CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL



Agenda Item E September 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Approval of request by E & M, Inc. (Society Hill) for one-year extension, to October 9, 2012, of site plan approval for a 312-unit apartment project developed as a PD-1 option in a multi-family (RM-1) district, located at the southwest corner of Novi Road and 12 ½ Mile Road, previously extended under a consent judgment and subject to annual extension reviews.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Community Development - Planning Division

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Attached is the request from E & M, Inc. for a one-year extension of site plan approval for Society Hill, along with a copy of the general plan. Society Hill is a proposed 312-unit multiple-family project located on about 24 acres of land on the west side of Novi Road, south of Twelve and One-Half Mile Road. The following summary of the 2001 Consent Judgment was provided previously by the applicant's attorney:

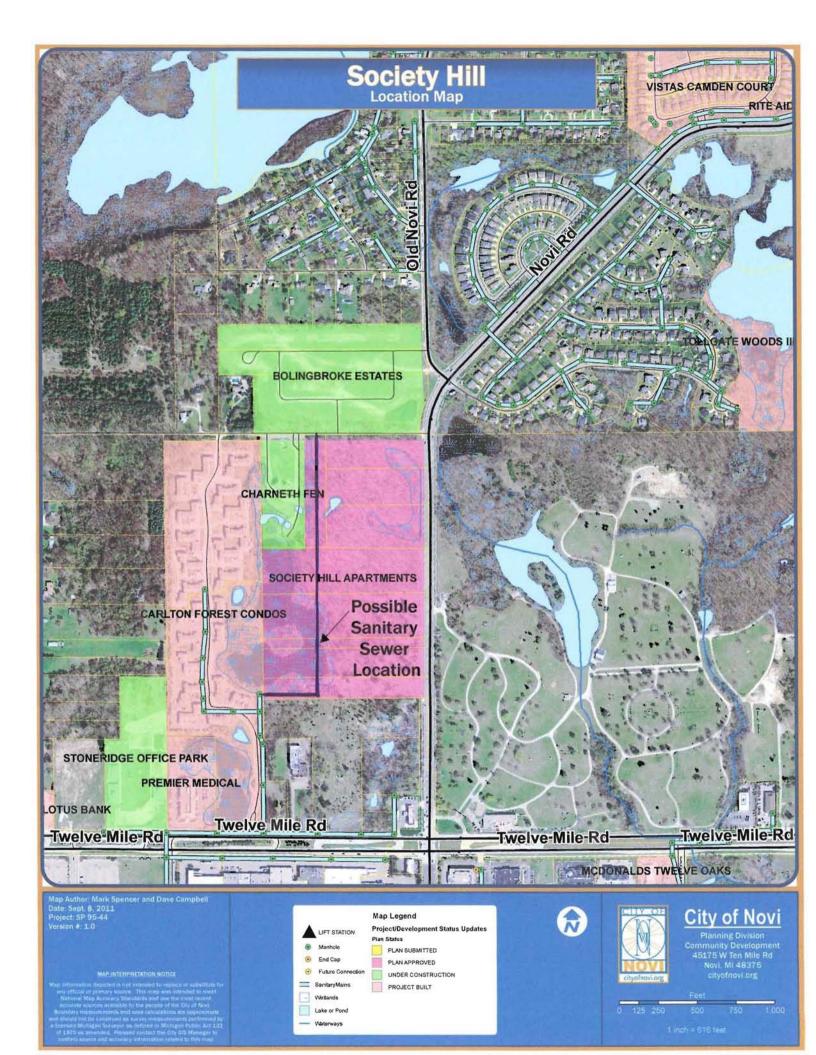
The site plan was approved in the normal course by the City and was later included as a part of a Consent Judgment, which resolved the City's condemnation of land to widen Novi Road, a dispute concerning a sewer special assessment district ("SAD 94"), and the City's request for easements along Arena Drive (Arena Drive area dedication was adjacent to property owned by the same developer). Under the terms of the Consent Judgment, E & M conveyed the Novi Road land to the City, agreed to complete the SAD 94 sewer line and granted easements to the City along Arena Drive. The Society Hill site plan approval was extended for five years with a provision for annual City Council extensions thereafter.

The Judgment further provides that, if the site plan approval is not extended, the obligations for E & M to complete the SAD 94 sewer line to Twelve and One-Half Mile Road shall be void, and the City shall be obligated to complete the sewer line as originally planned and routed. Since there is a large wetland complex in this area, a State Wetland Permit would be required, and the costs to the City would be higher than installing a sewer in dry land (ballpark estimate of \$350,000 for 1600 linear feet of sanitary sewer construction at this time).

Previously, the City Council approved one-year extensions of the site plan approval in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. The applicant is now requesting another one year extension of the site plan approval. The Consent Judgment does not provide for any limits to the number of extensions that may be granted.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of request by E & M, Inc. (Society Hill) for one-year extension, to October 9, 2012, of site plan approval for a 312-unit apartment project developed as a PD-1 option in a multi-family (RM-1) district, located at the southwest corner of Novi Road and 12 ½ Mile Road, previously extended under a consent judgment and subject to annual extension reviews.

	1	2	Y	N	
Mayor Landry					Council Member Mutch
Mayor Pro Tem Gatt					Council Member Staudt
Council Member Fischer					Council Member Wrobel
Council Member Margolis					



E & M Letter July 27, 2011 Request for Society Hill Final Site Plan Approval Extension

32605 West Twelve Mile Road, Suite 290 Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334 Telephone (248) 553-9225 Facsimile (248) 553-9594

July 27, 2011

Honorable David Landry, Mayor and Members of the City Council c/o Barbara McBeth, Community Development Department City of Novi 45175 W. Ten Mile Road Novi, Michigan 48375

Re: Extension of Society Hill (E&M Inc.) Final Site Plan Approval - Expiring October 9, 2011

Dear Mayor Landry and Members of the City Council:

Due to the continuing market conditions, we write to request a one (1) year extension of the final site plan approval for the Society Hill project, which will be expiring October 9, 2011. This request is made in accordance with Paragraph 9.B of the Consent Judgement entered October 9, 2001 in the *City of Novi vs. Toltec Structures and E&M, Inc.* (Oakland Circuit Court No. 95-502489-CC) and follows a subsequent one (1) extension approved by City Council at the August 23, 2010 City Council Meeting (excerpt from minutes attached). I enclose a copy of the Consent Judgement along with prior correspondence sent to the City at the time of our last request for extension which provides some historical background of Society Hill and the Consent Judgement.

E&M asks that the City Council place this request on its agenda. Please let us know the date this request will be heard. Your time in this matter is much appreciated. Should you require any additional information, I can be reached at 248.553.9225 ext. 123.

Sincerely, Ann Szwabowsk

Enclosures

cc: City Manager (c/o Barbara McBeth)

