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# **Planning Commission Staff Report**

**Project Type:** Site Development Section Plan

Meeting Date: January 9, 2017

From: Justin Wyse

Senior Planner

**Cc:** Aimee Nassif, Planning & Development Services Director

**Location:** South side of Chesterfield Airport Road immediately west of its intersection

with Spirit Drive.

**Applicant:** Stock and Associates Consulting Engineers

Description: Spirit Trade Center, Lots 2 & 3 (MoHELA) 3<sup>rd</sup> ASDSP: An Amended Site

Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, Lighting Plan, and Parking Demand Study for a 14.3 acre tract of land zoned "M3" Planned Industrial District located on the south side of Chesterfield Airport Road immediately west of its

intersection of Spirit Drive (17V330276 & 17V330265).

## **PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

Stock and Associates Consulting Engineers, on behalf of MoHELA, have requested an amended Site Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, Lighting Plan, and Parking Demand Study for consideration before the Planning Commission. The request would permit the expansion of the existing parking area, including the addition of all required landscaping and lighting. Specifically, the request would permit an additional 300 parking stalls (322 total new, 22 removed due to reconfiguration). The purpose of the parking expansion is to permit full occupancy of the existing building and allow for future removal of parking areas to accommodate potential new buildings for the site during future phases.

#### **HISTORY OF THE SUBJECT SITE**

St. Louis County zoned the subject site "NU" Non-Urban District in 1965. The property was zoned "M3" Planned Industrial District through the passing of St. Louis County Ordinance 13,935 prior to the incorporation of the City of Chesterfield. In 1992, the City of Chesterfield amended said St. Louis County Ordinance with the approval of Ordinance 656 to modify right-of-way requirements for the development.

In 2000, the City of Chesterfield approved a SDSP for the purpose of the construction of a four (4) story, 72,800 sf. office building. In 2005, the City of Chesterfield approved an amendment to the SDSP to permit the addition of ninety-three (93) parking stalls on the site. Further, in June of 2012, the City of Chesterfield approved an amended site development section plan to permit an additional 222 parking stalls.

The site currently functions as a typical office land use. The site is surrounded by like land uses of the same or similar zoning. At this time, the applicant proposes to amend their plan to add additional parking. No addition to the existing office building is proposed with this phase of development.

**Land Use and Zoning of Surrounding Properties** 

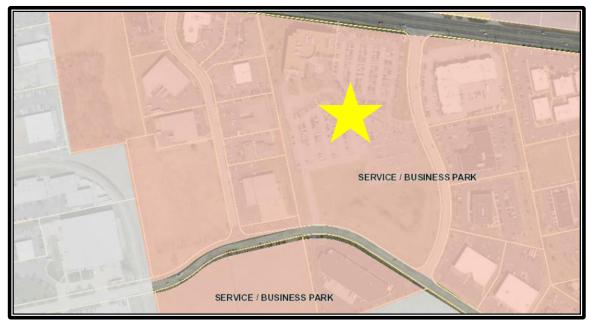
Direction	Land Use	Zoning	
North	Office Warehouse	"PI" Planned Industrial District	
South	Office	"M3" Planned Industrial District	
East	Office Warehouse	"M3" Planned Industrial District	
West	Office	"M3" Planned Industrial District	



#### Aerial Image

#### **Comprehensive Plan Analysis**

The subject site is designated as Service / Business Park within the City of Chesterfield Comprehensive Plan.



Comprehensive Land Use Plan

#### Commercial Development Policies

- 3.1.1 Quality of Design Overall design standards should be provided for smaller-scale, mixeduse, project-oriented developments. Developments should emphasize architectural design, pedestrian circulation, landscaping, open space, innovative parking solutions and landscape buffering between any adjacent residential uses.
  - This policy is met by this proposed development. The proposal includes large amounts of parking; however, additional landscaping is proposed to help mitigate the visual impact.

## **STAFF ANALYSIS**

#### Zoning

The subject site is currently zoned "M3" Planned Industrial District under the terms and conditions of City of Chesterfield Ordinance Number 656. The submittal was reviewed against the requirements of Ordinance 656 and all applicable requirements of the Unified Development Code. The site adheres to the applicable UDC requirements and the site specific governing ordinance.

#### Access and Site Circulation

No changes are proposed for access to the site. The design incorporates additional paths within and adjacent to the new parking area for designated pedestrian areas to provide clear and safe access through the new parking area.

#### **Parking**

Existing and proposed parking numbers exceed the maximum parking permitted on the site, as defined in Article 4 of the UDC. Section 04-04.I. of the UDC requires that requests that exceed the maximum parking requirement by more than 20% are subject to review and approval by the Planning Commission. The applicant has provided the required Parking Demand Study which details the expansion plans for the site to accommodate full occupancy of the existing building and allow for a future building to be added which will necessitate removal of existing parking in other areas of the lot. Staff has worked with the applicant to include features into the site to mitigate the impact of the large expanse of parking. Added features include:

- Additional landscaping along Spirit Dr.
- Inclusion of striped areas within the parking field for pedestrians.
- Inclusion of dedicated pedestrian area adjacent to the new parking field.
- Inclusion of large amounts of porous paving materials within the new parking area.

The proposal adds 300 parking spaces to the site for a total of 844 spaces. The UDC allows a maximum of 360 spaces (234% over maximum). As with previous requests for this site, the provision of additional parking requires approval of a Parking Demand Study by the Planning Commission.

## Landscaping and Open Space

The site is required to provide a minimum of 30% open space and the proposed plan includes 57.34%.

Existing trees are proposed to be supplemented above minimum requirement of the UDC as well as mitigation plantings proposed to offset the impact of the parking field. Additional landscaping will include installation of numerous trees within the required thirty (30) foot landscape buffer along Edison Ave., supplemental planting along Spirit Dr., and installation of landscaping within the parking area.

## <u>Lighting</u>

Several light fixtures are proposed for the new parking area. The new lights are required for the new parking area and comply with all UDC requirements.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, and Lighting Plan and has found the proposal to be in compliance with the site specific ordinance, Comprehensive Plan, and all City Code requirements. The submittal includes a parking demand study and mitigation for parking in excess of the maximum parking provided in the UDC. Staff recommends approval of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, Lighting Plan, and Parking Demand Study for Spirit Trade Center, Lots 2 & 3 (Mohela).

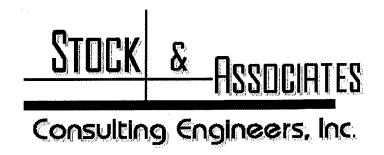
#### **MOTION**

The following options are provided to the Planning Commission for consideration relative to this application:

- 1) "I move to approve (or deny) the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, Lighting Plan, and Parking Demand Study for Spirit Trade Center, Lots 2 & 3 (Mohela).
- 2) "I move to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Section Plan, Landscape Plan, Lighting Plan, and Parking Demand Study for Spirit Trade Center, Lots 2 & 3 (Mohela) with the following conditions..." (Conditions may be added, eliminated, altered or modified).

Attachments: 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Section Plan

Landscape Plan Lighting Plan Lighting Cut-sheets Parking Demand Study



RECEIVED
DEC 3 0 2016

City of Chesterfield Department of Public Services

December 30, 2016

City of Chesterfield 690 Chesterfield Parkway W Chesterfield, MO 63017-0760

Attention:

Mr. Justin Wyse, AICP - Senior Planner

Re:

Parking Demand Study associated with MOHELA 3RD Amended Site Development Plan

633 Spirit Drive

(Stock Project No. 216-5698)

## Dear Mr. Wyse:

This firm is the professional licensed civil engineering firm that has been engaged to prepare and process the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended Site Development Plan for Mohela Office Park and its Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 expansions. Included in that engagement are the preparation and submission of this Application and a Parking Demand Study. Parking requirements are contained in Section 31-04-04.H of the City of Chesterfield Unified Development Code. Under the provisions of the Parking Section, Office General is broken down into ranges, minimum parking requirements of 3.3 spaces/1,000 s.f., and maximum parking requirements of 4.5 spaces/1,000 s.f. (gross building). This study will look and the minimum parking requirement for the site.

The existing site consists of a 3-story office building with a gross area of 80,000 s.f. and 544 existing parking spaces. Currently, Mohela employs 445 permanent employees at the Chesterfield Headquarters. An additional 165 are employed at satellite locations for a total of 610 permanent employees. Mohela plans to hire roughly 50-70 employees in the coming months, which will maximize the existing building. Assuming 1 car per employee, Mohela has a need for 680 Parking spaces currently. The phased expansions will accommodate Mohela's growth as they wish to add 2 additional 45,000 s.f. building in phase 2 and phase 3, respectively. The proposed phase 1 parking is in excess of the 680 needed spaces to accommodate for removal of roughly 174 existing parking spaces by the additional buildings during construction.

The following is their Phase 1, 2, and 3 parking demand:

Building Gross	Area	80,000 s.f.	45,000 s.f.	45,000 s.f.
Parking spaces	Current	Projected		
	544		844	1,197
New Employees		300	353	404
Totals		844	1,197	1,601

Phase 1 of the project includes the addition of 300 parking spaces to allow for maximum building occupancy. The total parking for the phase 1 site expansion will be 844 total spaces. The parking ratio with the added parking and the existing building is:

For phase 2 and 3, a parking deck totaling 835 spaces is being proposed. The balance of parking 766 spaces will be surface. The combination of the parking deck and surface parking optimize the project's open space. The project is designed to meet a minimum 30% open space at completion of construction. The parking deck is a mitigating factor against a significant surface stall component and maximization of open space.

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Phase 2 of the project includes the addition of 343 parking spaces to accommodate the addition of a 3 story 45,000 s.f. building. The total parking for the phase 2 site expansion will be 1,197 total spaces. 374 spaces will be the first part of the phased parking deck detailed above. The parking deck allows for additional green space for the site. The parking ratio with the added parking and the existing building is:

Phase 3 of the project includes the addition of 403 parking spaces to accommodate the addition of a 3 story 45,000 s.f. building, and a total gross building area of 170,000 s.f. The total parking for the phase 3 site expansion will be 1,601 total spaces. 767 spaces will be garage parking in the completed parking deck detailed above. The parking ratio with the added parking and the existing building is;

Parking Ratio = 
$$\frac{1,601 \text{ spaces}}{170}$$
 =  $\frac{9.42 \text{ spaces}}{1,000 \text{ s.f./Bldg.}}$ 

The total of 1,601 spaces equates to 9.42 spaces per 1,000 s.f. of building, which is a 109.3% increase above the 4.5/1,000 s.f. allowed by code. The effective use of work stations and collaborative area places a premium on parking demand for employees and visitors. The design of this project provides parking spaces which meet the project requirements.

Based on actual employment provided by the User, the peak parking requirements do reach levels exceeding 4.5 spaces/1,000 s.f. Therefore, they have a "requirement" to park the site at 9.42 spaces/1,000 s.f., which allows the project to meet the minimum required 30% of open space.

It should be noted that trends in today's corporate work environments trend towards a more efficient and maximum use of office space. People occupy space at a greater density than in past. Current workplace strategies of open and collaborative work environments and modern workstation design are part of what is driving this efficiency. Thus, there is a higher parking requirement for new Class A office buildings in general.

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These higher parking requirements will allow for more efficient re-leasing of second generation tenancy and will enhance the value of this property long term.

Based on the above information, we respectfully request the City consider this project be parked at the rate of:

- -10.55 spaces/1,000 s.f. for Phase 1
- -9.58 spaces/1,000 s.f. for Phase 2
- -9.42 spaces/1,000 s.f. for Phase 3

which would satisfy the Corporate Users' parking needs for 1,601 spaces.

Sincerely,

George M. Stock, P.E.,

President

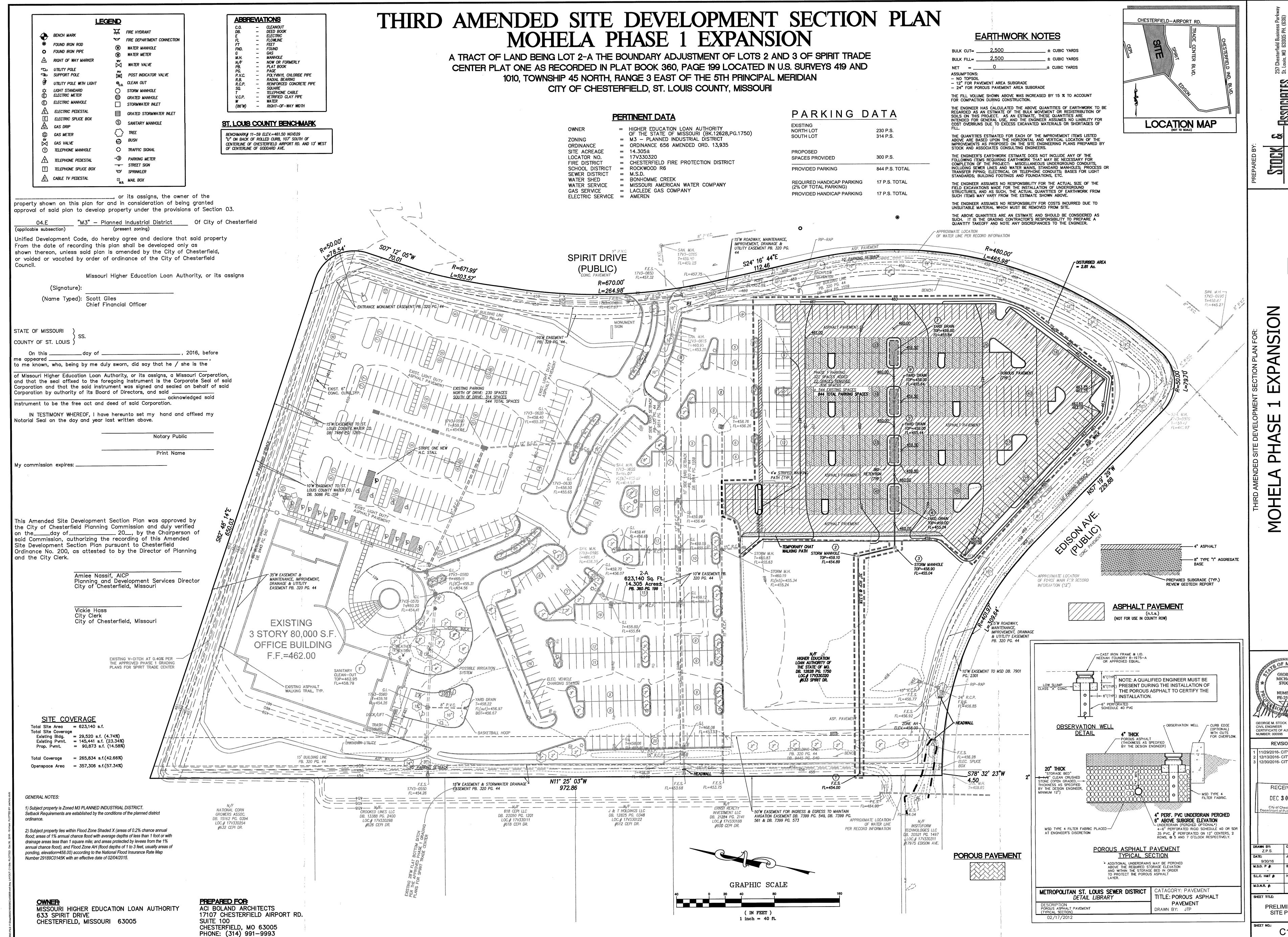
CC:

Ms. Aimee Nassif, Planning & Development Services Director

Mr. Zachary S. Wolff, Civil Engineer

Mr. Kristopher Mehrtens, Project Manager - ACI Boland Architects, via email

Mr. Rusty Saunders, Principal - Loomis Associates, via email



SSOCIATES

GEORGE NUMBER CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

**REVISIONS:** 12/13/2016- CITY COMMENTS 3 12/30/2016- CITY COMMENT

RECEIVED

BASE MAP #

PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

