

Transcript of Administrative Hearing

Date: August 18, 2017

Case: DBVR, Rockville, LP - Animal Boarding & Care

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	FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND	2	Columbia	, Maryland		
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ŀ	In Re: :	4	VICTORIA	BRYANT		
5	DBVR, Rockville, LP : Case No.	5				
ŝ	Animal Boarding & Care : CU 17-15	6	9220 Wig	htman Road, Suite 120		
7	Application of John Wesson :	7		ry Village, Maryland		
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PROCEEDINGS LYNN ROBESON: That notice went out. 1 LYNN ROBESON: I'm calling the case of DBVR Rockville 2 SOO LEE-CHO: Right. 3 LP; an application for a conditional use to operate an 3 LYNN ROBESON: That was 10 days in advance of the 4 animal care and boarding facility at 11503 Rockville Pike, 4 hearing. SOO LEE-CHO: So that's been granted. 5 Rockville, Maryland, 20852, on land in the CR zone. The 5 6 property is identified as Parcel A, August Heller property. LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. 6 Okay. If the parties could identify themselves for the SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Thank you. 8 record. 8 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. So why don't you proceed? SOO LEE-CHO: Morning. Soo Lee-Cho with the law firm SOO LEE-CHO: Sure. Before I get to a very brief 10 of Miller, Miller, and Canby on behalf of the petitioner, 10 opening statement, I just wanted to give you a preview of 11 Dr. Boyd's Vet Resorts. And I have witnesses which I can go 11 the witnesses that we will be presenting. The first witness 12 through after the preliminaries. 12 will be Dr. John Wesson who is the petitioner, majority 13 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. 13 owner of Dr. Boyd's Vet Resort. The second in line would be 14 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. 14 our traffic engineer, Mr. David Nelson, to address the 15 LYNN ROBESON: Is there anyone here today that is not 15 traffic questions that you raised. It's a bit out of order 16 going to be called by Ms. Cho? Yes, can you come forward? 16 from my normal. 17 Let me say this; are you in opposition? 17 LYNN ROBESON: Right. 18 18 FEMALE VOICE: No. SOO LEE-CHO: But I would like to take care of those 19 LYNN ROBESON: No, you are in support. 19 issues and allow Mr. Nelson to be excused from the hearing 20 FEMALE VOICE: Mm-hm [affirmative]. 20 if the Hearing Examiner has no further need --21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. All right. 21 LYNN ROBESON: That's fine. SOO LEE-CHO: They are with the project team. They are SOO LEE-CHO: Then we will move on to Mr. John Rubin, 23 just associates of the witnesses that have joined as 23 who is Dr. Boyd's chief safety and training officer who 24 backup. 24 will address the behavioral science elements of our LYNN ROBESON: Okay. So is there anyone in opposition 25 presentation which will go to the noise management issue 1 here today? Seeing none, I do have the affidavit of posting that was also raised by the Hearing Examiner. Next will be 2 and I'm going to add that to the record as Exhibit 33. All commercial interior designer Robin Menge of GTM Architects, right. Okay. With that, are there any preliminary matters? to provide information about the existing shell structure SOO LEE-CHO: None that I am aware of other than, I of the tenant space that's to be occupied by Dr. Boyd's and 5 it's -- to assist with the soundproofing finding that we guess the previous motion to amend which has most recently 6 been further modified in terms of the landscape plans. 6 will need to make. Next will be our acoustical engineer LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Well, our -- what I'm going to that we brought on most recently, Miss Tracy Seymour, to be 8 have to do I believe, there is -- we generally keep the responsive to the Hearing Examiner's questioning relating 9 record open for 10 days to receive the transcript. And to, again, noise attenuation, and noise impacts. And then 10 because this is a last-minute motion to amend, I'm going to 10 finally, we will have Vic Bryant, our landscape architect, 11 allow anyone who has any comments on them. I also haven't 11 land planner, from Macris, Hendrix, and Glasscock, who 12 heard from Staff as to how long it's going to take them to 12 normally I would have in the front end. 13 review the amendment because I have to refer any amendments 13 LYNN ROBESON: I know. 14 back to Staff. So I'll keep -- I'm going to try -- Staff 14 SOO LEE-CHO: But in this case, I think makes sense 15 said that they would try to get back to me during the 15 sort of bringing up the rear. 16 hearing this morning to see how long it would take to --16 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. All right. 17 for them to review the amendment. So the record is going to 17 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. So a very brief opening statements 18 be open for at least 10 days. So I'm going to allow any 18 to orientate you to the site. I am looking at Exhibit 18, 19 objections or to the motion to amend to come in during that 19 which is already in the record. If there is zoning vicinity 20 timeframe. All right. Okay. With that --20 map. The property is highlighted in blue. It is located at SOO LEE-CHO: There was a previous motion to amend 21 11503 Rockville Pike. It's in the northeast quadrant of the 22 corner of Rockville Pike, Maryland 355, and Nicholson Lane. 22 that had other elements in addition to the plans so we 23 submitted a revised traffic statement --23 The zoning is CR 4.0. 24 LYNN ROBESON: Right. 24 LYNN ROBESON: You don't have to go through that part. SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Thank you. 25 SOO LEE-CHO: We got a statement of justification.

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LYNN ROBESON: I have it in the record.

- SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. We -- you will hear further from
- 3 our land planner, but the Applicant accepts the Technical
- 4 Staff's more narrower definition of the neighborhood. And
- 5 just to give you a little bit of an orientation, this is
- 6 the existing conditions plan, which is Exhibit 15, already
- in the record. The site is shown. You've got the Nuclear
- 8 Regulatory Commission to the north. There is another retail
- 9 center immediately to the south of the corner. You've got
- 10 Rockville Pike and there is the -- there is a Strathmore
- 11 Court condominium direct to the northeast which you've
- 12 already honed in on. There is an auto repair on the site.
- 13 It's a highly developed, commercial area. All right. With
- 14 that, I will bring up Dr. Wesson.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. You didn't bring any puppies with 15 16 you.
- 17 JOHN WESSON: No.
- 18 LYNN ROBESON: I was kind of looking forward to it.
- 19 JOHN WESSON: I would love to have brought dogs.
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Actually, they can't get through
- 21 security unless they are -- go ahead.
- 22. SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: Sorry. Please raise your right hand. Do
- 24 solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that the
- 25 statements you're about to make or the truth, the whole

- testimony and exhibits that are to be presented today by
- yourself as well as others on your behalf and by any
- conditions that the Hearing Examiner may include in the
- granting of this conditional use?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Will you please give us a brief 6
- description of your education and professional training?
 - JOHN WESSON: I received my bachelor's degree at
- 9 Harvard University and my doctorate of veterinary medicine
- 10 at the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary 11 Medicine.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Why are you seeking this conditional 12
- 13 use?
- JOHN WESSON: So our goal is, in addition to providing 14
- 15 a full-service medical facility, to provide a unique resort
- 16 for dogs and cats that has been designed by veterinarians
- 17 and professional trainers to meet the behavioral needs of
- 18 dogs and cats. It is an experience that is unique so far in
- 19 our industry and we have integrated in with the dog and cat
- 20 resort, a full-service hospital, training, and grooming. We
- 21 are the only facility of our kind that is open 24 hours and
- 22 constantly supervised by veterinarians and by professional
- 23 trainers.

- LYNN ROBESON: Is it your understanding that animal
- 25 boarding is, for medical reasons, permitted by right for

- truth, and nothing but the truth?
- 2 JOHN WESSON: I do.
- 3 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Go ahead Ms. Cho.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Dr. Wesson, can you please state your
- full name for the record?
- JOHN WESSON: My name is John O. Wesson. 6
- SOO LEE-CHO: And your address?
- 8 JOHN WESSON: 10808 Fox Hunt Lane, Potomac, Maryland
- 20854.
- SOO LEE-CHO: What is your relationship to the 10
- 11 petitioner Dr. Boyd's Vet Resort?
- JOHN WESSON: I am the majority owner of Dr. Boyd's
- 13 Veterinary Resort in Rockville.
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: So would it be --
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: DBVR?
- 16 JOHN WESSON: I'm sorry, yes.
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: You are the majority owner of DBVR
- 18 Rockville LP?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes, that is correct. 19
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 21 JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- SOO LEE-CHO: So would it be fair to say that you are
- 23 the petitioner in this matter?
- 24 JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- 25 SOO LEE-CHO: Do you agree to be bound by all the

- your hospital?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- SOO LEE-CHO: But it's your understanding that a
- conditional use is required for nonmedical boarding. Is
- that correct?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Before we get into the specifics of why
- 8 here and in this facility, could you just give a little
- background on the mission and philosophy of Dr. Boyd's and
- 10 your existing facilities out in California? Just a little
- 11 background.
- JOHN WESSON: Absolutely. We are unique because we
- 13 really -- unlike the rest of our industry, if there is --
- 14 could be said to be such a thing in which hospitals have
- 15 added on boarding facilities or boarding facilities exist,
- 16 but without veterinarians and without trainers. We really
- 17 created something unique and we remain unique right now in
- 18 the industry in which we really focus on the behavioral
- 19 medical needs of dogs and cats. That is, both from the
- 20 standpoint of facility designed to meet their behavioral
- 21 health and medical needs and also from the standpoint of 22 operational procedures and the rigor with which we run the
- 23 facility and supervise their care. And it's --
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: How do you control cats?
- 25 JOHN WESSON: Exactly.

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LYNN ROBESON: I'm just saying. I have --

JOHN WESSON: I know.

2 LYNN ROBESON: Anyway, that was --

JOHN WESSON: Yeah.

LYNN ROBESON: I just -- I don't know. It's been a

crazy morning. I didn't mean to interrupt.

JOHN WESSON: No, but to fairly answer your --

LYNN ROBESON: I have cats, so I --

JOHN WESSON: Yes, so do I. You know, to fairly answer

10 your question, I think that we've really had a lot of

11 experience and expertise on how to reduce stress. And so we

12 have an exam room, for example, that is really the feline

13 exam room where the design of the room, the use of things

14 like a towel warmer, the way that we've also designed the

15 part of the building which cats can board so that they can

16 really meet their needs. So instead of animals being

17 confined, they can move. They can demonstrate and exercise

18 normal behaviors as if they were home. I think that's one

19 of the areas where we find that our guests are a lot

20 happier and healthier than in traditional boarding

21 facilities.

22. LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Good.

23 SOO LEE-CHO: Can you tell us a little bit about your

24 California facilities?

JOHN WESSON: Yes. So the first facility in San Diego

SOO LEE-CHO: And just very quickly; can you give us a

sense of the sizes of the two California facilities and the

number of animals that you manage? Just as a comparable to

what we are proposing here in Rockville.

5 JOHN WESSON: Yeah. So the San Diego facility is

smaller. It's closer to 8000 square foot. The Irvine

facility is quite a bit bigger at almost 25,000 square

feet, whereas here, we are closer to 12,500 square feet.

One of the really wonderful things about the Rockville

10 facility is two-parted. One is that we've been able to

11 benefit when it came time to design the facility. And we

12 already had the operational protocols and procedures had

13 reached a really mature state with -- and we really

14 benefited from the experience of our California operations.

15 But when it was time to design Rockville facility, we also

16 benefited from all the lessons learned on exactly how

17 things should flow and be laid out. And so to go back to

18 the earlier question, in the Irvine facility, the maximum

19 capacity is slightly greater. For instance, say

20 Thanksgiving or Christmas holiday when we reach maximum

21 capacity there is probably -- there is well over 200 dogs

22 possible, dogs and cats possible in Irvine. I don't know

23 the exact number down in San Diego. It's quite a bit

24 smaller. I don't think that they can quite exceed 100 dogs

25 because it's simply a smaller facility. But when we set out

14

1 opened in December 2011, so it's over $5\frac{1}{2}$ years old. The

2 second, in Irvine, California, about an hour north, opened

3 in December of 2014. And in each case, I think that both

4 facilities were strongly embraced by their surrounding

5 communities because our offering is unique. Everything from

6 not only the experience that everyone has when they are

7 there, but also our accessibility and our transparency. In

8 other words, people can come in 24 hours a day to drop off

9 and pick up. Staff are there to supervise 24 hours a day.

10 Doctors are on call 24 hours a day. In fact, I think what's

11 really interesting about this unique model when we first

12 got it off the ground, is the degree to which even a

13 nonmedical boarder is under medical supervision because we

14 are still looking at how they are walking when they come

15 through the door and what their skin and eyes and ears look

16 like. We pay incredibly close attention and document what

17 percentage of every meal they eat and whether or not a

18 doctor needs to take a look at them while they are staying

19 even if when they arrived they were a nonmedical boarder

20 because they didn't require a doctor's exam or vaccination

21 or a test. So I think that the quality of the experience

22 that we provide is unique and I think that in those

23 markets, we remain -- there is no direct competitor because

24 no one really offers the experience or the facility or the

25 supervision that we have.

to design Rockville, one of the wonderful things was that

with this completely open floor plan, which we've not had at the two California facilities; there were a lot of

design constraints, a lot of spaces that couldn't be

changed and walls that cannot be moved. We had a wonderful

blank slate with the open floor plan of the previous

Staples store. And we are really able to do the things

we've always wanted to do with everything we've learned

over the last five years.

10 SOO LEE-CHO: And what brings you to the East Coast?

JOHN WESSON: So I've lived here for the last seven

12 years; a little over seven years. My wife's family are all

13 here. So family drew us to the area. It's sort of a natural

14 place for us to live as well. In fact, my -- John Boyd, my

15 business partner, asked me repeatedly after I moved here to

16 move back to California to partner with him in this new

17 resort concept and I finally convinced him that this was --

18 that I needed to bring the operation out here and that we

19 needed to offer this in this county in this area and that I

20 was personally committed to living here and that I thought

21 this was a wonderful model to which no one offered even a 22 close facsimile. It would be really great thing to bring to

23 this area.

24 SOO LEE-CHO: And you entered into a long-term lease 25 with the landlord of the property Saul (phonetic) Centers

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17 JOHN WESSON: Yes. Inc. 2 LYNN ROBESON: The convalescent or --JOHN WESSON: Yes, we have. 2 SOO LEE-CHO: And what is the term of that lease? JOHN WESSON: Mm-hm [affirmative]. JOHN WESSON: Ten years with the option to extend and 4 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. All right. it's been successful. JOHN WESSON: Yes, I consider -- whether a dog is a SOO LEE-CHO: Is the unit, the tenant space, patient or a guest, I count them all, absolutely. So we identified on the conditional use site plan? provide the full scope of services and then some, that any JOHN WESSON: Yes, it is. veterinary hospital would provide. On top of that, we SOO LEE-CHO: And that's the area identified in red on provide daycare and boarding for dogs. Boarding for cats. 10 We have a full-time trainer which is a very important 10 the first sheet of the conditional use plan site? JOHN WESSON: Yes, it is. 11 differentiator. We have a full-time bathing and grooming SOO LEE-CHO: This is the updated set. Did you want to 12 Staff as well. 13 enter this as an exhibit? SOO LEE-CHO: Will the animals be allowed to run, LYNN ROBESON: Oh, yes. Wait (inaudible) from the 14 walk, or exercise outside of the designated outdoor play 15 motion to amend? I think it's already in the record. Let me 15 area? 16 just get the exhibit number for the -- so the transcript JOHN WESSON: No, they will not. 16 17 knows what we are talking about. 17 SOO LEE-CHO: And would a conditional approval that SOO LEE-CHO: I see Exhibit 31 as a letter to you 18 limits the outdoor exercise to that designated area and not 19 regarding the modification, but the subsection just says 19 beyond the vet area and in the parking lot be acceptable to 20 landscape plan and the (inaudible) for some reason. 20 you? 21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Well, then we better add it. So 21 JOHN WESSON: Yes. 22 --LYNN ROBESON: I did have a question. You have -- I 23 SOO LEE-CHO: I did not -- submitted this in 23 don't know if you're going to testify as to the operations, 24 (inaudible) 24 but there is a condition in the Staff Report saying no more LYNN ROBESON: Okay. So you didn't -- so let's call --25 than two people leave in the peak period. Typically, when 18 1 let's change it. Strike the vicinity map and will call it 1 we have traffic issues like that, we make a condition -- what was this sheet? Revised Sheet 1? setting Staff shift times. So are you -- now, I can't SOO LEE-CHO: Revised -- well, all three -- we just remember the exhibit that lists your Staff shift times. provided this set. Maybe it's the traffic statement. 5 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. A revised conditional use plan. 5 MALE VOICE: Yes. SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. Plan set. So revised conditional LYNN ROBESON: But are you -- do you agree to a use plan set. condition if -- of approval binding you to those staffing LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 8 shifts? SOO LEE-CHO: So there are three sheets and then set. 9 JOHN WESSON: Yes, and I think actually the best --10 yes, as a simple answer. And to expand on that a little 10 That will be Exhibit 31B. LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I have that. Yes, I don't know 11 bit, our shifts, because we are a 24-hour facility and 12 why it was marked as -- I have it. Okay. So that's correct. 12 because our clients; we noticed this very early in the SOO LEE-CHO: All right. So you've provided a lot of 13 operation in California because we were the first to offer 14 information already that I had. Okay. Did we already cover 14 only 24-hour operation and supervision, but also, in 15 the general scope of services that you intend to provide? 15 addition to that, 24-hour drop off and pick up. You can JOHN WESSON: So the full scope of services beginning 16 pick up or drop off at any hour with no penalty or no extra 17 with the hospital; we are a full-service, fully equipped 17 fee and that's completely unique. And so what we quickly 18 hospital so we provide wellness care, we provide surgery, 18 found when we begin operating in California, everybody --19 dentistry, imaging both general and dental imaging and 19 all of our clients immediately understood what that meant

20 thermal imaging. We provide rehabilitation including

23 care as well.

25 within the boarding facility?

21 therapeutic laser. We provide convalescent care so dogs who

LYNN ROBESON: Are they counted as part of the dogs

22 are recovering from surgery. We do provide hospitalized

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20 and suddenly we had lots of people wanting to drop off at

21 5:00 and 6:00 in the morning on the way to the airport or

22 work, wanting to pick up after dinner; things like that. So 23 my morning Staff starting time is 6:00 a.m. and my evening

24 Staff work until 10:00 p.m. So our normal -- we've had to

25 Staff for the way the world has responded to our business

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model and so we, I think, can easily conform with that

- 2 requirement because that's how we actually run our business
- because we need -- I need all of my Staff turning over at
- off-peak times in order to operate.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thank you.
- SOO LEE-CHO: And just to clarify; when you say off-
- peak, do you mean off-peak in terms of standard trip
- generation peak periods or your operational peak periods?
- JOHN WESSON: I mean in terms of the standard traffic 10 footprint, yes.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Why don't we talk a little bit
- 12 about the outdoor yard and how you would intend to use and
- 13 manage the yard? First, in terms of the number of animals
- 14 and how many rotate. And then we will take care of the
- 15 waste management separate.
- JOHN WESSON: Okay. So all of the yards, whether they
- 17 are the two main indoor yards -- there is actually three
- 18 indoor yards that -- shall I go to the diagram?
- LYNN ROBESON: Let me --
- 20 SOO LEE-CHO: If I could introduce a new exhibit at
- 21 this point to assist; this shows a bit of the site, but
- 22 it's the layout internally of both the indoor facility and
- 23 that this is the outdoor yard.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And so that would be 34. And how
- 25 would you describe that?
 - SOO LEE-CHO: The floor plan exhibit.
- LYNN ROBESON: Why don't we start again? 2
- JOHN WESSON: Okay. So referring to Exhibit --
- LYNN ROBESON: I'm sorry it's -- okay. You've marked
- it. Okay. Thank you.
- JOHN WESSON: Referring to Exhibit 34, this is a
- layout of our facility that we created for our website as a
- 8 virtual tour. And so when you look here on the northeastern
- 9 corner of the indoor floor plan, you see two big yards that
- 10 we call rehab and training one and two. Then a smaller yard
- 11 towards the eastern side of the building called the
- 12 breakout yard. So this is the main indoor yards. So the
- 13 activities that would occur and there would be things like
- 14 rehabilitation sessions, training sessions. For instance,
- 15 we will eventually have, for rehabilitation, a water
- 16 treadmill in there, which is a wonderful tool. So dogs are 17 --
- LYNN ROBESON: You gotta love it. 18
- JOHN WESSON: It's wonderful. People love watching it. 19
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Can I go there?
- SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah. Nobody drops off for that.
- 22 Everybody was to watch the water treadmill because it's so
- 23 neat. Because it has Plexiglas wall so you can see the
- 24 walking in the water, say you are recovering from a knee or
- 25 hip surgery. So to be -- for a dog to be in an indoor yard

- 1 -- let me back up. When a dog first arrives, has come to
- our facility for the very first time, that dog is something
- that we call a playtime cycle dog and this is a program
- that John Rubin, our chief safety and training officer, has
- created. That dog arrives as an unknown quantity. We don't
- know how socialized that dog is, how appropriately behaved
- around other dogs, people, respond to stimuli. So you can
- essentially say that all dogs arrive sort of on probation
- and our full-time trainer has to evaluate them and
- 10 determine that they show appropriate etiquette to be around
- 11 other dogs and to be exposed to time in the yard. And so
- 12 once a dog passes that evaluation test, which takes time.
- 13 It's a slow deliberate process. And sometimes people call
- 14 us to say, why is -- why did my dog only spend half the day
- 15 doing the activity that was expected of him? Because it
- 16 took that much time to methodically evaluate the dog and
- 17 make sure that we were characterizing it correctly and
- 18 placing it where it belongs. So these yards can be used for
- 19 anything from playgroups, when we are allowed to have a
- 20 full scale daycare operation, which boarders also
- 21 participate in once they've been screened. We can also use
- 22 it for training and rehabilitation or just basic exercise
- 23 if the dog is boarding, is not able to be with other dog,
- 24 but is taken out to get some exercise to get his wiggles
- 25 out, and be able to go to the bathroom, things like that.
- 22
- The two outside yards, which are not yet built, would have
- very similar purposes. The benefit of the outside yards is
- if you look around the entire perimeter of the outside
- yards, which are the northeast corner of our property, you
- will see really small, rectangular spaces with little gates
- going into them, and we call those breakout yards as well.
- So a trainer, for example, could be working with dogs and
- rotate them in and out of the main yard as part of a
- training session. It's an area that dogs can also go to if
- 10 they need to rest for a minute. And so the way the yards
- 11 are supervised is, in a simple scenario, if you have a
- 12 group of dogs playing together; so maybe there are 2 dogs,
- 13 10 dogs playing together. We are watching them carefully
- 14 because the yards are supervised 100 percent of the time.
- 15 No dog is outside of its bedroom unsupervised. It's either
- 16 on a leash or it's in the space directly supervised by a
- 17 trained person. And again, that person's been trained --
- LYNN ROBESON: How many -- when you are at the maximum
- 19 level outdoors; I think it's 60; how many Staff do you have
- 20 supervising?
- JOHN WESSON: It will scale. You'd be surprised
- 22 though, that a group of dogs -- 60 is a theoretical maximum
- 23 for this size space. As a practical matter, that's not a
- 24 number to expect on a regular basis. We tend to rotate dogs
- 25 in small groups. Let them play together. Go have a rest.

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1 Bring in another small group. Play for a while. Go have a

- 2 rest. Maybe time to eat. Things like that. Or have other
- 3 services in the facility. And for a group of dogs that is
- 4 -- all of whom have been screened to be socially compatible
- 5 with one another, in many cases, only one or two people can
- 6 supervise them because the etiquette is completely normal.
- 7 They are calm. They are quiet. They're social together.
- 8 They might as well be from the same family. They are all
- 9 displaying perfect behavior. Whenever a dog gets out of
- 10 line, they are immediately removed from the group. And that
- 11 can be permanent and refer to the trainer, or it can be
- 12 temporary to go have a rest and kind of calm down or catch
- 13 their breath, literally. I also carefully screen who can go
- 14 outside because -- part of that is medical. There are dogs
- 15 with various conditions who simply can't go outside unless
- 16 it's 65 degrees with no humidity. So there are a lot of
- 17 dogs, who for medical reasons, I will never allow outside.
- 18 There are also dogs who, for behavioral reasons, I will
- 19 never allow outside. And the dogs who need training and
- 20 need any attention from us to enforce proper etiquette,
- 21 have to stay indoors.
- 22 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 23 SOO LEE-CHO: So based on the other locations of Dr.
- 24 Boyd's in California, can you generally describe what a
- 25 person might see or hear in the outdoor yards based on what

- 1 have a calm, easy to manage etiquette because it is a
- 2 neutral space. All of the Staff, we all we wear black
- 3 scrubs. Everyone wears black from head to toe. The dogs are
- 4 also conditioned to our appearance. So even though a dog
- 5 might know me, a group of dogs my know me, if I walk in
- 6 like this, that might set up. Apparently, the clothes
- 7 really do make the man because they really do react
- 8 differently if I have to walk a plumber through the
- 9 building or if you come and you said I would really love to
- 10 see what it looks like back there and you're not sort of in
- 11 all black -- because I actually gave someone a tour for the
- 12 facility. She happened to be wearing all black that day and
- 13 the dogs almost just calmly moved past her like she was
- 14 Staff. It was really interesting. So that's sort of how---
- 15 it's natural I guess is what I want to say, that the dogs
- 16 display this appropriate etiquette on neutral ground when
- 17 they've all been screened to be in social groups together.
- 18 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 19 SOO LEE-CHO: Can you speak to waste management 20 practices?
- 21 JOHN WESSON: Absolutely.
- 22 SOO LEE-CHO: Both indoor and outdoor and what you
- 23 plan to do for the outdoor in particular.
- 24 JOHN WESSON: Absolutely. We will actually treat them
- 25 the same way. So in the indoor facility, we pick up

1 you just described as your policies?

- JOHN WESSON: Absolutely. So usually, for instance at
- 3 our Irvine, California facility, the play yards are
- 4 actually watched by WebCams. My entire facility is watched
- 5 by WebCams, but in Irvine, California, the WebCams that
- 6 monitor the play yards are also streamed to the website so
- 7 people will watch their dogs play during the day. And what
- 8 you see when you watch that video, which is the same as if
- 9 you are to visit the facility, is that you see dogs; some
- 10 of them are trotting around with each other. Some of them
- 11 are playing. A lot of them are walking. We also have play
- 12 structures where a lot of them are up just watching. A lot
- 13 of them are on trampoline beds resting together. It's a
- 14 very calm kind of thing. It's generally not rambunctious.
- 15 It's a lot more like a cocktail party then an athletic
- 16 event. You know what I mean?
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: I really want to go so I know --
- 18 JOHN WESSON: Yeah. So that's what you see. And these
- 19 dogs, it's really interesting, these dogs are conditioned
- 20 -- first of all, they've been screened, but they are also
- 21 conditioned that this is, I believe the best word is
- 22 neutral territory. So for the dogs this is a safe place.
- 23 None of the dogs in that yard owns the yard. It's not his
- 24 yard. It's a shared space. So this is not his yard at home.
- 25 This is not his living room at home and so the dogs here

- immediately. And so a dog does anything on the floor
- 2 anywhere, it's immediately picked up. And so one of the
- 3 features that everyone remembers and photographs when they
- 4 see the design of indoor yards, is that -- I'm pointing
- 5 right now at the northern border of the building, the wall,
- 6 in Exhibit 34, where the indoor yards one and two meet.
- 7 LYNN ROBESON: And the indoor yards have the orange
- 8 kind -- are colored in the orange?
- 9 JOHN WESSON: Oh, yeah. The floor has a stain --
- 10 LYNN ROBESON: Just for the record.
- 11 JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- 12 LYNN ROBESON: I'm pointing out what you are pointing
- 13 out.

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- 14 JOHN WESSON: That's correct. Yeah, the background
- 15 color here is that orange-tan color. On the diagram, two
- 16 sort of notional play structures have been drawn. So right
- 17 at the northern wall at the very center between those two
- 18 yards, there is a tiny fenced in vestibule where there is a 19 mop sink which everyone would expect to see, and a normal
- 20 toilet, which not everyone would expect to see. And we have
- 21 found with experience, that by far the best way to
- 22 eliminate waste is to put it in a toilet and flush it. So
- 23 we don't store waste. A lot of places have a bag, a bucket,
- 24 trashcan, what have you. So we immediately remove waste. We
- 25 spot clean. So we use something called Cintas [phonetic]

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1 Neutral which is a pH neutral disinfectant that kills all

2 of the bacterial and viral pathogens of interest to me and

- 3 my guests and it's very safe. So you mop or use an auto
- 4 scrubber. We have an auto scrubber machine that cleans all
- 5 the floors of the facility. Then the scooper, if you will,
- 6 is cleaned in the same disinfectant and then rests in a
- 7 bucket of disinfectant. So waste and odors are immediately
- 8 removed. And what we don't do, is have sort of a scheduled
- 9 cleaning time. We clean nonstop. And the outdoor yards will
- 10 also be cleaned. The company that makes the large auto
- 11 scrubber that does the entire interior, makes a smaller one
- 12 that's more suited to the arrangement of the outdoor space.
- 13 And so it's immediate spot cleaning. What we don't do that
- 14 you will see and a lot of animal shelters that we've found
- 15 is a poor way of cleaning, is take a hose and hose down the
- 16 entire area because it sounds thorough, but actually you're
- 17 spreading things. We prefer to clean up on the spot. So the
- 18 outside yard will be exactly as if it was the inside yard.
- 19 We will have a concrete surface.
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: So it's going down the public sewer
- 21 rather than --
- 22 JOHN WESSON: It goes to the sewer.
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: Run off.
- 24 JOHN WESSON: That is correct. That is correct. The
- 25 only thing that will ever run off is clean rainwater when

- 1 down, scrubs, sucks it all back up, and then all that goes
- 2 to sewer and it leaves a walkable service behind it. It's a
 - 3 remarkable machine.
 - LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 5 SOO LEE-CHO: And just to -- for the outdoor yard,
- 6 hours of operation?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes, by --
- 8 SOO LEE-CHO: Can you state operation?
- 9 JOHN WESSON: Yes, we would be out there after 7:00 10 a.m. and in before 9:00 p.m.
- 11 SOO LEE-CHO: How would the medical waste; I assume
- 12 you have some medical waste that you handle for the
- 13 facility?
- 14 JOHN WESSON: Yes, we do. Yeah, it's a standard
- 15 procedure in the hospital. We have special, heavy-duty,
- 16 red, plastic containers that you would see in any medical
- 17 facility called sharps containers. I have a contractor
- 18 whose courier comes and takes it to a licensed incineration
- 19 facility. So all biohazard, everything is disposed of as it
- 20 would be in any hospital.
- 21 SOO LEE-CHO: And will you be providing supplies
- 22 typically sold as part of a vet practice at this location?
- 23 JOHN WESSON: The only products that we sell are
- 24 prescription diet. So there are special canine and feline
- 25 diets made by three manufacturers that are only to treat

30

- 1 it rains, but we pick up and spot clean immediately. For
- 2 us, the place -- we also have, in the indoor, constant
- 3 fresh air. We don't recirculate air. And so the idea is
- 4 that anyone should be able to walk in any time and it will
- 5 look and smell clean. And the only way to do that is to
- 6 immediately spot clean everywhere.
- 7 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 8 JOHN WESSON: And dispose.
- 9 SOO LEE-CHO: I'm not proffering this unless you are
- 10 interested. These are just auto scrubber information if you 11 would like.
- 12 LYNN ROBESON: Oh, let's take it in. Actually, it
- 13 wasn't concern for technical study.
- 14 JOHN WESSON: And the SDS sheets can -- the data
- 15 sheets for the Cintas Neutral can be provided as well. That
- 16 document -- shall I hand this to you?
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: Yes. Thanks.
- 18 JOHN WESSON: That --
- 19 LYNN ROBESON: This will be 35 and I will call it spot 20 scrubber specs.
- 21 JOHN WESSON: These are wonderful because they -- each
- 22 one can do its entire assigned area on a battery charge.
- 23 There's no cords. The Staff actually argue over who gets to
- 24 use it and the neutral cleaner that we use is loaded into
- 25 that. If it's cleaner down. If put's water and cleaner

- medical conditions and can only be obtained by prescription
- 2 from a veterinarian and those are the only products that we
- 3 sell
- 4 SOO LEE-CHO: You've already indicated the animal
- 5 boarding operation is 24 hours. What are the hours of
- 6 operation for the vet hospital?
- 7 JOHN WESSON: The hospital's office hours, if you want
- 8 to see a veterinarian, or Monday through Saturday from 9:00
- 9 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
- 10 SOO LEE-CHO: And is that by appointment only?
- 11 JOHN WESSON: We do see walk-ins. Most of our
- 12 businesses is by appointment, but we will see walk-ins,
- 13 absolutely.
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: Do you have a sense of how,
- 15 percentagewise, when you are in full operation, how much
- 16 are appointments and how much are -- do you have in terms
- 17 of drop in?
- 18 JOHN WESSON: Absolutely, I do. So at the moment,
- 19 since we're essentially a veterinary hospital right now, 90
- 20 percent of the doctor visits that we see every day are by
- 21 appointment. We --
- 22 LYNN ROBESON: How are the appointments based?
- JOHN WESSON: You mean someone will call on the phone
- 24 and it's --
- 25 LYNN ROBESON: No.

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JOHN WESSON: Sorry.

2 LYNN ROBESON: I mean when you schedule appointments,

like most medical clinics, they space them -- well, some

space them 15 minutes apart.

JOHN WESSON: We do 20, 40, and 60-minute

appointments. For a new patient that we've never seen

before, for routine exam, or an illness consult, it will

8 generally be 40 minutes. A 20-minute appointment would

9 usually be something like a brief recheck as a follow-up.

10 For instance, say to a ear or an eye treatment. That might

11 be a 20-minute appointment. Most appointment for 40 minutes

12 and 60 as needed.

13 LYNN ROBESON: The only reason I ask, and this is for

14 the -- whoever is going to testify on adequacy of parking,

15 you are within the range, but you also have to show that

16 the number of parking spaces, the 95, is adequate to serve

17 all the users on the site. So that's why I was asking about

18 the timing of the visits.

JOHN WESSON: I think another -- I think the second

20 part of that then, is that in California, where -- so I

21 spent half of every month from July of 2016 until January

22 of 2017, as one of the veterinarians at the Irvine and San

23 Diego, California resorts. When those facilities are

24 running at the full capacity that we hope to run at here,

25 on any given day, approximately -- usually a minimum of 50

pilot. In naval aviation, we have a program called NATOPS, which is Naval Aviation Training and Operating Procedure

Standardization. It means that if you fly a particular

aircraft, no matter where you are in the world, no matter

what squadron you are in, no matter who you fly with, it's

learned the same way. It is fixed the same way. It's flown

the same way. Everybody is on the same page and there's

also a mechanism in which lessons learned are captured and

spread. So if someone figure something out one day, either

10 good or bad, that could change the way those things are

11 done, there is a mechanism for that information to flow up

12 the chain and then get put out everybody immediately. So we

13 created a program that -- so my partner John Boyd liked

14 that enough that we call it BTOPS which is just Boyd's

15 Training and Operating Procedure Standardization. And it's

16 quite rigorous. It's what we've done is -- before I

17 partnered with them, we were already doing a really good

18 job of documenting everything. So there is a checklist for

19 every position for every part of the day. There is a list

20 of duties and responsibilities. There is a training

21 syllabus and there is a lot of supervision and we have a

22 really robust structure as well. There is a general manager

23 backed up by an assistant general manager who is underneath

24 a director like me, veterinarian at each facility. There is

25 a full-time training and safety officer, which again, is

34

1 percent and usually upwards of 65 percent of all of the

doctor's exams I performed in a given day, were drop-offs.

So the dog was stopped off early in the morning for daycare

4 or boarding and I saw it over the course of the day, but

5 not as a schedule walk in appointment. So maybe in a full-

6 scale boarding and day care environment, maybe only a third

7 of my daily office visits would be with the dog or cat's

8 owner in an exam room doing what you might call a

9 traditional office visit. The rest of them were being seen

10 by me over the course of their daycare or boarding stay.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

SOO LEE-CHO: I'm going to ask you next, to sort of

13 help us understand the standardization that you've employed

14 at Dr. Boyd's because it sounds quite standardized and I

15 just want to understand how you control the human element

16 to make sure that what you've described is maintained and

17 sustained over time.

JOHN WESSON: Absolutely. That's one of the most

19 important things we do. And we created a really rigorous

20 program so that we can not only -- so that we can only have

21 standardization between San Diego and Irvine, which are

22 only an hour's drive apart and therefore allow senior Staff

23 to move back and forth for supervision, but how did we move

24 it 3000 miles. So we created a program. I took the lead on 25 this. My previous career, I was in the Navy and I was a

unique; to have an experienced dog trainer in each facility

who supervises a surprising number of aspects of the

facility; how all the animals are handled, how everyone

approaches them and integrates with the medical team. And

then -- anyway, below the general manager, assistant

general manager. We have assistant managers who cover three

main areas of the facility; what we call concierges, but is

most commonly regarded as reception, then the hospital, and

then the resort. So what we've done is I've taken all of

10 the documents that we've already had that describe what

11 your checklist is, what your responsibilities are, and then

12 procedures; how everything is done. We figure we have -- we

13 know that this is a lot harder than it looks and we've

14 taken a lot of time to make it look easy and to keep it

15 flowing really well, but there is a method to it and we've

16 found that when there is five ways to do something, usually

17 one of those is absolutely correct and the other four cause

18 things to go wrong. So people don't have the latitude to

19 clean that sort of how they feel. We've figured out that

20 there is a right way to do it is not only the most correct,

21 but the most efficient. And we figured out patient should 22 be checked in. How they should flow through the facility.

23 How they should be evaluated medically, behaviorally, and

24 so forth. And so I've taken all of that and we are

25 integrating it into a web-based program that we've

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developed. We learned is that because we are a unique

2 business, no one makes software to manage a business model 2

- 3 that's otherwise unique. So we use a cloud-based hospital
- 4 management program, but nobody out there at all makes a
- 5 resort management platform so we've invented it. We hired a
- 6 web development team and we created a software, a cloud-
- 7 based software package, that helps us manage the resort.
- 8 This program that I called BTOPS is being integrated into
- 9 that so that everyone has a standard syllabus they go
- 10 through. And so our first chance to really exercise after
- 11 creating it and refining in California, was with the
- 12 hiring, on boarding, and training of everyone for Rockville
- 13 where we had a discreet syllabus for everyone to go
- 14 through. And for that purpose, we brought John Reuben, our
- 15 chief safety and training officer, John Boyd, and several
- 16 other senior leaders from California out here to walk all
- 17 the new Staff through, step-by-step. So when everybody got
- 18 hired, they got a new hire packet by email. That wasn't
- to inited, they got a new inite packet by email. That wash t
- 19 just the IRS forms, but also our Dr. Boyd's Basics, our 20 employee handbook, and the first couple of training
- 21 documents. And then at day three, they get another pile of
- 22 training documents. And then day five, we walk them through
- 23 everything including things like playacting scenarios and
- 24 so, how do we handle this dog? How do we then, when the
- 25 client comes to pick up the dog at the end of the day, give
 - 38
- 1 a report card on how everything, the visit went? So we have
- 2 really codified it and we are now building this into our
- 3 online tool so that it becomes a management tool. How do we
- 4 manage that on a daily basis once someone is up and
- 5 running? So we can take anyone, screen them, hire them, and
- 6 plug them into a training syllabus. How do we, on a daily
- 7 basis, stay on top of this? So because we are a 24 hour a
- 8 day operation, you can't just have the morning crew and the
- 9 evening crew meet and talk and be done. So we have a series
- 10 of emails that go out to everyone every day. We have the
- 11 concierge news, we have the clinic news, we have the resort
- 12 news, and we have the general manager news. The three
- 13 general managers, San Diego, Irvine, and Rockville, are all
- 14 in constant touch. What we are working on as the next step
- 15 in our online school is actually create a chat channel for
- 16 them. But the other thing that I've told doctors that we
- 17 are hiring, say in California, is that maybe there is only
- 18 two doctors in San Diego and two in Irvine and two in
- 19 Rockville; that you should feel like you are part of a six
- 20 doctor virtual practice because we are always in touch with
- 21 each other. In fact, we have a phone system where if you
- 22 call the San Diego resort at say five in the morning
- 23 California time and the doctor is not there, they forward
- 24 the call as if it's in the same building to my desk and
- 25 Rockville and I can pick it up and say, hi Mrs. Jones, what

- can I do for you? So we've created a virtual organization
- 2 both through a cloud-based phone system and software system
- 3 and through this BTOPS program modeled on my previous
- 4 career that really enforces standardization, keeps people
- 5 on the same page, provides a feedback mechanism because
- 6 people are coming up with better ideas all the time to
- 7 integrate. We found that standardization is absolutely the
- 8 only way to efficiently operate something complex with
- 9 multiple services and a lot of moving parts and know that
- 10 everybody is always on the same page. It even goes down to
- 11 the level of detail where if you call on the phone and say
- 12 I've got all the most common -- we got an FAQ of frequently
- 13 asked questions filed on all the websites. Well, there is a
- 14 few that are easy -- I've got a huge one that you could
- 15 just go to our website and read, but for the ones that
- 16 people would call about the most, I've actually got a
- 17 script that can be read on the phone. So if you call up and
- 18 say, well, my pet doesn't require canine influenza. Why do
- 19 you do that? Or why is your fecal test fancier and more
- 20 expensive than the one that my vet does? Or why do you
- 21 charge this? Can I get a break on that? There is a standard
- 22 script. So the no matter who answers the phone, no one is
- 23 ever winging it. There is an exact script that's meant to
- 24 be read naturally on the phone that explains the most
- 25 technically correct answer to that. So standardization goes

down to every level of detail and that's the only way we

- 2 can see on the same page.
- 3 LYNN ROBESON: And you know, that raises a question in
- 4 my mind about; again, I'm back at the Staffing. It's not
- 5 just the hours, it's the number of people.
- 6 JOHN WESSON: Sure.
- LYNN ROBESON: And you have, for the evening shift, I
- 3 think it's two people. Are you willing to be bound by the
- 9 number of employees on -- say you have the 200 dogs in the
- 10 peak period, is two enough, or is that going to fluctuate?
- JOHN WESSON: Yeah, overnight, two people overnight is
- 12 sufficient because the dogs are not being exercised at
- 13 night. They are being supervised. So these are people who
- 14 are walking the building. They've got a to do list. There's
- 15 some admin to do. There's some cleaning to do. Then they
- 16 are making the rounds and they're just looking at all the
- 17 dogs to make sure everyone looks comfortable, no one is a
- 18 doctor to come in at 2:00 in the morning, things like that.
- 19 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 20 JOHN WESSON: So the overnight Staff is primarily
- 21 supervisory.
- 22 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 23 JOHN WESSON: Yeah.
- 24 SOO LEE-CHO: And just on that point, and the previous
- 25 question raised by the Hearing Examiner in terms of

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1 adequacy of parking. It sounds to me that you have long-

- 2 term parkers, being your employees, and a short-term
- 3 parking need where you have drop-offs and appointments. So
- 4 in using Exhibit 34, could you indicate where you're going
- 5 to encourage your employees to park and where you envision
- 6 your short-term parking?
- JOHN WESSON: Absolutely. So on Exhibit 34, to the
- 8 right side of the diagram, which is the east side, back of
- 9 the building, I have more than enough parking for all of my
- 10 Staff to park back there and enter the building. I'm
- 11 leaving the entire front area --
- LYNN ROBESON: Where is the main entrance? Is it on 12
- 13 the west side?
- JOHN WESSON: So on the west side of Exhibit 34 where
- 15 you see Rockville Pike, there are two entrances to the
- 16 parking lot from Rockville Pike.
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: Yes, I see it.
- 18 JOHN WESSON: Then on the east side, going down to the
- 19 southeast corner of the property, there is a driveway that
- 20 goes down the back of the property to Nicholson Lane. So
- 21 you can enter from Nicholson Lane. You can enter and park
- 22 from Nicholson Lane coming from Rockville Pike.
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: Where is your reception area? I can't
- 24 --
- 25 JOHN WESSON: My reception area is on the west side of
 - 42
- 1 the building shown in yellow to orange. The word concierge 2 is by a long, curved reception desk.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- JOHN WESSON: The main entrance to the building is
- right where I'm pointing. Pretty much in the center of the
- 6 building, but on the southwestern corner of my portion of
- 7 the building. So the main entrance is on the front parking
- 8 lot of Rockville Pike.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- JOHN WESSON: And there is a Staff only entrance on
- 11 the back of the building on the east side, the northeast
- 12 side of the building.
- 13 LYNN ROBESON: Near the play area.
- 14 JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- JOHN WESSON: Yes. And we have -- I believe that we
- 17 have more than adequate parking for Staff in the back with
- 18 room to spare, and for clients in the front with room to
- 19 spare.
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- SOO LEE-CHO: We stated in the statement of
- 22 operations, maximum capacity number for your employees. Can
- 23 you restate that for the record?
- JOHN WESSON: Yes. I believe I said that 19 to 20 on-
- 25 site at a time was the maximum number. I think that's a

- 1 very comfortable --
 - LYNN ROBESON: I guess I was just concerned because
- the Staff says 19 to 20. That includes the veterinary
- clinic too?
- 5 JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- LYNN ROBESON: I get it. 6
- JOHN WESSON: Yes.
- LYNN ROBESON: So how many on Staff? What's the
- maximum Staff for the boarding facility or have you not
- 10 separated them?
- JOHN WESSON: Do you mean on time at one moment or 11
- 12 total people employed by the business?
- 13 LYNN ROBESON: At one time.
- 14 JOHN WESSON: So at one time, I don't see us ever
- 15 exceeding 20 because --
- LYNN ROBESON: No, just for the boarding and care. 16
- 17 JOHN WESSON: Ah, just for the boarding and care. All
- 18 right. I would say that, generally speaking, if we were
- 19 doing boarding and daycare at full capacity right now, if
- 20 you walk in the door at 8:00 a.m., there will be two
- 21 receptionists, one of whom is doing reception work and
- 22 assisting with bringing dogs to and from the back. Then in
- 23 the back of the facility, there would be, right now, three
- 24 people who are responsible for what we call handling, which
- 25 is -- other people might call kennel technician, but ours
- - do a lot more. And so we would probably need, right now,
 - maybe five people in the building for functions that
 - exclude the veterinary hospital.
 - LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I guess what I'm trying to get at
 - is, on your traffic -- now I can't find the exhibit. On
 - your traffic statement -- hold on one second. Where is the
 - revised one? Oh, here it is. You have a shift outline and a
 - shift B is your biggest shift; 1:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. And
 - you have a maximum of eight employees. Is that correct?
 - 10 Because what I would do is put a condition of approval and
 - 11 if you want to look at the exhibit, it's here. What I would
 - 12 do is put a condition of approval saying these are your
 - 13 shifts and the maximum number of employees on those shifts.
 - 14 See that right there?
 - 15 JOHN WESSON: Yes, I do. So I see where it says that
 - 16 shift B, seven to eight Staff from 1:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
 - 17 Five, which is what I indicated would be the case if you
 - 18 came in at 8:00 a.m. today.
 - 19 LYNN ROBESON: Right.
 - JOHN WESSON: And shift C, two for overnight. That's a 20
 - 21 pretty fair reflection.
 - LYNN ROBESON: Well, if I put it in there as a
 - 23 condition, then it's a condition for both traffic and
 - 24 parking. You would be bound by it. So I guess I'm saying,
 - 25 are you willing to be bound by it?

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JOHN WESSON: I'm trying to add up all the numbers 1 JOI

- 2 right now.
- 3 LYNN ROBESON: Well, why don't we do this? Here, you
- 4 can take this.
- 5 SOO LEE-CHO: I have it.
- 6 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 7 JOHN WESSON: Okay. Soo has it.
- 8 LYNN ROBESON: I'm going to take a five-minute break
- 9 just to see if Staff has gone back to me about the record
- 10 and then we will go back on the record, okay?
- 11 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.
- 12 (Off the record.)
- 13 (On the record.)
- 14 LYNN ROBESON: Mrs. Cho.
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: Ms. Cho.
- 16 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes.
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: Are the court reporters ready? Okay.
- 18 They're saying affirmative. We are back on the record.
- 19 LYNN ROBESON: Did you have the opportunity to review
- 20 the shifts in this statement?
- 21 JOHN WESSON: Yes, I did. I'm John Wesson. I did and
- 22 I can affirm that the report showing that up to eight Staff
- 23 who are boarding daycare resort Staff only is a number that
- 24 works for us.
- 25 LYNN ROBESON: And how about the other shifts? Do they

- 1 JOHN WESSON: Thank you.
 - LYNN ROBESON: Mr. Nelson, please raise your right
- 3 hand. Do solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that
- 4 the statements you are about to make are the truth, the
- 5 whole truth, and nothing but the truth?
- 6 DAVID NELSON: I do.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Before we start, Mr. Nelson has
- 8 testified before us as an expert, correct?
- DAVID NELSON: Yes.
- 10 LYNN ROBESON: So we don't need to voir dire -- you
- 11 can submit the resume and that will be Exhibit 36. Now, if
- 12 you could remind me, I can't remember if you are a
- 13 transportation planner or traffic engineer or both.
- DAVID NELSON: Actually, I would consider myself both.
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I see that. Okay. Let me--
- 16 then I will qualify you as an expert in transportation
- 17 planning and traffic engineering.
- 18 DAVID NELSON: Thank you.
- 19 LYNN ROBESON: Go ahead Ms. Cho.
- 20 SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Did you prepare the traffic
- 21 statements admitted in support of this conditional use
- 22 application?
- 23 DAVID NELSON: Yes, I did.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: Can you please describe the approach of
- 25 method or analysis that you employed for the traffic

- work for you?
- 2 JOHN WESSON: Yes. Yes, the numbers as shown for only
- 3 resort Staff do work.
- 4 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 5 JOHN WESSON: And I will, I believe, defer to Dave
- 6 Nelson, the traffic engineer, who is going to discuss this
- 7 in more detail.
- 8 LYNN ROBESON: That's fine.
- 9 SOO LEE-CHO: Just to clarify for the record, the
- 10 table shown on Page 2 of the traffic statement is intended
- 11 -- was intended to indicate shifts for the animal boarding
- 12 and care Staff only. Not necessarily -- not inclusive of
- 13 the vet.
- 14 LYNN ROBESON: I understand that. And the condition
- 15 will incorporate this, but only as applicable to the animal
- 16 boarding and care, not to the veterinary clinic.
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: Right. Yes.
- 18 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 19 SOO LEE-CHO: With that, I think we can ask, unless
- 20 the Hearing Examiner has any more questions for Dr.
- 21 Wesson.
- 22 LYNN ROBESON: No, I think I've questioned you enough.
- 23 SOO LEE-CHO: We can move on to Mr. David Nelson to
- 24 then wrap up the traffic issue.
- 25 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Mr. Wesson, you may be excused.

- statement and your conclusions please?
- 2 DAVID NELSON: Does that -- does it have an exhibit
- 3 number? Just refer to the --
- 4 SOO LEE-CHO: It is in the --
- 5 LYNN ROBESON: I think it's 26B.
- 6 DAVID NELSON: Okay.
- 7 LYNN ROBESON: This document here?
- 8 DAVID NELSON: Yes.
- 9 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes, that is correct; 26B
- 10 LYNN ROBESON: 26B.
- 11 DAVID NELSON: Good. Well, two things I'm going to
- 12 refer to is that, 26B, and also the Staff Report.
- 13 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 14 DAVID NELSON: And what happened on this case, is it's
- 15 kind of unique in that typically, we would be asked to take
- 16 a look at a site like this, confirm that it's consistent
- 17 with the previous approvals (inaudible) approval and as
- 18 long as we can show that the trips generated are less than
- 19 or equal to than what was previously approved, we are not
- 20 -- and in this case, as Dr. Wesson had pointed out, this is
- 21 a pretty unique use. So we spent a lot of time working
- 22 with him and also working with Staff to say, what's the
- 23 best way to evaluate is that we are all comfortable with
- 24 it. That's what is summarized in this -- my traffic
- 25 statement. So instead of reading it; there are several key

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things I think are unique to this that I will point out.

2 Then if you have any specific questions, we can address

3 them.

4 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Are you the person -- aside from

5 the APF, are you the person to address parking too or no?

DAVID NELSON: Actually Vic, Ms. Bryant will be the one that does the parking causes.

8 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. All right. Okay, go ahead.

DAVID NELSON: Again, one of the things; typically, if

10 we have a use change we can go through-- the ITE has a

11 manual and we look at their trip rates or parking planning

12 has their own unique trip rates and we can just calculate

13 is out, write a letter, and we are done. In this case, the

14 boarding facilities are unique and more importantly, the

15 boarding facilities for Dr. Boyd's are very unique. They 16 are only--

17 LYNN ROBESON: Within that subset.

18 DAVID NELSON: Within that subset so it's not like

19 there is a location in Baltimore, Washington, area we can

20 go look at. It's Southern California. And so we sat down

21 with Staff and said, what would be a good way to analyze

22 this. So we wanted to look at the components of traffic

23 and in this case, there are several. One of them is --

24 that without was going to be a lot of work was the

25 employees. How do you define employees? When do they

50

1 arrive? Would they not arrive? In this area, we spent a lot

2 of time working with clients trying to talk them -- you

3 need to adjust your employee schedules. You need to get

4 them out of their cars. In this case, before I said

5 anything, he said, well, you need to know that none of my

6 employees travel during the peak hour or the peak periods.

7 And we spent, during his testimony, we went through that.

8 There is a table on Page 2 of my report that breaks down

9 the shift operations. Basically, because it's a 24 hour

10 operation, they've adjusted their shifts so none of their

11 employees actually travel in or out during the peak hour.

12 He is willing-- I've heard that he is willing to accept

13 that as a condition. So that really makes life for me a

14 lot easier. The one thing I would note, that the Staff

15 Reports notes, that the metro's only 800 feet from here.

16 LYNN ROBESON: Right.

DAVID NELSON: All our talk is about cars; people

18 driving. It doesn't really apply, but it's possible that

19 their employees could ride by Metro and ride down here and

20 there would be no trips associated with that too.

21 LYNN ROBESON: I guess my question was, what about the

22 drop off and pickups? That was my question.

23 DAVID NELSON: Well, that's in -- that's what we will

24 get to.

25 LYNN ROBESON: Is it like a child care where you --

1 well, I guess you already did that analysis.

2 DAVID NELSON: Well, the analysis that starts on page

3 3 --

4 LYNN ROBESON: Because they will be driving because

5 they have pets.

6 DAVID NELSON: Right. Exactly right. So that's what

7 the balance of this traffic statement discusses is how do

8 we, which is or the other uses, not employees, but you're

9 going to -- so it comes down to three primary components

10 which are shown on Page 4. You've got the hospital

11 patients, the boarding, and the daycare. The hospital

12 patients are by use, by right use. We really only looking

13 at for the numbers for the boarding and the daycare, but

14 when we analyze the site, we wanted to -- if we are

15 comparing it to what it was before, we've got to look at

16 the whole site and not just what the application is.

17 LYNN ROBESON: Right.

18 DAVID NELSON: Which is why we have the hospital

19 patients. The percentages that we have are not absolute,

20 but we -- so in general, what is the breakdown? Because we

21 have the capacity of 200 dogs, how does that breakdown

22 between these three components? So based on our discussions

23 with Dr. Wesson and Dr. Boyd, we figure about 20 percent is

24 hospital, 60 percent is daycare, and 20 percent -- I mean,

25 60 percent is boarding and about 20 percent is daycare.

1 One of the things we note in the report is, when the

2 boarding goes up, then they drop down on the daycare

3 because that's their primary business. So the boarding is

4 actually --

5 LYNN ROBESON: Wait a minute. When the boarding --

6 DAVID NELSON: When the boarding -- so in, say

7 Thanksgiving and Christmas, there may be a very large

8 demand for boarding.

9 LYNN ROBESON: Yes.

DAVID NELSON: So instead of 60 percent, it might be

11 80 percent.

12 LYNN ROBESON: I see.

13 DAVID NELSON: And when that happens, they say, well,

14 we can take many daycare dogs.

15 LYNN ROBESON: What's daycare?

16 DAVID NELSON: That's a dog that comes, gets dropped

17 off sometime during the day, and is picked up during the 18 day.

19 LYNN ROBESON: I see. Okay. I get it. I'm sorry.

20 DAVID NELSON: Right. So that's the two -- that's the

21 difference between those two. Daycare is a dog is there

22 for a 24-hour period.

23 LYNN ROBESON: I understand. Okay.

DAVID NELSON: Well, one of the things unique to this,

25 which I didn't understand up front, is I usually think of

daycare like for my kids we drop them off before you go to

2 work in you pick them up at night. Daycare for this use,

3 which again is unique, it's a 24-hour period. So you could

4 drop your dog off at noon one day and pick them up before

noon the next day. That's one day. That's not two days

like it would be for --

LYNN ROBESON: Right.

DAVID NELSON: In the same thing with boarding. So

the boarding can actually be three days, four days, six

10 days, whatever.

LYNN ROBESON: I see. 11

12 DAVID NELSON: So that's the difference between the

13 two components.

LYNN ROBESON: Do you have any documentation about how 14 You don't have to; I've got to leave work today because I

15 these trips are distributed in terms of time? Not

16 directionally?

DAVID NELSON: Well, we don't and that was something

18 that we were trying to keep the work level consistent with

19 the scope of what we are trying to prove. So that's why we

20 set out with Staff and said, what's a good way to do this.

21 So we took the basic breakdown of the components, the

22 boarding, the daycare, and hospital care, and we developed

23 what -- and because it's a 24 hour operation for two of

24 them and it's a 9 hour operation for the hospital. So

25 what's the average cost prohibitive the number of dogs and

54

1 the trips on the divided it by 24 hours, they breakdown

2 over certain number of -- an average for the day. We know

3 that it doesn't do that. So during the peak hours we said

4 we're going to assume 50 percent of that increase to give

5 us kind of a comfort factor on what happens during the peak

6 hours versus the nonpeak hours. So again, it's not

7 typical, but -- so we work with -- again, we spent a lot of

8 time with Staff saying, this is what we're going to do.

9 One of the things that gives us a feeling of comfort,

10 because we are saying this is what we expected the trips to

11 be, there are several things that in a normal traffic study

12 we would have used as deductions on the trips. In this

13 case --

14 LYNN ROBESON: Like causeway?

DAVID NELSON: Like intercept trips or pass by trips.

16 If you are traveling to this site, say during 8:00 in the

17 morning, chances are, it's going to be a pass by trip.

18 It's on somebody going to be sitting at home and go, I'm

19 going to drive down Rockville Pike and got my dog off at

20 8:00 in the morning and go back home. It's going to be

21 somebody that maybe is to the south saying I'm going to

22 come, drop my dog off, and then I'm going to keep going to

23 work. So pass by trips is exactly right. Somebody that's

24 already on the road, they're just choosing to make that 25 trip.

LYNN ROBESON: For daycare, do you recall the

standard; like child day care. Not dog daycare. For child

day care, do remember the -- there is a standard deduction

for pass by trips. I think it's 20 percent.

DAVID NELSON: I believe you are right. I don't know

exactly, but again, we didn't take the deduction for that

in our analysis, but we are noting that it -- we certainly

8 expect it.

LYNN ROBESON: Right.

10 DAVID NELSON: I really don't think personally or

11 professionally, that I would just drive there during the

12 peak hour if I didn't have to. That's one of the benefits

13 of this specific use is that there are no time constraints.

15 got to get to my dog before 6:00. You can get there at

16 8:00 at night. You can get there 2:00 in the morning.

17 LYNN ROBESON: Right.

18 SOO LEE-CHO: And you also have -- I mean there's a

19 lot of users in this area weather is doctors and nurses

20 that work shift. There's a lot of shift operations. There

21 are people that -- they are coming back from their flight

22 and they stop and they pick up their dog. Most of the

23 boarding facilities, you have to wait the next day to come

24 get them. Their experience, based on my discussions Dr. --

25 is they don't. They come and get the dog. That is one of

the main incentives that they offer that a lot don't. So

between -- again, we factored it up, came up with what we considered a conservative number, and then keep in mind

that we didn't look at intercepts we didn't take into

account anybody because the White (inaudible) change

there's an awful lot of people that walk.

LYNN ROBESON: Right.

DAVID NELSON: When I just came through there this

9 morning, there were six people walking their dogs in this

10 area. So it wouldn't be unheard-of or unexpected to think

11 somebody's going to come and they are going to walk their

12 dog to daycare and back. We didn't deduct for that. We

13 didn't deduct for -- we assume that the boarding turns over

14 every day for the analysis. In reality, the board is going

15 to turn over maybe three, four, five days. So instead of

16 the 200 dogs turning over every 24 hours, it would be more

17 like maybe 60 to 70 percent turning over every hour --

18 every day. So we felt comfortable that the numbers we have

19 -- and the main thing we had to prove is it's less than

20 what the previous use was and we looked at that as a

21 specialty retail and we are confident that it's below that

22 and Staff, when they did their analysis, concluded the same 23 thing.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. All right. That is helpful. 24

25 Thank you.

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SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Thank you. The only thing that I

- 2 would ask in conclusion then, is for you to help us with
- 3 one of the required general findings for the approval on
- 4 this conditional use. So based on all that you said and
- 5 based upon the analysis that you've conducted for Dr.
- 6 Boyd's, in your professional opinion, will this proposed
- 7 use be served by adequate public services and facilities,
- in particular, the public roads?
- DAVID NELSON: Yes.
- 10 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I just wondered if I could --
- 11 you listed three things I think that made sure conclusions
- 12 conservative. One was you didn't deduct for pass time.
- 13 You assumed boarding --
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: Pass-by times.
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: Pass-by and I'm sorry, yeah. I love
- 16 this dog place. You assumed boarding, they would come and
- 17 pick up every day. What was the third thing? Do you
- 18 recall? I'll get it from the transcript.
- DAVID NELSON: Well, we didn't include anybody that 20 would walk.
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: Oh, that's right.
- DAVID NELSON: A pedestrian or metro. 22
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: All right. That's helpful.
- 24 DAVID NELSON: Okay.
- 25 LYNN ROBESON: All right. Thank you.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Ms. Robeson --10 LYNN ROBESON: Are you asking to qualify him as an

them on these resorts in 2010.

first resort opened in 2011, but I started working with

11 expert?

Boyd's?

officer.

SOO LEE-CHO: I would like to attempt to because I do 12

SOO LEE-CHO: What is your role and title at Dr.

JOHN RUBIN: I am the chief safety and training

SOO LEE-CHO: How long have you been with Dr. Boyd's?

JOHN RUBIN: Since the beginning which would be -- the

- 13 believe he does qualify based on his experience.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 14
- 15 SOO LEE-CHO: Behavior --
- LYNN ROBESON: Do I have his resume? 16
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: I have it here.
- 18 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Why don't you bring that up?
- 19 That will be 37. Thank you. And what is the expertise
- 20 you're trying to --

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- 21 SOO LEE-CHO: Canine behavioral science.
- 22. LYNN ROBESON: Science?
- 23 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And what qualifies you to be an
- 25 expert in that field, education?

DAVID NELSON: Thank you very much.

- LYNN ROBESON: You may be excused. 2
- 3 DAVID NELSON: Thanks.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Next, I would ask John Rubin to join me.
- 5 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. How do you spell your last name
- Mr. Rubin?
- JOHN RUBIN: R-U-B-I-N.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Please raise your right hand.
- 9 Do you solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that the
- 10 statements you are about to make are the truth, the whole
- 11 truth, and nothing but the truth?
- 12 JOHN RUBIN: I do.
- 13 LYNN ROBESON: Thank you.
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: Again, Mr. Rubin, John, can you please
- 15 state your name, your full name for the record?
- JOHN RUBIN: John Rubin. 16
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: And your business address?
- JOHN RUBIN: Well, I work out of both the Irvine and
- 19 San Diego. Do you want both of those?
- 20 SOO LEE-CHO: Pick one.
- JOHN RUBIN: I'll pick Irvine. 8645 Research Drive,
- 22 Irvine, California, 92618.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. And what is your profession?
- 24 JOHN RUBIN: I'm a canine behavior specialist/dog
- 25 trainer.

- 1 JOHN RUBIN: Well, there is very limited --
- LYNN ROBESON: Training? 2
- JOHN RUBIN: Yes, the very limited educational program
- for that. Even animal behavior degrees are not canine
- specific. So it's really more expertise in the field. The
- definition of a canine specialist would be someone that has
- spent years in the field of canine animal behavior; kind of
- like Jane Goodall with the gorillas. It's very similar to
- 9 that. Or a horse trainer. You can look at horse trainers
- 10 in the same way.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And can you briefly describe 11
- 12 your experience in the field?
- JOHN RUBIN: Well, I have spent almost 40 years in the
- 14 field. I started out as an employee and a volunteer at a
- 15 shelter when I was in Bloomington, Indiana. Then when I
- 16 moved to California, I started working with (inaudible)
- 17 horsemanship and natural horsemanship; then went into the
- 18 dog training end of it. It was kind of a two-year
- 19 transition. And started my own dog training company,
- 20 John's Natural Dog Training Company, in 1991. That still
- 21 exists. I, through that period as well, opened up several
- 22 doggie daycare facilities and a small boarding facility.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Do you want to add anything Ms.
- 24 Cho? Do want to ask him anything?
- SOO LEE-CHO: Well, you've already indicated the 25

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number of years that you have experience; over 40 you

indicated, is that correct?

3 JOHN RUBIN: Close to.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.

LYNN ROBESON: Is this -- do you -- there is no

license for this?

JOHN RUBIN: Well, you don't have to have an actual

license to be a dog trainer. I have a CGC certification

from the AKC to train therapy and service dogs. I also --

SOO LEE-CHO: can you explain those initials?

JOHN RUBIN: Yeah. Canine Good Citizen, which is what 11

12 a dog needs to do to go through or have certification for

13 before they can go into therapy or service dog work.

14 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.

15 JOHN RUBIN: As well as I have several obedience

16 titles, companion dog, companion dog excellence, which I've

18 LYNN ROBESON: And then what are they? Just --

19 JOHN RUBIN: Those are obedience titles to the

20 American Kennel Club as well.

21 LYNN ROBESON: But I don't know what obedience title

22 means.

23 JOHN RUBIN: Competition so, where you actually go in

24 and you are showing competition obedience and formal

25 obedience.

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LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I will qualify him as an expert

as a canine specialist and dog trainer, correct? SOO LEE-CHO: Correct.

LYNN ROBESON: All right. You're qualified. Now you

can be an expert. You can hire yourself out.

SOO LEE-CHO: Thank you.

JOHN RUBIN: John, Mr. Rubin, how will the caretakers

and trainers at Dr. Boyd's be able to manage up to 200 dogs

at the facility without adversely impacting the surrounding

10 neighborhood, in particular with regard to noise.

JOHN RUBIN: Well, obviously, we're talking about the

12 issue of dogs barking. So when we have dogs come into the

13 facility, the Staff has already been trained and we have a

14 real set protocol for when dogs come in, that they are

15 evaluated and assessed. This is a period. It's not just

16 20 minutes. It's usually over about a 30 day period that

17 we will be evaluating these dogs to determine if they are

18 dogs they could be free to go into the yards, whether is

19 the indoor yards or the outdoor yards. Or if they're going

20 to be what we call PTC dogs which is playtime cycle dogs.

21 Those are dogs that will be cycled in small groups that the

22 dogs can identify with because sometimes they will have

23 behavioral issues. We don't want to throw one dog into a

24 group of good dogs and kind of create that situation where

25 one bad apple is going to disrupt the whole barrel. So we

are really conscientious about making sure we have a

behavioral rapport on every dog that comes in. We do

what's called an IEP which is very similar to what special-

education students go through. So we have our own IEP

which has its subjective and objective portions too. Then

we go through with the client, and as well, our part is

evaluating the dog. So that is constantly updated and

evaluated for every dog. Some dogs are young when they

come in so we have a process as they mature and develop and

10 they can change. So we really, really are conscientious

11 about learning about the dog. That's what I really am --

12 do with Dr. Boyd's is kind of be the dog's advocate and

13 training the Staff to learn more about canine behavior so

14 they are able to really understand the dogs, whether it be

15 a PTC coordinator or a regular shift coordinator or the

16 trainer. I work with all those people as well is really

17 closely with the management Staff. I'm in constant

18 medication with the managers in San Diego, Irvine, and over

19 here in Rockville. As Dr. Wesson spoke earlier, we have

20 Webcams. So I'm able to, in real time, look at the yards

21 that these dogs are in no matter what location I'm at and

22 be able to work with Staff pretty much throughout the day

23 in every location, if they need.

SOO LEE-CHO: Will there be situations when there

25 might be moments of more dog barking and if so, how are

those handled

JOHN RUBIN: Well, nobody can really say what is a

peak period for dogs to be barking. Typically, what we do

and what our protocol is, when a dog comes in. Let's it's

already been assessed. It's a good dog. It can go in the

yard. Some dogs need to do what we call hot laps where

they just need to get a lot of energy out because they are

really excited to be at the facility. Dogs are really

anxious to be there and see their friends and play. So we

10 typically will do that in the indoor facility before we put

11 them outside. When you look at barking, it's really going

12 to come, as all in canine behavior does, through three

13 basic areas. You have defense barking, you have

14 pack/social barking, and then you have prey/predator

15 barking. Prey/predator barking is pretty much eliminated.

16 Any dog that we are going to be feeding are going to be in

17 the rooms individually for feeding. We have no toys or

18 possessions in the yard that the dogs could actually fight

19 over or get into argument over. So we pretty much

20 eliminated any of the prey/predator barking. When it comes

21 to the pack social barking, that barking is going to really

22 come out at play. So some dogs get over stimulated and one

23 of the responses that they can have to being over

24 stimulated, or symptoms if you want to call it that, is

25 barking because they can get really excited. So that's

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1 occur?

1 where those dogs would be inside if they were that type of 2 personality. So -- and even at the same time, we are 3 really strict about trying to limit the amount of barking 4 that dogs do across the board. So every handler in every 5 yard, we basically just use squirt water bottles which are 6 very humane and safe. It's just to redirect the docs because a lot of times they're barking because it's like 8 this dog's friend is tired out. He's laying down on his 9 bed. He doesn't want to play anymore and this dog is like, 10 come on. Let's play. Let's play. So we can give them a 11 no and redirect them and move them on. Or if we need to 12 be, be able to lease them up and remove them and get them a 13 little time out if we need to do that. So we are always on 14 top of trying to reduce the number, or I should say, reduce 15 the stress levels that are in the dogs or the anxiety that 16 they might have. Probably-- and then getting back to the 17 defense barking, that's probably the most common form of 18 barking that people are going to be familiar with, which 19 typically, is their guardian quality; sounding the alarm. 20 Here's a threat. Here's a threat. Here's a noise. We 21 don't see near the same amount that an individual would see 22 at the home because dogs are den animals and they're very

here. Typically, there's pre-indicators to that, let's say incident. What we do is we really have identified these pre-indicators to a situation like that. So we are going to make sure that these dogs that could be potential bad apples in the yard, aren't in the yard. There's a lot of prevention that goes into that. If there is a situation 10 where dogs start barking, they are immediately corrected 11 and/or removed. And so --SOO LEE-CHO: So are you saying that because of your 13 identification of pre-indicators and your protocols, that 14 you do not have, generally, group barking activities? 15 JOHN RUBIN: We do not. 16 SOO LEE-CHO: Experience --17 JOHN RUBIN: If we have 20 dogs in yard, we don't have 18 20 dogs barking, no. There might be random bark here and 19 there, but we don't. It's pretty amazing actually. You 20 know, the daycare facilities that I had in San Diego were 21 actually in residential areas. So again, we were really, 22 really on top of making sure that these dogs were quiet 23 because they can play quietly and they are comfortable. If 24 they're not stressed out or have anxiety, which is probably 25 one of the larger reasons that dogs bark, next to the alarm

SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Thank you. Do you have

anything you wanted to add to Dr. Wesson's testimony about

JOHN RUBIN: Well, again, you could say, okay, we have

a group of dogs that are starting to bark excessively over

1 there are so many other dogs that they might be with, they 2 have this pack social mentality where they don't feel like 3 they need to be so protective or on guard because they've 4 got a lot of troops around them. So usually, it's really, 5 really limited as far as coming from that. The fact that 6 we wear black scrubs, identifies everyone that works at the 7 facility in every and each department so they really don't 8 say, oh, that someone different, because they are dressed 9 differently. It's amazing. We have people come in Irvine, 10 and we can have quite a few dogs there and they will come 11 in and they are like, we can hear the music. Where's all 12 the barking dogs? Because so many people used to going into 12 making sure that these employees not only are well-trained, 13 a boarding facility and having to put headphones on. Not 14 in our facility. It is very, very quiet. 15 LYNN ROBESON: Irvine is your larger facility, right? SOO LEE-CHO: Mm-hm [affirmative], that's the really 17 big one; 25,000 square feet. So we are working with

19 -- these yards are always supervised by handlers. We are

20 constantly monitoring the dogs. It's not just the handler

22 can see their dogs. But we from a management level can

25 this, but how do you control the group barking that might

23 also be monitoring the dogs in the yards as well.

21 in the yards because we do have the webcams so the owners

SOO LEE-CHO: So you might have already addressed

23 territorial. So their home and the yard is where they're

25 the facility, it's considered neutral territory and because

24 mainly going to show that alarm barking. When they come to

how the indoor yards -- or have you -- do you believe you've covered --JOHN RUBIN: Well, I would say one thing; the training of Staff is paramount with our organization. When we have new employees or current employees, not only do they familiarize themselves with the BTOPS as Dr. Wesson 10 explained, but we are really involved with what we call the 11 boots on the ground from the management team side, and 13 but we evaluate the dogs and the employees. My Staff will 14 have certain dogs that could be level one, two, three, or 15 four, and we have handlers who could be level one, two, 16 three or four because obviously, we have new hires or we 17 have novice handlers and we have experience handlers and 18 management on down into the Staff into the yards because we 18 the we have master handlers. So we are really making sure 19 that we got the right people with the right dogs. So we 20 really take that into account that we are not going to have 21 an issue because we've got someone who can't handle this 22 dog's barking because they are not experienced enough to be 23 able to handle it. So we always make sure that we got the 24 right people with the right dogs.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

barking, it's very quiet.

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Conducted on August 18, 2017 71 SOO LEE-CHO: Anything further. 1 design project you've done? Is that what you're saying? 2 LYNN ROBESON: No, I don't. Thank you. ROBIN MENGE: It's a partial list of them. I've been JOHN RUBIN: Thank you. doing this for 30 years. LYNN ROBESON: Do you do individual training for dogs? 4 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 5 JOHN RUBIN: Yes. 5 ROBIN MENGE: So it's partial. 6 LYNN ROBESON: I'm just -- it's not for me. LYNN ROBESON: All right. I am qualifying her as an 6 JOHN RUBIN: We do. expert in commercial interior design. SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Next would be Ms. Robin SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Have you visited the site, 9 Menge. I always get your name -and are you familiar with the subject project and 10 surrounding area? MS. MENGE: You are not the only one. SOO LEE-CHO: Menge? ROBIN MENGE: I am. 11 11 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. And you prepared the floor plan 12 ROBIN MENGE: Yes. 12 13 LYNN ROBESON: Please raise your right hand. Do you 13 that is Exhibit 34? Is that correct? 14 solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that the ROBIN MENGE: Yes. We prepared the permit documents. 15 statements you're about to make are the truth, the whole 15 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. Can you just briefly, again, 16 truth, and nothing but the truth? 16 describe for the record the unit, the tenant space, that is 17 ROBIN MENGE: I do. 17 going to be occupied, or is occupied by Dr. Boyd's, 18 LYNN ROBESON: Thank you. 18 including the interior layout --19 SOO LEE-CHO: Ms. Menge, can you please state your 19 ROBIN MENGE: Sure. SOO LEE-CHO: -- for the site? 20 full name for the record? 20 21 ROBIN MENGE: Robin Menge. 21 LYNN ROBESON: I don't think referring to -- just for 22 the record, you'll be referring to Exhibit 34, and we'll 22. SOO LEE-CHO: And your business address? ROBIN MENGE: 7735 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. 23 23 need an electronic version of that. Okay. Why don't you 24 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Can you spell Menge, please? 24 bring that up now and I'll make that 34A. 25 ROBIN MENGE: M-E-N-G-E. SOO LEE-CHO: This has a bunch of other things on 70 72 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thank you. 1 there. It's not just that. ROBIN MENGE: Mm-hmm. LYNN ROBESON: Oh. Okay. Well, let me --2 3 SOO LEE-CHO: And your profession? SOO LEE-CHO: Maybe at the end or --ROBIN MENGE: So, I am a -- I'm an interior architect, 4 LYNN ROBESON: Let's -- I'll get you. I will make it 5 interior design. 39. Okay. SOO LEE-CHO: So I have Ms. Menge's resume. It 6 SOO LEE-CHO: I'm sorry. I skipped 37. Which one was describes her work experience and professional training. 37? LYNN ROBESON: And that will be 38. And how are you LYNN ROBESON: Resume of John Reuben. going to qualify her? As an interior architect? 9 SOO LEE-CHO: Oh. Got it. Okay. Thirty-nine is the SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. Commercial interior design, yes is 10 10 disc. 11 probably the most accurate description. 11 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Go ahead. LYNN ROBESON: And are you licensed? Do you have a MS. MENGE: Okay. So the facility was a formal --13 licensing --13 former Staples retail store, with another retail facility ROBIN MENGE: I am not licensed. I have always worked 14 next-door, it used to be a Casual Male. The building was 15 in architecture firms with licensed architectural 15 completely vacant. We created a new separation wall between 16 professionals who (crosstalk) 16 Dr. Boyd's and the vacant suite next-door and because we LYNN ROBESON: And do they oversee your work? 17 did have a wide-open space, as Dr. Wesson mentioned. We 18 worked closely with Dr. Wesson in gathering all the 18 ROBIN MENGE: Yes. LYNN ROBESON: I will accept her. Have you ever 19 information that they had learned from the California 19 20 testified as an expert before? 20 locations and how the flow was to work in the space. So you 21 ROBIN MENGE: No, I have not. 21 come in the main entrance doors which were existing and you 22 come into the waiting area here. Which is --LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I'm sorry. Can you tell me the 22 23 LYNN ROBESON: Now, when you say here, you have to

25

24 identify it so --

ROBIN MENGE: Okay.

23 specialty again?

SOO LEE-CHO: Commercial interior design.

LYNN ROBESON: And this resume lists the interior

24

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LYNN ROBESON: -- the transcript -- is that the darker

tan area?

3 ROBIN MENGE: Yes.

LYNN ROBESON: Is it labeled reception?

ROBIN MENGE: It's labeled seating area here.

6 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

ROBIN MENGE: So on the west side of the building is

the main entrance coming into the seating area right in the

middle. To the left is the concierge with reception desks

10 where people are greeted and guided it to the right

11 location.

LYNN ROBESON: So that's on the east side of the

13 building, the semicircle.

ROBIN MENGE: The northwest.

15 LYNN ROBESON: Northwest?

ROBIN MENGE: Northwest side of the building. 16

17 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah.

18 ROBIN MENGE: And then just past the seating area to

19 the east are three exam rooms, and that pretty much

20 comprises the kind of public area. And then you're guided

21 back to the other areas. So north of the concierge area is

22 the grooming facility. So you're brought back there. To the

23 east of the grooming area are the restrooms, and then you

24 continue back and it's housekeeping and Staff areas.

25 Straight behind to the east of the exam rooms is the

74

1 hospital, and that's where -- within there is the actual

2 operating room and lab areas and x-ray areas, things like

3 that. And continuing through there to the east you come

4 into the play yard area and the bedrooms here, which are

5 the wards for recuperation; where the actual beds are for

6 the dogs. So they're enclosed into separate rooms in the

7 southwest -- southeast corner of the building. And the

8 northeast is where the open play yards are, and in the far

9 northeast is the isolation room for patients that need to

10 be segregated from the rest of the population. And then out

11 through the northeast corner of the building is the exit

12 out into the play yard.

13 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

SOO LEE-CHO: Could you tell us a little bit more

15 about the outdoor play yard in terms of size, design, and

17 ROBIN MENGE: Yeah. So the overall size of the outdoor 17 also because we won't be operating the outdoor area after

18 play yard is about 65½ feet wide left to right, east to

19 west, and about $45\frac{1}{2}$ north to south; has concrete on the

20 ground cover and then fencing around the perimeter will be

21 8 feet white the vinyl fencing. And then interior to it are

22 segregated areas long and narrow of dog runs around the

23 perimeter, which are also separated by fencing. And then

24 two play yards for training in the center, also separated

25 by fencing. So I think that was something that we worked

closely with Dr. Wesson's group and as far as behavioral

and how they maintain separation amongst the dog

3 population.

SOO LEE-CHO: Are the internal fencing's light within

the runs, are they also made of the vinyl?

ROBIN MENGE: Yes.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.

8 ROBIN MENGE: And within those areas will be some

9 umbrellas and picnic table and stuff--

10 LYNN ROBESON: For Staff?

ROBIN MENGE: And plantings. Yes. Yeah. And plantings. 11

12 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay.

13 ROBIN MENGE: Offering some shade as well.

14 SOO LEE-CHO: Well, could you clarify, the picnic

15 area, the tables, they're not for Staff, they're dogs --

ROBIN MENGE: No, it's for climbing. 16

17 LYNN ROBESON: Although, climbing purposes.

18 ROBIN MENGE: Yeah. No, they're not going to be eating

19 out there or -- actually they are working. So they are not

20 sitting and --

21 SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah. Sorry.

22. LYNN ROBESON: I think the Staff--

23 SOO LEE-CHO: I misunderstood.

24 LYNN ROBESON: -- was confused about that too. Because

25 he kept telling me there's picnic tables for the Staff.

1 Okay.

ROBIN MENGE: No. It's for dogs to climb. Similar to 2

the facilities in the indoor training areas.

4 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

5 ROBIN MENGE: There are climbing structures.

6 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

SOO LEE-CHO: Are you able to talk about the

plantings, or could -- I guess that's -- we'll --

ROBIN MENGE: I think (crosstalk)

SOO LEE-CHO: We'll like -- okay, for Vic. Okay. Are 10

11 you familiar with the outdoor yard requirements of Section

12 59 3 5 1 C 2 of the zoning ordinance?

ROBIN MENGE: Yeah. So it's allowed with that use, as

14 long as it's not abutting a residential neighborhood and

15 this is a CR zoning, so it's not applicable because it's

16 not within 50 feet of a residential neighborhood; and then

18 9:00 p.m. or before 7:00 a.m.

19 LYNN ROBESON: What do you do in the winter when it's

20 dark at 9:00 p.m., or at 6:00, 4:30?

21 ROBIN MENGE: They won't be outside. There's no

22 exterior lighting.

23 LYNN ROBESON: So dark is that the --

24 ROBIN MENGE: Dark, mm-hmm.

25 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah.

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SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Can you tell us a little bit

2 about the tenant unit shell space?

ROBIN MENGE: Sure.

SOO LEE-CHO: Can you describe the construction type

and material of the existing commercial structure to be

occupied by Dr. Boyd's?

ROBIN MENGE: Yeah. So the existing structure

perimeter is a combination of CMU, concrete masonry units

and store front, which is glass with metal framing. The

10 roof is a metal framed truss roof, steel trussed roof with

11 insulation.

LYNN ROBESON: Wait. Can I stop you one minute. 12

13 ROBIN MENGE: Sure.

14 LYNN ROBESON: Staff's Condition of Approval, they

15 have a long Condition of Approval; Condition 7 on Page 2

16 relating to exterior lighting. Is it your statement that

17 that is not applicable?

18 SOO LEE-CHO: That's correct.

19 ROBIN MENGE: That's correct. My understanding was

20 that if any lights were to be -- that these are the

21 requirements, but our plans never showed lighting.

LYNN ROBESON: Well, you're limited to what's on the

23 plan. Are you saying the Applicant's going to agree to no

24 exterior lighting as a condition of approval?

ROBIN MENGE: Yes.

1 perimeter. And then separating Dr. Boyd's space from the

adjoining space is a fully floor to deck drywall partition

with steel studs and insulation.

SOO LEE-CHO: And what was included in the

construction of the demising wall to assist with

soundproofing?

ROBIN MENGE: So we used a wider studs size, higher

gauge, or lower gauge, and insulation. And the wall goes

deck to deck. And then there's sealant at the top of the

10 deck where the drywall meets the roof. There's a sealant on

11 the top and as well as on the floor.

LYNN ROBESON: Now, is that only on the interior wall,

13 or is that all around the outside of the building?

ROBIN MENGE: That is just on the interior of the wall

15 separating from north to south Dr. Boyd's facility from the

16 adjacent facility. Around the perimeter where there is

17 concrete block it remained concrete block which is a

18 soundproof material. The only place that drywall was

19 included was in the -- on the north wall in the restrooms

20 which was existing as well as in the grooming area. And

21 then along the --

78

LYNN ROBESON: Well, I guess my question is what --

23 are other areas on the exterior going to be able to hear

24 the dogs from outside the facility?

25 ROBIN MENGE: That's something that --

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Give me one second here.

SOO LEE-CHO: Oh. Clarification, no additional 2

lighting. There's no lighting in the outdoor area, or

outdoor yard. There's -- there is lighting existing in the

5 commercial building for the parking lot and --

LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. But that -- that's not subject to 6

the new requirements.

8 SOO LEE-CHO: Right, so --

LYNN ROBESON: So that -- this Condition 7 wouldn't

10 apply to those.

SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah. 11

12 LYNN ROBESON: Is that correct?

13 SOO LEE-CHO: Correct.

14 ROBIN MENGE: So Applicant is not proposing any new

15 exterior lighting.

LYNN ROBESON: That's what I wanted to check. Okay.

17 All right, I apologize.

ROBIN MENGE: That's okay. 18

LYNN ROBESON: Go -- I was confused because you're

20 saying no, and then I'm seeing this condition. So all

21 right. Go ahead.

ROBIN MENGE: So that building envelope is a

23 combination of CMU, concrete, masonry units and store front

24 which is glass and aluminum framing. We have a steel, metal

25 roof with steel trusses with insulation around the

SOO LEE-CHO: (inaudible) will be testifying to that. 1

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 2

3 ROBIN MENGE: (inaudible) That's been tested.

4 SOO LEE-CHO: So this information about the

construction type of material of the building, is that what

you provided to the acoustical engineer retained on this

matter to assist in their evaluation?

8 ROBIN MENGE: Yes. Yes.

9 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. I don't have anything further.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thank you. You may be excused. 10

11 SOO LEE-CHO: And now we'll have Ms. Seymour.

12 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Now you know the question.

13 TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes.

14 LYNN ROBESON: Please raise your right hand. Do you

15 solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that the

16 statements you're about to make are the truth, the whole

17 truth, and nothing but the truth?

TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes. 18

19 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

SOO LEE-CHO: Ms. Seymour, for the record, please 20

21 state your full name and spell your last name, please.

22 TRACY SEYMOUR: Tracy Patricia Seymour, and it's

23 spelled S-E-Y-M-O-U-R.

24 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. I'm just going to ask you how you

25 spell Tracy.

83 TRACY SEYMOUR: T-R-A-C-Y. SOO LEE-CHO: And if I might ask, Ms. Seymour to use 2 the red dot stickers to indicate her points of testing to LYNN ROBESON: C-Y. Okay. Go ahead. 3 3 SOO LEE-CHO: And what is your business address? use --TRACY SEYMOUR: 10245 Old Columbia Road in Columbia, LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 4 5 Maryland. TRACY SEYMOUR: So we had --SOO LEE-CHO: And what is your profession? LYNN ROBESON: Don't block a word. If it's -- you can 6 6 TRACY SEYMOUR: I am a civil engineer with a specialty put it in the general location. TRACY SEYMOUR: Okay. in acoustics. SOO LEE-CHO: Below --SOO LEE-CHO: By --10 LYNN ROBESON: Are you licensed in Maryland? 10 LYNN ROBESON: You can put it outside the floor plan TRACY SEYMOUR: I am licensed in Maryland since 2003. 11 11 there. SOO LEE-CHO: And I have Ms. Seymour's resume to 12 TRACY SEYMOUR: Okay. 13 present. I'll ask, have you ever been qualified as an 13 LYNN ROBESON: That's fine, thank you. 14 expert witness in Montgomery County before the Hearing 14 TRACY SEYMOUR: So in this location we had a noise 15 Examiner or Board of Trustees? 15 meter located inside the salon and a noise meter located 10 TRACY SEYMOUR: I have not been qualified in 16 feet out from the face of the building. And we conducted 17 Montgomery County. I have, however, been qualified in 17 simultaneous noise measurements. We did noise measurement 18 Baltimore County. 18 with just the existing conditions and then we did a noise 19 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And that the specialty is what 19 measurement with simulated dog barking noise inside the 20 again? 20 building. 21 SOO LEE-CHO: Acoustical engineering. 21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. LYNN ROBESON: And this will be 40. Go ahead. TRACY SEYMOUR: So we -- I've done research to assess 22. 22. 23 SOO LEE-CHO: Could you please describe your education 23 the barking decibel level of a dog and an average noise 24 and professional training? 24 level is 85 decibels and I've done that by just doing TRACY SEYMOUR: I have a bachelor of science from the 25 research as well I have done testing at an existing kennel 84 University of Maryland in civil engineering. I have --1 -- testing what the actual dogs are barking, the sound LYNN ROBESON: Is -- Okay. I don't mean to stop you. levels. 2 2 I've accepted her --3 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. SOO LEE-CHO: All you have. I didn't know if you 4 TRACY SEYMOUR: So we did those two tests both with and without the simulated dog barking noise. I was 5 wanted --6 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. personally located on the outside of the building. The SOO LEE-CHO: -- to continue the voir dire. noise results did not show that there was any noise LYNN ROBESON: Okay. transference and myself being outside, I did not hear SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Are you familiar with the 9 anything of the dog barking. 10 requirements for noise attenuation described in the zoning 10 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 11 ordinance for animal boarding and care? 11 TRACY SEYMOUR: And we also performed the same 12 exercise over at the isolation room. 12 TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes, I am. 13 SOO LEE-CHO: In the CR zone. LYNN ROBESON: Which is the northeast corner of the 14 TRACY SEYMOUR: Okay. And have you assessed to the 14 large building. 15 sound reduction capabilities of the existing commercial 15 TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes, and we and results. 16 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 16 structure? 17 TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes, I have. And I have done that by 17 SOO LEE-CHO: I did not hear any dog barking noise and 18 performing noise measurements at the existing site at two 18 the noise measurements did not indicate that there was any 19 locations in the building. The first location that we 19 transfer of dog barking noise through the building. 20 tested was in the grooming salon, which was right over 20 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

21

22

24

23 wall?

25 only tests that were performed.

SOO LEE-CHO: Did you already mentioned --

LYNN ROBESON: Did you do any testing in the interior

TRACY SEYMOUR: No, I did not. Those are the -- the

21 here. We had a noise meter --

23 northwest corner of the building.

25 correct.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. You're pointing to the very

TRACY SEYMOUR: The northwest corner of the building,

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85

LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

2 TRACY SEYMOUR: Inside the buildings.

SOO LEE-CHO: And what is your understanding of the

STC rating for the walls of this tenant space?

TRACY SEYMOUR: Well, the sound transmission class is

a function -- it's a rating of how much a material will

reduce noise levels if you have a noise source on one side

and that material and how much it will reduce it. So for

example, if the STC rating is 30 your noise source of 85

10 would be reduced down to 55.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. 11

LYNN ROBESON: What's the STC rating on the interior 12

13 wall?

14 TRACY SEYMOUR: I did not evaluate the predicted STC

15 rating from the plans because the site is already

16 constructed and in place and it was my judgment that the

17 best way to assure that the building was blocking noise was

18 to do the noise measurements, and assess it that method.

19 SOO LEE-CHO: Could I have one minute?

20 LYNN ROBESON: Sure. Well, why don't we take five and

21 (inaudible)

22. SOO LEE-CHO: Yes.

23 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

24 (Off the record.)

25 (On the record.)

86

LYNN ROBESON: Go ahead Ms. --

SOO LEE-CHO: Yes, thank you. Ms. Seymour, could you

provide additional information on the STC rating of the

demising wall?

TRACY SEYMOUR: I was informed by the interior

designer that the STC rating on the interior wall is 50.

SOO LEE-CHO: So what does that mean for the

8 soundproofing ability of the wall?

TRACY SEYMOUR: Well, if an 85 decibels noise level

10 were to happen on one side, then on the opposite side that

11 would be -- a 35 decibel level would be recognized.

12 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

13 TRACY SEYMOUR: And also, for perception a 50 decibel

14 reduction would be perceived as is 32 times quieter than if

15 someone heard that noise on one side with the 85, and on

16 the other side with the 35 decibel.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. And the 85 decibel, just to

18 clarify for the record, is what is approximate?

TRACY SEYMOUR: Is -- an estimation of an average dog

20 bark sound.

21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

22 TRACY SEYMOUR: Sound level.

23 LYNN ROBESON: All right. Thank you.

24 SOO LEE-CHO: All right. So in closing, in your

25 professional opinion, from the noise measurements of the

1 existing building shell that you performed, will the zoning

ordinance standard found in section 3 5 1 B 2 ii, that any

part of a building used for animal boarding or care must be

soundproofed. Would that be satisfied in this case?

5 TRACY SEYMOUR: Yes.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thank you. 6

7 TRACY SEYMOUR: Okay.

8 LYNN ROBESON: And how many more witnesses do you

9 have?

10 SOO LEE-CHO: One.

LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 11

LYNN ROBESON: Ms. Bryant. Okay. Please raise your 12

13 right hand. Do you solemnly affirm under penalties of

14 perjury that the statements you are about to make are the

15 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. 16

17 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Go ahead Ms. Cho.

18 SOO LEE-CHO: Ms. Bryant, please state your full name

19 for the record.

20 VICTORIA BRYANT: Victoria Bryant.

21 SOO LEE-CHO: Can you spell your last name?

VICTORIA BRYANT: B-R-Y-A-N-T. 22.

23 SOO LEE-CHO: And can you provide your business

24 address?

25 VICTORIA BRYANT: 9220 Wightman and that's W-I-G-H-T-

1 M-A-N. Wightman Road, Suite 120, Montgomery Village,

2 Maryland. 3 SOO LEE-CHO: And your profession?

4 VICTORIA BRYANT: I'm a landscape architect,

5 registered.

SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. I believe Ms. Bryant has been 6

previously --

LYNN ROBESON: Oh yes, she has. So, are you qualifying

9 her as a land planner, or a landscape architect, or both?

10 SOO LEE-CHO: Both.

11 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And I know that -- I'm going to

12 mark her resume. She has qualified before the Hearing

13 Examiner before as an expert in both.

14 SOO LEE-CHO: That would be 41?

15 LYNN ROBESON: Yes. Okay.

16 SOO LEE-CHO: All right.

17 LYNN ROBESON: When you're ready.

SOO LEE-CHO: Could you -- Ms. Bryant, can you just

19 briefly discuss the surrounding neighborhood boundary and

20 whether you have any concerns with Technical Staff's more

21 narrow definition.

22 LYNN ROBESON: You know, I do have one question. Are

23 you going to addressed why you made the change in the

24 landscape?

SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. Yes. 25

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1 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

2 VICTORIA BRYANT: Just real quick. Exhibit 15, which

3 is the --

4 LYNN ROBESON: Surrounding --

VICTORIA BRYANT: -- existing conditions, sorry. The

6 existing condition plan C101, shows the site and is located

7 in the center of the plan and then the surrounding uses are

8 around the site with rock filled pipe. Maryland Route 355

9 running kind of in a slightly north/south direction with

10 Wilson Lane at the bottom. Or Nicholson Lane, sorry, at the

11 southern end of the site. And our description of the

12 surrounding area was basically Citadel to Marinelli to

13 Woodglen Road to the west and then Nicholson Lane to the

14 south. Staff had identified it pretty much --

15 LYNN ROBESON: I like your area better.

16 VICTORIA BRYANT: It was a little --

17 LYNN ROBESON: To be honest I was --

18 SOO LEE-CHO: It's a little (crosstalk) with a little

19 questioning Staff, why don't you address your area --

20 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.

21 LYNN ROBESON: So that's little more inclusive?

22 SOO LEE-CHO: I could clarify, we were further down.

23 VICTORIA BRYANT: Oh. Sorry.

24 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. We were the next block down

25 which was --

90

LYNN ROBESON: Because the traffic is going to impact.

2 SOO LEE-CHO: Right.

3 LYNN ROBESON: So anyway, just let's hear about your

4 area.

5 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.

6 LYNN ROBESON: And how you would characterize it.

7 Okav.

8 VICTORIA BRYANT: And I would say that both my

9 description or our area and the Staff's area were both the

10 CR zone and they were all contained 3.0 and 4.0 zones. And

11 there were three -- 200 to 300 foot heights for both those

12 areas.

13 LYNN ROBESON: Now where did your area end on the

14 south?

15 SOO LEE-CHO: It -- would security pictures be --

16 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah.

17 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thank you. It was Executive

18 Boulevard -- thank you.

19 VICTORIA BRYANT: To the south.

20 SOO LEE-CHO: You might want to use the zoning

21 vicinity map.

22 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. Exhibit 18, I think shows it a

23 little better. So again, Exhibit 18, the site is outlined

24 in blue and it's in the center of the plan. We included, as

25 a neighborhood area, Marinelli Road to the north, Woodglen

1 Drive to the west, and as it would have extended through to

2 --

3 LYNN ROBESON: Right.

4 VICTORIA BRYANT: -- Marinelli if it had extended. And

5 then Executive Boulevard, which -- oh there. Sorry.

6 Executive Boulevard to the south. Again, if it extended it

7 would have hit over into Huff Court and then coming up

8 along Huff Court and Citadel Avenue to the east.

9 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

10 VICTORIA BRYANT: That was our area. And you can see

11 on this map, you can also see that they're all red, which

12 is the CR zone.

13 LYNN ROBESON: The CR zone. Okay.

14 VICTORIA BRYANT: And they are generally all three to

15 four -- there's -- as you head to west it starts to step

16 down a little more to the 2.5 as kind --

17 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And how would you characterize

18 the area?

9 VICTORIA BRYANT: It is predominantly large-scale

20 commercial buildings that are it's a little -- a little

21 like 1980s type development where you have more of a

22 building that surrounded by a little bit of parking and

23 some green space. Although there is -- those facilities are

24 starting to change over with the new White Flint Master

25 Plan; and in fact, the site that where looking at as part

of a sketch plan that is that taking advantage of the new

2 zoning in the area.

3 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

4 VICTORIA BRYANT: And again, it is similar Staff in

5 that it is all CR zone and it's supposed to be mixed use,

6 predominantly with a commercial component to it.

7 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. That's the area now.

8 SOO LEE-CHO: Why don't we start with the landscape

9 plan divisions and then we can talk about the parking

10 adequacy. So if you can -- the revised landscape plan is

11 Exhibit 31A. Can you please describe the changes made most

12 recently to the landscape plan?

VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay. As we were going through the

14 review of this with Park and Planning Technical Staff, they

15 had asked us to revise the plan in terms of the material --

16 surface material that was being used in the yard. And when

17 we finally came to a conclusion as to how we were going to

18 do it, and it was a harder surface than what we had

19 originally intended, the grades for the yard start and they

20 kind of go in front of the northwest being the high point

21 and head towards the southeast as being a low point. The

22 system that we had before was it had more under drain

23 systems and was going to take the water into the storm

24 drain system. We ended up discharging that out to the

25 parking lot. So under the old scenario we had a (inaudible)

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1 facility that was on -- that surrounded the southeast

- 2 corner. So half of it was on the south side of the yard and
- 3 the other half was on the east side of the yard. But that
- 4 is exactly where all of the water drains from this facility
- 5 and since we're not putting it underground we are letting
- 6 it run off across the surface where it was dumping all the
- 7 water into the planter that was in this corner. And we
- 8 wanted to get to get that planter out of the corner because
- 9 that was just going to let all of the water go into the
- 10 planter and then under the surface of the parking lot, and
- 11 we were concerned that during the winter and the freeze
- 12 thaw cycles that this would have a detrimental effect to
- 13 the retaining area. So we moved it around the corner and --
- 14 LYNN ROBESON: To -- when you say the corner to the --
- 15 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah, we moved it to the southwest
- 16 --
- 17 LYNN ROBESON: -- west? South side?
- 18 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. We moved it west to be
- 19 completely on the south side of the yard, pretty much
- 20 centered in the middle of that edge.
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 22 VICTORIA BRYANT: Plant material stayed the same. We
- 23 just, again, changed the slight configuration and moved it
- 24 over. In a lot of ways, I think it's actually a better
- 25 location because it's on the south side of the yard and

- 1 three uses all have different parking requirements. We are
- 2 in the reduced parking -- let me make sure I've got that
- 3 right. Sorry. Let me just make sure I got the needs.
- 4 Reduced parking.
- 5 LYNN ROBESON: I think it is area.
- 6 VICTORIA BRYANT: Area. Just area is the word I was
- 7 looking for.
- 8 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah.
- 9 VICTORIA BRYANT: Reduced parking area, which gives
- 10 you a minimum and maximum and you can actually ask for
- 11 waivers to go below that, which we are not doing. So for
- 12 the veterinary hospital if you look at the maximum number,
- 13 we can with 5.5 employees per shift, which gave us 14
- 14 spaces.

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- 15 LYNN ROBESON: What exhibit are you looking at? Oh,
- 16 you're looking at a note. What exhibit? Is that 34B? Or --
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: 31B.
- 18 LYNN ROBESON: 31B.
- 19 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes, it's the development standards 20 table.
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: Oh. Okay.
- 22 VICTORIA BRYANT: The development standards and it's
- 23 the vehicle section 624B. I'm sorry.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 25 VICTORIA BRYANT: And we've identified the three types

1 will provide more shade. Whereas, with half of it on the --

- 2 when half of it was on the east side before, it just -- the
- 3 way the sun works in this area it just wouldn't provide --
- 4 it provides more shadows on the --
- 5 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 6 VICTORIA BRYANT: Play area. But that was the it was a
- 7 technical issue that just kind of got a little lost in the
- 8 shuffle when we were redesigning it.
- 9 LYNN ROBESON: In the waste treatment --
- 10 VICTORIA BRYANT: In the waste.
- 11 LYNN ROBESON: Right. Okay.
- 12 SOO LEE-CHO: Great. Can you address the issue of
- 13 parking adequacy for the proposed use as well as the
- 14 potential future occupancy of the other retail space for
- 15 the site?
- 16 VICTORIA BRYANT: (inaudible) at Exhibit 31B which has
- 17 the development standards table added and from a parking
- 18 standpoint and you had brought up the question of whether
- 19 it would be adequate, our table breaks down the three uses
- 20 that are proposed for the site. One is the veterinary
- 21 office/hospital, one is the existing 8000 square feet of
- 22 retail, and the other one is the animal boarding care
- 23 facility conditional use that we're looking at.
- 24 SOO LEE-CHO: Right.
- 25 VICTORIA BRYANT: So we broke it down into -- those

- of parking requirements. And again, the min-max the minimum
- 2 for the veterinary hospital is 6, the maximum is 14, based
- 3 on employees. Plus you have to have doctors who are
- 4 practicing simultaneous, which we came up with two spaces
- 5 minimum, four spaces maximum. And then boarding care
- 6 facility was a maximum of 14 spaces.
- 7 SOO LEE-CHO: Minimum.
- 8 VICTORIA BRYANT: Minimum of 14 spaces and a maximum
- 9 of 41 based off of 13.5 employees, which is more than we're
- 10 actually proffering. I believe we're proffering eight
- 11 maximum. And then the retail was based off of 1000 square
- 12 feet that's $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 6 depending on the maximum. If you look
- 13 at those numbers and look at the maximum required of the
- 14 conditional use in the veterinary hospital, things that we
- 15 kind of have control of, then it's 59 spaces that we would
- 16 use if the maximum possible number of people based off of
- 17 the chart. And that's a high number. Then we get to those
- $18\,\,36$ spaces left over for the 8000 square feet of retail. And
- 19 if you look at the retail requirements it's 28 to 48, so
- 20 we're almost -- we're two spaces off of being in the mid to
- 21 point of the minimum and the maximum
- 22 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: And if you think of it the way those
- 24 retail numbers are done, 3.5 percent of parking space would
- 25 probably be more typical of a space that was the size and

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1 shape where the six would be more like a Target or a

- 2 Walmart. So the fact that were in the middle of that
- 3 number, I think that would, you know, help alleviate it.
- 4 And most of the parking that we do, it takes one to five
- 5 minutes to drop your dog off at the daycare facility from
- 6 so is a very high turnover of parking, so there's not going
- 7 to be a lot of people sitting and spending a lot of time
- 8 there. They're going to drop their dog off and head out.
- 9 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. That's helpful.
- 10 SOO LEE-CHO: Could you go ahead and, while we're on
- 11 the development standards table, help us satisfy the
- 12 requirement that we meet all the requirements of the zone?
- 13 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: Applicable requirements.
- 15 VICTORIA BRYANT: Applicable requirements. Just going
- 16 through it real quick, we're a general building type owner
- 17 under the CR zone, but because we're an existing structure
- 18 that has been -- that was permanent in approximately 1990,
- 19 we don't have to comply with all of the requirements of the
- 20 zone, per Section ---
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: 771A.
- 22 VICTORIA BRYANT: Right. So open space, we're not --
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: Although the exercise area would.
- 24 Correct?
- 25 SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah.

- 1 your position on that for the outdoor area?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: We are not subject to because the
- 3 landscaping requirements are all about different uses
- 4 between each other -- between these uses and zones and we
- 5 don't have any residential zones around use, even though we
- 6 have a residential use, it's a residential zone. And so
- 7 therefore we are not subject to the landscape screening.
- 8 LYNN ROBESON: Right.
- VICTORIA BRYANT: So that was -- the open space is not
- 10 applicable. We have the lot size is minimum fronts and
- 11 backs, VRLs are not applicable. The density we're below the
- 12 .5 that's required, the standard method in the CR zone,
- 13 that's the maximum we can do under standard methods.
- 14 Significant (inaudible) .5. Building placement, we just
- 15 identified them although were not subject to any setbacks.
- 16 They're all zero. The front of the building is 98 feet from
- 17 the property line, which is the frontage on 355. We have a
- 18 zero setback on the side yard to the north, and 170 foot
- 19 setback from the rear of the property, from the east side
- 20 of the building to the, I'm sorry -- the backside of the
- 21 building to the east side of the property. And then parking
- 22 setbacks are not applicable per the exemption in non-
- 23 conforming section as is the building --
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: So it's your position that the setbacks
- 25 apply only to the structure and not to the play area?

- VICTORIA BRYANT: Would be subject to it?
- 2 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah.
- 3 VICTORIA BRYANT: It's not a structure.
- 4 SOO LEE-CHO: Not a structure.
- 5 LYNN ROBESON: Well, it's site design.
- 6 VICTORIA BRYANT: It's site design. Well, again, I
- 7 don't think that the site design requires that we meet the
- 8 open space requirements. Let me just take a quick look.
- 9 LYNN ROBESON: No. It doesn't.
- 10 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah.
- 11 LYNN ROBESON: It means you would have to --
- 12 VICTORIA BRYANT: Zoning or structure being conforming
- 13 under the Section.
- 14 SOO LEE-CHO: That's about footprint and --
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: No. The -- I don't have the CR zone
- 16 with me. It would have to meet setbacks and things like
- 17 that because it's not part of the site design.
- 18 VICTORIA BRYANT: And I'll get into that. Because we
- 19 do meet them where we're required under the zone.
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 21 VICTORIA BRYANT: And where that particular section of
- 22 the zone it says that if you're not -- if your subject to
- 23 seven, 77 1 A 1 then we're not, you know -- you don't have
- 24 to comply with that section.
- 25 LYNN ROBESON: And what about the landscaping? What's

- 1 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes because the play area is not a
- 2 structure.
- 3 LYNN ROBESON: Right. Although the fence is. But
- 4 there's a separate exemption for fences under 6.
- 5 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes.
- 6 LYNN ROBESON: Six point something.
- 7 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes, there is.
- 8 LYNN ROBESON: I don't mean to --
- 9 VICTORIA BRYANT: No, no that's --
- 10 LYNN ROBESON: -- I don't know why Staff doesn't --
- 11 SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah (inaudible)
- 12 LYNN ROBESON: I'll get my -- do you mind if I get my
- 13 zoning ordinance? Because I don't want to have to revisit
- 14 this by email later.
- 15 SOO LEE-CHO: Sure.
- 16 LYNN ROBESON: I'm going to go off for a few seconds.
- 17 I'll be right back.
- 18 (Off the record.)
- 19 (On the record.)
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. We're back on the record. There
- 21 is an exemption for fences at six point something. Well,
- 22 actually we can waive --
- 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: We can waive the requirement, I think.
- 25 Now, that's only for single-family residential. Where

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parking designed are exempt. I don't think the open space

- applies at all.
- 3 SOO LEE-CHO: So it's 59 6 4 3 C.
- LYNN ROBESON: Six, four, three.
- SOO LEE-CHO: That's where, at least the exemptions
- for building lines and setbacks are for fences and walls.
- LYNN ROBESON: Which? Six what?
- SOO LEE-CHO: 6 4 3 C, Page 6-26. Is that what you
- 9 were thinking of?
- LYNN ROBESON: Yes. 10
- SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah. 11
- LYNN ROBESON: How tall are these walls? 12
- 13 SOO LEE-CHO: Eight feet.
- 14 LYNN ROBESON: I mean fences.
- 15 VICTORIA BRYANT: Eight feet.
- 16 LYNN ROBESON: Oh.
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: That's exactly (inaudible)
- LYNN ROBESON: Did they -- I have 6.5 feet they waive. 18
- 19 SOO LEE-CHO: Mm-hmm.
- 20 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. Exemption to building --
- 21 SOO LEE-CHO: So, I mean it is compliant with -- the
- 2.2 setbacks are what?
- 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: Any kind of fence for exemption --
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: Yeah, what are the setbacks?
- 25 VICTORIA BRYANT: Zero.

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- SOO LEE-CHO: Zero.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. 2
- 3 SOO LEE-CHO: So it's not an issue.
- LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. I'm sorry. I just know from doing
- our reports that if I let the issues go and then I'm stuck
- halfway. I don't want to have to delay.
- VICTORIA BRYANT: No. That's fine.
- LYNN ROBESON: I'd rather get it all out now and
- figure it out. Okay.
- VICTORIA BRYANT: So yes. The fences are within the
- 11 allowable setback.
- LYNN ROBESON: Where is the -- that must be in Article
- 13 4, the development standards for the CR zone. I think she
- 14 assumed that it was all grandfathered. So bear with me for
- 15 one moment. I just don't want to delay the report, or the
- 16 decision over something like this.
- SOO LEE-CHO: So the CR zone is Page 4-78, are the
- 18 development standards; 4-79.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Thanks.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Would the fence fall under an accessory
- 21 restructure setback requirement, or main building? Oh, it
- 22 has to be the main building. So we're under -- it's still
- 23 zero.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: (inaudible). Yeah they're all zero.
- 25 SOO LEE-CHO: Ms. Bryant, looking at the CR zone

- standard method of development standards of the zoning
- ordinance can you please state for the Hearing Examiner the
- required setback for the fence?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: On Page 4-79 in Section 4 5 3 C 3.
- The setback for front, side, and rear are zeros. And we do
- not have an alley, so we don't --
- LYNN ROBESON: And you're exempt just looking at it, I
- think you're exempt. What about the build to area?
- SOO LEE-CHO: For the fence?
- LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. I don't think the build to --10
- 11 there's nothing (inaudible) the build to area doesn't
- 12 apply, I don't think.
- VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah, the build to area does not
- 14 apply because it's a percent of building façade and we're
- 15 not a building façade.
- LYNN ROBESON: Right. Okay. 16
- 17 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.
- LYNN ROBESON: We're good.
- 19 SOO LEE-CHO: All right.
- 20 LYNN ROBESON: I just --
- 21 VICTORIA BRYANT: The highest (inaudible) is existing
- 22 and in form does not -- is not applicable.
- 23 LYNN ROBESON: Right. None of that is applicable.
- 24 VICTORIA BRYANT: None of that is applicable. No.
- 25 SOO LEE-CHO: Could you also run through the bike

1 parking requirements and whether there are any applicable

- to this case? 3 VICTORIA BRYANT: Bike parking is not required.
- 4 LYNN ROBESON: Really?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: We do provide bike parking though. LYNN ROBESON: I know. I'm just surprised because 6
- every other case, I'm even getting childcares in the
- single-family homes have a bike parking --
- 9 SOO LEE-CHO: Yeah.
- 10 VICTORIA BRYANT: Where is it.
- LYNN ROBESON: It's okay. You don't have to -- I mean 11
- 12 if you looked at it --
- VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. 13
- 14 LYNN ROBESON: -- and it doesn't apply --
- 15 VICTORIA BRYANT: It doesn't apply.
- LYNN ROBESON: -- then I will figure that out. But I 16

17 --

- SOO LEE-CHO: On this point if I could proffer. We
- 19 requested a legal zoning interpretation from Park and
- 20 Planning Staff, and that was their determination.
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: Wait. You mean a single-family -- a
- 22 little day care for 12 people in a single-family home has
- 23 to have a bike, and you guys don't?
- 24 SOO LEE-CHO: Because they -- when you look at the
- 25 Section 59 6 2 4 C where the bicycle --

105 107 LYNN ROBESON: Wait a minute; and 59 6 --VICTORIA BRYANT: And that allows for one bike on 2 SOO LEE-CHO: Six. either side. So those are the two spaces. 3 LYNN ROBESON: -- 24. 3 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. That's --SOO LEE-CHO: Two, four C. 4 SOO LEE-CHO: (inaudible) LYNN ROBESON: The parking. Okay; 59 6. Hold on one VICTORIA BRYANT: Oh there's two. Sorry. Two. 5 LYNN ROBESON: Two? second. But, what does the table -- isn't there a table 6 here that tells? VICTORIA BRYANT: Two. SOO LEE-CHO: Yes, that's the table. There is no use, 8 LYNN ROBESON: That allowed two bikes on either -or use group category for animal services and vet clinics. 9 VICTORIA BRYANT: So that would be four parking 10 That was the determination because it is not listed on this 10 spaces. 11 table that there is no parking -- bicycle parking LYNN ROBESON: Your (inaudible) -- you didn't even 12 need that interpretation. Sorry. Are they shown on the site 12 requirement. MS. BRYANT: I guess they never saw the Wizard of Oz, 13 plan? 14 and she carries Toto in her basket? (Laughter) 14 VICTORIA BRYANT: They are not. LYNN ROBESON: No. I'm thinking the employees. I mean LYNN ROBESON: They should be. I'm sorry. 15 16 why have a commercial use with employees --VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. 16 17 SOO LEE-CHO: We asked the same question, but because 17 LYNN ROBESON: I mean they are supposed to be shown on 18 --18 the site plan. I don't know why Staff didn't -- every other LYNN ROBESON: Okay. How many bike spaces do you have? 19 19 site plan I have requires them to be shown. Right. 20 VICTORIA BRYANT: We have two. 20 SOO LEE-CHO: Because they're -- they were deemed not 21 LYNN ROBESON: Two. Pretend for a moment that this 21 applicable. LYNN ROBESON: That is the first I've ever heard that 22 were -- bike spaces would be required. How many bike spaces 22. 23 would you need? 23 interpretation. I -- so do -- let's do this. Please provide 24 SOO LEE-CHO: Is it retail? No, this is parking. 24 another site plan just showing -- I'm sorry to cause you VICTORIA BRYANT: Parking. Oh. 25 25 expense, but it's my name on the dotted line. Just add --106 108 SOO LEE-CHO: And it's just (inaudible) show where the two spaces are. And that's all I need. LYNN ROBESON: I mean I have to find C. SOO LEE-CHO: Can they be hand-drawn? 2 VICTORIA BRYANT: One space would be required, for LYNN ROBESON: No. They have to be profession -- I 10,000 square feet. So we'd be two spaces. can't accept them hand-drawn. So just give me a new site 5 LYNN ROBESON: So you're good to go. You know -plan with the two spaces. VICTORIA BRYANT: And I know that Dr. Wesson has told SOO LEE-CHO: So we will provide, because the 6 7 landscape plan, everything is tied into each other, so 7 me that, you know, they have space in the building if 8 somebody needs -- like, if one of their employees really we'll --9 wanted long-term parking they could probably just address 9 LYNN ROBESON: I have never heard of that 10 that by providing space inside the facility. 10 interpretation. We will provide a full set. LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. But do you know if the space that 11 VICTORIA BRYANT: (inaudible) or something. SOO LEE-CHO: So there's two inverted bike racks? 12 they require, has all these requirements on it? 12 13 VICTORIA BRYANT: Requirements. Right, in place. Yes. 13 VICTORIA BRYANT: Two inverted bike racks. 14 LYNN ROBESON: I'm just saying. 14 SOO LEE-CHO: And that was installed by the VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah, they -- we've done them for 15 15 landlord/owner, was it not? 16 apartment buildings and it's pretty excessive, the amount VICTORIA BRYANT: It was. But (inaudible) 16 17 of space that's required for long-term bike parking. 17 LYNN ROBESON: Huh? LYNN ROBESON: So do you have two spaces that meet, SOO LEE-CHO: It was recently installed by the land --18 19 otherwise and meet the park -- bicycle storage, whatever 19 landlord. 20 they call it? 20 LYNN ROBESON: That's great. VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. At the front of the building on 21 VICTORIA BRYANT: Which is why the (inaudible) 22 the west side that faces 355 in the northwest corner 22 LYNN ROBESON: That's awesome. 23 there's a single inverted the bike, which is just a basic 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: We'll add them. 24 pipe with a --24 LYNN ROBESON: That's wonderful. LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. 25 SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Should we move on to the use

1 standards of Division 59 3? Can you say for the record how

2 we are in compliance?

3 VICTORIA BRYANT: We are in compliance, as I mentioned

- 4 on the (inaudible) here. And since we are an existing
- 5 structure for the 7.7 1 A, we are exempt from a lot of the

6 requirements.

7 SOO LEE-CHO: Well, I meant the animal boarding care

8 use. The specific use standards.

9 VICTORIA BRYANT: Oh. Okay.

10 SOO LEE-CHO: Sections 3 5 1 B 2 B ii.

11 VICTORIA BRYANT: Sorry.

12 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

13 SOO LEE-CHO: Is that right? 25?

14 VICTORIA BRYANT: In the CR zone the animal boarding

15 care is allowed. Let me find the chart. Per Section, yeah, 16 59 3 1 6.

17 LYNN ROBESON: Do you mean -- let me just get this

18 straight. Oh, because of boarding and care is not listed in

19 -- and why aren't the bicycle spaces required?

20 SOO LEE-CHO: Because neither a vet hospital or an

21 animal boarding care is listed in the bicycle schedule.

22 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Go ahead.

23 VICTORIA BRYANT: So in the CR zone, employment zones,

24 animal and boarding care is -- must be soundproofed and the

25 attorney, I mean the architect's already testified to this.

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LYNN ROBESON: Right.

2 VICTORIA BRYANT: As long -- as well as our sound

3 expert. In the CR zone and outdoor exercise yard must be

4 set back 50 feet from any residential zone, but again, we

5 don't have any residential zones here.

6 LYNN ROBESON: What are the condos up there? Are they

7 CR?

8 VICTORIA BRYANT: They are CR. They are just condos.

9 There's no other use there, but they are the CR --

10 LYNN ROBESON: (inaudible) chart, CR 4.

11 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. CR 4 C 3.5 and R 3.5 are the

12 (inaudible) feet.

13 LYNN ROBESON: Well, how far are the -- so that's not

14 a residential zone even though it's 100 percent

15 residential?

16 SOO LEE-CHO:

17 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. The idea with these CR zone is

18 that it is not your -- you know, we're moving away from our

19 typical zoning ordinances and the CR zone is a mixed use

20 zone that is intended to be compact development. We're not

21 trying to separate things out so much. We're not trying to

22 put these big large buffers between uses. We're saying if

23 you have a mixed use development you're going to have all

24 of these people sitting on top of each other in different

25 kinds of uses. But in this particular instance we are 200

1 feet from the building itself, and 150 feet from the

2 nearest outdoor space, usable space, which is a basketball

3 court. Then, you know, as the sound person testified, you

4 know, and Dr. Boyd and our training expert said, that

5 there's just, you know that the noise is not significant

6 enough to really warrant too much concern. So, you know,

7 between the distance and the space we're also sitting --

8 LYNN ROBESON: No. I understand.

9 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah.

10 LYNN ROBESON: You don't have to keep going.

11 VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay.

12 LYNN ROBESON: And I -- even though I don't -- I

13 understand that interpretation because it's not listed, but

14 anyway, go ahead.

15 VICTORIA BRYANT: And again, there will be no dogs

16 from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

17 LYNN ROBESON: Right.

18 VICTORIA BRYANT: And most people would typically be

19 at work during the time that the dogs --

20 LYNN ROBESON: And that will be a condition of

21 approval. So --

22 VICTORIA BRYANT: Right.

23 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

24 SOO LEE-CHO: All right. Great. Then can you quickly

25 just -- or generally state whether Article 59 6

requirements are applicable on this case?

VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay. 6.1, site access. We have

3 sufficient site access to the property.

4 LYNN ROBESON: Well, I think that only applies to new

5 site access.

6 VICTORIA BRYANT: Right.

7 LYNN ROBESON: And yours is existing, correct?

8 VICTORIA BRYANT: Right. Ours is existing. And we do

9 have three points of access to --

10 LYNN ROBESON: Oh. Okay.

11 VICTORIA BRYANT: -- the site. So, as I say, I think

12 we have access covered. We do have one motorcycle parking

13 space, two bicycle parking spaces, and --

14 LYNN ROBESON: Four, right?

15 VICTORIA BRYANT: Sorry. Four bicycle parking spaces.

16 Thank you; and four handicapped spaces, which one of -- one

17 of which is a van accessible.

18 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.

19 VICTORIA BRYANT: And that has to do a little bit too

20 when we get into the number of existing parking spaces

21 before and after; the van parking took up two --

22 VICTORIA BRYANT: -- some of that space. The parking

23 spaces.

24 SOO LEE-CHO: So that was a question that I think the

25 Hearing Examiner had, in terms of the correct number. How

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many spaces were taken out for the exercise yard and how

- many were taken out for the van accessible space?
- 3 VICTORIA BRYANT: Right. So we have -- we lost a space
- 4 in the front of the property on the west side that faces
- 355. Because we do not have any -- there was no van
- 6 accessible handicap spaces on the site as it existed so we
- 7 created one, which meant we had to lose a space for the
- 8 eight foot accessible aisle. And the remainder of the
- 9 spaces were taken up by the construction of the yard in the
- 10 back. So we ended up with a total of 95 spaces.
- LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. Okay. Thanks. 11
- SOO LEE-CHO: Is there anything else in Article 59 6 12
- 13 that is applicable to this case?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: Let me see. We have not talked about
- 15 -- the one the we would mention is division 6.7 signs.
- 16 We're using the existing sign that it is already there, and
- 17 under Section 6.72B allows for changing of copy, which is
- 18 -- the sign will have a new name.
- 19 LYNN ROBESON: That is -- mm-hmm.
- 20 SOO LEE-CHO: All right. In your opinion, will this
- 21 proposed use substantially conform with the recommendations
- 22 of the applicable master plan?
- 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. It is the Nuclear Regulatory
- 24 Commission District under the 2010 White Flint Sector Plan.
- 25 It proposes primarily non-residential uses in this area.

- VICTORIA BRYANT: Okay. That sounds good. I do agree
- with Technical Staff Report. I'm trying to think if there's
- 3
- 4 LYNN ROBESON: Take your time.
- 5 VICTORIA BRYANT: Yeah. No. I would agree with the
- Staff Report and I think that, you know, big issues of
- waste and noise have been addressed by others that have
- testified today.
- LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Are you going to address adequacy
- 10 of fire and utilities and all that?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: I can do that. 11
- 12 LYNN ROBESON: Okav.
- 13 VICTORIA BRYANT: Obviously we have no impact to
- 14 schools.
- 15 LYNN ROBESON: Correct. Well, you are your own school.
- 16 (Laughter)
- 17 VICTORIA BRYANT: The site is already serviced by
- 18 water, sanitary sewer, and public storm drains and have
- 19 been deemed adequate. The traffic engineers testified to
- 20 the public road systems. The police and fire protection
- 21 area is considered to be adequate, and that's it.
- 22. LYNN ROBESON: Okav.
- 23 VICTORIA BRYANT: Oh. And then storm water management.
- 24 We're not subject to the current law because we're under
- 25 5000 square feet of impact disturbance.

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1 SOO LEE-CHO: And the hearing --

- LYNN ROBESON: Because the only impact is the dog
- exercise area?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: Yes. The dogs. And (inaudible) the
- 31 B, the LOD basically follows the new proposed curb
- that's going to enclose the space, which runs along the
- south side of the yard, and along the east side of the
- 8 yard.
- 9 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 10 VICTORIA BRYANT: So it's a pretty small impact.
- 11 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 12 SOO LEE-CHO: And we entered into the record as
- 13 Exhibit 12 a letter submitted to Mark Etheridge requesting
- 14 confirmation of storm water exemption. We did receive an
- 15 email response from him --
- 16 LYNN ROBESON: Oh. I'll take that in please.
- 17 SOO LEE-CHO: I did not bring it with me --
- LYNN ROBESON: But guess what, the records going to be 18
- 19 open.
- SOO LEE-CHO: -- but I will provide to you.
- 21 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- 22 SOO LEE-CHO: But that was the basis of the Technical
- 23 Staff's conclusion that the storm water was adequate.
- 24 LYNN ROBESON: That's fine.
- 25 VICTORIA BRYANT: I have a copy of that.

1 And again, it's an interim use until the sketch plan that 2 was previously approved, which is -- I'll get you the

- 3 sketch plan number; 32014001A which was approved on May 3
- 4 2nd, 2014. It does not conflict with any of the approvals
- 5 that were --
- 6 LYNN ROBESON: Okay.
- VICTORIA BRYANT: -- a part of that.
- LYNN ROBESON: That's helpful. Thank you.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Next, I want to ask you just very
- 10 quickly to run -- to help us run through the other general 11 findings. Based upon your familiarity with Dr. Boyd's
- 12 proposed operations, and the subject property, will the
- 13 proposed use be harmonious with, and not alter the
- 14 character of the surrounding neighborhood in a manner
- 15 inconsistent with the plan?
- VICTORIA BRYANT: It will be harmonious. It's a
- 17 commercial use in nature, and it is -- will not change the
- 18 character of the neighborhood.
- SOO LEE-CHO: Will the proposed --
- LYNN ROBESON: You know. Rather than run through all 20
- 21 the findings, do you have, I think the Technical Staff
- 22 Report sets out the findings for each of the general
- 23 findings. Do you agree with the Technical Staff Report, and
- 24 is there anything you would like to add to it? And we can
- 25 do it that way.

119 SOO LEE-CHO: Oh you do have it. Okay. probably going to be sufficient. I don't even know if 2 LYNN ROBESON: Okay. And actually thank you for that they'll have any further comments. But I am required to explanation on the CR zone because we have that as an issue send it back. So the record's going to be open for two in another case that it's 100 percent very high residential weeks from today. It will close two weeks from today. It's development that is exempt from a lot of things because during that time also, anyone who has any objections to the it's -- they consider it commercial. modification, which I doubt, since no opposition is here, I VICTORIA BRYANT: Well, it's -- and it's supposed to doubt there will be. But I will have to entertain them. And be, you know, more urban zone which is unusual for the you will submit a revised site plan within two weeks, County, but that's the direction they're heading. correct, showing the bicycle spaces. LYNN ROBESON: It just seemed odd because the County 10 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. 11 is so strong on, you know, encouraging pedestrian -- I mean LYNN ROBESON: And -- okay. So with that I have 30 11 12 days to write my report and decision. And we will issue 12 bike and non-auto modes of transit, I guess that it seemed 13 odd. But I'm certainly glad; I don't know whether I'm going 13 that, you'll get notification that it's been issued and you 14 to decide it's required or not, but very glad you have four 14 have 10 days if you disagree with anything that I decide in 15 spaces. And if you wouldn't mind, well, even if you do 15 the case, you have 10 days to appeal that to -- or request 16 mind, I'm asking you to show them on the site plan. Okay. 16 oral argument from the Board of Appeals. Everything the 17 SOO LEE-CHO: Okay. 17 Board of Appeals will decide the case on is what has been 18 LYNN ROBESON: Everything, believe it or not, is 18 introduced today. There's no more evidence, so you know, 19 supposed to be shown on the site plan. So -- all right. And 19 one last chance. Speak now or forever hold your peace. And 20 then, so this will be Exhibit -- I've torn up my file. 20 that's it. Anyone have any final comments? SOO LEE-CHO: So I have --21 SOO LEE-CHO: I would propose calling it --21 22. LYNN ROBESON: Pardon me. 2.2. LYNN ROBESON: I see none. 23 SOO LEE-CHO: -- email confirmation in regard to storm 23 SOO LEE-CHO: -- close of business September 1st as 24 water management exemptions. 24 being the record closing. LYNN ROBESON: Well, I'm just going to call it email 25 LYNN ROBESON: Yes. Close of record. 118 120 from Mark Etheridge -- May 17, 2017 email from Mark 1 SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. Etheridge. And that would be, I have 42. Is that where you LYNN ROBESON: Yeah. So -- and then my report will due 2 3 are? -- be due 30 days. We try to get it out earlier, but we SOO LEE-CHO: Yes. can't always do that. So with that, thank you very much. LYNN ROBESON: Okay. Is there anything else you would 5 SOO LEE-CHO: Thank you. LYNN ROBESON: And I've got to talk to you about my like to bring up? SOO LEE-CHO: There is not. Just briefly I would, in aunt's dog. (Laughter) I didn't want to say it -- (audio closing, state that we believe the proposed Application ends abruptly) 9 satisfies both the general and specific conditions required 9 (Off the record at 12:46 p.m.) 10 for this conditional use, and it's in a commercial setting, 10 11 completely appropriate in the location. Nothing about the 11 12 proposed use would create non-inherent adverse effects, and 12 13 everything that we've presented in terms of its activity is 13 14 inherent to a typical animal boarding facility. So with 14 15 that, we would close our case. 15 LYNN ROBESON: Thank you so much. 16 16 17 SOO LEE-CHO: You too. 17 LYNN ROBESON: And I do appreciate everyone's time. It 18 19 was actually a very interesting, fascinating operations 19 20 testimony. Okay. With that, I'm going to leave the record 20 21 open for two weeks and I'm required to send it back for 21 22 Staff to see if there's any changes, or any further 22 23 comments on the revision. And I haven't been able to speak 23 24 with Staff about their schedule, just based on what you've 24 25 testified and submitted today, I think two weeks is 25

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13 Waly Dugher	
14 MOLLY BUGHER	
15 August 29, 2017	
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