

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Planning Board is charged with approval of Specific Design Plans pursuant to Part 8, Division 4 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Prince George's County Code; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of evidence presented at a public hearing on July 22, 2010, regarding Specific Design Plan SDP-0410/04 for Beech Tree, North Village, Section 6, Architecture, the Planning Board finds:

1. **Request:** The subject application is for the addition of one single-family attached architectural model to the previously approved Specific Design Plan SDP-0410. The approved model could be built on any townhouse lot, with a minimum width of 24 feet, within the area covered by SDP-0410 which consists of a total of 158 single-family attached lots in the R-S Zone.

2. **Development Data Summary**

	<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
Zone(s)	R-S	R-S
Use(s)	Single-family attached (townhouse)/Vacant	Single-family attached (townhouse)
Acreage	22.74	22.74
Lots	158	158

3. **Location:** The larger Beech Tree project site is located on the west side of Robert Crain Highway (US 301), south of Leeland Road, in Planning Area 79 and Council District 6. The area covered by Specific Design Plan SDP-0410, North Village, Section 6, is in the north-central area of the Beech Tree development and is located around the T-intersection of Lake Forest Drive and Turleygreen Place.
4. **Surroundings Uses:** The subject site of Specific Design Plan SDP-0410-04 is located along an internal street, Lake Forest Drive, of the Beech Tree development. The site is bounded to the north and west by single-family detached houses in North Village, Section 1; to the south by the single-family detached houses in North Village, Section 3; to the southeast by the golf course; and to the northeast by R-A-zoned property outside of the Beech Tree project.

The Beech Tree development, as a whole, is bounded on the north by Leeland Road; on the east by Robert Crain Highway (US 301); on the south and west by various residentially zoned (including R-A, Residential-Agricultural; R-E, Residential-Estate; and R-U, Residential Urban Development) properties.

5. **Previous Approvals:** The subject site covers 158 single-family attached dwelling units (townhouses) within the larger Beech Tree project, which was rezoned from the R-A Zone to the R-S (2.7-3.5) Zone through Zoning Map Amendments A-9763 and A-9763-C, for 1,765 to 2,869 dwelling units. Zoning Map Amendment A-9763-C was approved (Zoning Ordinance No. 61-1989) by the District Council on October 9, 1989, subject to 17 conditions and 14 considerations. On July 14, 1998, Comprehensive Design Plan CDP-9706 for the entire Beech Tree development was approved by the District Council, subject to 49 conditions. Following the approval of CDP-9706, three Preliminary Plans of Subdivision were approved: 4-98063 for the golf course; 4-99026 for 458 lots and 24 parcels; and 4-00010 for 1,653 lots and 46 parcels.

Two specific design plans for the entire site have also been approved for the Beech Tree development. Specific Design Plan SDP-9905, which was approved by the District Council on October 22, 2000, is a special-purpose SDP for community character. Specific Design Plan SDP-0001, which was approved by the District Council on October 30, 2000, is an umbrella approval for single-family detached architecture for the entire Beech Tree development. SDP-0001 has been revised eleven times and two other revisions are currently under review. In addition, there are another 20 approved specific design plans for various sections of the Beech Tree development.

Two revisions have been approved for SDP-0410 since it was approved by the Planning Board in 2005. Specific Design Plan SDP-0410-01 revised 34 lot lines and added two architectural models and Specific Design Plan SDP-0410-02 added one architectural model. The third revision is currently under review and subject SDP is the fourth revision to SDP-0410.

6. **Design Features:** The subject SDP approves the addition of one single-family attached (townhouse) architectural model by Lennar to the previously approved SDP-0410, which covers Section 6 in the North Village of Beech Tree and consists of 158 front-loaded townhouse lots.

<b>Model</b>	<b>Base Square Footage</b>
Lismore	2,468

Townhouse models Fairfield, Fairmount, and Hazelton by Ryan Homes and Williamson and Stevenson by Haverford Homes were previously approved for this site under Specific Design Plan SDP-0410. The approved subject model features some attractive detailing such as brick jack arch with keystone headpieces above windows and garages, a minimum of first floor brick on front and side façades, and side entry porches with standing seam metal roof on end units. The subject model elevations feature standard dormers or reverse gables with louvers and raised panel garage doors. Previously approved models have base square footages of 1,250 square feet to 2,109 square feet. The approved subject model is three stories, 24 feet wide, and has a base square footage of 2,468 square feet.

Several architectural conditions have been included with the approval of this SDP to ensure that the Lismore model maintains the high quality of architecture consistent with previously approved

models in the Beech Tree development and in accordance with the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance. A variety of architectural features and design treatments around windows and doors shall be provided. Various design elements like trims, shutters, balconies, and bay windows shall be used to create offsets for the buildings and to give them an aesthetically pleasing appearance. Conditions requiring the applicant to present a palette of the proposed building materials and to label the materials on each elevation have also been included with the approval of this SDP.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH EVALUATION CRITERIA

7. **Zoning Map Amendment A-9763-C:** On October 9, 1989, the District Council approved Zoning Map Amendment A-9763-C, subject to 17 conditions and 14 considerations. Of the considerations and conditions attached to the approval of A-9763, the following are applicable to the review of this SDP:

**14. Housing prices in 1989 dollars shall not be lower than the ranges of:**

<b>Single-Family Detached:</b>	<b>\$225,000-500,000+</b>
<b>Single-Family Attached:</b>	<b>\$150,000-200,000+</b>
<b>Multifamily dwellings:</b>	<b>\$125,000-150,000+</b>

**Since these figures reflect 1989 dollars, construction after 1989 requires that the District Council review and approve dollar amounts for construction to be constructed at any later year. These dollar amounts shall be reflective of the dollars for the year in which the construction occurs.**

This condition was carried forward in modified form in Condition 15 of Comprehensive Design Plan CDP-9706. The applicable parts of the above condition have been carried forward as Condition 3 of approval for this SDP and will be enforced prior to the issuance of building permits.

**16. The District Council shall review all Specific Design Plans for Beech Tree.**

The District Council will be reviewing the subject SDP.

8. **Comprehensive Design Plan CDP-9706:** Comprehensive Design Plan CDP-9706, as approved, includes a maximum of 2,400 dwelling units, of which 1,680 are single-family detached, 480 are single-family attached, and 240 are multifamily units, located on the west side of US 301, south of Leeland Road. The housing is to be organized in four distinct villages (North, South, East, and West). An 18-hole championship golf course is integrated into the residential communities. A 30-acre lake, located in the Eastern Branch stream valley, is a central focal point of the golf course and of the development as a whole. The comprehensive design plan for Beech Tree also includes the following: A club house for the golf course, a recreation center with pool and tennis courts for

the homeowners, 136 acres dedicated to The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) for the Collington Branch stream valley park, 12.5 acres dedicated to M-NCPPC for a community park, which is located to the west of the subject site, 211 acres dedicated as homeowners' open space, 11 acres set aside for a private equestrian facility, a 35-acre site to be conveyed to the Board of Education (BOE) for a middle school site, and a 17-acre site for an elementary school. The above amenities are not included in the subject SDP.

Comprehensive Design Plan CDP-9706 was approved with 49 conditions, of which the following are applicable to the subject SDP and warrant discussion as follows:

- 6. Every Specific Design Plan for Beech Tree shall include on the cover sheet a clearly legible overall plan of the Beech Tree project on which are shown in their correct relation to one another all phase or section numbers, all approved or submitted Specific Design Plan numbers, and all approved or submitted Tree Conservation Plan numbers for Beech Tree.**

Since the approval of SDP-0410, a number of revisions to Beech Tree projects have been approved that are not reflected on the existing cover sheet. The above condition was carried forward in modified form with the approval of SDP-0410-02 and has been incorporated into the approval of this SDP which will require the applicant to update the cover sheet prior to certification of the specific design plan.

- 7. Every Specific Design Plan for Beech Tree shall adhere to Stormwater Management Plan #958009110 or any subsequent revisions. The applicant shall obtain separate Technical Stormwater Plan approvals from DER for each successive stage of development in accordance with the requirements set forth in Concept Plan #958009110 prior to certificate approval of any SDP.**

The approval of one additional architectural model will have no effect on previous findings of conformance to Stormwater Management Concept Plan 8004950-2000-00, made with the approval of SDP-0410.

- 14. Prior to approval of each Specific Design Plan for residential use, the applicant shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Planning Board and the District Council that prices of proposed dwelling units will not be lower than the following ranges (in 1989 dollars):**

<b>Single-Family Detached:</b>	<b>\$225,000-500,000+</b>
<b>Single-Family Attached:</b>	<b>\$150,000-200,000+</b>
<b>Multifamily dwellings:</b>	<b>\$125,000-150,000+</b>

**In order to ensure that the prices of proposed dwelling units are reflective of dollar values for the year in which the construction occurs, each Specific Design Plan shall**

**include a condition requiring that, prior to approval of each building permit for a dwelling unit, the applicant shall again demonstrate that the price of the dwelling unit will not be lower than the ranges above (in 1989 dollars).**

See Finding 7 above for discussion.

**17. The District Council shall review all Specific Design Plans for Beech Tree.**

The District Council will be reviewing the subject SDP.

9. **Umbrella Specific Design Plan SDP-0001 for Architecture:** Specific Design Plan SDP-0001 is an umbrella specific design plan for single-family detached architecture for the entire Beech Tree development. The SDP was approved by the Planning Board on June 8, 2000, subject to three conditions. Of the three conditions attached to the approval of SDP-0001, none are applicable to the review of this SDP because this SDP does not include any single-family detached residential units.
10. **Specific Design Plan SDP-0410:** Specific Design Plan SDP-0410 is a specific design plan for the development of 158 single-family attached lots for Beech Tree North Village, Section 6. The SDP was approved by the District Council on November 28, 2005, subject to nine conditions. Five architectural models were approved with SDP-0410. Two revisions to SDP-0410 have been approved. The subject SDP is the fourth revision. Of the nine conditions attached to the original approval of SDP-0410, the following are applicable to the review of this SDP and warrant discussion as follows:

**(1)(d) Add a site plan note as follows:**

- A. **“At least the following number of dwelling units in any horizontal, continuous, attached group of townhouse dwellings shall have a full front façade of (excluding gables, windows, trim, and doors) constructed of brick, stone, or stucco:**
- “(1) Four dwelling units in any building group containing five or six units; or**
  - “(2) Three dwelling units in any building group containing four units; or**
  - “(3) Two dwelling units in any building groups containing three units.**
- B. **“Every side elevation which is highly visible from the public street shall display significant architectural features, as provided in one of the following options:**

- “(1) Full brick, stone, stucco, or other masonry treatment, combined with at least three windows, doors, or other substantial architectural features; or**
- “(2) Brick, stone, stucco, or other masonry treatment (not including the gable area), combined with no less than four windows or one side entry door.”**

These notes were added to the cover sheet with the approval of SDP-0410. This condition has been carried forward as a condition of approval for this SDP to ensure that all units are built in conformance with these requirements.

In addition to the above conditions, six further architectural related conditions were adopted by the District Council with the approval of SDP-0410-02 on January 25, 2010. The additional architectural conditions are as follows:

- 5. Prior to certificate of approval of this specific design plan, the applicant shall revise the site plan to indicate that a one-story stone or brick watertable will be standard on all side elevations.**
- 6. The following number of dwelling units in any horizontal, continuous, attached group of townhouse dwellings shall have a roof feature containing either a reverse gable or dormer window(s):**
  - a. Four dwelling units in any building group containing five or six units; or**
  - b. Three dwelling units in any building group containing four units; or**
  - c. Two dwelling units in any building group containing three units.**
- 7. The following lots which back to either the golf course or to single family detached homes, shall have a rear deck:**

- Lots 1 through 6**
- Lots 24 through 27**
- Lots 28 through 33**
- Lots 34 through 39**
- Lots 40 through 43**
- Lots 44 through 47**
- Lots 48 through 51**
- Lots 52 through 57**
- Lots 75 through 80**
- Lots 81 through 85**

**Lots 86 through 89**  
**Lots 90 through 94**  
**Lot 101**  
**Lots 102 through 103**  
**Lots 111, 112, 113, 120, 121, 129, 130, 140, 146, 150**

**8. The following lots shall have side entry units:**

**Lots 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33, 34, 39, 40, 43, 44, 51, 52, 89, 93, 94, 101, 102, 112, 113, 120, 121, 125, 126, 129, 130, 135, 136, 140, 145, 146, 150**

**9. The following lots shall have fenced rear yards with full private patios:**

**Lots 1 through 6**  
**Lots 24 through 27**  
**Lots 28 through 33**  
**Lots 34 through 39**  
**Lots 40 through 43**  
**Lots 44 through 47**  
**Lots 48 through 51**  
**Lots 52 through 57**  
**Lots 75 through 80**  
**Lots 81 through 85**  
**Lots 86 through 89**  
**Lots 90 through 93**  
**Lots 94 through 97**  
**Lots 98 through 101**  
**Lots 102 through 107**  
**Lots 108 through 112**  
**Lots 113 through 116**  
**Lots 117 through 120**  
**Lots 121 through 125**  
**Lots 126 through 129**  
**Lots 130 through 135**  
**Lots 136 through 140**  
**Lots 141 through 145**  
**Lots 146 through 150**  
**Lots 151 through 154**  
**Lots 155 through 158**

**10. The area of basements and garages shall not be counted, in calculating the total living area of a residential unit.**

All of these conditions have been carried forward as conditions of approval for this SDP to ensure that all units are built in conformance with these requirements.

11. **Zoning Ordinance:** The subject SDP is in general compliance with the applicable requirements of the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

a. The proposed 158 single-family attached dwelling (townhouse) units are part of a larger project known as Beech Tree, which is the subject of numerous approvals. The subject SDP is in general compliance with the requirements of the R-S Zone as stated in Sections 27-511, 512, 513 and 514 of the Zoning Ordinance with regard to permitted uses and other regulations such as general standards and minimum size of property.

b. Section 27-528 requires the following findings for approval of a specific design plan:

(a) **Prior to approving a Specific Design Plan, the Planning Board shall find that:**

(1) **The plan conforms to the approved Comprehensive Design Plan, the applicable standards of the Landscape Manual, and except as provided in Section 27-528(a)(1.1), for Specific Design Plans for which an application is filed after December 30, 1996, with the exception of the V-L and V-M Zones, the applicable design guidelines for townhouses set forth in Section 27-274(a)(1)(B) and (a)(11), and the applicable regulations for townhouses set forth in Section 27-433(d) and, as it applies to property in the L-A-C Zone, if any portion lies within one-half (1/2) mile of an existing or Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metrorail station, the regulations set forth in Section 27-480(d) and (e);**

As stated in Finding 8, the approved specific design plan conforms to the approved comprehensive design plan. The approved addition of one architectural model has no impact on the previous finding of conformance to the *Prince George's County Landscape Manual*.

Section 27-274(a), Design Guidelines, state that the plan shall be designed in accordance with the following guidelines:

(D) **To convey the individuality of each unit, the design of abutting units should avoid the use of repetitive architectural elements and should employ a variety of architectural features and designs such as roofline, window and door treatments, projections, colors, and materials. In lieu of this individuality guideline, creative or innovative product design may be utilized.**

The approved architecture features reverse gable or dormer projections along the roofline. Several architectural related conditions have been carried forward with the approval of this SDP requiring the use of a variety of architectural features and design treatments, such as window and door treatments. A condition requiring the applicant to present a palette of the proposed building materials prior to certification has also been included in this approval.

The approved townhouse model is in compliance with the requirements of Section 27-433(d) of the Zoning Ordinance regarding regulations for townhouse developments. The townhouse units are shown in four, five, or six-building sticks. The width of the approved architectural model is 24 feet, which is greater than the required 20 feet for internal dwellings. The minimum based finished area for the approved townhouse unit is 2,468 square feet, which exceeds the required 1,250 square feet. End and rear wall elevations for the approved model also exceed the minimum requirement of two architectural features. Side elevations show a brick first floor and side entry with a covered stoop as a standard features.

In addition, Section 27-433(d)(7) of the Zoning Ordinance requires that a minimum of 60 percent of all townhouse units in a development have a full front façade (excluding gables, bay windows, trim, and doors) of brick, stone, or stucco. A condition attached to the approval of Specific Design Plan SDP-0410, regarding minimum brick requirements, has been carried forward with the approval of the subject Specific Design Plan, SDP-0410-04.

- (2) **The development will be adequately served within a reasonable period of time with existing or programmed facilities either shown in the appropriate Capital Improvement Program or provided as part of the private development.**

Findings for adequate public facilities including fire and rescue, police, and transportation have been normally made in conjunction with the preliminary plan of subdivision. In this case, a complete staging plan and the accompanying transportation improvements for the entire Beech Tree development were not approved until the Planning Board approved Specific Design Plan SDP-9907 on June 8, 2000. Per a review by the Transportation Planning Section, Specific Design Plan SDP-0410 was found to be consistent with the previous transportation adequacy findings. Staff found that the subject site will be adequately served within a reasonable period of time with nearby transportation facilities existing and planned to be completed in the near future. The subject SDP does not approve any changes that will affect the above findings.

- (3) **Adequate provision has been made for draining surface water so that there are no adverse effects on either the subject property or adjacent properties.**

The Department of Environmental Resources (DER) found Specific Design Plan SDP-0410 to be consistent with approved Stormwater Management Concept

Plan 008004950. Therefore, adequate provision has been made for draining surface water and ensuring that there are no adverse effects on the subject property or adjacent properties. The subject SDP does not approve any changes that would affect the above findings.

**(4) The Plan is in conformance with an approved Tree Conservation Plan.**

A Type II Tree Conservation Plan, TCPII/49/98-07, was approved with Specific Design Plan SDP-0410 and found to meet the requirements of the Woodland Conservation and Tree Preservation Ordinance. No changes to that plan are approved as a part of the subject SDP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Subtitle 27 of the Prince George's County Code, the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission adopted the findings contained herein and APPROVED the Specific Design Plan for the above-described land, subject to the following conditions:

1. The following number of dwelling units in any horizontal, continuous, attached group of townhouse dwellings shall have a full front façade (excluding gables, windows, trim, and doors) constructed of brick, stone, or stucco:
  - a. Four dwelling units in any building group containing five or six units; or
  - b. Three dwelling units in any building group containing four units; or
  - c. Two dwelling units in any building groups containing three units.
2. Every side elevation which is highly visible from the public street shall display significant architectural features, as provided in one of the following options:
  - a. Full brick, stone, stucco, or other masonry treatment, combined with at least three windows, doors, or other substantial architectural features; or
  - b. Brick, stone, stucco, or other masonry treatment (not including the gable area), combined with no less than four windows or one side entry door.
3. Prior to the approval of each building permit for a dwelling unit, the applicant shall demonstrate that the price of the dwelling unit will not be lower than \$150,000 (in 1989 dollars) for a single-family attached house.
4. Prior to certificate of approval of this specific design plan, the applicant shall revise the site plan cover sheet to provide the most recent information regarding all approved and submitted specific design plans for Beech Tree. All phase or section numbers shall also be labeled on the overall plan on the cover sheet.
5. Prior to certificate of approval of this specific design plan, the applicant shall revise the site plan

to indicate that a one-story stone or brick water table will be standard on all side elevations.

6. The following number of dwelling units in any horizontal, continuous, attached group of townhouse dwellings shall have a roof feature containing either a reverse gable or dormer window(s):
  - a. Four dwelling units in any building group containing five or six units; or
  - b. Three dwelling units in any building group containing four units; or
  - c. Two dwelling units in any building group containing three units.
  
7. The following lots which back to either the golf course or to single family detached homes, shall have a rear deck:
  - Lots 1 through 6
  - Lots 24 through 27
  - Lots 28 through 33
  - Lots 34 through 39
  - Lots 40 through 43
  - Lots 44 through 47
  - Lots 48 through 51
  - Lots 52 through 57
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  - Lots 81 through 85
  - Lots 86 through 89
  - Lots 90 through 94
  - Lot 101
  - Lots 102 through 103
  - Lots 111, 112, 113, 120, 121, 129, 130, 140, 146, 150
  
8. The following lots shall have side entry units:
  - Lots 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33, 34, 39, 40, 43, 44, 51, 52, 89, 93, 94, 101, 102, 112, 113, 120, 121, 125, 126, 129, 130, 135, 136, 140, 145, 146, 150
  
9. The following lots shall have fenced rear yards with full private patios:
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Lots 121 through 125  
Lots 126 through 129  
Lots 130 through 135  
Lots 136 through 140  
Lots 141 through 145  
Lots 146 through 150  
Lots 151 through 154  
Lots 155 through 158

10. The area of basements and garages shall not be counted, in calculating the total living area of a residential unit.
11. Prior to certificate of approval for this specific design plan:
  - a. Each stick of townhouse elevations shall be revised to include a minimum of three different window trim styles such as shutters, pilasters, Juliet balconies, brick rowlock, or utilize bay or specialty windows to be reviewed and approved by the Urban Design Section as a designee of the Planning Board.
  - b. Front entrances shall be defined with pilasters or brick rowlock with a variety of decorative headers or transom lights.
  - c. High-visibility side elevations shall be revised to include shutters on all non-specialty windows. All other side elevations shall be revised to include enhanced trim or shutters on all windows.

- d. A materials palette shall be provided to the Urban design Section as a designee of the Planning Board. These materials shall be clearly labeled on all elevations.
- e. The window in the stairwell on the side elevations of the Lismore model, which interrupts the brick soldier course, shall be replaced with a specialty window that is appropriate in size.
- f. All garage doors shall have a carriage style appearance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appeal of the Planning Board's action must be filed with the District Council of Prince George's County within thirty (30) days following the final notice of the Planning Board's decision.

\* \* \* \* \*

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the action taken by the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on the motion of Commissioner Squire, seconded by Commissioner Clark, with Commissioners Squire, Clark, Cavitt, Vaughns and Parker voting in favor of the motion at its regular meeting held on Thursday, July 22, 2010, in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Adopted by the Prince George's County Planning Board this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2010.

Patricia Colihan Barney  
Executive Director

By Frances J. Guertin  
Planning Board Administrator

PCB:FJG:SM:arj