e-y-d-e-n. I live at
23	622 Cedar Street. And I have been there for 52
24	years. My neighbor has been there 52 years. My

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1	across-the-street neighbor has been there over 60
2	years. And all my neighbors have been there
3	forever. And I like my neighborhood.
4	But I have three things to say. One, I see
5	the traffic. You have already heard it. And it
6	is real. Okay.
7	Second, I have a my children played in
8	the muck. And they played in the muck, and I
9	didn't realize what the muck was. And the
10	neighborhood children played there. And I know of
11	three boys seriously ill that died before they
12	were in their 40s. And I have a son that is not
13	in good health. And so I really feel strongly
14	about cleaning it up because whether that has
15	anything to do with their illnesses. But it does
16	seem strange to me that those boys were the ones
17	that practically lived there, riding their bikes,
18	playing in the muck.
19	And my husband has been was raised on
20	7th Street. And he and his friend today were
21	talking about the oil that ran down through their
22	property 60 years ago. And I do I just want to
23	make sure it is cleaned up. And that is all.
24	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Thank you.

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1	At this time, we are going to take a break.
2	We will reconvene at 9:00 o'clock.
3	(Whereupon, a recess was had at
4	8:54 P.M. after which the
5	proceedings were resumed at
6	9:09 P.M. as follows:)
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right.
8	St. Charles Plan Commission come to order.
9	We are currently on Item No. 4 on the
10	agenda, Lexington Club PUD.
11	At this point in time, we are going to
12	if there are any additional questions, we will
13	take them. But following that, we will take
14	additional questions from members of the Plan
15	Commission and then move on to the rebuttal or
16	final statement from the Applicant. And finally,
17	we will review the findings of fact from our
18	staff.
19	So let's go ahead, then, if any member of
20	the Plan Commission has anything else.
21	Brian, go ahead.
22	MR. DOYLE: I have a couple of
23	questions.
24	Do we have anyone from the I have a

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1	couple questions.
2	Do we have anyone from the City's economic
3	department here who could answer a question about
4	TIF financing?
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Economic department.
6	MR. DOYLE: I know it isn't trust me
7	I know it is not our purview but
8	MS. TUNGARE: It would Michael Mertes
9	and legal counsel that can probably respond.
10	MR. DOYLE: I have a simple question.
11	In theory, can TIF financing cover all of
12	the site remediation costs involved with this
13	project?
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Hold on a second.
15	Were you sworn in at the beginning?
16	MR. MERTES: I was not. Sorry.
17	(The witness was thereupon duly
18	sworn.
19	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: If you could just
20	state your name and spell your last name.
21	MR. MERTES: Michael Mertes,
22	M-e-r-t-e-s, 2 E Main Street, St. Charles. I am
23	the City Economic Development Coordinator.
24	To give you the answer as best as I

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1	possibly can, first of all, unfortunately the
2	Economic Development Director could not be here
3	tonight because of a last-minute thing that
4	happened.
5	He has been the one who has been dealing
6	with the TIF issue right now in terms of talking
7	with the consultant.
8	In terms of whether or not TIF can
9	completely cover the remediation, I can't say it
10	can cover 100 percent of it with utter certainty.
11	I know it can cover a large portion of it.
12	The specifics, I just unfortunately I
13	apologize. I haven't dealt with the TIF before.
14	I don't have any personal experience. I can't
15	tell you for sure.
16	MS. TUNGARE: If I can add to that
17	and I am sure legal counsel can probably say a few
18	words as well.
19	Environmental remediation is one of the
20	eligible activities as is laid out in the
21	statutory requirements.
22	Now, as Mr. Mertes indicated, whether
23	100 percent of those costs will be eligible
24	through TIF or not, that is still a work in

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1	progress. And there will need to be discussion
2	between the City and the Applicant on that.
3	MR. GOOD: That is about the best answer
4	that can be given at this point.
5	MR. DOYLE: Let me clarify why I am
6	asking this question.
7	What I am trying to determine is we have
8	heard testimony about the importance of developing
9	this parcel. The Housing Commission in its
10	recommendation said that developing the land is a
11	benefit to the public. And we know that there are
12	some site conditions that need to be that are
13	considered there.
14	What I am trying to determine is if the
15	site condition is a is a basis for relief under
16	the PUD application or if the TIF process is a
17	complete remedy for for the site condition.
18	And therefore, if both if both issues
19	both the TIF, which of course we can't analyze
20	really we can't really consider as part of the
21	application but if the site condition and the
22	TIF can be wrapped up together and sort of, you
23	know, ejected from this whole sort whole sort
24	of issue. So you have answered the question. I

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1	just wanted to clarify that for other people in
2	the room as to why I am asking the question.
3	MR. GOOD: Mr. Chairman, could I add
4	something?
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Yes.
6	MR. GOOD: I will be brief. I think
7	you one thing that is fair to state
8	certainly, the developer can speak for itself
9	it is probably fair to state that those sites that
10	require remediation are spread out over the entire
11	site. It would be very difficult to develop the
12	site unless all the sites are remediated.
13	Is that a fair statement? All the sites
14	have to be remediated in order to permit you to
15	develop the site?
16	MR. STILLWELL: Correct.
17	MR. GOOD: In order for the development
18	to occur, those sites will be remediated
19	regardless of how they are financed.
20	So I think you have to assume the site
21	would only be developed if, in fact, that
22	remediation occurs. In my opinion, yes, you can
23	consider that a benefit to be taken into
24	consideration as part of the PUD process.

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1	I certainly will not attempt to speak for
2	the residents. Leaving aside the development
3	aspect and their concerns about that, personally,
4	I would want that site cleaned up if I lived close
5	to it.
6	And the young lady who testified about
7	children playing in the muck and things, I
8	certainly would have a great fear of living
9	adjacent to that site because of that or having
10	children playing on that site.
11	So cleaning that site up would be a benefit
12	to the public at large.
13	MR. DOYLE: Yes. No doubt.
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
15	Any other questions?
16	Yes, sir.
17	MR. WARDEN: Jason Warden, W-a-r-d-e-n,
18	517 James Street.
19	Just talking in regards to what you
20	know, cleaning that site up, we live by there.
21	Sure. We would love to see it cleaned up. And I
22	guess the question I have is when you guys
23	purchased the property, you knew it had the
24	environmental issues; correct?

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1	MR. STILLWELL: Nobody knows the full
2	extent of the environmental issues.
3	MR. WARDEN: But you knew it had the
4	environmental issue.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Hold on.
6	If you could just come up and speak in the
7	microphone.
8	MR. STILLWELL: I was not present at the
9	time that the Applicant purchased the property.
10	So I cannot speak with firsthand knowledge of what
11	he did or did not know.
12	It is my assumption that he knew that there
13	were conditions at the site that would require
14	some form of remediation because of its industrial
15	history.
16	I don't know what the factual information
17	was that was provided by the seller of the site at
18	the time. It is my understanding it was an
19	auction.
20	So I don't know enough about the details to
21	begin to delve into the mindset of the Applicant,
22	unfortunately.
23	But for the purposes of discussion, if it
24	pleases this individual, we can assume there was

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1	some knowledge that there was a problem there.
2	I will tell you this right now: That
3	Mr. Huff and he can speak for himself has
4	been working on this issue for four years. And as
5	of this point, we still don't know until we go
6	through there and do the actual development
7	component of this project should it be
8	approved what the exact the exact
9	composition of the environmental challenges are on
10	this site.
11	So this is an unknown quantity. We have
12	certain understandings based upon what has been
13	progressed to date. But there is more to
14	determine as we get into more extensive
15	examination and development.
16	MR. WARDEN: So how come since we have
17	known that it has environmental issues and you
18	have or your client has owned the property for
19	four years how come nothing has been done to it
20	yet? How come it hasn't been abated?
21	You know, if anyone else has a property
22	that is like that, you need to abate it to take
23	care of your property. How come it has taken four
24	years and nothing has still happened to the site?

240 1 MR. STILLWELL: Well, in fact, some 2 things have happened to the site. I mean, perhaps it would be more appropriate if I just get into my 3 4 summary at some point. But there were questions raised I think by Mr. Amundson about, "Is this a blighted area? 6 Maybe this is a historically significant site that 7 8 offers low-cost, non-residential opportunities." 9 Through the process of this very arduous review and negotiation and redesign that the 10 Applicant has been involved in for four-and-a-half 11 12 years, the City identified conditions at that 13 location of these potentially historical sites 14 that require demolition because of safety 15 concerns. And in fact, the Applicant proceeded to 16 go forward with certain levels and components of 17 demolition even though this process obviously has not come to fruition and we didn't know what the 18 19 ultimate results would be. 20 So there have been activities. But we 21 can't get into the remediation program until we 22 actually have a plan of development that we can 23 work with and then go through the process with the 24 State authorities and the representatives of the

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1	community to make sure that it is carried out
2	appropriately to conform with the plan and the
3	land use that has been approved for the property.
4	So this Applicant is doing everything in
5	conformance with appropriate procedures. All the
6	standards have been met with the City of
7	St. Charles.
8	Why has it been done that way? That is
9	simply the way these processes work. And it is
10	the regulators that establish those processes, not
11	us. Just as they establish the standards of
12	review with respect to traffic considerations and
13	rely upon certain established criteria through the
14	Institute of Traffic Engineers manuals to be able
15	to project existing conditions.
16	So we have to work within those parameters.
17	And I will get into more detail on that later.
18	MR. WARDEN: Okay. I guess whether it
19	is residential, industrial, manufacturing, it is a
20	bad site that this gentleman owns; and it should
21	be addressed. I mean, he doesn't need approval on
22	that layout of townhomes and single-family homes
23	in order to take care of his responsibility of
24	taking care of his property. That could be going

	242
1	on right now. It doesn't have to be once that is
2	approved and he has got the money to do it. He
3	can do that now. It is his property, and he
4	should do that. And maybe the former owner should
5	have. But he should take care of that property
6	with or without the approval of that subdivision.
7	Thank you.
8	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay.
9	Any other questions?
10	All right. Mr. Stillwell.
11	MR. STILLWELL: When the Applicant came
12	to the City to begin this process several years
13	ago, it had to look to the guidelines that were
14	provided by the community. A landowner always has
15	the responsibility to look to what it is the
16	community through its land use ordinances and
17	guidelines are seeking to accomplish for a
18	particular location.
19	In 2006 through 2008, the City of
20	St. Charles undertook a review of its
21	Comprehensive Plan with respect to this particular
22	area.
23	And it is my understanding and I have a
24	copy of the plan that was adopted and the plan

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was adopted in 2008. It attempted to establish some guidelines, some objectives, and goals that the City would like to see accomplished at this location.

Now, I am going to assume -- I was not a participant in that process. But I am going to assume that all of the normal statutory procedures were followed. The City has a history of being very open with its residents in providing them an opportunity to provide input. I am going to assume that there was extensive opportunity for the community at large, as well as the neighborhood specifically, to engage in that discussion for the two-year process that ensued. That ultimately lead to the current road map that has been established by the Comprehensive Plan.

So in good faith, the Applicant came to the table and looked at those standards and attempted to draw up and present for consideration a plan that addressed the objectives.

You will recall that we came before you in 2008 with that initial plan. It had 175 units. It was more of a neo-traditional residential design with some single-family in it. It entailed

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1	a great deal of improvement services because of
2	the motor courtyards.
3	And we got a fair amount of negative
4	reaction, not just from planning commissioners and
5	ultimately also planning and development members
6	of council but from the neighbors because they
7	felt the density was too great and the benefits
8	provided didn't offset the detriments.
9	And so we went back and started working on
10	a revised plan and came back with a revised plan.
11	We then continued to work with the staff, park
12	district, with the school district and finally
13	came to the plan that you see in front of you.
14	But when the Applicant looked at the
15	Comprehensive Plan, there were a few generalized
16	goals that the City had identified. And we have
17	tried to incorporate some of those goals. And I
18	think that they also then dovetailed with the
19	types of standards and objectives that are
20	enunciated in the PUD.
21	One of the things I want to point out
22	and this is my experience based upon my years of
23	involvement in this kind of activity and my
24	dealing with the legal aspects of it I never

try to just make arguments on technically legal grounds, but it is an important point of reference as far as understanding the process of what we are trying to accomplish -- the courts, Illinois
Supreme Court, has made clear over the years in numerous cases that when it comes to the standards that you have incorporated into your ordinance -- and they are customary and routine in communities throughout this state -- that those are not standards that every item must be complied with.

First of all, oftentimes there are generalized statements. They don't provide clear, objective criteria, as opposed to more sometimes subjective goals.

But the Court makes it clear that the purpose of these standards is to establish some benchmarks as to what are some of the things we would like to have considered. And they give you the opportunity and the ability when the big picture is looked at to begin to weigh the benefits and the detriments.

I mean, it is clear that any time something is done whether it is private development or whether it is public development -- and the public

	246
1	does do a lot of development, too that there
2	are good things about it and there are some things
3	that are not as good. But sometimes you have to
4	balance those competing goals. That is what we
5	have really tried to do in this rather difficult
6	site that we are dealing with.
7	Under the Comprehensive Plan, the City
8	identified the interconnection of the existing
9	street network as a goal to stive for. It also
10	encouraged similar but diverse types of housing
11	styles.
12	It also recommended that there be some
13	forms of buffer or transition between the various
14	types of adjacent uses and to look towards placing
15	the more dense locations or the more dense
16	components away from the lower-density existing
17	residential and more towards industrial or
18	non-residential.
19	These are the kind of things that we have
20	attempted to do. We have attempted to accommodate
21	those types of goals. I won't go through every
22	one of the goals. You know them better than I do.
23	We also attempted wherever possible to
24	incorporate the standards of the Special Use from

	247
1	the PUD.
2	What I would like to do, if I can, which is
3	going to be tough
4	Russ, how do I get the Power Point up here?
5	I would probably be better suited operating a 747
6	than operating this computer.
7	One of the goals, as I indicated, for the
8	Comprehensive Plan was the integration of existing
9	street networks. So in each instance that is what
10	has been attempted to be done relative to the
11	interconnection of 9th and 7th and 6th and Mark
12	Street, trying to provide for the smooth
13	integration of traffic movement, pedestrian
14	movement, and to blend this in as part of the
15	overall community.
16	Clearly, there are limitations when you get
17	to the westerly half of the property because of
18	the elements of the creek and adjacent industrial.
19	One of the objectives the City identified
20	was for longer term-planning for the
21	interconnection for 12th Street with the street
22	network that is being developed within this plan
23	here.
24	And so as a result of that, we have

248 provided for a dedication area that will permit 1 2 the creation of a public street right-of-way in the future should there be a circumstance in the 3 future where there might be redevelopment of the 4 industrial site to the west. 5 6 That is something that was requested by the City, and we have integrated that for that 7 8 purpose. 9 One of the things that has been identified in the standards is to try to find ways to provide 10 open space to protect some of the natural areas, 11 12 native vegetation, provide a pedestrian-friendly 13 environment, the things Mr. Amundson went through point by point. 14 15 Let's take a look at the plan up on the 16 screen which has the site plan over layed on the 17 aerial photograph and gives juxtaposition for 18 existing uses. 19 And some of things that we attempted to 20 incorporate in this plan to accommodate some of 21 the PUD objectives are pedestrian interconnections 22 in the northwest corner of the site and in the center of the site to what will be in the future a 23

bike path and trail that the park district has

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249 1 planned to take over when the railroad spur is 2 vacated. And we have also provided for pedestrian 3 interconnection from the internal Ryan Street in 4 this subdivision to the south to the park that the 6 park district is working on. As part of the discussions we had with 7 8 staff and actually as a part of the testimony that 9 was provided and may very well have been in front of this body or else the planning and development 10 11 committee, the owner of Holm Industry up here through his legal counsel said, "We are concerned 12 because we relied upon being able to obtain fire 13 access on your property because of past conduct 14 15 and the way the adjacent owners cooperated." 16 And so in working with the fire department 17 and staff, there was a driveway designed that 18 would allow for that emergency access that would 19 help to service the needs of the Holm Industry 20 site, trying to be respectful of the adjacent 21 conditions. 22 You can see that based upon the allocation of densities as it conforms with the objectives of 23 24 the Plan, we have located the lower density,

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1	single-family on the east side. We have focused
2	the bulk of the traditional townhomes on the
3	westerly part of the property. And then up in the
4	northeast corner are the row homes.
5	And all of this is provided through a
6	respect for and a protection of the natural
7	conditions that exist along the southern boundary
8	of the site most immediately adjacent to the
9	existing residential properties.
10	As testified to by Terry Smith, the State
11	Street Creek has been protected as a natural
12	corridor with respect to the native vegetation.
13	The retention ponds have been located in the lower
14	areas but with a distance from the creek so as to
15	protect those natural conditions.
16	But so now we have the creek, the native
17	vegetation, the natural conditions there, along
18	with the open space for the detention facilities
19	that provide buffers and setbacks and protections
20	to adjacent property owners.
21	In addition, we have looked at how we can
22	best accommodate things such as addressing
23	creative storm water approaches. We have
24	identified the three detention facilities. As

stated, those detention facilities are not the older style, wet-bottom facilities. These are native grasses. They have natural vegetation, emergent vegetation. That is really what is the driving goal these days of effective storm water management design.

The reason for that is it helps to implement what is referred to these days as "best management practices." It helps facilitate the cleaning of the water. The natural vegetation provides a filtration effect so that as the water is collected in those areas it is actually filtered and cleaned before it is discharged.

So these are the kinds of things that as a planned unit development we are attempting to incorporate into this overall plan that helps to address the kind of goals that are enunciated in sections established in the PUD standards.

If you would like, I will go through each of these in particular. But quite frankly, I believe that the testimony that has been given by all of the Applicant's witnesses is testament to the efforts that have been made by this Applicant to try to be sensitive to all of the standards

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1	that the City has set forth, within reason.
2	And we will be the first to admit that not
3	every objective can be accomplished. And it is
4	particularly difficult in dealing with the site
5	that has some of the constraints and impediments
6	that this site has.
7	But on balance, I believe we have done an
8	excellent job of addressing the types of
9	standards, these kinds of objectives, and allowing
10	the site to be potentially cleaned up,
11	redeveloped, and put back into a productive
12	neighborhood environment through the
13	implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.
14	Now, again, I turn to you as the Plan
15	Commission. You tell me what you would like me to
16	do with respect to the standard. If you want me
17	to go through MAP amendment standards, I will be
18	happy to do that. I can go through point by point
19	on every PUD standard as well as every Special Use
20	standard. I will be happy to do that as well.
21	But I don't want to belabor this
22	presentation and run it unnecessarily long unless
23	this is something that you would like me to do
24	based upon the information you received so far.

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1	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: I think that what we
2	will do and I have asked staff to provide a
3	short summary of that. So we don't we don't
4	need to go through it in detail. We are familiar
5	with it.
6	And just for the public's information, all
7	of these standards are straight out of the zoning
8	ordinance and contained on the applications. But
9	those are the things that we consider in coming up
10	with what type of recommendation we are going to
11	make.
12	So what we will do if as soon as you are
13	done, I will see if there are any questions of you
14	regarding what you have discussed so far. But
15	then I will ask our staff to give a summary of
16	that. And we will have a short discussion on
17	those standards to make sure you know,
18	obviously, we want to make sure that we have all
19	the information that we need if we feel that
20	closing the public hearing is appropriate tonight.
21	MR. STILLWELL: Very well.
22	One other thing I wanted to comment on in
23	closing, Mr. Doyle had raised the question about
24	the TIF. And it is not so much TIF as what the

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1	TIF represents, which is an attempt to address a
2	blighted condition.
3	And I will state for the record this
4	qualifies as a blighted condition. And obviously,
5	going forward, we have eligibility requirements
6	that have to be met and that type of thing.
7	But really the issue to look at is, if it
8	is blighted, how does that interact with the PUD
9	standards? I think that the blighted condition
10	does, in fact, very much integrate with the PUD
11	standards because it sets a primary goal that is
12	enunciated by the City Council in its
13	Comprehensive Plan to eliminate that condition and
14	to find a viable plan that will allow that to
15	happen within the constraints of economic reality.
16	And everything that gets done in life,
17	whether it is a public project or a private
18	project, has to work within budgetary constraints.
19	Part of the problem that we have as a
20	nation and as a state is the failure to adhere to
21	those budgetary constraints.
22	So we come to you asking you for your due
23	consideration and hopefully recommendation of
24	approval based upon the arduous efforts we have

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	made to try to blend those budgetary constraints
2	with all of the goals and visions that have been
3	enunciated by the City in your guidelines and your
4	documents, your Comprehensive Plan, and your
5	Zoning Ordinance.
6	Thank you.
7	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. Thank
8	you.
9	Russ, would you like to provide us with a
10	kind of a summary of the findings of fact?
11	MR. COLBY: Sure. I will summarize them
12	for you.
13	And there is three different applications
14	that are before the Plan Commission for
15	consideration. The first is the MAP amendment,
16	zoning MAP amendment. Second is the special use
17	for PUD application. And third is the application
18	of approval of the PUD preliminary plan.
19	There are findings of fact that are
20	associated with two of these applications, the
21	first one being the MAP amendment. This is the
22	rezoning. It changes the zoning of the property
23	from a manufacturing district to the two
24	residential districts.

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1	The list of the findings that are to be
2	considered generally include the following topics:
3	The existing uses and zoning of the nearby
4	property, the extent to which property values are
5	diminished by those zoning restrictions, the
6	suitability of the property for the purpose for
7	which it is presently zoned, the length of time
8	that the property has been vacant, evidence or
9	lack of evidence of the community's need for the
10	use permitted by the current zoning, the
11	consistency of the proposed zoning change with the
12	City Comprehensive Plan, whether the zoning
13	corrects an error or an omission on the zoning
14	map, the extent to which the proposed zoning
15	change creates non-conformity, and the trend of
16	the development in the general area in question.
17	All of those are part of the MAP amendment
18	application.
19	And the zoning ordinance does not require
20	that all of these findings be in the affirmative,
21	but that the Plan Commission will make a
22	recommendation based on the preponderance of the
23	evidence that is presented. That is the MAP
24	amendment application.

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1	The special use for a PUD application for a
2	planned unit development, the zoning ordinance
3	requires that the Plan Commission make a finding
4	as to whether or not the PUD overall is in the
5	public interest. And there is specific criteria
6	that are used to assess whether or not the PUD is
7	in the public interest.
8	Just to run through those quickly: One,
9	that the proposed PUD advances one or more of the
10	purposes of the planned unit development
11	procedure.
12	Two, the PUD preliminary plans conform to
13	the requirements of the underlying zoning district
14	except where the requirements would either inhibit
15	the creative design or the requirement would be
16	impractical. And the proposed PUD would provide
17	benefits that would outweigh the variances that
18	are requested.
19	Third, that the proposed PUD conforms to
20	the standards applicable for special uses.
21	Fourth, that the PUD be beneficial to the
22	physical development, diversity, tax base, and
23	economic well-being of the City.
24	And then fifth, that the PUD conforms to

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1	the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan.
2	So those are all the criteria that are
3	considered in making the decision whether or not
4	the project is in the public interest.
5	And then the third application is the
6	application for PUD preliminary plan. And these
7	are considered as supporting information for the
8	special use for PUD application. So that would be
9	recommendations just based on the plans that are
10	provided in support of the PUD.
11	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right, Russ.
12	MR. COLBY: That is the summary that I
13	have.
14	MS. TUNGARE: I have one comment to the
15	summary that has been provided.
16	The findings of fact that Mr. Stillwell was
17	referring to were responses to these questions or
18	these criteria that Russ just summarized.
19	The Applicant has provided their responses
20	that Mr. Stillwell offered to the Commission.
21	Those are included in your packets and made
22	available publicly as well.
23	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. Thank
24	you, Rita.

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1	Anything further from the members of the
2	Plan Commission?
3	MR. DOYLE: I have one question for the
4	Applicant.
5	You mentioned economic reality and
6	constraints and the trade-offs that you need to
7	consider as you develop this plan.
8	One that I would like to try to understand
9	just a little bit more is the switch from the
10	neo-traditional design to the more suburban
11	townhomes with the front-loading garages.
12	What obstacles led you to make the
13	change that change? And conversely, what would
14	be required if it is even possible to sort of
15	describe it concisely what kind of changes
16	would be required to allow this plan to remove the
17	front-loading garages? You know, is there a
18	way what is the trade-off?
19	MR. STILLWELL: If you remember the
20	original plan, which is actually in here, that was
21	the plan you saw back in 2008. The townhomes that
22	you see there both up in the northeast corner as
23	well as all of this in here are neo-traditional
24	design with motor courts. So all of this layout

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1	incorporated that rear-load garage design. That
2	was actually what was able to provide the density
3	of 175 units on the site.
4	The there were a number of issues that
5	had to be taken into account as the developer
6	talked with the community, found out what the
7	feedback was and where the problems lie including
8	an important one which was density.
9	One of the things that has evolved and
10	continued to evolve as a result of the shift in
11	the market that we are dealing with is that the
12	neo-traditional design which is a vertical design
13	which goes over the garages and involves greater
14	stairways and smaller spaces that are vertical
15	have fallen out of favor. They are not the type
16	of product that people are looking for.
17	And so that was a component of it. We
18	definitely want to present to you a proposed
19	development that, in fact, has market viability
20	and can perform as projected. And the intensity
21	of the neo-traditional style posed a problem from
22	that perspective.
23	It also posed a problem from the
24	improvement perspective. There is a tremendously

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1	greater amount of improvement surface on that plan
2	in order to have the motor courts.
3	If you look at that plan and you
4	juxtaposition to the plan I had up a little bit
5	ago, you will see much, much less green space
6	within the townhome area.
7	On a challenging site such as this, that
8	only exacerbated the problem, not just from an
9	economic position which were severe but also from
10	the standpoint of the site conditions that we are
11	dealing with and that are a part of the economic
12	package that is being discussed between the
13	Applicant and the City.
14	And so all of both of those factors came
15	together. So then, once we had to start looking
16	at reducing density, we needed to start looking at
17	alternative product types that would lend itself
18	to that lower density and provide market
19	feasibility that would support sufficient revenue
20	streams. Everybody understands that. It is the
21	way we run our households and our businesses and a
22	development.
23	And so ultimately, you have to find a
24	vehicle by which you can design this and build it

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1	out in a fashion that is not just marketable but
2	feasible.
3	So overall, those are the conditions that
4	lead to the switch from the neo-traditional design
5	which initially the Applicant was happy to try to
6	move forward with and try to make it work.
7	But there was definite resistance from the
8	community that forced us to reassess what would be
9	an appropriate product mix that would address some
10	of the other criteria of the community and still
11	meet the standards.
12	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Anything further?
13	All right. All right.
14	If the Planning Commission feels they have
15	received sufficient evidence to make a
16	recommendation
17	Yes, Brian.
18	MR. DOYLE: One question we have for
19	staff.
20	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Go ahead.
21	MR. DOYLE: Would you please clarify the
22	status of the land/cash formulas for the school
23	district? Do the have those formulas been
24	satisfied?

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1	MR. COLBY: The Applicant has submitted
2	the land/cash worksheet that is a part of the
3	City's application. And they are showing
4	population student generation numbers based on the
5	City's formulas. And that worksheet shows that
6	they are proposing that the requirement of their
7	subdivision for the land/cash donation be an
8	all-cash donation based on those formulas.
9	So they are complying with the City's
10	ordinance for the land/cash requirement. And the
11	school district has received a copy of that. And
12	they have not requested that there be any type of
13	land donation in connection with this development
14	which would be the only question we would be
15	asking them in terms of land/cash requirements.
16	MR. DOYLE: Thank you.
17	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: One other thing.
18	Prior to our next meeting, would you be able to
19	provide the do you have the transcript
20	available from when this was before us previously
21	back when the site plan was
22	MR. COLBY: From the concept plan
23	application?
24	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Yes.

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1	MR. COLBY: Yes. We have minutes.
2	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Would you be able to
3	provide those?
4	MR. COLBY: Yes.
5	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. All right.
6	Anything further?
7	As I was saying, if the Plan Commission
8	feels that they have enough information and have
9	received enough evidence to make a decision
10	whether to recommend denial or approval of this
11	application or these three applications to the
12	City Council, a motion to close the public hearing
13	would be in order?
14	MS. AMATANGELO: So moved.
15	MR. SCHUETZ: Second.
16	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: It has been moved and
17	seconded.
18	Any discussion on the motion?
19	Okay. Roll call.
20	Doyle.
21	MR. DOYLE: Aye.
22	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Pretz.
23	MR. PRETZ: Yes.
24	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Henningson?

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1	MR. HENNINGSON: Yes.
2	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Schuetz.
3	MR. SCHUETZ: Yes.
4	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Amatangelo.
5	MS. AMATANGELO: Yes.
6	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Wallace. Yes.
7	All right. The public hearing is now
8	closed. And that concludes Item No. 4 on your
9	agendas.
10	And staff, just for public information, I
11	am assuming that this will be before us on our
12	October 18th meeting.
13	MR. COLBY: Yes. That's correct.
14	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Okay. All right.
15	Item 5 on the agenda, meeting
16	announcements.
17	If anyone is not going to be here for the
18	next three meetings
19	(No response.)
20	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Item 6, additional
21	business from Plan Commission members.
22	All right. Staff? Citizens?
23	All right. Item 7 is adjournment.
24	Is there a motion?

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1	MR. SCHUETZ: I move we adjourn this
2	meeting.
3	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: All right. I move to
4	second it.
5	All in favor?
6	(The ayes were thereupon
7	heard.)
8	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: Opposed?
9	(No response.)
10	CHAIRMAN WALLACE: The St. Charles Plan
11	Commission is adjourned at 9:50 p.m.
12	(Which were all the proceedings
13	had in the above-entitled
14	matter at the hour of
15	9:50 P.M.)
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1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
2	COUNTY OF K A N E)
3	I, Geri L. Warsop-Denson, Certified
4	Shorthand Reporter No. 084-003233, CSR, RPR, do
5	hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the
6	proceedings had in the above-entitled matter and
7	that the foregoing is a true, correct, and
8	complete transcript of my shorthand notes so taken
9	as aforesaid.
10	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my
11	hand on this 11th day of October, 2011.
12	
13	a call co
14	Meril Denson
15	John John John John John John John John
	Certified Shorthand Reporter
16	Registered Professional Reporter
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