## PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023, THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK HELD A REGULAR MEETING IN THE MIDLAND PARK COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 280 GODWIN AVE., MIDLAND PARK, NJ. THE FORMAL MEETING BEGAN AT 7:30 P.M

## FORMAL MEETING

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL:

| Mr. Les Andersen | present | Mr. Mark Divak | present |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mr. David Zuidema | present | Mr. William Placier | excused |
| Mr. Richard Formicola | present | Mr. David Barlow | present |
| Mr. Nick Papapietro | present | Mr. Joseph Eliya, Alt \#1 | present |
|  |  | Mr. James Capalbo, Alt \#2 | present |

Attendance by Board Professionals: R. Landel, Esq., Attorney; R. Wostbrock, Engineer; D. Novak, Planner
Minutes of the $12 / 14 / 22,1 / 11 / 23$, and $2 / 8 / 23$ meetings - approved

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

MHF Midland Park LLC/Taco Bell - 80 Godwin Avenue - BL 6 LT 17.02 - see attached transcript.

## RESOLUTIONS

Termini, Kelly \& Gaetano - 54 Cedar Street - BL 10.13 LT 2 - Atty. Landel explained amended made on first page of Resolution. Motion to approve the resolution as amended made by Mr. Formicola. Seconded by Mr. Divak; all eligible members voted in favor

2023 Contracts \& Resolutions for Board Attorney \& Engineer - Motion to approve the Contracts \& Resolutions made by Mr. Zuidema. Seconded by Mr. Formicola; all voted in favor.

## CLOSED SESSION

Discussion of pending litigation - Nouvelle LLC v Midland Park Board of Adjustment pursuant to NJSA 10:4-12(7)

Motion to go into closed session made by Mr. Barlow at 9:26 PM. Seconded by Mr. Divak; all voted in favor.
There being no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned the closed session at 9:57 PM and resumed the regular meeting.

firm of McDonnell \& Whitaker, representing the
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MS. HARMON: Mr. Papapietro?
MR. PAPAPIETRO: Here.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Divak?
MR. DIVAK: Here.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Barlow?
MR. BARLOW: Here.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Eliya?
MR. ELIYA: Here.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Capalbo?
MR. CAPALBO: Here.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Andersen?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Here.
All right. We're going to do the
minutes one by one.
(Whereupon, the Midland Park Zoning
Board of Adjustment conducts agenda items from 1:09 to 2:23 on the digital counter.)

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: We have one public
hearing on tonight, MHF Midland Park, LLC/Taco Bell.
Mr. Whitaker, you'll enter your
appearance?
MR. WHITAKER: Yes.
Good evening, Mr. Chairman, Members of
the Board, for the record, Bruce Whitaker from the
applicant, MHF Midland Park, LLC.
I have previously submitted by
affidavit of service, proof of publication to
counsel, as well to the board, and confirm that they are in order and we can proceed.

MR. LANDEL: The notices of the publication are in order.

MR. WHITAKER: Thank you very much.
This is an application to construct a
2,000-square-foot one-story building at 80 Godwin
Avenue, Midland Park, New Jersey, part of the
shopping center that you're very familiar with. This
town had reviewed this previously with the construction of the CVS and the other related improvements for that center.

The property is Block 6 of Lot 17.02 as shown on your tax map. The property is in the B3 business zone. It permits businesses, retail and office zones. It permits restaurant use.

There are two buildings located on the site at this time. The applicant is proposing to construct this freestanding building on the easterly side of the property for a quick-service restaurant for a drive-through.

As those of you will recall, this was
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once the Columbia Bank facility before Columbia Bank took over Atlantic Stewardship and then vacated the building.

The applicant has a proposal to remove the building and to put in a building of 2,000 square feet.

The property is well oversized as a center. Your minimum requirement there is 10,000 square feet and we're over 150,000 square feet on the center itself.

You will hear the testimony as we go through this that the applicant is actually proposing to reduce the amount of building coverage, it'll be less than what was previously approved.

You were granted -- there was a variance granted originally by the board for an 83.6 percent improved lot coverage, and we will be reducing that. And there was a variance granted for it in the past, but now we're going to reduce that nonconformity.

The quick-service restaurant would have five stations, and you'll hear from our first representative as it pertains to how the restaurant, which would be a Taco Bell, will operate. And it will be based upon the experience of a person from

Taco Bell, representative of Taco Bell, that knows
what the amount of service, hours of operation,
number of employees; all the operational aspect, that'll be our first witness.

We meet the requirements for a drive-through as far as the queuing is concerned and as far as the distance from a residential zone. That was one of the things that was in your original ordinance when you work with drive-throughs, and I've done a series of drive-throughs in this town, as board members may be aware in the past, and I know that the ordinance, over time, has been modified.

It is submitted that the variance relief in this particular instance can be granted and what is the variance we are seeking? Well, you permit drive-throughs, but the drive-throughs that are permitted are not permitted for a restaurant use. There was a modification made to your ordinance in 2021 pertaining to that.

So the first thing to just establish is
that it's not like we have a use that is not permitted at all from a site plan aspect.

By that I mean that a drive-through itself, the queuing lane, the distance that you need for the number of cars to queue and that type of

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so that they're not stacked out on the roadway. LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
thing, that's all promulgated and set forth in your ordinance already.

It's the concept of a restaurant, you permit quick-service restaurants, and they're defined in your ordinance also. So you permit that type of use in this zone, and you'll hear testimony that part and parcel of the quick-service restaurant post-COVID is an expectation that a drive-through would be part of it.

That's not the proffer that I have to give to you to prompt a variance relief to be granted for a use variance. You know the requirements for a use variance, and we'll go over that eventually with our planner.

But what we're basically stating is this site is particularly suited for the drive-through that we are proposing, particularly suited, and you'll hear from our engineer as well as our planner and our traffic expert, that the site can accommodate this because a major concern with drive-through restaurants is, is there sufficient queuing for a drive-through.

Well, you have an ordinance that says we need 150 feet for the queuing of motor vehicles,

## In this instance, we meet that

 requirement.But let's just say that the requirements for queuing with a restaurant is more than 150 feet. In our instance, we're going to show you that it's not, but we can accommodate far more than that because, contrary to the typical drive-through where you're queuing from a roadway in, and then you're going into a drive-through and then leaving and going out on a public roadway again, this is going to be very different.

In this instance, we're going to have a situation where all of the traffic for this restaurant will be able to be accommodated on the private property, itself.

In other words, through the driveway that's into the shopping center, itself, coming around the driveway itself.

So the aspect of not wanting a drive-through for a restaurant because of the concern a borough could have about the queuing stacking up to a point that it creates a traffic issue on the public roadways would not be an issue in this instance.

So what we are proposing to you for variance relief is that this property, because it's

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somewhat unique and maybe not contemplated when the ordinance got modified in 2021, in this instance the property is particularly suited for what we are proposing.

And what I do have to emphasize is that your ordinance does not say that drive-throughs in and of themselves cannot be permitted in the borough; it's just a drive-through that pertains to a restaurant use itself.

So we are seeking that D variance.
In addition to that, there are certain
C variances that we are requesting. They've all been listed in the notice. They are listed and correctly in your planner's report, and we will deal with them as we go through them. They pertain to certain setbacks for some structures that exist, including one which is the bar that goes over for the height bar that we use at drive-throughs, just where that's being situated. So it's not our building, itself.

And then there are certain variances being requested for the signage on the building. We'll get to that when we have the testimony from our architect.

On the basis of that, I've had the benefit of the Burgis report dated $1 / 20 / 23$. I've

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also had Mr. Wostbrock's report of January 18, 2023.
We have, in the most revised plans,
addressed most all of the concerns. There were some questions raised by Mr. Wostbrock for information that they would want at a hearing, and that's the purpose of the testimony this evening.

That's an overview of the application itself. Unless there's any questions of me, I took the liberty of creating a very short exhibit list, only because we will supplement it as we move forward with the witnesses.

I recognize time constraints at a hearing, so we're going to start this evening, but my expectation is, especially based on the letter I got at about 3:00 this afternoon, is that we have some people here that had some concerns that are going to raise questions to our witnesses, which we're prepared to answer. And we'll move ahead from there.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: On that, before we begin, just a head's up, we have to go into closed session later tonight --

MR. WHITAKER: I saw that on the agenda.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: -- to discuss pending litigation, so how many witnesses do you have

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## tonight?

MR. WHITAKER: I brought two tonight because I saw your agenda and I know when you have to go into executive session for pending litigation, that takes time.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: All right. So you won't be surprised if we run until 9:30 or so, I'm going to cut you off.

MR. WHITAKER: Understood, okay.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MR. WHITAKER: All right.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: All right. Go
ahead.
MR. WHITAKER: Okay.
So I'm going to call my first witness
Santana up to testify.
Put the easel up.
I notice there's no center microphone
so we'll use this one.
MR. LANDEL: That's fine.
MR. WHITAKER: I'll slide over.
MR. LANDEL: Please raise your right
hand.
You solemnly swear the testimony you're about to give at the present will now be the truth,

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the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
MR. SANTANA: Yes.
EVER SANTANA,
130 West Parkway, Pompton Plains, New Jersey,
having been duly sworn, testifies as follows:
MR. LANDEL: Name and address for the
record, please.
MR. SANTANA: Sure.
It's Ever Santana, E-V-E-R,
S-A-N-T-A-N-A.
MR. LANDEL: And your address, sir?
MR. SANTANA: 130 West Parkway, Pompton
Plains, New Jersey 07444.
MR. LANDEL: Thank you.

## DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHITAKER:
Q. Mr. Santana, by whom are you employed?
A. I am an employee of PN Restaurants.
Q. And does PN Restaurants, and part of their involvement, operate fast-food or quick-service restaurants?
A. They do.
Q. And is Taco Bell one of the signature
brands that they deal with?
A. It is.

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Q. Okay. I'd like you to tell and give
the board some background as to your involvement in this industry and your familiarity with it; the length of time you've worked in the industry and that type of thing.
A. I've worked in the restaurant industry for over 30 years. I've been with PN Restaurants since October of ' 21 .

Specifically as it pertains to QSRs,
I've been in QSR since 1999, managing in operations. Most recently with PN Restaurants, I'm responsible for real estate development and construction.
Q. And your background and your involvement with this industry, does that also include actually being involved with the day-to-day operation of it, back in your early years?
A. Yeah, I did operations in all types of restaurants from quick service to casual dining for about -- for over 25 years.
Q. And you're familiar with Midland Park and have any involvement with quick-service restaurants in Midland Park in your past?
A. No, but I have had experience in Midland Park with casual dining restaurants.
Q. Okay. Which ones were they?

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A. I am.
Q. You've been to the site that's the subject of this application?
A. I have.
Q. You observed the site and the
conditions around it?
A. I have.
Q. You're familiar with the fact that
there are other fast-food restaurants in Midland Park?
A. I am.
Q. But you're confident, based upon your analysis, that this site will accommodate the Taco Bell needs?
A. Yes.
Q. It basically -- will -- will it fit,
basically, the requirements and the needs that Taco Bell has for establishing such a facility?
A. Yes.
Q. I've stated that the facility is square
feet of approximately 2,000 square feet?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. Is that typical for a Taco Bell
for the demographics that we're dealing with?
A. It is.

LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812 your organization that you've been part of the development of the plan with Lapatka Associates and been involved with the layout and the design that's been submitted as part of this application.
A. That is correct.
Q. All right. What I'd like to do now is
to take us through the various operational aspects of essentially a Taco Bell as proposed. And let's start off with the days of operation and the hours of operation.
A. So we operate seven days a week.

Typically our hours are from 8:00 a.m. to midnight,
Monday through Thursday, until 1:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
Q. And on the basis of that, that's what's
being proposed at this facility?
A. That is correct.
Q. And you're familiar with the employee
count and the needs -- how many employees you need at any given time?
A. Correct.
Q. How many shifts are there a day, since
you have those types of hours of operation?
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A. There's typically three shifts that overlap.
Q. What do you mean by overlap?
A. Well, at any given time, we will have
approximately a maximum of about eight employees per
shift. So we break that down by day parts;
breakfast, lunch and dinner.
So, typically, you could have as few as
maybe five employees on at any time, depending on the hours, and as many as eight.
Q. And so on the basis of that, your max
at any given shift is eight; and am I understanding
it that the shifts overlapping and they don't all
leave at once and they don't all come at once?
A. That is correct.
Q. As far as deliveries are concerned, how
many deliveries do you have in a week's time?
A. Typically we get two deliveries a week.
Q. And those are controlled by the owner
themselves as far as when they come?
A. We are given a window by the
distribution company.
Q. And do they come during the hours of operation or on off hours?
A. Usually off hours, early morning.

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Q. Okay. And do they need to have anyone
on -- at the facility at the time the delivery is
made?
A. No, the deliveries are done as night
drop, so they have a lockbox, they have a key. They
enter the facility, they drop off all the
merchandise.
When we come in, in the morning,
everything is there for us to put away.
Q. Typically how long does a delivery
take? and an hour.
Q. And it's twice a week?
A. Twice a week.
Q. Now, you're familiar with the
day-to-day operation of serving the customers with
the seats in the restaurant as well as the drive-through itself?
A. Correct.
Q. I'd like you to just give the board an overview of how these restaurants operate these days, as I used in my opening, post-COVID, and what quick-service restaurants do as far as drive-through is concerned.

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A. So post-COVID, obviously the pandemic changed everybody's business model. It's nearly impossible to get a site approved by the brand unless it has a drive-through.

In our case, typically what's happened
is, just because of some of the labor constraints
that we face with higher wages, post-pandemic, we've gone to a model where we have kiosks inside the store.

So you might have seen them at other QSRs. You basically walk into the restaurant and you're basically placing your own order, right? And that helps us manage costs a little bit better.

The last Taco Bell I did has, I
believe, three kiosks, self-serve kiosks where the customers place their own orders, and one countertop POS in the event that someone just doesn't want to place their own order. We have an employee there that would do that.

Drive-throughs are essential to the viability of the business. We could do typically a maximum of anywhere between $\mathbf{3 0}$ and $\mathbf{3 5}$ cars per hour for lunch. And our lunch day part is -- typically starts at 10:00, so the 10:00 to 11:00 hour, 11:00 to 12:00 hour, 12:00 to 1:00 hour. So we have three LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
hours that we consider our lunchtime period.
Obviously breakfast is a lot slower.
We do offer breakfast.
And dinner is, depending on the
location, can match lunch. In most cases, it might be a little bit more spread out. So the hours, the peak hours in terms of cars will be a little bit less.
Q. What is your percentage of customers
that use the drive-through versus those that come into the sit-down restaurant aspect of the facility?
A. So drive-through right now is about 75 percent. So it is a little, you know, askew. Drive-throughs pre-pandemic were about 60, 65 percent; now we're somewhere between 70 and 75 percent.
Q. Are there some other concerns by the patrons of a restaurant these days as it pertains to how they want to get their food at a restaurant like this, coming in versus a drive-through?

What is the -- from your experience in operating and doing these quick-service restaurants, what do you know the customers' needs to be at this time?
A. So customers are more hesitant to come

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in and place an order face to face with a crew member.

Just to give you an idea of what that
looks like, we started our operating model with one kiosk, and in many stores we've been pushed to three or four kiosks. So it is a pretty significant change in our operating model.

Having said that, our third-party
delivery system that we utilize through Grub Hub, Door Dash, those right now are about -- somewhere between 20 to 25 percent of our overall mix in terms of total customers, right?

If you talk to anybody that's working in the industry, most concepts right now are pushing to have that third-party mobile ordering platform get as close to $\mathbf{5 0}$ percent as possible. That's -- that's just how customers' habits have changed post-pandemic.

So we're -- we're kind of seeing that that's pretty typical to what the brands are actually pushing in terms of their advertising knowledge with typical QSRs.
Q. So with that said, how many seats are being proposed for the restaurant itself?
A. That is a good question. I don't -- I LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
can't remember that off the top of my head.
Q. We can look at the plan with our
architect.
A. Yeah, the architect will have that.
Q. You stated that you're looking at the
drive-through aspect to be approximately 75 percent of the total customers?
A. Somewhere between 70 and 75 percent. I mean, that's going to vary depending on your trade area.

In more urban settings, you're going to see that be a little bit less.

In a residential area, probably around
that mark.
Q. The typical person coming in for the

Grub Hub or one of these other pickup/delivery
services, are they using the drive-through generally or do they come in?
A. What I've seen is they generally come inside. They -- they -- they will occasionally use the drive-through, but for them, I think they feel more comfortable coming inside. You know, we have a specific display stand where they can pick their food up for their particular order, so it seems to be operationally better for them to do that, and they've LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
kind of figured that out on their own.
Q. And is it correct also that when you
find that the Grub Hubs and the other delivery services are using a facility such as this, that you even set aside some designated parking for them?
A. We have.
Q. Recognizing the Grub Hub person is making their money on the number of deliveries they do an hour, so is it correct they're really looking at the most expedited way to get their package and get on the road?
A. That is correct. They typically don't take up parking spots for very long.
Q. So you stated earlier that you can't get a franchise basically approved unless there's a drive-through facility.

Would it be correct to say then that in
today's world, these quick-service restaurants require a drive-through in order to be able to have a business plan that will properly accommodate the public and their needs and be able to be truly operational?
A. Yes.
Q. Now, you've looked at this site, you've
looked at the number of customers that a site like
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this would have on an hourly basis, you just
testified to that.
I'd like you to walk the board and
members of the public through what the time sequence
is, your busiest time, I think you just said, was the
lunchtime hour, between 11:00 to 2:00 timeframe.
A. Correct.
Q. So what number of cars come in one given hour and how long does it take for people to get served at a drive-through from the time they pull in, read a board, place their order, pick up their package and go on their way?
A. So our service standard is
two-and-a-half minutes. Typically we'll see anywhere between $\mathbf{3 0}$ cars within an hour.

Some of the orders are much smaller, we can get them out in a minute-and-a-half, two minutes.

So we -- we can accommodate a pretty significant amount of volume through a drive-through. And in this site specifically, I think we queue about 11 cars, so it's more than adequate to get through an hour pretty efficiently and get the customers out.
Q. Now, is the reason the queuing is so quick is that the products that you are serving are

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basically pre-made, it's not some order being made at a reader board and the person has to go cook it or --
A. That's correct.
Q. And the person really doesn't have to prepare it, other than put it into a bag, correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And so your typical time is
two-and-a-half hour -- two-and-a-half minutes to serve a customer from coming into the queue and out through the window?
A. That is our standard, yes.
Q. Now, you looked at this site and you've seen how the queue will operate.
A. I have.
Q. I'd like you to explain to the board
what you anticipate as to where they're coming in from and how they go around the site, and you might want to describe it to the board.
A. Sure. So --
Q. Using this --
A. Yeah, I'll use the...
Q. The exhibit is the site plan that's
marked in the package as A-3.
A. So our --
Q. A-3, yes.

LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812 queueing area.

And so from the first position in the queuing area to the pickup window, which is at the other end of the building, there are -- it stacks 11 cars, which is a pretty significant amount of stacking.

Having said that, we will probably,
more than likely, with a small percentage of cars coming in on Rea Avenue, have an alternate queue in this area here (indicating).

But, clearly, you can see by the size of this drive here, it's not marked out by cars, but it's a pretty significant distance between the main entrance and our pickup window.

So this kind of drive scenario will accommodate anything additional if there were emerging situations.
Q. So, in essence, you're anticipating the majority of your traffic coming over the main artery, which is Godwin Avenue?

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A. Godwin Avenue, correct.
Q. They can come in and make a right and
if, for some reason, the queue was stacked with the
11 cars that you just testified to, there's an
ability to stack additional cars from Godwin Avenue up here at the top where you make the right turn?
A. Yes, correct. It's my opinion that if there is any spillage, obviously, it would remain on the property itself, not onto Godwin Avenue.
Q. And it's anticipated that you're going to have parking for the facility for your employees and whatever

Where would that be located on the
site?
A. Well, employees, typically we want them to park as far away from the site as possible. You know, we want the closest spots to be for customers of the actual building.

So most employees nowadays take mass transit or get dropped off, but you would probably see a handful of cars in this back area.
Q. And as far as the customer coming through the drive-through, after they've gone from the window, what do you anticipate their route of travel to be?

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A. Well, there's an egress making a right-hand turn out of the drive-through exiting the window, or there is, of course, another opportunity for them to exit to the left and back out through Godwin.
Q. Now, the bank building that's there has an exit right onto Godwin Avenue after you go through their drive-through, you recognize -- you realize that?
A. Correct, I do.
Q. On the basis of anybody coming here to get their food, they would not be using that exit; correct, because this -- they don't get served until they're on the other side of the building?
A. That is correct.
Q. So from the standpoint of a customer going out onto Godwin Avenue, that's not going to occur if they're in there placing an order?

## A. That's correct.

Q. In one of our letters that we received, I believe from Mr. Wostbrock, I think it was also confirmed from our -- the planner's report that that exit that exists there right now is nonconforming in its proximity to the other roadway.

If the board were to want to see that
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exit eliminated, that could be accomplished and we could stipulate to that.

## Is that correct?

A. It could.
Q. So there's no necessity for that for
customers?
A. Correct.
Q. Does the facility show where the
employee parking would be, from your estimation would
the amount of traffic coming into the restaurant itself, whether it be Grub Hub and the like, or someone could come in and sit down at a table, is there sufficient parking on the site for that aspect?
A. Yes.
Q. In fact, this plan does show that
there's more than sufficient parking for not only this use, but for the overall site. Isn't that correct?

## A. It is correct.

MR. WHITAKER: I have no further questions at this time.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: I have a couple questions.

You said you -- you -- your employer is PN Restaurants?

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CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: What I'm questioning is what's -- I believe your testimony was if you had more than 11 cars they could queue up in that lane, which is the exit lane to get to Rea Avenue.

Did I understand that correctly, first of all?

THE WITNESS: Yes. If there was any type of spillover, it would happen in this area.

MR. WHITAKER: So the testimony is we never anticipate more than 11.

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MR. WHITAKER: It goes beyond the 150
that you require. And if it ever were to queue, it wouldn't be in a roadway, it would be in the parking lot.

You coming down there, if you couldn't go around them, you would go up the next aisle.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: I would go where?
MR. WHITAKER: The next aisle, I guess.
THE WITNESS: This way and out.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay, I probably
wouldn't, but okay. All right.
Anybody else have any --
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.
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MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Go ahead, Rich.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, go, go. MALE BOARD MEMBER: Would you -- I just
-- so what happens to the people parking -- so you'd have people parking here and here.

THE WITNESS: Um-hmm.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Their cars are coming here and ending up in here and then, I mean, is this going to create a hazard, people backing out? Parking in general, you know what I mean, if there is that many cars coming. That's all I'm saying.

THE WITNESS: So, you know, this is -like we -- you know, like we stated before, the 11 cars is more than enough within our hourly cycle of traffic to accommodate all the cars we need to.

There is a situation or an opportunity that may arise, somebody entering from Rea Ave., somebody coming in from this area, and then they're alternating, right?

But it wouldn't be a significant amount of time when that happens. That would be if we ever exceeded the 11 cars. The 11 cars is more than ample for this type of business.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
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THE WITNESS: The reason why I point that out is just to emphasize the fact that, you know, there wouldn't be any spillage onto Godwin Avenue, which would be in most cases when I've done this type of testimony before, it always comes up as a concern, right.

How close are you to the ingress, and is there any chance of traffic backing up onto Godwin Avenue, right?

So that's the reason why I utilized this scenario here to point out the fact that there could be a merging scenario between the two ingresses on both sides, but it's very, you know, unlikely that we would have cars all the way down this way.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.
MR. WHITAKER: So the 150 -foot distance
is what's in your ordinance. It was in your ordinance at the time that restaurant drive-throughs were permitted.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
Chair?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: I don't care, one of you.

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: I got you. MALE BOARD MEMBER: What are the hours LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812 of operation again?

THE WITNESS: So, Monday through
Thursday, or Sunday through Thursday --
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay, you said Monday, I --

THE WITNESS: Right, Sunday through -MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- I was going to ask ou if you were open on Sundays, okay.

THE WITNESS: We are open on Sundays, but it's -- it's one hour less than on Friday and Saturday.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: All right, thank you.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just a couple questions. I want to go -- go back to the proposed extra staging area, a couple of, you know -- Rich and Les mentioned about that as well.

Those are parking spaces over there where you're proposing if there's going to be any stacking, that's right by the big flagpole, and if you're going to have cars stacking there potentially, you also got people parking there.

I park there and go to Dunkin' Donuts, you know, so potentially you could have people lining up waiting to go in.

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MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yes.
So if you have cars waiting to get into the Taco Bell and you have people looking to get out of that parking space, that's a potential --

THE WITNESS: Yeah.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- concern.
THE WITNESS: I don't anticipate this as a problem. Right?

I don't anticipate overflow coming all the way to this area, right?

I just opened up about a month ago or two -- actually three weeks ago I opened up another
location, we haven't been -- we have the same
stacking area. We haven't been spilling over into
the driveway, and it's the same kind of setup, same scenario.

And we haven't had any spillage outside of the 11-car stacking. We have the same exact stacking there. And it's doing very well. The restaurant's doing very well.

So I don't anticipate it. And I think with the progression of third-party online ordering going from where it is today, 20 to 25 percent, going

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of day would you consider --
THE WITNESS: Usually they're there between, like, 5:00 and 7:30 a.m. They can't be there while we're opening, which is $8: 00$ in the morning.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: My concern is neighbors, noise to the neighbors. You have delivery up to an hour and near residential houses, you know, behind there and across from there, so it's very early to have noises that may come out of deliveries and trucks.

THE WITNESS: So, just to kind of put that in perspective, the trucks can't idle while they're doing their delivery, okay?

And the window is significantly smaller in a Taco Bell delivery, let's say, than a Dunkin' Donuts delivery.

The Dunkin' Donuts delivery gets delivered every single night, and it's anywhere between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. in the morning. And that's on a daily basis. So their -- their deliver is seven days a week, where ours would only be two days a week in a significantly shorter window.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: What -- what size LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
closer to 50 percent, which is the brand's goal, I
could see this being less and less of an issue
because I think the -- the idea with that is that
they want people parking, coming inside, taking their orders; right? Limiting the amount of POS activities, doing it on a device; right?

So I think even though drive-through is essential to this business, the way we're seeing mobile ordering pickup in volume, I see less of an issue happening in our drive-throughs.

MR. WHITAKER: We have more than
sufficient parking on the site pursuant to your ordinance.

So if the board were concerned about some of the parking spaces, they could actually be eliminated, or they could be designated as employee parking.

Just a thought.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay. Anything
else?
MALE BOARD MEMBER: The other question
I have, you mentioned deliveries twice a week, off hours, and about 45 minutes.

What do you consider off hours?
THE WITNESS: 45 minutes to an hour.
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trucks do you typically use for delivery?
THE WITNESS: Um --
MR. WHITAKER: We can have our engineer testify to that.

THE WITNESS: I think the engineer will testify to that, or architect.

But -- but it'll be accommodated on the property.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: And one last question regarding deliveries, what -- what days of the week typically are deliveries made?

THE WITNESS: I can only -- I don't know about this location specifically. The other location that we just did are getting deliveries on Mondays and, I believe, Thursdays.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
MR. WHITAKER: We could certainly
stipulate it wouldn't be on a Sunday, if that was a concern.

And other deliveries can occur at this facility, the other stores on the same type of hours.

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MR. WHITAKER: There's no prohibition, that I know of in your ordinance, as to the delivery time.

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approval for, on a drive-through window, has no correlation to when a delivery occurs.

THE WITNESS: We don't have, in any of our businesses, deliveries on any Sundays. So that would not be an issue here.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: You mentioned mobile pickup.

Do you have an app where people can order online and then they come -- come and you have it in a rack or something and they come into the restaurant and pick it up?

THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: And where -- where do you anticipate those people would park.

THE WITNESS: So more than likely, it would be in these spots.

But we typically don't get more than two to three pickups at the same time. It's not a significant amount of volume. And usually they're on our property shorter amount of time than our drive-through queueing.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: All right.
So conceivably, they would be coming in the Godwin Avenue entrance and then parking in that

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-- those spaces by Dunkin'?
THE WITNESS: So you're talking about mobile orders or third-party orders?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: I'm talking -- I'm not talking about Grub Hub or Door Dash order, I'm talking about people on their phone, on an app, they order it, they come and park and they go in the restaurant and pick it up.

THE WITNESS: So that's a significantly less percentage wise in total customers than the delivery apps altogether.

It's -- it's a very small portion of people that actually use the app to order in comparison to mobile ordering through Grub Hub, Door Dash, or one of the other third-party companies.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Can we get an idea how -- what the percentage is, just -- I mean --

THE WITNESS: If I had to guess --
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.
THE WITNESS: -- I would say under
5 percent of customers use the app.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Not a percent, let's say at lunchtime, how many -- how many people do you think would do it that way?

THE WITNESS: In the whole --
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MR. WHITAKER: Perhaps what might be
best to do is to take the hour he said that there's 35 customers, correct?

THE WITNESS: Cars.
MR. WHITAKER: Cars, okay.
The 35 cars are all through the
drive-through, correct?
THE WITNESS: Correct.
MR. WHITAKER: All right. Then during
that same timeframe, how many customers come with their mobile app, park a car and go in --

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.
MR. WHITAKER: -- and pick up that way, and how many Grub Hubs do you have in that same hour?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: That's what I'm asking.

MR. WHITAKER: Okay. As I said, just break it apart.

THE WITNESS: I'd probably say, probably, a third, less than a third are --

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Of the 35 ? THE WITNESS: No.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm sorry,
finish.
THE WITNESS: The total customer count, LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812
let's say on mobile ordering, third-party delivery, is under a third of, let's say, what the drive-through is.

So let's say drive-through is
75 percent, the balance is 25 percent.
MR. WHITAKER: So let's use real numbers is what I'm saying, Ever.

THE WITNESS: So let's say we get a hundred cars in those three hours through the drive-through, you'd get a quarter of that right now using the mobile app and the third-party delivery.

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. So 25 --

THE WITNESS: That's the ratio, correct.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: So you 25.
THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: The people who
order with the mobile app, come with pre-orders, they order ahead of time, can they pick up their food in the drive-through?

THE WITNESS: They can if they want to.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: What kind of
delivery truck, is it like a Sysco, would it be a
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tandem truck, small tractor-trailer? I mean, you couldn't... I don't know if...

MR. WHITAKER: Our engineer is going to testify --

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. MR. WHITAKER: -- as to the truck and the truck radius.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. 'Cause the -- I could ask the engineer my questions then --

MR. WHITAKER: Yes.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- when he comes up.

MR. WHITAKER: Yes, he's the next witness.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay, is he the next --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: You were -- you were talking about deliveries though; correct, before? The witness.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I mean you were
talking about deliveries and the hours and all that,
so it is a link, but -- so you can talk about
deliveries, but then they have to talk about what size trucks would be delivering.

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THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Correct.
So it is a legitimate question.
MR. WHITAKER: I just had the answer.
'Cause our engineer designed where the truck would park and what the size truck would be.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Got it.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Anybody else?
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have a quick
question, when you -- just so I understand the
numbers and the volume, you said in that three-hour period, you might get a hundred cars through the drive-through, and you'd get 25, maybe 25 people or orders in that same three-hour window that are pre-ordered by the app or Grub Hub, right?

THE WITNESS: Correct.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Are there any other customers beyond that, so they don't -- so the people who don't pre-order, maybe someone just leaves their office and they want to go and sit down and eat, that's a whole different category of sales; right?

THE WITNESS: So -- so that would be included in that 25 percent.

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's my question, okay.

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for the drive-through and the Grub Hub type?
THE WITNESS: That's included in that
25 percent; walk-in customers as well.
So total of 25 percent that would be walking inside, either using a kiosk to order, ordering directly through a crew member, or using a third-party app.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: So then earlier you stated maximum of 30 to 35 cars per hour, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

So if that's the case, you know, that's already a hundred, and now you're saying that also includes people going inside. So which is it?

If there's people inside, they're not going to be in the drive-through.

THE WITNESS: So -- so if you -- so I
can't determine if someone orders on an app where they're actually picking up the order.

They may decide to go through the drive-through. So there's a little bit of an overlap there.

What I would anticipate is, 25 percent of our total customers using those third-party means of ordering, whether it's a phone, whether it's walk-up, whether it's a third-party delivery system.

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And 75 percent of that traffic going through the drive-through.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Well, somebody like
me who doesn't use an app to order, I'll walk into the restaurant and order from a person. What's your -- what's your anticipated volume with that?

THE WITNESS: It's -- it's included in that 25 percent.

So I don't know -- when they're ordering or when they're walking in the building, I don't know if they've already placed their order, right?

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.
THE WITNESS: Or if they're going to place their order in a kiosk or if they're just walking in and taking a bag off the shelf.

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think -- I
think the disconnect or at least the confusion for me even, and maybe for you, too, is if we're -- if we're looking at a three-hour window for lunch and we're thinking we're going to get 30 to 35 cars through the drive-through, let's say we're getting 33 , we'll cut it down the middle, you got 100 cars coming through the drive-through alone in those three hours, and then you got people on top of that that are coming

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inside, so the number's got to more than 100.
THE WITNESS: So it's a maximum. When
I say 30 to -- that's a maximum number --
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.
THE WITNESS: -- right? I mean,
there's hours we do with 20 cars, 25 cars in the drive-through.

I'm certainly not doing 35 cars at 10:00 in the morning.

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.
THE WITNESS: Right? It's just not happening.

So, you know, to -- to kind of level off the playing fields, for lunch I try to paint the picture of what lunch is going to look like, right?

And, typically, if we're doing, let's say 30 cars an hour, right, which is a decent number, at 11:00, 12:00, whatever it may be, each car is going to take us around two, two-and-a-half minutes to get through; right?

So, you know, we -- we can say within a 2,000-square-foot building how much we really can accommodate, right? Typically, I will tell you, you're going to see for lunch about four employee cars parked there, right? You may see another eight

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 201-641-1812to 10 customer cars parked there. Right? And you'll see an 11 car stack, right?

In this scenario, what I would anticipate, right, from my experience, a lot of times if a car pulls in, they see a car here, they're going to park and walk inside.

And that is why the brands now are trying to advertise and push that digital mobile ordering platform to 50 percent. That's their goal. They've told us that's their goal.

Right now, all those other customers
that are going through the drive-through is about
25 percent of our total.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: When you say "digital" ordering, you're talking about Grub Hub, you're talking about --

THE WITNESS: I'm talking about all of those platforms.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Oh, okay.
THE WITNESS: All of them, yeah.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I may be asking the
same question again, if I am, I apologize.
But with -- with the three hours for
unch, not a percentage, a number, approximately how
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many total transactions, cars, people walking in, everybody, how many transactions do you think would occur in that three hours?

THE WITNESS: In the total three hours? MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yes.

THE WITNESS: Probably about 125 total.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: So we've got 125 .
THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. And of that

THE WITNESS: That's ballpark, right? I mean that's...

MALE BOARD MEMBER: I know. Yeah, if it's 126 then we shut you down.

THE WITNESS: Or it could be 80, right.
MALE Board MEMBER: No, I'm just
kidding.
So if I can infer from that what you
said before, 125 , approximately 100 of which will be drive-through or what you call third-party mobile?

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: Digital ordering, let's call it.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay, digital
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order. All right.
So then the other 25, and I appreciate you have a lot of experience in this area, but you're taking into account that the shopping center across the street is a potential source of walk-in business for you, people who work in Kings or whatever, and walk over. You -- that's all within that 125, you've taken all that into consideration.

THE WITNESS: Correct, yes.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right. Thank you.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just a question about lunch, what if you took that 10:00 away and moved it to 11:00? How many -- did you give us a figure of how many people have Taco Bell for lunch at 10:00? It just seems like kind of odd that you would go there for lunch at 10. I could see maybe at 11 if you were hungry, but, like, you have the breakfast, but, like, I think you're dividing the hundred cars into three hours, but maybe those hundred cars are only in the two hours.

THE WITNESS: Yes, and I would also make the point that a lot of people eat lunch at 2:00, right?

So, you know, the only way I can look
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at it is maximum number of cars. So when I say that, you know, a maximum of 35 cars, I don't anticipate that the 10:00 traffic is really going to make the 12:00 hour be 50 cars, right?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: No?
THE WITNESS: No. It typically doesn't
happen, because what -- what people -- and specifically during lunchtime, right, they have a specific amount of time.

So if -- I think the -- the -- in the industry, right, for most townships, the worst case scenario that you can see is a Chick-Fil-A, let's say, for example. And they do a fantastic job of managing cars, right? They have it down to a science.

But what people do identify very quickly and what I've seen specifically in Taco Bell is, that mobile ordering system process, third-party delivery, becomes a huge part. Becomes just a very incremental part of the business because what it does is facilitates the timeframe in which people come in and out of our business, right?

If you -- if you see our mobile order pickup stand, and you see 10 to 15 bags there during lunchtime, the speed of service that we're able to
achieve for customers by using that type of setup is -- is unbelievable. I mean, you -- you see, you know, let's say, for example, that 12:00 hour, you see 10 orders coming in through mobile pickup and people just walking up, grabbing their stuff and they're gone. Right? They really have little interaction with anybody in the restaurant.

And -- and I think COVID really kind of set the stage for that. It really did. It was out of necessity that we were forced to, kind of, utilize it -- this technology, to really get a good amount of throughput and get people, kind of, away from our building; right? That's what people wanted.

So that's what I've seen through the use of the technology in Taco Bell.

MR. WHITAKER: And so that we all understand, when you're talking about them coming in by virtue of the mobile app, they're just coming in, am I correct, to pick up a bag because they ordered and they paid for it already.

THE WITNESS: That is correct.
MR. WHITAKER: So there's no action.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Question?
THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: The one thing you
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there's one ingress and one egress, correct? So -right?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.
THE WITNESS: So what typically happens
is there's, you know, from the time that you enter
that ingress, right, and you go around the back of
that building, there's really nowhere else to go,
right? There's -- there's no really other movements
on that property other than in and out of parking spots, as -- as I recall it.

So I've seen, at least in my area where I live, the trade areas around where I live, I've seen some very challenging properties, right? I've seen other concepts that they've had to get police to navigate traffic, right?

And -- and I will tell you that, just
by going on the property, I will say this was challenging, right? This was not engineered properly. Everything wasn't considered, right? As I would look at it.

When I get a set of plans or I'm
working with an engineer on our properties, I go through that because I have the operational experience. I know when something is not set up properly, right? I don't have to be an engineer to

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1 do it, I've seen it from the operational standpoint,
right?

So I work very closely with our professionals to make sure that, you know, that the minute you enter a parking lot, you're not in the queue, right? I think that is one of the most challenging properties or setup that I've seen in typical QSRs. Right? You pull into the property and you're automatically in the drive-through queue.

So in this case with this property, you don't have that scenario, which is why, when originally I saw the property and I started to dissect it a little bit, I knew it would work for us. I knew that it would be comparable, that we wouldn't have some of the challenges that other people are facing.

So I think that's the problem, right, that Wendy's faces. The minute you pull into their property, you're already in the queue. Unless you're going around it and you're going to park, right?

It's just the design of the property, because they used an existing building, right.

My recollection of that property is that they did not tear down the original Roy Rogers, they used the existing Roy Rogers.

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We try not to do that if possible, it's
a bigger expense for us to -- to reengineer or design a new building and do a ground-up, but I feel we have a lot more flexibility when we do that to manage the property better.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Anybody else?
MALE BOARD MEMBER: One quick question.
I mean, I get it, the fact that you can -- you're
more efficient with the mobile orders, people can order ahead of time and just kind of run in and grab the bag, it's a -- it's great quality to have from an operations perspective.

But I just want to make sure I'm understanding it. There's -- I mean, it -- it doesn't cut down on the number of trips or the traffic or the cars or anything, it just -- really you're just cutting down on the point of service and the contact between employees and customers.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: It reduces time.
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Reduced time.
THE WITNESS: So it does a couple of things. The orders on the mobile app, digital, are typically larger, right?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: So they're picking up more than one order when they --

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employees in -- at the site, but do you see volume going up because of that? I mean, over the years, are quick-service restaurants doing more volume because they're able to do it faster and more efficiently?

THE WITNESS: So the efficiency is gained, so we really aren't reducing labor, right?

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
THE WITNESS: Actually what we do is we reallocate labor.

What it does is it lessens frustration
for the -- for the customers, right, in terms of the ordering process.

So them being able to see something
digitally or on an app, right, or even on our kiosks
does two things for us, right? And this is just an
industry statistic, right?
It increases your ticket, right?
'Cause people, when they see all the options that
they get, they typically order more, right? Let me add this. Let me add that. Wow, I didn't know they had that.

That's typically the process that
happens.
But the mobile ordering side, the
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digital ordering side significantly increases the amount of the ticket. And that's industrywide.

It's a proven fact, which is the reason why the brands are pushing more digital ordering.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Are you -- are the
business of selling -- are there more transactions?
THE WITNESS: No.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
So same amount of transactions, but you're up selling them on more items?

THE WITNESS: So post-pandemic, transactions are down, right?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yes.
THE WITNESS: Ticket is up.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Right.
THE WITNESS: Which is what's making the gap in the industry, right, is making up the gap.

Now, the reality of it is, if you
didn't have a drive-through going into the pandemic, you struggled, right? We all saw the smaller players. If they didn't have a drive-through, even casual dining, I mean, it killed the industry.

The people that made it out of the pandemic pretty successfully are the ones that had the drive-throughs.

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ordering was just a necessity that was built in, you know, some very creative people in the industry really started to push that model.

And then that's kind of where we are
today.
Most of the -- most of the Taco Bells that I've been involved with so far have all either had three or four kiosks.

And I've been there during a couple of openings so far, and -- and it's not uncommon, at 12:00, to see, let's say, three people come in; sometimes they come out of one car, sometimes they come out of two cars. And they each go to a kiosk, they place their order, couple minutes they have their food. And they're -- they're out the door.

And it really does facilitate, you know...
(Whereupon, this ends the first audio at 58:52 on the digital counter overlapping some of the testimony on audio file 2.
Staring new testimony at 5:00 on the digital audio counter.)

THE WITNESS: ... it gives us the ability to have a healthy business, because that --

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the use of that technology in the future, I think, will allow us to do slightly more transactions while still giving a good experience.

I think in the industry we really had challenges with the townships that we operated because the only choice for customers were drive-throughs. They couldn't come inside.

And even when they did come inside, the experience was very different, whether we had plexiglas or whatever the case was.

And that's, I think, why a lot of towns
like Midland Park included changed ordinances, right, you changed your laws a little bit, because you wanted to, kind of, protect against that kind of situation, right?

In this case what it's done for us is
it's just made us a lot more efficient with the use of the technology.

So I think you're going to continue to see that moving forward in all QSRs.

## CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Rich?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just two questions.
Operationally, you explained that
there's a location on-site for overflow of the queue.
Operationally, how many cars do you -- 11 is within
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the 125 the town requires, but operationally how many parking with this size?

THE WITNESS: So I think 11 is -- is adequate for the site.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Is it the right number or is --

THE WITNESS: I think it's the right number.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: -- eight the right number or is 14 the right number?

THE WITNESS: So I've seen buildings with 10.

I've seen some buildings that queue -in other concepts of ours, for breakfast concept, for example, where the time frame is even more critical to the customer, I've seen drive-throughs that queue eight or nine. And they work, they work okay.

I mean, in this case what I anticipate is that -- and I think we all do it, you pull into a business and you see the drive-through line is long, you get out of your car.

I'm not a -- particularly me as a consumer, I'm not a drive-through customer. I like to go inside the business, right? It's just old habits, it's what I've done forever.

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But -- but typically what I see is customers pull on, if they see a long drive-through line, they're going to park their car and they're going to walk inside.

And those are the customers that plan on ordering at the POS or at the kiosks.

Like I said, we see that number on digital ordering moving every -- every single month.
We see the number increasing slightly in terms of customers.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: The other question I had is you talked about the main entry being -- the main entry of this center on Godwin, the center of the property.

But when I look at this development,
it's kind of on its own because of the other
properties that aren't part of the center, and all
the signage for the building, everything that's
there, there's nothing, to me as a driver, bringing
me to that front entrance that you think people are going to go through.

To me, I'd go up, you know, South Rea, Rea Avenue, and go into that alternate entrance that's the main entrance, that's where all the signage is.

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You know, how are you going to attract people to use that main entrance to get to the queue?

THE WITNESS: So I think initially when
we first open, I think there is a possibility of people missing that initial entrance on Godwin, and then making a left turn onto Rea.

I think once they realize that we're there, they'll figure out that Godwin is an easier entrance, or maybe even going in by the CVS.

Now, the CVS drives a lot of traffic for the shopping center, obviously, right? So I think there will be a good amount of customers that come from the CVS over to eat by us.

But I think that ultimately when the cars kind of figure out the traffic pattern, the customers themselves, I think Godwin will be the main entrance.

I think there's a possibility that they may miss it and then go on Rea, but I think it'll be a small percentage.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: I'll be on Rea.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Did you have anything, David?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just one of two questions, thank you. Just to -- I'm sorry to go

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back to the numbers, but just to -- to summarize, within a three-hour period there would be roughly 125 transactions; correct?

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I mean some days
better, some days worse.
THE WITNESS: Right.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Of that, about a hundred would be through the drive-through, the other 25 would be inside the building.

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. The ones
that are inside the building, just so I have it clear in my mind, would be people that prefer to just order inside and then leave immediately, people that might want to dine inside, as well as some Grub Hub takeout.

THE WITNESS: Correct.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I'm using Grub Hub generally.

THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. I just wanted to get that clear in my head.

And the last question I had was
regarding those third-party delivery apps, things
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like Grub Hub or Uber Eats, Door Dash, do they
typically operate on a -- do they typically operate on a one takeout or one job delivery system; i.e., if
trip-based scenario
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: I don't think they're
going to -- I mean, it's food, right? So they have to maintain the temperature of the food.

And they do have their own time standards. So they have to pick up and deliver within a certain timeframe.

So I would think it's more trip-focused than anything else. I don't think they're going to stop by us and then go to the next food establishment and, you know pick up --
(Simultaneous Speaking.)
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## MALE BOARD MEMBER: Pick a bunch up and

drop off. Okay, thank you very much.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I have one more question.

THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Based on the
numbers you're giving, the application, the parking
allocations figuring 22 seats, based on what you're
telling me, it seems like that's a lot more seats
than you're going to need.
I mean, how many -- from what you said,
I don't -- I don't see 22 people inside eating.
THE WITNESS: So on the weekends I
think it'll be a little bit different. Like,
Saturdays tend to be more of a dine-in type experience.

But I agree with you.
Unfortunately, the brands give us their
standards on how many seats we need.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Oh, okay.
THE WITNESS: And so, yes, I've been in
one of our stores during lunchtime and been the only person in the dining room sitting, with my computer open. Yes.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
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MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just one last question about --

THE WITNESS: Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: -- curiosity. Is
there a breakfast, like, menu, too, that you plan on having?

THE WITNESS: There is -- there is a breakfast menu.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: And you plan on using that there, too?

THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: From an operational standpoint, you've been in the industry for, what'd you say, 30 years now, or -- I mean, do you have an issue with the fact that the drive-through queues around and is in between the face of the building and Godwin? I mean wouldn't -- wouldn't you rather the visibility of the front of the building without the drive-through breaking it up?

THE WITNESS: I think because we're so close to Godwin -- and, I mean, the engineer can speak more clearly to that.

I think because of where we have to situate the building, it's -- it's what we have to deal with, with the distance between the front of the

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building and the actual street.
But I've seen all kinds of layouts. I
mean, I've seen them parallel to the road, I've seen them perpendicular to the road. It really just depends on the actual parameters of the property itself.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: What's optimal for
think you'd want it so you have visibility, but you're the professional.

THE WITNESS: So -- so optimal is kind of a relative term, right? I mean, we -- we -- we train our teams to be able to hit the standard, regardless of how the building is laid out on the property, right?

Typically, when you have the dimensions of the property, the engineer and the architect will work together to put the building where it needs to be, right, and then I work closely with them to -- to do that.

So I don't know if that answers your question, but there is no real ideal optimal way. I think the -- there are some brands that are very rigid with how they want their buildings to be, and so in many cases that will eliminate certain

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properties from those brands being able to operate in them.

Taco Bell is not that rigid with their designs. They have, you know, a few different levels of designs that we can use, depending on the parameters of the property.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Go ahead, David.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
My concern is you talk about the
deliveries. You have two deliveries, deliveries twice a week, whereas other locations have six or seven days a week, you have a kiosk.

So my question is how fresh is the food -- if you're only going to have like two deliveries a week, how fast do you turn it over? And if you have people coming in there using the kiosk, how fresh is it?

THE WITNESS: So most of our food is frozen.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: We do have produce that comes on both trucks.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: And the produce is all vacuum-sealed, with the exception of tomatoes, let's

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say, for example.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: So the food is very
fresh.
And, you know, I mean, it really works
well for us.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: Just because, like I said, most of our stuff is frozen.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: All right. So basically what you're saying, even though you have, like, two days worth or -- you're going to have deliveries twice a week, you still have enough turnover and then everything is vacuum-packed and it'll work; is that basically what you're saying.

THE WITNESS: It does -- it does work, yes.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: So going back to one of Dave's questions, the other Dave --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: He's Dave, I'm
David.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay. These trucks
-- these delivery trucks are refrigerated trucks
then? If they're frozen?
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both; they have a refrigeration compartment, a dry compartment, and they also have a freezer compartment.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: They have three
compartments on each truck.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay. But they're refrigerated.

THE WITNESS: That is correct, yes. CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: And I thought of something else, and you may have covered this already.

You talked about the peak periods
during lunchtime. What's your anticipated volume
like during dinnertime? What do you think for that part of the day?

THE WITNESS: So the -- so the advantage of dinner -- or advantage and disadvantage, right, you could look at it either way, is that dinner is a longer day part. You know, lunch, we know that people typically eat lunch over a course of three hours.

Dinner, I mean, you could have people
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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | So -- so, you know, that's the | 1 | CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: You don't want to |
| 2 | advantage for dinner, I think, that we have. | 2 | get too close to those guys? |
| 3 | But again, right, to go back to | 3 | MR. TOMBALAKIAN: I don't mind, I just |
| 4 | Wendy's, they don't have the optimal setup. I think | 4 | don't want to cough on... |
| 5 | it's because, you know, they inherited the Roy Rogers | 5 | MALE BOARD MEMBER: Use the kiosk. |
| 6 | building. | 6 | MS. HARMON: It's all right. He can |
| 7 | CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Anything before we | 7 | stay -- |
| 8 | open it? | 8 | MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just speak loudly. |
| 9 | All right. | 9 | MS. HARMON: Yes. |
| 10 | Can I have a motion to open to the | 10 | MR. TOMBALAKIAN: I apologize, COVID |
| 11 | public? | 1 | hit me last month and still coughing. |
| 12 | MALE BOARD MEMBER: Motion. | 12 | Okay. Steven Tombalakian, attorney |
| 13 | MALE BOARD MEMBER: Second. | 13 | with Weiner Law Group, on behalf of Burger Barn, LLC, |
| 14 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Zuidema? | 14 | which operates the Burger King across the street from |
| 15 | MR. ZUIDEMA: Yes. | 15 | the shopping center. |
| 16 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Formicola? | 16 | CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay. |
| 17 | MR. FORMICOLA: Yes. | 17 | CROSS-EXAMINATION |
| 18 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Papapietro? | 18 | BY MR. TOMBALAKIAN: |
| 19 | MR. PAPAPIETRO: Yes. | 19 | Q. Thank you, Mr. Santana. |
| 20 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Divak? | 20 | My handwriting is really bad, so how |
| 21 | MR. DIVAK: Yes. | 21 | long have you been employed by PN Restaurants? |
| 22 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Barlow? | 22 | A. Since October of '21. |
| 23 | MR. BARLOW: Yes. | 23 | Q. 2021. |
| 24 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Eliya? | 24 | A. Correct. |
| 25 | LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812 | LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C.201-641-1812 |  |
|  | 78 | 80 |  |
| 1 | MS. HARMON: Mr. Andersen? | 1 to was prepared by Lapatka Associates, correct? |  |
| 2 | CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes. | 2 <br> A. That's correct. |  |
| 3 | All right. Some of you may have heard |  | Q. Now, the original date on that plan, if |
| 4 | this before, we're now opening it up to the public | 3 | I'm not mistaken, was October of 2021, right? |
| 5 | for questions of this witness. | 5 | A. Yeah. |
| 6 | That's all. | 6 | Q. So that means your company was already |
| 7 | At the end of the hearing when | 6 7 | invested in developing the site before you became |
| 8 | everything is in, you'll have another opportunity, | 8 | employed by PN? |
| 9 | and you can come up and say whatever you want; that | 9 | A. Yes. |
| 10 | this is the greatest thing to happen in Midland Park | 10 | Q. So you, yourself, weren't involved with |
| 11 | or it's the end of western civilization or whatever | 11 | site selection at all? |
| 12 | you think. | 12 | A. Not with site selection. No. |
| 13 | You can just say whatever you want. | 13 | Q. Were you involved at all with the |
| 14 | But for right now, all we're interested | 14 | leasing between your company and the shopping center |
| 15 | in is if you have a question for this particular | 15 | owner? |
| 16 | witness. | 16 | A. I was not. |
| 17 | And we're going to do that for every | 17 | Q. Okay. Have you read or are familiar |
| 18 |  | 18 | with the lease for this site? |
| 19 | questions of that witness. | 19 | A. I am not. |
| 20 | So, anybody in the public have any | 20 | Q. Are you familiar with the franchise |
| 21 | questions for this witness? Yes? | 21 | agreements between Taco Bell, Burger King, et cetera, |
| 22 | MR. TOMBALAKIAN: Thank you, | 22 | and the operator such as PN? |
| 23 | Mr. Chairman. | 23 | A. With Burger King? |
| 24 | Where should I stand so I get picked up by the microphone? I don't want to go near people. |  | Q. Any of the majors, well, Taco Bell, |
| 25 |  | 24 | let's just -- |
|  | LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. | 25 | LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812 |
|  |  |  |  |

A. I have read franchise agreements before, yes.
Q. The reason why I ask is that earlier you testified that -- I think the expression you used was a drive-through is essential to this business. I might be paraphrasing. Is that your position?
A. It is.
Q. Okay. And Mr. Whitaker, when he was getting your direct in, I think he, himself, said there's no franchise without a drive-through.

Would you agree with that statement? MR. WHITAKER: No, I did not say that. MR. TOMBALAKIAN: You didn't say that. MR. WHITAKER: No. MR. TOMBALAKIAN: That's in my notes. MR. WHITAKER: Well, you didn't read your writing correctly.

THE WITNESS: No, there's a lot of franchises without drive-through.

MR. WHITAKER: What I stated was in
today's world, opening a franchise, are they being
opened with drive-throughs in locations like this, and his answer was yes.

MR. TOMBALAKIAN: All right. Okay.
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## and your employer for this site, is there a legal

 requirement that there be a drive-through associated with the restaurant?A. I don't know.
Q. Okay. What other brands does your employer associate with other than Taco Bell?
A. So I specifically am responsible for Dunkin' Donuts, Sonic, Taco Bell.
Q. And PN is an operator for all those brands?
A. That's correct.
Q. Are you familiar with any new Taco Bell locations anywhere in the State of New Jersey that were built without drive-throughs, let's say within the last five years?
A. I am not.
Q. Are there Taco Bells that exist
(inaudible) that operate without drive-throughs?
A. I'm sure there are. Specifically in urban areas. New York City, I would imagine, doesn't have drive-throughs.
Q. Or locations at malls?

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A. Correct. Non-traditionals, I would say, right.
Q. Now, does your company represent or operate brands that do not require drive-throughs?
A. Yes.
Q. Can you name some of those?
A. We also operate an IHOP that does not require a drive-through.
Q. Okay.
A. It's casual dining.
Q. And you operate -- does your company
operate IHOPs in the State of New Jersey?
A. We do.
Q. What's the closest one?
A. Totowa, New Jersey.
Q. Is that a successful location?
A. It is.
Q. How long has it been there?
A. I believe I opened that in 2007, if I'm not mistaken. Right around that timeframe.
Q. Again, since you came on board after the plans had been developed, did you have any say in the further development or refinement of these plans?
A. I spoke with the architect on a couple of issues. In terms of the actual building design LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812

## and where it was placed, no.

Q. When did you become aware that Midland Park prohibits restaurants with drive-throughs? When did you become familiar with that?
A. Within the last couple of days.

Recently, yes.
MR. TOMBALAKIAN: I have no further
questions.
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: You're welcome.
Anyone else?
Come forward.
MR. LANDEL: Swear him in.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes, swear
everyone.
MR. LANDEL: Please raise your right
hand.
Solemnly swear the testimony you're
about to give in the present matter will be the
truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
MR. BRENNAN: I do.
JAMES BRENNAN,
32 Rea Avenue, Midland Park, New Jersey, having
been duly sworn, testifies as follows:
MR. LANDEL: Name and address for the
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record, please.
MR. BRENNAN: James Brennan, 32 Rea Ave.

MR. LANDEL: Thank you, Mr. Brennan.
Okay. My questions are probably
quality-of-life questions. Where my property is
entirely on this -- my entire property is on this backup. Okay. And so the quality of life on our -on our end of the street is important to us.

And the reason I bring that up is
because the information that I got prior to getting
here tonight was very descriptive in a non-specific
way, I guess. It's unclear to me from that
information how much signage light is going to be reflected up our block. I'm literally two lots up --

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Let me interrupt you a minute, that's a different witness who will be talking about that. This witness is not talking about that. The engineer will talk about that, or the architect.

MR. BRENNAN: Okay.
MR. LANDEL: This time is for
cross-examination --
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Just if you have a question for this witness.

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MR. WHITAKER: On the information that he testified to.

MR. LANDEL: Right.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yeah.
MR. BRENNAN: Okay. I shall wait my turn then.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Well, it's not -if you have a question for this witness, that's fine.
It's just, he's not -- he's not going to be able to answer that particular question.

But if you have a question he can
answer, then go ahead.
MR. BRENNAN: Okay. My only questions were light and noise --

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MR. BRENNAN: -- at the end of the
street, especially -- I was going to specifically ask
somebody if they could eliminate the microphone from the windows.

It's also -- it's very friendly to
speak through a window to somebody sitting in their car and not necessarily --

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Mr. Santana may be able to answer that.

MR. BRENNAN: Oh, good.
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THE WITNESS: So...
MR. BRENNAN: It seems like a simple request. And -- and it would help our block a real lot.

THE WITNESS: So our menu board and canopy, sits over here on this corner of the building, right?

MR. BRENNAN: Uh-huh.
THE WITNESS: Our speakers have volume controls.

MR. BRENNAN: Yeah.
THE WITNESS: So -- so we can tune this specifically in terms of volume, and I can't tell you
the decibels, I don't know them off -- but I do know
that our equipment has volume adjustments that we can make for that particular reason.

So it wouldn't be a nuisance.
I -- I don't know, and the architect or
engineer can probably testify to the, let's say, white noise on Godwin versus the speaker and the decibel sounds.

I don't know those answers.
MR. BRENNAN: Okay.
THE WITNESS: But I do know that that equipment has that capability.

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I just have a question concerning -THE WITNESS: Sure.
MR. LORUSSO: -- looking at -- you're
entering, you could enter off of the avenue here as well, the side street, correct?

THE WITNESS: Um-hmm.
MR. LORUSSO: Okay. Now, entering off of here, these parking spaces, I don't see, from this space here to this space here, this is where the cell towers are --

MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: Cell phones, right.

MR. LORUSSO: -- correct?
THE WITNESS: Yes, this is the cell
tower area.
MR. LORUSSO: Okay. This space, you
have a line of cars trying to get into the drive-through.

How in the world are these spaces utilized? There's no way you'll ever back out of these spaces if there's cars parked here, one.

Number two, when you come in here, somebody that wants to go to either the -- any of these stores has to get through here.

You could physically have cars lined up
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trying to get into the drive-through --
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: What's the question?

MR. LORUSSO: These spaces are dead. There's no way these spaces --

MR. LANDEL: What's your question?
MR. WHITAKER: It's time for questions.
MR. LORUSSO: Excuse me?
MR. LANDEL: What's your question?
This is for --
MR. LORUSSO: It may -- this -- I'm familiar with this property back here, and -- and I don't see how you could utilize any of these spaces any longer, or this wall.

MR. LANDEL: But, you're -- this is for questions, so just what's your question? How he can use those spaces?

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes.
MR. LORUSSO: Yeah.
MR. LANDEL: Okay.
MR. LORUSSO: Yeah, I mean, because --
MR. LANDEL: This might not be the
witness for that but...
MR. LORUSSO: You have two-way traffic coming in and you have cars lined up. I mean, I --

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Godwin Avenue is pretty --
MR. WHITAKER: I'm going to object now because we haven't had a question yet. I know this is a lay witness, but -- layperson, but at the same time we've got to respect the procedure.

You make comments at the end.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: This is not the time for testimony.

MR. LORUSSO: I have another question.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: At the end -- okay.
At the end you can make any comments you want.
MR. LORUSSO: I guess that was my
question, my question is how --
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: What's -- what's the question?

MR. LORUSSO: -- how does -- how does
the space between this -- this road right here, this drive-through, with these spaces here and these spaces here, there's no way it's possible to have a line of cars waiting to go through this drive-through and have cars pulling in here, if they wanted to go through the -- any of the shopping centers, and still utilize and give these spaces. It's not wide enough. There's just no way.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: But you understand
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that's a comment, not a question, right?
MR. LORUSSO: Okay, all right.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: And it's similar --
I asked that --
MR. LORUSSO: I just wanted to bring
that to someone's attention.
MR. WHITAKER: This is not the time --
the time for that.
MR. LORUSSO: Okay. All right.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: You and I asked the same type --

MR. LORUSSO: Right, yeah.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: -- type of question.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Right, we already asked that.

Come on up.
MR. LANDEL: Solemnly swear the
testimony you're about to give in the present matter is the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth?

MR. KNEPPER: Yes.
JOHN KNEPPER,
30 Rea Avenue, Midland Park, New Jersey, having been duly sworn, testifies as follows:

MR. LANDEL: Name and address for the record, please.

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MR. KNEPPER: John Knepper, 30 Rea Ave. MR. LANDEL: Thank you. MR. KNEPPER: I may have missed it, I

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CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MR. KNEPPER: So the truck will be able to make this turn.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: The engineer will
--
MR. WHITAKER: He didn't testify to
that.
MR. KNEPPER: Okay.
My other question is about the property
size. You were talking about Wendy's and how it spills over into the street in Godwin.

Wendy's, to me, appears to be a bigger property. So it would be able to handle more cars going through that drive-through, and it's already spilling over.

So I'm wondering how the smaller property would not be spilling over somewhere.

MR. WHITAKER: This property has -- is larger 'cause it's the entire property. The whole lot.

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THE WITNESS: So to answer your question, if I were to compare this to Wendy's and we were to flip this, right, and have the ingress here, ingress here, egress here. You can see that's it's a significantly more challenging type of operation, right? Where we have the benefit of being able to keep traffic on our property, to make the movements that they need to make.

Of course, like I mentioned before, and to answer or at least give some -- some insight on it, I don't anticipate spillage all in here, right? This is two ways of traffic here. You have an ingress here, you have an egress going back onto Rea. I don't anticipate spillage here.

And like I said, typically customers, when they do see the drive-through spilling into a driveway like this, they will park and come inside.

So this is two ways of traffic here, and like I said, it's not the same scenario of Wendy's because the property would have to be completely inverted ingress and then the egress right back, and I think that's where they have a challenge.

We -- we don't have that challenge on Godwin or Rea because I think we have a much larger property in general.

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MR. WHITAKER: The plan shows property of 154,000 square feet, way beyond what Wendy's is. You're not dealing with a piece of property like you're dealing with --
(Simultaneous Speaking.)
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: You're picking him up?

MR. KNEPPER: So questions about signage and stuff we'll deal with later.

MR. WHITAKER: When the architect testifies, yes.

MR. KNEPPER: Later.
MR. WHITAKER: Yes, sir.
MR. KNEPPER: Okay.
My last thing would be, you know, you were talking about assuming all traffic is going to come down Godwin to the main entrance, and you've already discussed, like, how are we going to get people to do that?

But the signage will be here, and already for Dunkin' Donuts, which is back here, lots of people are coming this way.

So why -- why do we have to actually go past because you have stores here that they have to go past in order to get to this entrance down here.

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say about that is I'd have to look at actual traffic counts, which I don't have. I don't know when the last traffic study was done on Godwin.

My anticipation is that p.m. traffic -that we are on the a.m. side of the road, right?

People traveling to major highways in this direction or at least going towards let's say 208, 287, so I would anticipate this is the a.m. side of traffic. I could be wrong.

But I'm looking at this as the p.m. side of traffic where customers are going to come in mostly for lunch and dinner from this side.

Yes, I do -- i do think we'll have
access here, right? And that's the advantage of
being on a corner of visibility in this type of business. I think a lot of traffic is going to be generated from the site itself, too.

MR. WHITAKER: Realize we are not proposing the Rea Avenue entrance and exit there, it was previously approved by the land use board in Midland Park.

THE WITNESS: Right.
MR. WHITAKER: So it's not part of our
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## application, it's there already.

MR. KNEPPER: Yes, with all the signage that's going in.

MR. WHITAKER: Well, we'll get to the signage later.

MR. KNEPPER: Yeah, okay.
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Anyone else, from
the public?
(No response.)
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Seeing no one, motion to close?

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Motion.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Second.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Zuidema?
MR. ZUIDEMA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Formicola?
MR. FORMICOLA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Papapietro?
MR. PAPAPIETRO: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Divak?
MR. DIVAK: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Barlow?
MR. BARLOW: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Eliya?
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MR. ELIYA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Andersen?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes.
MR. WHITAKER: Redirect, Mr. Chairman?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: If you want.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Could I ask one
question before you redirect?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Sure.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: You may or may not be the person for this one.

We haven't talked or you haven't talked
about, as the ops manager, waste, sanitation,
pickups, frequency.
Can you talk about that or would that be somebody else talking about that?

THE WITNESS: I could -- I could talk to that.

So -- so typically a site like this, we would do two to three pickups a week.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
What time?
THE WITNESS: Typically around the same
timeframe as -- as our deliveries would happen. Most of our restaurants now pick up between that 6:00 and 7:00 timeframe.

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MR. ELIYA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Andersen?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes.
MR. WHITAKER: Redirect, Mr. Chairman?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: If you want.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Could I ask one
question before you redirect?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Sure.
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be the person for this one.
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Can you talk about that or would that
be somebody else talking about that?
THE WITNESS: I could -- I could talk
to that.
So -- so typically a site like this, we
would do two to three pickups a week.
mALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
of our restaurants now pick up between that $6: 00$ and
7:00 timeframe.
What time?
THE WITNESS: Typically around the same

MR. WHITAKER: We will stipulate that we'll comply with any ordinances in Midland Park as it pertains to when the pickups will occur.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: And you'll have a
dumpster in that current location that's kind of fenced off where there's nothing or...

THE WITNESS: Yeah, there's a corral --
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Can you point to it.

THE WITNESS: Yeah, absolutely.
MR. WHITAKER: We're going to have our engineer testify to it.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay.
THE WITNESS: The dumpster corral is back in this corner of the property.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Gotcha.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Just a question, since the couple of neighbors came up. I'm familiar with some of your Dunkin' Donuts and some -- you had said you close at 1:00 a.m., you would close this one.

Is that correct or am I --
THE WITNESS: This Taco Bell --
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.
THE WITNESS: -- would close at 1 a.m.
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on Fridays and Saturdays and midnight Sunday through Thursday.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Okay. 'Cause the one in Oakland closes at 9:30, and there's a bunch of Taco Bells that close at 11:00.

So just -- it may affect us later, but
timing on -- on closing there, since a couple of
these neighbors are close by, since you have
precedent at some of the other ones, I'm not
including the -- the mall ones, they have to close at 9:30, so I just thought I'd --

MR. WHITAKER: Oh, the restaurant use is a permitted use.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Correct.
MR. WHITAKER: You don't have an ordinance that says that a business has to close --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Well, I'm -- I'm asking the question because if the board is going to vote, then --

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Right.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: -- you know I'll
vote no then or yes or whatever. I'm asking the question --

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: No, you don't have
to, but you --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: I'm asking the question about is there any give or take for that, considering the neighbors that have come up worrying about any type of activity.

And you said: No, they all close at 1:00. And I have my answer.

That's all.
THE WITNESS: I wouldn't say that they all close at 1:00, you know, Dunkin' is more -- you mentioned Dunkin', but Dunkin' is very specific a breakfast business, right?

So Dunkin' has some latitude. In terms of the Dunkin' that's in Midland Park, for example, right?

In terms of Taco Bell, we do have some latitude with the hours of operation. I think when we look at a trade area typically, we try to mirror the competition and what they're doing, have similar hours of operation.

And I think in this case, some of our competitors in the same trade area close at 1:00. MALE BOARD MEMBER: Isn't our town ordinance hours of operation limited 6:00 a.m. to 12 midnight for drive -- drive -- drive-up windows and outdoor ordering locations.

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MR. LANDEL: I don't know.
MR. WHITAKER: I'm not aware of such an
ordinance, but I will certainly research it before the next meeting.

MR. LANDEL: What's the number you're
looking at.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Ordinance
No. 08-21.
MR. LANDEL: Oh, you don't have a 34 number.

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Oh, 34-13.13. Drive-through --

MR. LANDEL: 13-13.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: -- drive-up windows
and outdoor ordering locations.
MR. LANDEL: What was that again?
MALE BOARD MEMBER: 34-13.13.
MR. LANDEL: 13.13, okay.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I see it.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Mockingbird Lane.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I can stay until
midnight.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: They got letters.
MR. WHITAKER: I said, we will comply
with whatever the ordinance says.
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MR. LANDEL: Yeah, all right. Okay.
All right. Thanks, Nick.
Before Mr. -- Mr. Whitaker is going to do his redirect.

MR. WHITAKER: Just a few questions. MR. LANDEL: Sure.

## REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHITAKER:
Q. One of the residents raised a question about microphone at the window, not the reader board.

Does Taco Bell have a microphone at the window?
A. We do not.
Q. So the only noise at the window is
between somebody at the window and the person in their car?
A. That is correct.
Q. Nothing is amplified?
A. That's correct.
Q. There was a question raised about
trying to compare a Taco Bell and the -- and to the IHOP on the basis that IHOP is a franchise, but doesn't have a drive-through window.

Is there a reason for that?

## A. The nature of an IHOP business is

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I just don't know whether you want to start or not.

MR. WHITAKER: How about we take a five-minute break and I'll discuss it and see.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
MR. WHITAKER: We'll start, we're just going to do just an overview of existing conditions and --

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CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Right.
MR. WHITAKER: -- overall plan and then
we'll stop.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: All right, okay.
So we're not going to get finished with him.
MR. WHITAKER: Oh, gosh, no.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: So we're not going

MR. WHITAKER: Never expected to.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: We're not -- yeah,
I know, but we're not going to open to the public tonight.

MR. WHITAKER: No, we'll never get through all this, yes.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: What was his name?
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Missey.
MR. WHITAKER: Andrew Missey.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: No, no.
I know Mr. Missey. No, the person who
asked me about the time.
MS. HARMON: John Knepper.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: John.
MS. HARMON: John Knepper.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: John?
MR. KNEPPER: Yes.
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CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes. I don't know if you caught that colloquy, but he's going to start
--

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MR. KNEPPER: Okay.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: -- but he's not going to get through tonight.
So what I said to you before is we're
not going to get to the public tonight.
MR. KNEPPER: So they'll come back next meeting.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: And they're going
to come back another night, yeah.
MR. KNEPPER: Thank you.
MR. LANDEL: Mr. Missey, please raise your right hand.
Solemnly swear the testimony you're
about to give in the present matter is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
MR. MISSEY: Yes, I do.
ANDREW H. MISSEY, PE,
12 Route 17 North, Paramus, new Jersey, having
been duly sworn, testifies as follows:
MR. LANDEL: Thank you, sir. Name and address for the record,
please.
MR. KNEPPER: Okay.
    HAIRMAN ANDERSEN: -- but he's not
    So theyll come back next
eeting.
    Mr. Missey, please raise
ur right hand
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MR. MISSEY: Andrew H. Missey,
M-I-S-S-E-Y. Licensed professional engineer at Lapatka Associates in Paramus, 12 Route 17 North. VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHITAKER:
Q. Mr. Missey, I'd like you, just for the record, give us basic knowledge of your education and professional background.
A. Yes, I've been at Lapatka for the last 32 years.

Prior to that, I was with Andrew Marshall in Ridgewood, got a bachelor of science and master of science in civil engineering.

Bachelor's from New Mexico State and a
master's from Rutgers.
I've appeared before this zoning board on numerous occasions, most recently for the Eastern Christian Elementary School in fall of ' 22.

Prior appearances here for significant
projects were the Folger Community Center and also the Midland Park shopping center across the street.

MR. WHITAKER: I would ask that
Mr. Missey be qualified as an expert witness in the
field of civil engineering and on that basis, be
permitted to render an opinion in that field.
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201-641-1812 have said this, Mr. Missey, but you have a current New Jersey licence, correct?

THE WITNESS: I do, yes. CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay. THE WITNESS: It's in good standing. CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Mr. Missey has testified numerous times before us. Anyone have any questions about his -- all right, so he's accepted as an expert in engineering.

MR. WHITAKER: Thank you very much.
DIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MR. WHITAKER:
Q. Mr. Missey, you've been engaged from
the inception of this application to prepare the plans that were submitted with the application?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. I would like you to provide to the board and put on the record what the existing conditions are.
A. At the present time, this is a three-and-a-half acre strip center with -- that's on the north side of westbound Godwin Avenue, immediately to the east of Goffle Road, Godwin intersection, where Godwin then jogs off to the north LAURA A. CARUCCI, C.S.R., R.P.R., L.L.C. 201-641-1812

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1 and west to Wyckoff.

## The site used to have an anchor tenant of the Sears hardware store. That's long gone. The CVS is now the anchor store at the corner of -- oh... <br> CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Erie. <br> THE WITNESS: -- Erie, thank you. Erie and Godwin. <br> There's a multi-tenant commercial space immediately to the east of that, some of which is under construction at the present time. <br> The dry cleaners is no longer there, <br> but there is a T-Mobile store, a Chinese restaurant <br> and a Dunkin' Donuts that are in operation. <br> This site, itself, at the southeast <br> corner was a former Columbia Bank with a <br> drive-through and about six parking spaces. <br> The site, itself, stretches from Rea <br> Avenue to Erie Avenue, all of which is in the B3 zone.

The other neighbors in the immediate -on this side of the street include a barber and a nail salon immediately to the west, there's then a pool store and a former jewelry business.

And then it's the main driveway into
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this particular site from Godwin.
Across Rea Avenue is a three-story
office building and then immediately to the north or -- or up the hill are the -- is the residential neighborhood of Midland Park.

Wendy's, Kings and the martial arts business are across the street, as is the Kings -well, the whole Midland Park Shopping Center.

Right now, the site has 83.6 percent impervious. There is -- that was an existing nonconformity associated with the CVS application, and, in fact, the CVS application decreased the impervious at that point in time, too, when that was approved.

The former bank building sits about
7 feet off Rea and -- about 7-and-a-half feet off of
Godwin Avenue, in an area where a minimum of 25 -foot front yard is required.

So the bank building is a
nonconforming, preexisting condition on this property.

The current number of parking spaces here is 480 spaces, and that includes one space with an empty chain-link exposure at the Rea Avenue entrance and exit from this site.

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The number of driveways that are present here, one unique feature of these driveways is that when you exit the site on either Erie or Rea Avenue, you are required to return back to Goffle, so as to discourage --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: Godwin.
MR. WHITAKER: Godwin.
THE WITNESS: Godwin, excuse me -- so as to discourage or certainly make very difficult the movement back up into the residential areas.

What we're proposing to do is to
demolish that bank building at the southeast corner, but retain all the driveways and curb cuts that exist now in their present condition, and retaining their present movement/restrictions and so on and so forth.

The Taco Bell that's been discussed is
-- measures 80 -feet-by- 25 -feet in width. It will exceed the $B 3$ setback requirements; it will be 33 feet to the Godwin Avenue right-of-way and 30 feet to the Rea Avenue right-of-way. 170 parking spaces are proposed for this overall site if this project is successful.

It will increase the greenery by 1550 square feet, that would still be nonconforming to what's required in the B3 zone, but we're continuing

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to move in the correct direction with the trend starting with the CVS application.

The drive-through, itself, will be
12 feet in width with a taper down at its exit point up to 10 feet. It will employ the standard counterclockwise movement so that the driver faces the pickup window. It stacks 11 vehicles in total. That's an important number. That's how many vehicles that the operator as we developed this site plan felt needed to be accommodated.

It stacks six vehicles to the menu
board. That's another important number, because that permits us to have 153 feet of stacking, which is a measure that's required to be 150 feet for a drive-through facility in Midland Park.

The deliveries, as has been testified to, will be off hours. We are going to have to revisit the delivery movements with the architect and the operator between now and the next meeting. We anticipated putting the application in to you and we illustrated on plan Sheet 3 of A-3 an SU30 vehicle making deliveries within the drive-through lane in off hours, and it would make a right-only exit onto Godwin Avenue -- exit onto Godwin Avenue west upon completion of its delivery.

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But at this point in time, we have stipulated that more than likely we'll eliminate that Godwin Avenue exit because that is a nonconformity with its proximity to the next driveway to the nail salon and barber business, so that is why we will be revisiting that.

I think you're -- the Burgis report from January very succinctly summarizes the bulk -bulk requirements and how this project complies. That's found on the Burgis report of January 20th, page 4.

We are in the B3 zone district, so this requires a minimum lot area of 10,000 square feet. We exceed that by a factor of 15 . This is 154,555 square feet.

The lot width is required to be 100 feet. This lot from side to side is 321 feet.

The lot depth is required to be
100 feet. The existing and proposed will be 314 feet.

The maximum height and stories here is 36 feet in height and two-and-a-half stories. The existing CVS and also the building that's being built are 28 feet in height and a single story, and the Taco Bell is going to be about 25.6 feet in height

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 201-641-1812and also a single story.
The lot coverage, the maximum lot
coverage by buildings is restricted to 30 percent.
In the existing condition it's
20 percent, so that's in compliance. And with us putting in a Taco Bell with a smaller footprint than the Columbia bank building, that will go down to about 19 percent.

Maximum improved lot coverage or maximum impervious coverage is restricted in this zone to 75 percent. When CVS started its application -- or when CVS concluded its application, that number went to 85.6 percent --

MALE BOARD MEMBER: It's 83.
THE WITNESS: Excuse me, to 83.6. That was amended, 83.6 percent. We are making that better by -- by one percent, 82.6.

So, as I said, we're going in the right direction.

Our required setback on Godwin is
25 feet, and on Rea it's actually 30 because Rea is only 40 feet in width, so we need to add the extra five feet.

The bank building is nonconforming; it's 7.6 to Godwin and 7.2 to Rea. In our case it

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will be 33 feet to Godwin and 30 feet to Rea, so we will comply.

In our -- this case, we don't have a
side yard, so that's not a factor. The rear --
minimum rear yard is required to be 25 feet. This proposed restaurant will be 134 feet to the back line.

So that's our zoning compliance.
BY MR. WHITAKER:
Q. I had stated earlier that the parking that we have on site, you've testified 170 spaces, is in excess of what the requirements are under the parking requirement for Midland Park; correct?
A. That's correct.

Under the parking requirements for Midland Park, we need 167 spaces. And that is because, between when CVS was approved, they got a parking variance because the parking ordinance was different, that changed in, I believe, 2021.

And so we do now comply with the
parking requirement, as does the current site since that ordinance changed.
Q. So we have the ability, and some flexibility is necessary, to redesign parking or reduce the number of parking spaces.

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Is that correct?
A. That's correct. We have -- we have more flexibility.

One thing to note is that the soil
moving is -- is not significant for this particular
application. To demolish the building, the bank building, and to create the pad site for the Taco
with an import of 172 cubic yards. So it's not a
significant -- not a significant number.

I think with that, that's probably a good place to stop.

MR. WHITAKER: So we've shown you what the existing conditions are and what's being proposed. We'll address the actual drainage, lighting, landscaping and all the other items that were raised at your next meeting, give you the opportunity to move on to what else you have on the agenda.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: All right. At that point we'll ask any questions we have regarding some of the things you --

MR. WHITAKER: Absolutely.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: -- parking and --
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and whatever. Okay?
THE WITNESS: Yes.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Is that okay with everyone? Okay.

All right.
MR. WHITAKER: We just need an
announcement, that's all.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: You need what?
MR. WHITAKER: Announcement to carry
the meeting to members of the public, there's no future notice.

MS. HARMON: April 12th.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: April 12?
MS. HARMON: Yes.
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: All right. So for
members of the public -- well, first of all, let's do
it. We need a motion to carry this application till
the next meeting on April 12.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: I make a motion.
MALE BOARD MEMBER: Second.
MS. HARMON: Did i get a second?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Mark.
MS. HARMON: Oh.
Mr. Zuidema?
MR. ZUIDEMA: Yes.

MS. HARMON: Mr. Formicola?
MR. FORMICOLA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Papapietro?
MR. PAPAPIETRO: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Divak?
MR. DIVAK: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Barlow?
MR. BARLOW: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Eliya?
MR. ELIYA: Yes.
MS. HARMON: Mr. Andersen?
CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Yes.
For members of the public, the meeting
-- this application is being carried to April 12th.
You will not get another notice. In
other words, this is your notice that it's going to be on April 12th.

Anybody have anything -- do you have anything?

MR. WHITAKER: Thank you for your time this evening.

CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN: Okay.
Did you have anything, Mr. -- ddi you
want to address the board at all?
MALE AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.
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## Administrative [1] -

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