# CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**TO:** Planning Commission

**FROM:** Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development

**BY:** Eric Haaland, Associate Planner

**DATE**: October 26, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Proposed Bank Use Replacing a Retail Use in an

Commercial Development on the Property Located at 1130 Sepulveda

Boulevard (Chase Bank)

# RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission **DETERMINE** that the proposed Bank use is appropriate pursuant to the subject site's existing master use permit.

# APPLICANT OWNER

Stantec Architecture Inc.

19 Technology Dr. Ste.200

Irvine, CA 92618

Cypress Creek Co. L.P.
8095 Othello Ave.
San Diego, CA 92111

## **BACKGROUND**

The subject site consists of a two-building commercial development operating under a master use permit approved in the attached Resolution No. 5292. A Target store occupies the main building on the property, and three retail spaces occupy the smaller building near the street corner of the site. The applicant proposes to replace a previous retail tenant (Blockbuster Video) in the smaller building with a Chase Bank branch. The existing use permit requires that this building be used for retail use only, unless the Planning Commission approves a different use, therefore the request for bank use was scheduled for the Commission's review.

## DISCUSSION

The submitted plans show a tenant improvement to an existing vacant retail space converting it to bank use with exterior additions of an entry tower element, and a rear emergency exit. The site would then contain 105,820 square feet of retail uses, and 6,567 square feet of bank use. The rear 3,433 square feet of the 10,000 square-foot pad building contains picture frame and phone store tenants. Parking, driveways, landscaping, and pedestrian access would not change for the site.

Bank and Savings and Loan uses without drive-through aisles are permitted uses in all commercial zones, and their parking requirement (1 space/300 sf) is lower than standard retail (1 space/200 sf). The attached Planning Commission Minutes from its consideration of what is now the existing site use permit on June 26, 1996, appear to primarily mention concerns for restaurant use relative to retail use. It is not clear that the Commission had concerns for less intensive uses such as banks and personal services occupying the subject building. Retail use typically is more desirable in prominent commercial locations, as it is more interesting, interactive, and revenue generating for the public, than lower intensity uses.

The proposal is compliant with all zoning and other City regulations. The primary issue for the Planning Commission to consider is whether this use is appropriate in this location. Applicable purposes stated by the zoning code for this location include the following:

# 10.16.010 - Specific purposes.

In addition to the general purposes listed in Chapter 10.01, the specific purposes of commercial district regulations are to:

- **A.** Provide appropriately located areas consistent with the General Plan for a full range of office, retail commercial, and service commercial uses needed by residents of, and visitors to, the City and region.
- **B.** Strengthen the City's economic base, but also protect small businesses that serve City residents.
- **C.** Create suitable environments for various types of commercial and compatible residential uses, and protect them from the adverse effects of inharmonious uses.
- **D.** Minimize the impact of commercial development on adjacent residential districts.
- **E.** Ensure that the appearance and effects of commercial buildings and uses are harmonious with the character of the area in which they are located.
- **F.** Ensure the provision of adequate off-street parking and loading facilities.
- **G.** Provide sites for public and semipublic uses needed to complement commercial development or compatible with a commercial environment.

and,

**CG** General Commercial District. To provide opportunities for the full range of retail and service businesses deemed suitable for location in Manhattan Beach, including

businesses not permitted in other commercial districts because they attract heavy vehicular traffic or have certain adverse impacts; and to provide opportunities for offices and certain limited industrial uses that have impacts comparable to those of permitted retail and service uses to occupy space not in demand for retailing or services.

While the proposed bank use may be less visually interesting and sales tax generating than retail, staff believes that it is appropriate for the following reasons:

- 1. The bank use would serve residents, and vary the types of uses within the subject site.
- 2. Banks commonly do occupy prominent street corners as evidenced by the recently constructed bank across Sepulveda Boulevard from the subject location.
- 3. Vacant commercial space is prevalent due to the weak economy.
- 4. Parking capacity for the site should benefit, particularly at night and weekends.
- 5. The anticipated added emergency exit facing Manhattan Beach Boulevard will be visually buffered by landscaping.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

The Project is Categorically Exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Sections 15303 and 15332 based on staff's determination that the project is a small infill development within an urbanized area.

# **CONCLUSION**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission accept public testimony, discuss the proposal, and direct staff to approve the proposed bank use.

### Attachments:

A. Resolution No. 5292

B. Vicinity Map

C. Applicant description

D. P.C. Minutes, dated 6/26/96

Plans (separate)

c: Stantec, Applicant Cypress Creek Co. L.P., Owner

# THIS PAGE

# **INTENTIONALLY**

LEFT BLANK

# RESOLUTION NO. 5292

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH APPROVING A MASTER USE PERMIT AMENDMENT TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 10,000 SQUARE FOOT RETAIL BUILDING WHICH WOULD REPLACE AN EXISTING 6,700 SQUARE FOOT TIRE SHOP ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1200 N. SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH (Latigo/West Development Company)

WHEREAS, this Resolution shall amend, supersede, and replace Resolution No. PC 95-29 adopted by the Planning Commission on September 27, 1995; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Manhattan Beach conducted a public hearing on June 26, August 14, and August 28, 1996, pursuant to applicable law, to consider an Amendment to an approved Master Use Permit (Resolution PC No. 95-29), for the property legally described as That portion of Lot 7, in Section 19, as shown on the Partition Map showing property formerly of the Redondo Land Company, and located at 1200 N. Sepulveda, in the City of Manhattan Beach; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission approved the subject Master Use Permit Amendment and adopted Resolution No. PC 96-23 at their hearing of August 28, 1996; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach appealed the decision of the Planning Commission, pursuant to Section 10.100.040 (B) of the Manhattan Beach Municipal Code (MBMC), at their regular meeting of September 17, 1996; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council presented findings consistent with the provisions of Section 10.100.040 (B) of the MEMC as the basis for the appeal; and,

whereas, the City Council conducted an appeal hearing on October 1, 1996 and November 5, 1996, pursuant to applical and to consider Resolution No PC 96-23; and,

EXHIBIT A

PC MTG 10-26-11

Chy Clark of the City of Manhattan Beach

3 4

6 7

5

8

10 11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26 27

Conflict to be a true copy of said document on file in my office.

City Clerk the City of Manhattan Beach WHEREAS, on November 5, 1996, the City Council affirmed the decision of the Planning Commission with modifications; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant for said project is Latigo/West Development Company, property owner's representative; and,

WHEREAS, all public hearings were advertised pursuant to applicable law, testimony was invited and received; and,

WHEREAS, an Initial Study was prepared, and a Negative Declaration was issued in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended by the City of Manhattan Beach CEQA Guidelines, finding no significant environmental impacts associated with the project; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that, based upon the Initial Study and hearing record, the project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse effect on wildlife resources, as defined in Section 711.2 of the Fish and Game Code; and,

WHEREAS, the subject property is located along the Sepulveda Boulevard corridor, a commercial arterial, and is zoned (CG) General Commercial and is designated "General Commercial" in the General Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, FIND, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

 $\underline{\text{SECTION 1}}$ . That the City Council does hereby make the following findings:

1. The applicant requests approval of a Master Use Permit Amendment to allow the construction of a new 10,000 square foot single story retail building, which would replace an existing 6,700 square foot tire shop.



Certification on a true copy of said decomment on file in my office.

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach

- 2. The Planning Commission approved the Master Use Permit Amendment at a duly noticed public hearing on August 28, 1996 and adopted Resolution No. PC 96-23.
- 3. The City Council appealed the decision of the Planning Commission, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.100.040 of the MBMC, at their regular meeting of September 17, 1996.
- 4. The City Council conducted a duly noticed appeal hearing on October 1, 1996 and November 5, 1996.
- 5. The City Council affirmed the decision of the Planning Commission subject to the following modifications:
  - A. Require the construction of a right turn lane along Sepulveda Boulevard and sufficient land dedication to accommodate said lane; and,
  - B. The applicant shall enter into a Development Bond agreement with the City of Manhattan Beach for the construction of the right turn lane prior to the issuance of any building permits. The bond agreement shall be reviewed and approved subject to the satisfaction of the City of Manhattan Beach; and,
  - C. The siting of construction related equipment (job site offices, trailers, materials, etc.) shall be subject to the approval from the Director of Community Development prior to the issuance of any building permits.
- 6. Based on testimony from the City's Traffic Engineer, construction of a right turn lane would improve commuter traffic along Sepulveda Boulevard and improve access to the subject site.

subject

the

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

1

consistent with the Goals and Policies of the General Plan, specifically Policy 2.1 which requires, where applicable, additional traffic lanes at the entry of new developments along Sepulveda Boulevard to improve traffic flow and safety. The previous approval for property allowed the primary tenant on the site, Target Greatland, to remodel and increase square footage. The Target building contains 135,957 square feet of building area, of which 104,482 square feet is used for retail and incidental

food and beverage sales (1,395 square feet), 19,150 square feet is used as storage area and 12,325 square feet is used for garden center area.

The condition to require a right turn lane is

No change in use, enlargement/alteration to interior/exterior conditions are proposed for the Target Greatland establishment.

The property is located in Area District II along the Sepulveda Boulevard corridor, and is zoned General Commercial (CG) as are the properties to the north and west. The properties to the east are zoned (RS) Residential Single Family; and the properties to the south are zoned (CG) General Commercial and (RH) Residential High Density.

10. The project will not result any significant adverse impacts to traffic, including access to site and circulation, as mitigated by the conditions of this Resolution and based upon the review of the project by the City's Traffic Engineer.

11. Based upon State law, the proposed project will meet the required findings as follows:



13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

A. The proposed project is consistent with the development standards of Title 10 (Zoning Ordinance), and is in accordance with the objectives of the "CG" zoning district (Chapter 10.16) and Area District II.

- B. The proposed project is consistent with the Land Use Element of the General Plan which identifies retail as a desired use in the General Commercial district.
- C. The proposed project is consistent with similar uses in the "CG" zoning district, and along the Sepulveda Boulevard corridor.
- D. The proposed project will comply with all applicable provisions of Title 10, and with all applicable conditions of this Resolution.
- E. The proposed project, as mitigated by the conditions of this Resolution, will not create any significant adverse impacts upon public services/facilities, nor upon traffic circulation, and new demand can be adequately met by existing and proposed public facilities.

SECTION 2. The City Council does hereby approve the subject Master Use Permit Amendment for the property located at 1200 N. Sepulveda Boulevard, subject to the following conditions: (\*Denotes conditions of approval specifically applicable to this project).

# Site Preparation

 During building construction of the site, the soil hall be watered in order to minimize the impacts of dust on the urrounding area.

Certified to be

Certified to be a irue copy of raid degumen on file in my

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach



Certified to be a true copy of said docume on file in my office.

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach

## Traffic/Circulation

- 2. A Traffic Management Plan shall be submitted by the applicant or contractor, subject to approval from the Director of Community Development, in conjunction with the building plan check. The plan shall provide for the management of all construction related traffic during all phases of the project, including delivery of materials and parking.
- 3.\* The siting of construction related equipment (job site offices, trailers, materials, etc.) shall be subject to the approval from the Director of Community Development prior to the issuance of any building permits.
- 4. As part of this project, the applicant shall be required to upgrade the traffic signal on Manhattan Beach Boulevard to a hard-wire interconnect with the existing traffic signal on Sepulveda Boulevard and Manhattan Beach Boulevard. This provision will synchronize both traffic signals to improve traffic flow on both eastbound and westbound traffic on Manhattan Beach Boulevard (PC 95-29, Condition #3).
- 5.\* The property owner shall remove the two most southerly driveway entrances adjacent to the Sepulveda Boulevard property line and the two most westerly driveway entrances adjacent to Manhattan Beach Boulevard and reconstruct the curb and sidewalk subject to approval from the City Engineer.
- 6.\* In order to provide greater driveway accessibility on Sepulveda Boulevard, the northerly most driveway (located at 14th Street) shall provide a twenty-five (25) foot radius; the southerly driveway (second driveway south from the north property line) shall provide a twenty five (25) foot radius (PC 95-29, Condition #4, modified by Condition #7 below).



Certified to be a true copy of said dggment on file in my office.

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach 7.\* The applicant shall be responsible for all public improvements associated with the project, as diagrammed on Exhibit A-1 (attached -- formerly known as Scheme 2). Such improvements include, but are not limited to, the construction of a right turn lane subject to Caltrans specifications and approval, alignment of the northern curb cut and circulation aisle (south of the 14<sup>th</sup> Street curb cut), and an increased curb radius to twenty five (25) feet for the subject curb cut.

8.\* The applicant shall enter into a Development Bond agreement with the City of Manhattan Beach for the construction of the right turn lane and associated improvements prior to the issuance of any building permits. The Bond agreement shall establish a time frame for the initial construction and ultimate completion of the proposed improvements. The Development Bond agreement shall be subject to the approval of the City Attorney and the City Engineer.

9. Prior to being issued building permits for the project, the property owner shall dedicate property sufficient in the opinion of the City Engineer to build the required right turn lane regardless of its specific design. At the time the dedication and improvements are formally accepted by the City, the City shall only accept dedication of the property on which the right turn lane has been constructed and shall formally reject the offer of dedication for property unnecessary for the improvement.

10.\* The property owner shall be responsible for providing a "Right Turn Only" sign at the southern driveway (south of the 14<sup>th</sup> Street driveway), subject to the review of the Community Development Department.

# Lighting

and construction of a parking lot lighting system which shall be in compliance with Section 10.64.170 of the Municipal Code for parking lot lighting. The approved lighting system shall be installed and operational prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy for the development. The plan shall indicate compliance with zoning code requirements, mitigation of light and glare impacts upon residential neighbors, and security concerns in a manner that is non-intrusive into adjacent residential properties.

12. All parking lot lights shall have hoods installed to direct the glare away from the residential areas, meeting the approval of the Community Development Department.

Landscaping

13. A site landscaping plan utilizing drought tolerant native plants shall be submitted for review and approval concurrent with the building permit application. All plants shall be identified on the plan by the Latin and common names. The current edition of the Sunset Western Garden Book contains a list and description of drought tolerant plants suitable for this area. This plan shall be prepared by a licensed landscape architect, as required by state law.

14. A low pressure or drip irrigation system shall be installed in the landscaped areas. Details of the irrigation system shall be noted on the landscaping plans. The type and design shall be subject to the approval of the Public Works and community Development Departments.

Certifying to be a true copy of said document on file in my onice.

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach

Certified to be a true copy of said document on the in my

City Clerk of the City of Marshattar Beach 15. Erosion of the existing landscaped area along the easterly property line shall be controlled by proper landscaping and irrigation (PC 95-29, Condition #10).

16.\* The landscaped area along Sepulveda Boulevard, and between Sepulveda Boulevard and the first driveway, east along Manhattan Beach Boulevard, shall be sufficient in height in order to mask out the parking lot asphalt subject to the approval of the Community Development Department (PC 95-29, Condition #11, modified by this Resolution).

## Signage

17. All signs (permanent or temporary) must obtain a permit prior to installation and shall be subject to the governing Comprehensive Sign Program (PC 96-13).

# Business Operation

18.\* The hours of operation shall be between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., seven days a week for Target Greatland (PC 95-29 Condition #14) and between 7:00 am and 12 Midnight for the 10,000 square foot retail building.

19.\* Deliveries to the Target building shall be conducted after 7:30 a.m. and before 12:00 midnight (on a sixmonth trial basis). If complaints are received six months after completion of the work, the delivery hours may be reduced to 10:00 p.m. Deliveries to the 10,000 square foot retail building shall only be permitted between 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. (PC 95-29, Condition #15, modified by this Resolution).

20.\* The proposed building shall be used for retail use only. Any future change of use, other than retail, shall be subject to review and approval by the Planning Commission.

21. Noise emanating from the site shall be in compliance with the Municipal Noise Ordinance.



Certified to a true 300y of said document on the in my office.

City Clerk of the City of Manhattan Beach 22. A trash bin enclosure shall be constructed of a size and location subject to the approval of the Public Services Department.

23. Any future proposal for a Satellite Dish shall meet the current Code requirement for setbacks, maximum height, maximum dish dimension, screening, undergrounding and surface material and finishes, subject to the approval of the Community Development Department.

24. The back of all raised parapets shall be provided with finished materials.

25. During the Christmas Holiday Season all sales of Christmas trees and related items shall be contained within the proposed "garden center". No parking, pedestrian or automobile access areas shall be utilized (PC 95-29, Condition #20).

Procedural

26. The project shall be constructed and maintained in substantial compliance with the plans as approved by the City Council on November 5, 1996.

27. The Master Use Permit shall lapse one year (November 5, 1997) after its effective date unless implemented or renewed as specified in Section 10.84.090 of the Municipal Code.

28. Applicant agrees, as a condition of approval of this project, to pay all reasonable legal and expert fees and expenses of the City of Manhattan Beach, up to \$20,000, in defending any legal action brought against the City within 90 days after the City's final approval of the project, other than one by the applicant, challenging the approval of this project, or any action or failure to act by the City relating to the environmental review process pursuant to the California Environmental Act. In the event such a legal action is filed against the City, the City

1

5 6

7 8

10

12

22 23

24 25

26

27

shall estimate its expenses for the litigation and Applicant shall deposit said amount with the City or enter into an agreement with the City to pay such expenses as they become due (PC 95-29, Condition #24).

29. The applicant/business owner shall cooperate with the Department of Community Development in its conduct of periodic reviews of the subject use permit.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65907 SECTION 3. and Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6, any action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void or annul this decision, or concerning any of the proceedings, acts, determinations taken, done or made prior to such decision or to determine the reasonableness, legality or validity of any condition attached to this decision shall not be maintained by any person unless the action or proceeding is commenced within 90 days of the date of this resolution and the City Council is served within 120 days of the date of this resolution. The City Clerk shall send a certified copy of this resolution to the applicant, and if any, the appellant at the address of said person set forth in the record of the proceedings and such mailing shall constitute the notice required by Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall make this Resolution reasonably available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.



e true copy

Res. 5292 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 5th day of November, 1996. Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain: /s/ Steve Barnes Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California ATTEST /s/ Win Underhill City Clerk Certified to his a true copy of the original of said document on file in my City Clark of the City of Manhettan Beach, California

LATICO/WEST DEVELOPMENT OCT 2 8 1596 PRINTED CH HIB A1.0 10,000 SQ. FT. BUILDING COMER OF MANNITAN BEACH BLVG. AND BETLURDA BLVG. Mannitan Beach, CK. Bryant-Palmer Soto Inc. Bryant-Palmer-Soto Inc.

SEF (n) "Stop" sign 4 "Right turn & Only" sign, c 25' KADILS S10b CART 35.-0 "ПСН УУ AND SIDEMALK CURB CORP STOP 240 FT. CONSTRUCTION OF RIGHT TURN ROCKET, DRIVEMAY LINE OF (E) CURB PACE 25.0 -10 pt. Hide Planter C, 180' RIGHT TURN POCKET CART PT. WIDE RIGHT 25,-0 HOP. SETBACK 60'0" TAPER S WIDE EXST CI 100 12' PROPOSED 10,000 S. 15'-0" (E) TARGET SIGN NSTR NO 2628 PRINTED ON R'53 OCT 2 8 1996 MANHATTAN

# Vicinity

# 1130 Sepulveda Blvd.

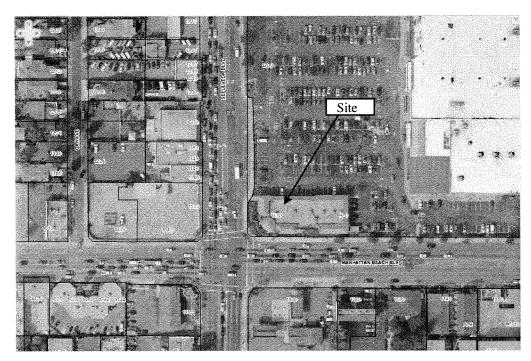






EXHIBIT B PC MTG 10-26-11

# THIS PAGE

# **INTENTIONALLY**

LEFT BLANK



Stantec Architecture Inc. 19 Technology Drive Suite 200 Irvine CA 92618-2334

Tel: (949) 923-6000 Fax: (949) 923-6121

August 08, 2011

File: 2007690062: Use Permit Application

1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Attention:

City of Manhattan Beach Community Development Department

Dear City of Manhattan Beach Community Development Department:

Reference:

Chase Bank #17216 1130 A North Sepulveda

Manhattan Beach Blvd. & PCH

## Scope of Work

We are proposing a Tenant improvement of an existing one story retail building for a new bank branch consisting of minor exterior and site modifications (new entry existing tower, replacing existing storefront, stucco infill, new exterior exit and accessible curb cut). Interior work will include new interior partitions, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and telecommunications.

# **Employee Count**

There will be approximately 6 employees working at this branch during the largest shift.

#### Parking

21 parking stalls were required for the existing use (1:250).

15 parking stalls are required for the new bank use (1:300).

Total of 6 excess parking stalls are available for the shopping center.

## <u>Findings</u>

- 1. The proposed location of the use is in accord with the objectives of this title and the purposes of the district in which the site is located.
  - The subject site and proposed building use are in compliance with the current zoning district (CG General Commercial District), which is suitable for the proposed project.
- 2. The proposed location of the use and the proposed conditions under which it would be operated or maintained will be consistent with the General Plan; will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare of persons residing or working on the proposed project site or in or adjacent to the neighborhood of such use; and will not be detrimental to properties or improvements in the vicinity or to the general welfare of the city.
  - The proposed Chase Bank will operate and be maintained consistent with the City of Manhattan Beach, general plan. The proposed Chase Bank hours are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday with deliveries during specified hours from the city to not disturb adjacent residential areas or cause a traffic flux.
  - The General Plan of the City of Manhattan Beach poses certain goals and policies which reflect the expectations and wishes of the City with respect to land uses. Specifically, the project is consistent with the following Goals and Policies of the General Plan:

PC MTG 10-26-11

# Stantec

August 08, 2011 City of Manhattan Beach Community Development Department Page 2 of 2

Reference: Chase Bank #17216

1130 A North Sepulveda Manhattan Beach Blvd. & PCH

- Goal LU-3: Achieve a strong, positive community aesthetic.
- Policy LU-3.1: Continue to encourage quality design in all construction.
- Goal LU-6: Maintain the viability of the commercial areas of Manhattan Beach.
- Goal LU-8.1: Ensure that applicable zoning regulations allow for commercial uses that serve a broad market area, including visitor-serving uses.
- 3. The proposed use will comply with the provisions of this title, including any specific condition required for the proposed use in the district in which it would be located.
  - The proposed Chase Bank will meet said provisions.
  - The proposed Chase Bank will maintain safe pedestrian access to the building through parking lot and from public sidewalks as outlined in the Sepulveda Development Guide.
- 4. The proposed use will not adversely impact nor be adversely impacted by nearby properties. Potential impacts are related but not necessarily limited to: traffic, parking, noise, vibration, odors, resident security and personal safety, and aesthetics, or create demands exceeding the capacity of public services and facilities which cannot be mitigated.
  - The proposed Chase Bank will not adversely impact nor be adversely impacted by nearby properties. Chase will provide the community with a reliable and consistent banking partner to meet the financial needs of residents, visitors and local businesses.

Respectfully,

STANTEC ARCHITETURE INC.

Oscar Perla Job Captain Tel: (949) 923-6255 Fax: (949) 923-6171 Oscar.Perla@stantec.com

Attachment:

C.

oap document2

96/0626.2 MASTER USE PERMIT AMENDMENT to Allow the Construction of a 10,000 Square Foot Retail/Restaurant Building Which Would Replace an Existing 6,700 Square Foot Tire Shop on the Property Located at 1200 N. Sepulveda Boulevard (Latigo/West Development Company)

Assistant Planner Lait advised that a few telephone calls and nine letters in opposition to the project were received and that the concerns expressed by opposing parties primarily focused on parking, traffic circulation and environmental review. He modified the staff report as follows: page 3, paragraph 5 "...The proposed project was evaluated for a 2.400 square foot..." and page 6, paragraph 3 "...restrict the hours of operation (7:00 AM TO 11:00 PM)..."

With regard to parking and traffic circulation, Assistant Planner Lait advised that staff recognizes the existing site conditions do not present the most optimal circulation patterns both on the site and on the surrounding streets; that the project would improve traffic conditions at the site by eliminating four existing curb cuts nearest the intersection of Manhattan Beach and Sepulveda Boulevards; and that the City Traffic Engineer determined a deceleration lane would not be necessary.

Assistant Planner Lait explained that the County approved the clean up of the site in 1994, but the City does not have a record of that decision and, therefore, staff recommends adding a Condition of Approval stating that "A third party environmental assessment of the site shall indicate that all contaminated soil has been removed. A "Closure Report" shall be submitted from the project Geologist and approved by the Los Angeles County Public Works Department, approving the clean up of the former gas station use. This requirement shall be approved by the Fire Marshal prior to the issuance of any building permit." Staff supported an approval, subject to Conditions.

In answer to questions from the Commission, Assistant Planner Lait clarified that the setback requirement in Commercial zones is 15 feet along Sepulveda Boulevard; that the cart locations would be situated so that a compact parking space would abut them; and that the addition of an acceleration/deceleration lane would result in the loss of parking;

Chairman Blanton questioned if anything could be done to discourage the parking of truck trailers in the parking lot, thereby reducing the number of parking spaces available. Assistant Planner Lait replied that staff could check with Target and that, in the past, they have been responsive to the City's concerns.

Commissioner Fahey asked if any tenants have been established for the site. Assistant Planner Lait advised that no official confirmation for tenants has been received. He clarified that a drive-through fast-food establishment is not anticipated; that no alcohol would be served; and that there is a possibility retail uses could occupy the whole building.

PC MTG 10-26-11

Chairman Blanton recalled that, when the Target remodel was previously approved, there was much discussion about the possibility of a deceleration lane. Assistant Planner Lait advised that, at that time, Conditions were added to the Resolution to alleviate concerns related thereto.

Traffic Engineer Garland provided input about the internal flow of traffic on the site, as well as ingress/egress on Sepulveda Boulevard. He advised that the two driveways are designed at the point where there is a low grade in the parking lot to match up with Sepulveda Boulevard and, if the driveways were to be moved, there would have to be some contouring which would result in the loss of parking spaces.

Commissioner Hall recalled that the Commission previously deferred dealing with the parking/traffic issues until such time as the parcel on the corner comes before the Planning Commission. He related concern over how the southernmost driveway on Sepulveda Boulevard would work. Assistant Planner Lait clarified that it would work more smoothly if it were to be lined up with one of the circulation aisles.

Traffic Engineer Garland supported the idea of lining the driveway up with one of the circulation aisles; verified that approximately 20 parking spaces would be lost should a decision be made to install a deceleration lane; and explained that the applicant would be adding 3,000 square feet so the incremental impact at the driveway would not be enough of an increase to justify asking for the loss of 20 parking spaces.

Commissioner Hall expressed his concern over the piecemeal nature in which projects at this location have been presented for approval. He said he would have no problem asking the applicant for a deceleration lane in return for reducing the number of parking spaces if it would remedy the traffic difficulties.

Commissioner Vining questioned what the preferred solution would be from a traffic stand point. Traffic Engineer Garland advised that, if this were an empty lot, he would favor having a deceleration lane into the property.

Should a decision be made to install a deceleration lane, Commissioner Fahey asked where it would be. Traffic Engineer Garland advised that it would begin approximately 20 to 30 feet north of Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

Chairman Blanton opened the Public Hearing.

On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Keith Palmer, Neil Stanton Palmer Architects, 2601 Airport Drive, Torrance, presented detailed information on the project. He explained that the request is an Amendment to a previously approved Master Use Permit for an additional 3,300 square feet; that the project would dramatically improve the location; that the property owner has decided to reduce the amount of square feet for restaurant space to 2,400, with it being used for a take-out coffee use; that a video store is one of the primary candidates for 6,700 square feet; that the coffee use would have no outside table or seating areas and the number of seats on the inside of the facility would be limited; and that there would be 14 parking spaces in excess of the Code requirements.

Mr. Palmer asked that the hours of operation be extended to 12:00 AM. He confirmed that the property owner received clearance for the clean up of the site from the County and the State; that the 4-Day Tire Store site would be cleaned up and certified prior to demolition; and that the documents pertaining to the clean up as required in the additional Condition of Approval recommended by staff would be provided.

Commissioner Hall asked if the applicant would agree with the idea of moving the driveway on Sepulveda Boulevard 20 feet to the south. **Mr. Palmer** indicated that the applicant would be willing to examine the idea.

Commissioner Fahey questioned how many parking spaces would be eliminated should the driveway on Sepulveda Boulevard be moved 20 feet to the south and a deceleration lane added. **Mr. Palmer** contended that the cost of a deceleration lane would not be economically feasible and he stressed that, after working with staff on this project for three months, this is the first time he has heard about the idea of a deceleration lane. He confirmed that the owner of the subject property also owns the Target property. Traffic Engineer Garland anticipated that a deceleration lane would cost approximately \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Commissioner Hall favored the idea of the developer and the City looking into the idea of installing a deceleration lane.

Chairman Blanton advised that 15 foot radiuses on the south driveway and 25 foot radiuses on the north driveway were required with the previous approval, so there might be some changes which involve utilities.

Mr. Alan Rothels, 2208 Lynngrove Drive, requested that the idea of a deceleration lane be examined.

Ms. Lynn Olson, 1107 Loma Drive, Hermosa Beach, commented on traffic problems on northbound Sepulveda Boulevard during peak morning hours; disagreed with Mr. Palmer's contention that the impact of this project would be minimal and stated her understanding that Starbucks is one of the proposed tenants; and voiced concern that only two entrances/exits at the site would be hazardous and cause confusion.

Mr. Joe Romero, 532 Rosecrans Avenue, discussed traffic difficulties on northbound Sepulveda Boulevard during peak morning hours. He said that the project would result in additional traffic difficulties and related his agreement with examining the idea of a deceleration lane.

Mr. Sam Steib, 1213 Magnolia Avenue, noted that his home faces the Target property. He expressed his concern over the noise which could result from a video store or a minimart.

Ms. Betty Steib, 1213 Magnolia Avenue, stressed the noise emanating from the construction currently under way on the site. Ms. Steib noted that construction sometimes begins at 6:30 A.M. and she voiced concern over the addition of retail businesses on the subject property.

Ms. Jeannie Collins, 1501 Magnolia Avenue, offered input about the noise emanating from activities relevant to Target.

Commissioner Hall suggested that Ms. Collins discuss the noise problems with Target management.

Mr. Earl Keegan, 572 - 18th Street, acknowledged the merits of the project. However, he called attention to the fact that the rents obtained would be increased as a result of the project.

Mr. Todd Cohen, 117 Kelp, stated his concerns over the traffic flow in the vicinity of the subject property.

Mr. Michael Keegan, owning a business at 1812 North Sepulveda Boulevard, supported a deceleration lane for this project and emphasized the increased traffic resulting from the expansion of Target. He related his understanding that, many years ago, the Council mandated 35 foot setbacks along Sepulveda Boulevard; that, with regard to parking, the applicant was erroneously given credit for storage space; and that a video store would be going in where the 4-Day Tire Store is.

Mr. Patrick Foo, 1159 Magnolia Avenue, called attention to the noise resulting from the unloading of trucks at Target early in the morning. He asked that businesses which would like to operate late at night not be allowed and requested that landscaping be required to help mitigate noise.

Chairman Blanton closed the Public Hearing.

# Discussion

Commissioner Hall supported a continuance to give the developer and staff the opportunity to examine the idea of installing a deceleration lane or realigning the driveway to the north or south.

Commissioner Vining favored looking into the idea of a deceleration lane, as well as other possible alternatives.

Commissioner Fahey observed that the location is one of the most dangerous traffic situations in the City. He discussed the need for the developer and staff to further look at the traffic problems and supported a continuance to do so.

The Commission agreed to reopen the Public Hearing to continue discussion of this matter to the meeting on July 26, 1996.

Prior to roll call vote, discussion continued with Chairman Blanton relating his feeling that an acceleration lane would be a hardship; but, it would be so much more valuable than a deceleration lane.

Community Development Director Thompson advised that staff will provide the Commission with information concerning deceleration lanes and related costs, as well as some possible alternatives the developer and/or Traffic Engineer might propose.

AYES:

Hall, Fahey, Vining and Chairman Blanton.

NOES:

None.

ABSENT:

Kaplan.

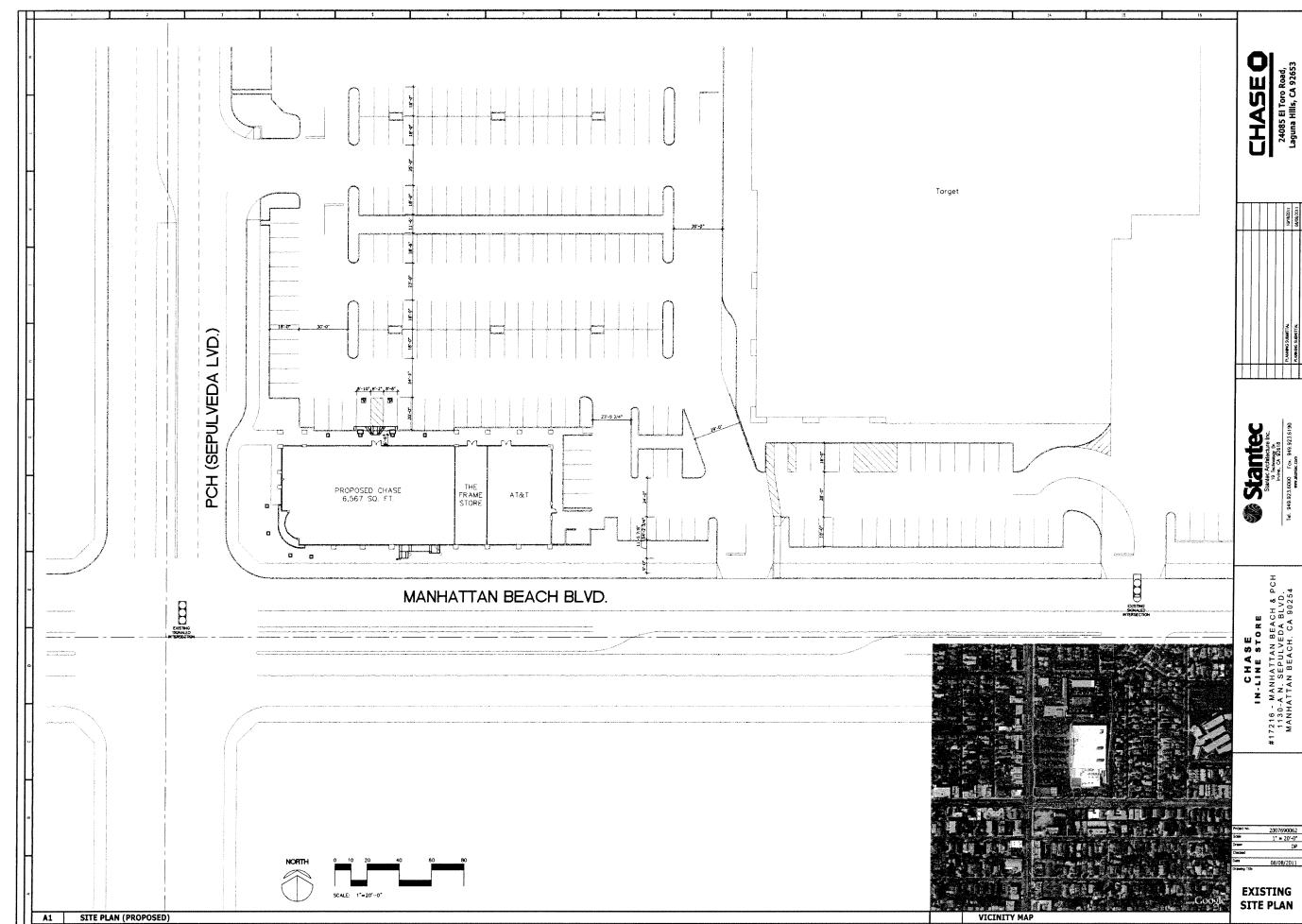
ABSTAIN:

None.

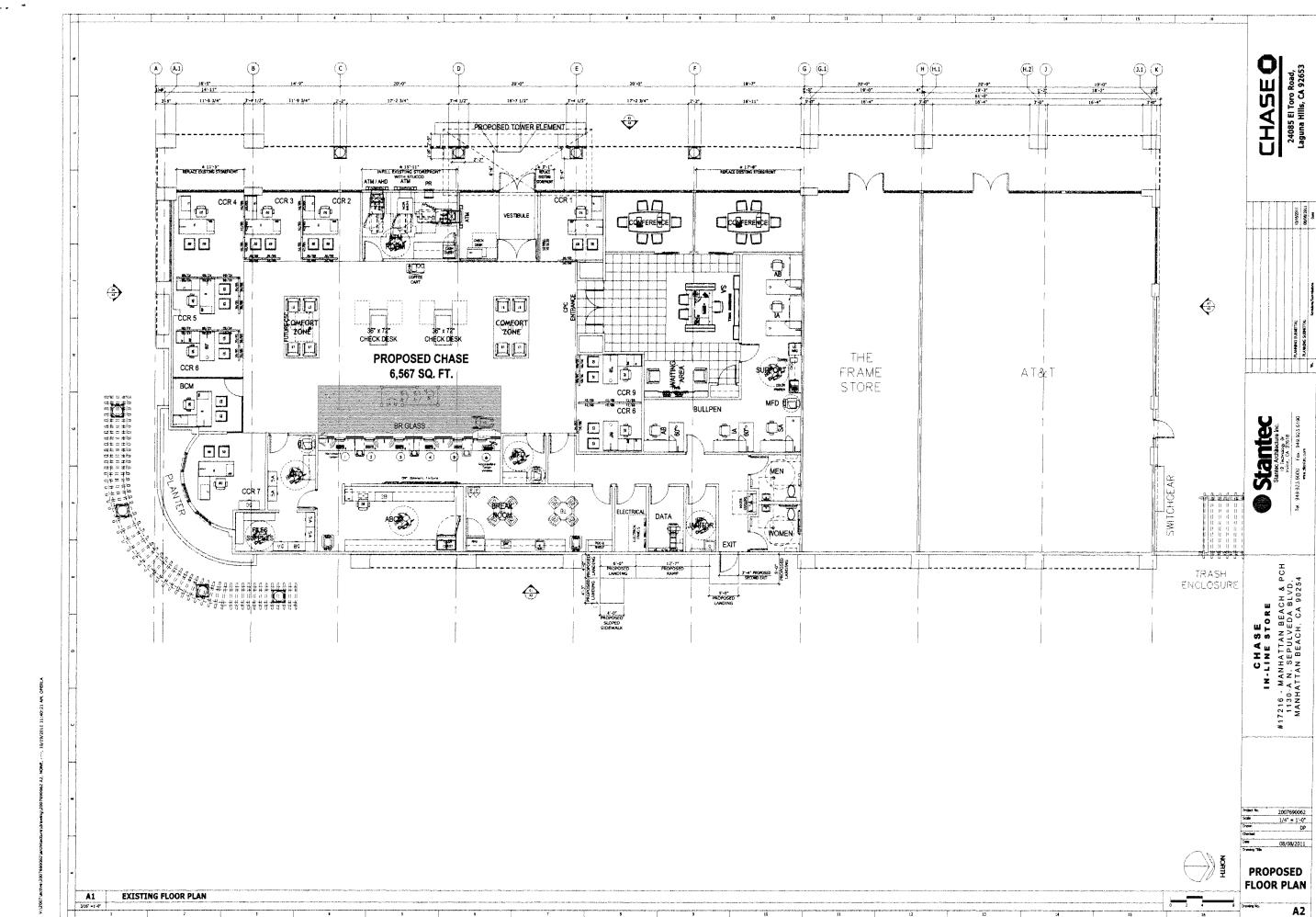
# **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Planning Commission was ADJOURNED at 9:35 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, to 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, July 10, 1996, in the same Chambers.

RICHARD THOMPSON Secretary to the Planning Commission WENDY SELOGIE Minute Secretary



A1



А3