TO:
 MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

 FROM:
 BARBARA MCBETH, AICP, CITY PLANNER

 SUBJECT:
 COMMERCIAL DAY CARE CENTER IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

 DATE:
 MARCH 5, 2025

Staff has met with the Little Seeds Day Care owner, Angie Altaii, who has expressed an interest in increasing the number of children cared for in the existing facility at the northeast corner of Ten Mile Road and Wixom Road. She indicated that there is a great demand for day care services in the region and that her day care business has the space available within the existing building to expand enrollment. The **attached** narrative was provided by Ms. Altaii to the City to further explain the need for day care facilities in Novi.

Ms. Altaii wishes to increase the enrollment of the Little Seeds Day Care up to 75 children, while the current ordinance allows a maximum of 50 children in similarly situated day care centers (where the property fronts on a major thoroughfare and is located in and is surrounded by single family residential zoning districts). Ms. Altaii indicated the following regarding the specific situation of her day care: is important to note that we have been operating under a city approved variance with 60 children for 30+ years so, while on paper it looks like we are suggesting going from 50-75, in reality, we are only going from 60 to 75. Further, we plan to use this space for infants so our maximum capacity per state licensing would be 12 so our true request/reason for making this change is for 12 additional children.

Staff explained that the ordinance provides limitations on the number of children to be cared for in day care businesses in residential districts and that the standards of the ordinance cover properties throughout the City. The best means to address the property owner's request would be to draft an ordinance amendment to allow an increase in the number of children served at new or existing facilities throughout the city. The intent of this proposed amendment is to allow greater flexibility for childcare providers to meet the growing demand for early childhood development programs by expanding their enrollment, under specific conditions.

# **Existing Ordinance Standards**

Ordinance sections 4.12.1.B and 4.12.1.C allow day care centers and adult day care centers in single-family residential zoning districts, under certain conditions. Day care centers are subject to Special Land Use approval by the Planning Commission for locations in the Single-Family Residential Districts, including the RA, R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4 Districts.

Section 4.12.1.B currently allows commercial day care centers and adult day care centers (those not located in a single-family home) on single family residential parcels at least 1 acre in size, and when abutting a major thoroughfare. The ordinance provides limitations on the number of people being cared for – no more than 50 children in a day care center, and no more than 25 adults in an adult day care center.

Section 4.12.1.C currently allows a greater number of people being cared for in day care centers when the single family parcel abuts non-residential uses: up to 120 children, and no more than 50 adults. This section of the ordinance limits those residential parcels eligible for consideration for a new day care center to parcels that abut certain non-residential districts. The intent of this ordinance provision is to allow for the larger day care facilities on residential parcels that abut non-residential uses, because the day care facility can provide a transitional use between single family residential properties and commercial properties.

# Ordinance introduction on February 12

Staff presented a draft ordinance amendment at the February 12, 2025 Planning Commission and received some comments and questions. See the attached excerpt from the minutes.

- 1. <u>Minimum building size based on the number of children</u>. Staff found regulations from *Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers* from the Michigan Child Care Licensing Division <u>BCAL PUB-8 (3\_16).indd</u> that indicate the following:
  - The required square footage of indoor space per child must be based on at least the following standards (excludes hallways, bathrooms, reception and office, kitchens, areas used exclusively for resting or sleeping, etc.):
    - 50 square feet for infants and toddlers.
    - 25 square feet for preschoolers and school-agers.

As an example, and as staff interprets the standards, if a daycare is approved for 75 children, with 25% or 18 infants/toddlers, and 75% or 57 preschool/school age children, the minimum size of the daycare dedicated to the care of children (excluding offices, kitchens, hallways, etc.) would be 2325 square feet. The total floor area of the Little Seeds building is approximately 5600 square feet, according to the assessing records, and it appears that the building size would be adequate to meet the State's standards.

 <u>Consistency of Novi's ordinance standards with State standards for play area</u>. Novi's standards for daycare in Section 4.12.1 were modified recently to state that an outside recreation area is required, unless modified by the Planning Commission based on justification provided by the applicant. This provision allows flexibility for the minimum area requirements as determined by the Commission, but realizing that the applicant will still need to meet the State standards for licensing.

Additionally, staff found that there is a 2024 Draft for Child Care Center Licensing Rule Revisions <u>R 400.8101 to 400.8840</u> and <u>Draft-2024-Child-Care-Licensing-Rule-Revisions-Explained.pdf</u> that appears to be in process at the State level. At this time, it is not clear whether changes to either the inside space or outside space will be modified by the State. Staff will monitor the situation and if changes are brought to light in the future, another text amendment may be brought forward.

3. <u>Similarity of day care centers and adult day care centers</u>. Staff did additional research and found that there are no state licensing requirements in Michigan for Adult Day Services. The <u>Factsheet for Adult Day Care</u> shows various agencies have standards for these types of services that are not similar to the child day care standards. Area Agency on Aging Adult Day Services provides care standards for adult day services found on Page 83 at this link: <u>ServiceProgramStandards-Master-July-2020.pdf</u>. For this reason, and based on the Commission's stated concerns regarding occupancy standards for adult day care facilities in residential districts, <u>staff will remove the reference in Section D that had previously allowed for expanded capacity of up to 60 adults within certain Adult Day Care standards as a part of this amendment</u>.

## Proposed Amended Text Amendment

The attached amended draft ordinance amendment <u>proposes a third option that would</u> <u>allow up to 75 children in day care centers on residential parcels at least 1.5 acres in size, that</u> <u>are at the intersection of a major thoroughfare and another street, and subject to minimum</u> <u>building setbacks to the property lines to ensure adequate setback from other residential</u> <u>uses</u>. To further ensure that any adjacent existing single family residential properties are adequately separated from the proposed daycare, <u>any buildings shall be setback from the</u> <u>property lines a distance that is equal to what is required in the zoning district, but in no case,</u> <u>less than 25 feet from any property line</u>. Special Land Use consideration by the Planning Commission and the required public hearing would be required for this option, as it applies to all commercial day care facilities proposed in residential districts. These changes are found in the attached new Section C.

Amendments since the first draft include the reduction in the number of adults cared for in the residential districts where property abuts certain non-residential districts (from a maximum of 60 adults to a maximum 25 adults). Please reference the changes in Section D of the draft ordinance changes.

Staff prepared the **attached map** that shows 14 **potential** properties in the City that may benefit from the additional capacity permitted (up to 75 children), if property owners wish to develop a day care on residential properties that are within the parameters of the proposed ordinance amendment: at least 1.5 acres in size, and located at an intersection of a major thoroughfare and another street. Some sites are currently vacant, and others are developed with uses other than a day care, such as a church or a single-family home.

Ordinance modifications are also proposed to Section 4.12.1.C that currently permits a greater number of people being cared for in day care centers when the single family parcel abuts non-residential uses: up to 120 children, and no more than 50 adults. Amendments are proposed to this section to allow clarification that the single-family district where the day care is proposed shall abut one or more non-residential zoning districts on at least one side, and/or may abut another single-family residential district if the site is developed with a use other than single family homes (i.e. a church or school). These changes are reflected in the attached new Section D. Other minor changes and streamlining of the text are proposed for the relevant sections, as well as minor update to the day care standards in the NCC District.

## Planning Commission Action

The Planning Commission is asked to review the amended draft text amendment, that is intended to provide a means to expand accommodation in day care centers on residential parcels at least 1.5 acres in size and located at the intersection of a major thoroughfare and another street, and hold the scheduled Public Hearing for recommendation to the City Council on the proposed ordinance amendment.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES EXCERPT FEBRUARY 12, 2025 In the matter of Quick Pass Car Wash JSP24-13, motion to approve the Woodland Permit based on and subject to the findings of compliance with Ordinance standards in the staff and consultant review letters, and the conditions and items listed in those letters being addressed on the Final Site Plan.

This motion is made because the plan is otherwise in compliance with Chapter 37 of the Code of Ordinances and all other applicable provisions of the Ordinance.

# ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE JSP24-13 QUICK PASS CAR WASH WOODLAND PERMIT MOVED BY MEMBER AVDOULOS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve the JSP24-13 Quick Pass Car Wash Stormwater Management Plan made by Member Avdoulos and seconded by Member Lynch.

In the matter Quick Pass Car Wash JSP24-13, motion to approve the Stormwater Management Plan based on and subject to the findings of compliance with Ordinance standards in the staff and consultant review letters, and the conditions and items listed in those letters being addressed on the Final Site Plan.

This motion is made because the plan is otherwise in compliance with Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances and all other applicable provisions of the Ordinance.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE JSP24-13 QUICK PASS CAR WASH STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN MOVED BY MEMBER AVDOULOS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH. Motion carried 5-0.

#### MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. INTRODUCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.305 - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DAY CARE STANDARDS

Set public hearing for Text Amendment 18.305 to add a new Subsection to 4.12, Group Day Care Homes, Day Care Centers, and Adult Day Care Centers to increase Day Care capacity in certain locations and subject to conditions, to clarify standards, and to amend various additional sections of the ordinance as determined necessary.

City Planner Barbara McBeth gave a brief overview of the text amendment and the reason why it is being proposed. City staff drafted the ordinance amendment to modify the standards for commercial daycare centers that are in residentially zoned districts.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that the zoning ordinance currently allows daycare centers and adult daycare centers in single family residential districts under certain conditions. Daycare centers are subject to special land use approval by the Planning Commission.

The ordinance currently provides two categories for commercial daycares in the residential district. The first category is provided in section 4.12.1.B currently allows commercial day care centers and adult day care centers (those not located in a single-family home) on single family residential parcels at least 1 acre in size, and when abutting a major thoroughfare. The ordinance provides limitations on the number of people being cared for – no more than 50 children in a day care center, and no more than 25 adults in an adult day care center.

The second category is provided in section 4.12.1.C that currently allows a greater number of people being cared for in day care centers when the single-family parcel abuts non-residential uses: up to 120 children, and no more than 50 adults.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated the idea of the text amendment came about after staff met with Little Seeds Daycare owner Angie Altaii. Mrs. Altaii expressed an interest in increasing the number of children cared for in the existing facility which is located at the northeast corner of Ten Mile and Wixom Road. Mrs. Altaii indicated that there is great demand for daycare services in the region in general and that her daycare business has the space available within the existing building to expand enrollment. Mrs. Altaii wishes to expand enrollment of the Little Seeds Daycare up to 75 children while the current ordinance allows for a maximum of 50 children.

After talking with Mrs. Altaii, staff researched other community's ordinances and found there are several differing standards for daycare centers in those communities. In addition, new information is being shared from the American Planning Association as well as from the State of Michigan that shows the demand for daycare facilities in many communities is not being filled.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated as drafted the ordinance proposes a third option that would allow up to 75 children in daycare centers on residential parcels at least 1.5 acres in size, that are at the intersection of a major thoroughfare and another street, and subject to minimum building setbacks to the property lines to ensure adequate setback from other residential uses. To further ensure that any adjacent existing single family residential properties are adequately separated from the proposed daycare, any buildings shall be setback from the property lines a distance that is equal to what is required in the zoning district, but in no case, less than 25 feet from any property line. Special Land Use consideration by the Planning Commission and the required public hearing would be required for this option, as it applies to all commercial day care facilities proposed in residential districts.

City Planner Barbara McBeth directed the attention of the Planning Commission to the screen which showed a map with fourteen properties in Novi that may benefit from the ordinance amendment. It was noted that some of the properties are vacant and others may be developed with a church or alternate use. At least one of the properties has a daycare on it currently.

The Planning Commission is asked to set the public hearing for an upcoming meeting. Mrs. Altaii and her attorney Dennis Cowan were present.

Chair Pehrson invited the applicant to come forward if they wished to add anything.

Mr. Dennis Cowan with PlunKett Cooney addressed the Planning Commission on behalf of Little Seeds Daycare. Mr. Cowan stated one of the pressing issues in all communities is child daycare. He expressed that Novi is a growing community of families. In addition to Novi's long-term residents, there are families who come to Novi from other states and countries. Mr. Cowan stated these families may not have the infrastructure of family and friends; therefore, they look to licensed centers for their daycare needs. He stated Mrs. Altaii is looking to add primarily infants at her location, but each business will have that opportunity if they qualify.

Mr. Cowan elaborated that the daycare business is highly regulated. As an example of the regulations for daycare facilities, Mr. Cowan referenced a fifty-five-page document that covers everything from food prep to diaper changing for the daycare center. He stated it is a two-step process to become a licensed facility. The first step is the appropriate approvals from the municipality, in this case Novi. Secondly, the plans would have to be approved by the department of Licensing and Regulation after which they will conduct their own inspection along with the appropriate City inspections before the daycare space can be used. Mr. Cowan turned it over to Mrs. Altaii for further discussion.

Mrs. Altaii stated that she is the owner of the Little Seeds Daycare and that she took over the property in 2022. Mr. Altaii shared it is important to note that the previous owner had existed in the space for over thirty years and had been operating on a variance granted by the City which allowed up to sixty children. Little Seeds Daycare was granted a continuation of that variance and currently has sixty children enrolled at max capacity. Mrs. Altaii noted the waitlist for infants is between six to twelve months.

Mrs. Altaii stated since coming before the Planning Commission in May, the State has asked Little Seeds Daycare to become a partner in the Great Start Readiness Program. This is a universal Pre-K program which the State is planning to roll out with no income limits as of 2026. Little Seeds Daycare is the second partner in this program, next to Novi Public Schools. Mrs. Altaii indicated they are the only other program that can offer this service. As a result of this partnership Little Seeds has been asked to add another classroom, exasperating the need to add an infant classroom. Mr. Altaii stated they are looking to

renovate the space they already have, which is currently not being used, to add an extra infant classroom.

Chair Pehrson asked City Planner Barbara McBeth how the number of one hundred and twenty children came about.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that it is currently in the ordinance for one hundred and twenty children in residential districts that abut a non-residential district. An example would be on the edge of a residential district abutting an office district or at the edge of an area abutting an OST District.

Chair Pehrson inquired if these locations could be true residences or part of a church.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that the locations that are being talked about with this amendment would not necessarily abut a non- residential use. They could be surrounded by residential properties. Additionally, they could be part of a church or a vacant parcel. Barbara McBeth indicated the fourteen properties shown on the map are residential properties that are surrounded by residential that are at least 1.5 acres in size.

Chair Pehrson inquired if part of the equation is to deal with the square footage of the building itself in relation to the number of people being looked after.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that is one of the State's standards.

Chair Pehrson stated he understands the concept of childcare. When thinking about adult care, he stated the thinking shifts to more of a home where people reside as opposed to a drop-off situation like daycare. He inquired if that is in line with the thinking, or if this is a shift in that regard.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that the adult daycare and the child daycare were carried through together in the ordinance because they are considered similar types of uses. She noted that we don't have a lot of adult daycare facilities in a commercial establishment, some people have something that they run out of their home. That is not what is being talked about in this case. Adult daycare was carried through with this amendment because it had been in the ordinance for smaller daycare, but modification can be made if the Planning Commission is uncomfortable with that.

Chair Pehrson expressed he would like to understand more about the concept, regarding adult daycare. He stated sixty adults seems like a huge number in thinking about the space that would take up. Chair Pehrson stated he would like to see more finite delineation between child and adult daycare centers.

Member Becker stated he has visited some residential adult homes, and you would not be able to accommodate twenty-five adults. He noted if it was not a residential setting you could accommodate twenty-five adults if it were a daytime drop off situation. Regarding home facilities the State would say you cannot have twenty-five adults in a home because that is a different category. Member Becker requested clarification on if the amendment is replacing wording or if another category is being added.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that three categories are being proposed. One new category is being added in case we have any uses that are currently existing which would remain on a smaller parcel with fewer children.

Member Becker stated that the last time daycare facilities were discussed, the State had certain requirements that were more lenient than the City of Novi's requirements. Member Becker inquired if we have balanced the wording, so we are not in conflict with the State.

City Planner Barbara McBeth stated that we can certainly look at that this time around.

Member Lynch stated that he is familiar with the property and expressed that the applicant makes a valid argument. Member Lynch said that a goal the Commission holds is to make sure the ordinance is not

manipulated. He noted this proposal will come back to the Planning Commission so if it is suspected or seen that there is manipulation, there will be an opportunity to reject the proposal.

City Planner Barbara McBeth confirmed that this text amendment will come back to the Planning Commission in about a month.

Member Roney stated he has no issues.

Member Avdoulos stated he has nothing further to add and it was addressed appropriately.

Motion to set the public hearing for a future date as determined by staff made by Member Avdoulos and seconded by Member Lynch.

In the matter of Text Amendment 18.305 Proposed Amendments to Day Care Standards, motion to set the public hearing for a future date to be determined by staff.

# ROLL CALL VOTE ON MOTION TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING MADE BY MEMBER AVDOULOS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH. Motion carried 5-0.

#### 2. JSP24-25 EL CAR WASH NOVI II

Consideration of El Car Wash Novi II for Preliminary Site Plan approval. The subject property is 0.54 acres in size, is zoned TC Town Center District, and is located on the east side of Novi Road, north of Grand River. The applicant is proposing to reutilize the existing car wash building for a new car wash.

Staff Planner Diana Shanahan stated the applicant is proposing to reutilize the existing non-conforming car wash on Novi Road. The .54-acre parcel is located on the east side of Novi Road, north of Grand River. The site and surrounding area are zoned Town Center with TC-1 to the southeast. The future land use map indicates Town Center Commercial for this property as well as all the surrounding properties. The subject property does not contain any regulated natural features.

The existing car wash was constructed in 1981 and is a non-conforming use in the TC District. As indicated on the site plan, the applicant El Car Wash II is proposing to renovate the existing car wash. Improvements will include new vacuum stations, two new drive-up pay stations, an attendant booth, repaving, utility improvements, façade updates, and sculpture artwork as an amenity for the Town Center District.

The applicant is requesting a landscape waiver for the lack of a loading zone screen. This waiver is supported by staff as there is no space for loading zone screening on the site. A waiver is requested for insufficient green belt area. This waiver is also supported by staff as an existing condition. A waiver is requested for insufficient interior parking lot trees. This waiver is supported by staff as the proposed plan will improve the existing conditions to the best of its ability given the site constraints. The plan provides enhancements by introducing additional landscaping while accommodating the limitations of the site. A waiver is supported by staff as an existing requested. This waiver is supported by staff as an existing condition, as the site offers no space for additional trees. The final waiver is for insufficient foundation landscaping area coverage. This waiver is supported by staff as the proposed by staff as the proposed landscaping is an enhancement to current conditions.

The proposed plan will require variances to be granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals for three items. These items are the parallel parking space, the lack of a bypass lane, and a shortage of vehicle stacking spaces prior to the tunnel.

The Planning Commission is asked to approve or deny the Preliminary Site Plan. Steven Barrett and the El Car Wash II team are here tonight representing the project as well as staff to answer any questions.

Reid Cooksey from Stonefield Engineering and Design stated that they are taking an existing car wash on Novi Road in the Town Center District and modernizing it. They are looking to bring new flair to the site. Mr. Cooksey stated they are modernizing not only the façade but also the operations. He noted there

# DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT STRIKE-THROUGH

#### **STATE OF MICHIGAN**

#### COUNTY OF OAKLAND

#### **CITY OF NOVI**

#### ORDINANCE NO. 18.305

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, AMENDING ARTICLE 4, USE STANDARDS, AT SECTION 4.12.1 AND 4.12.3 DAY CARE CENTERS, AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS, TO ALLOW EXPANDED ACCOMODATION FOR DAY CARE CENTERS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS AND OF A MINIMUM SIZE, AND OTHER CHANGES AS DETERMINED NECESSARY.

#### THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

# <u>Part I.</u> That The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance is amended, by amending Section 4.12 in Article 4, Use Standards, to read as follows:

- 4.12 GROUP DAY CARE HOMES, DAY CARE CENTERS, AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS
- 1. In the RA, R-1, R-2, R-3, and R-4 districts, group day care homes, day care centers, and adult day care centers are permitted as a special land use, as follows:
  - A. Group Day Care Homes, subject to the following:
    - i. [unchanged]
    - ii. [unchanged]
    - iii. [unchanged]
    - iv. [unchanged]
    - v. [unchanged]
    - vi. [unchanged]
    - vii. [unchanged]
  - B. Day Care Centers accommodating no more than fifty (50) children, and Adult Day Care Centers accommodating no more than twenty-five (25) persons, subject to the following:
    - i. <u>The minimum parcel size for a Day Care Center or Adult Day Care Center</u> <u>shall be one (1) acre.</u>
    - ii. Outside recreation area required, unless modified by the Planning Commission based on justification provided by the applicant, as follows:
      - a. For each person cared for, there shall be provided and maintained a minimum of one-hundred fifty (150) square feet of outdoor recreation area.

- b. Such recreation area shall have a total minimum area of not less than two-thousand eight-hundred (2800) square feet.
- c. The recreation area shall be securely fenced and screened from any adjoining lot in any residential district, with appropriate fence and landscape materials as reviewed by the City's Landscape Architect to provide opaque screening for the outside activities. These screening requirements are in addition to the requirements of Section 5.5
- ii. The minimum parcel size for a Day Care Center or Adult Day Care Center shall be one (1) acre.
- iii. The hours of operation shall be limited to the period between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- iiiv. The parcel shall abut and have access to a major thoroughfare or section line collector road. The driveways shall be designed so that vehicles can exit the site without having to back onto a major thoroughfare.
- iv. The licensee shall register with the City Clerk and the licensed premises may be subject to a fire department inspection and shall provide a smoke detector in all daytime sleeping areas.
- vi. Any refuse bins or outside trash receptacles shall be located as far away as is practical from properties zoned for residential uses.
- vii. The exterior building facades shall comply with Section 5.15. Additionally, the City's Facade Consultant shall review the proposed architectural style of the structure to <u>ensure</u> insure the residential character of the neighborhood is maintained with regard to design and facade elements. The following materials shall be allowed up to a maximum of twenty-five (25) percent of the building facade, with a finding that these materials will be compatible with the adjacent residential areas: wood siding, painted siding, tongue and groove siding, batten siding, vinyl siding and aluminum siding. These materials are subject to footnote 11 of the Schedule Regulating Facade Materials, in Section 5.15.
- viii. A noise impact statement is required subject to the standards of Section 5.14.10.B.
- C. Day care centers exceeding fifty (50) children, but not more than seventy-five (75) children, subject to the provisions of Section 4.12.1.B.ii through Section 4.12.1.b.viii, and provided the following conditions are met:
  - i. The minimum parcel size shall be 1.5 acres.
  - ii. The site shall be located at the corner of a major thoroughfare and another public street with at least 200 feet of frontage along the major thoroughfare.

- iii. Building setbacks shall meet the setback requirements of the Zoning District, but in no case shall a building be closer than 25 feet to any property line.
- CD. Day care centers exceeding fifty (50) children, but not more than one-hundred and twenty (120) children, and adult day care centers exceeding of not more than twenty-five (25) persons, but not more than sixty (60) persons, providing the following conditions are met:
  - i. <u>The minimum parcel size shall be 1.5 acres.</u>
  - ii. Subject to the standards contained in Subsection 4.12.1.B.<u>ii through</u> Section 4.12.1.B.viii.
  - iii. The parcel <u>At least one lot line</u> must abut land zoned <del>only</del>-NCC, OS-1, OSC, TC, TC-1, RC, FS, I-1, P-1, C, <del>and or</del> OST, or abut a site occupied by a use other than one-family residential in a RA, R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4 Districts.
  - iii. The hours of operation shall be limited to the period between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.
  - iv. The exterior building facades shall comply with Section 5.15. Additionally, the City's Facade Consultant shall review proposed architectural style of the structure to insure the residential character of the neighborhood is maintained with regard to design and facade elements. The following materials shall be allowed up to a maximum of twenty-five (25) percent of the building facade, with a finding that these materials will be compatible with the adjacent residential areas: wood siding, painted siding, tongue and groove siding, batten siding, vinyl siding and aluminum siding. These materials are subject to footnote 11 of the Schedule Regulating Facade Materials, in Section 5.15.

 A noise impact statement is required subject to the standards of Section 5.14.10.B.

- 2. [unchanged]
- 3. In the NCC district, day care centers and adult day care centers are permitted subject to the regulations in Sections 4.12.1.B.ii through Section 4.12.1.B.viii., except that day care centers may accommodate in excess of fifty (50) children, and adult day care centers may exceed twenty-five (25) persons.

## <u>PART II.</u>

**Severability**. Should any section, subdivision, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or in part, shall not be affected other than the part invalidated.

# PART III.

**Savings Clause**. The amendment of the Novi Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance does not affect or impair any act done, offense committed, or right accruing, accrued, or acquired or liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment, pending or incurred prior to the amendment of the Novi Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance.

### PART IV.

**<u>Repealer</u>**. All other Ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

#### <u>PART V.</u>

**Effective Date: Publication**. Public hearing having been held hereon pursuant to the provisions of Section 103 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of 2006, as amended, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be published within fifteen (15) days of its adoption by publication of a brief notice in a newspaper circulated in the City of Novi stating the date of enactment and effective date, a brief statement as to its regulatory effect and that a complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public purchase, use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk during the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Local Time. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication.

MADE, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

JUSTIN FISCHER, MAYOR

CORTNEY HANSON, CITY CLERK

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absent:

# NARRATIVE PROVIDED BY LITTLE SEEDS DAY CARE OWNER

### To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask for your consideration and support for our request to revise the variance of our special land use to allow us to accommodate 12 additional children (infants, specifically) on our existing premises. Little Seeds opened its doors in Novi nearly 2 years ago and is a reputable childcare provider serving the community of working parents in Novi. We also provide high quality preschool and pre-K options for families that are outside of the public school sector. We have a waiting list for infants and toddlers that is approximately 6-12 months long and being able to renovate the existing building already on premise would allow us to shorten this waiting list to 1-2 months or may take care of it entirely for a short period of time. Further, renovating this property would put to good use a currently dilapidated building that has been waiting 3 decades for its time to shine!

Our plans to increase the amount of available infant slots is aligned with the Governor's pledge to increase childcare slots across the state and we plan to use some grant funds to make the necessary repairs this building needs. We have also been approached by Oakland County Public Schools, who has asked us to partner with them to provide a GSRP (Great Start to Readiness Program) preschool within our existing facility. This partnership is important to the Novi community – which, as of last fiscal year, had only has 1 other GSRP partner - and will help support the roll out of the Governor's "Universal Pre-K Promise" that is coming down the pipeline. The latest budget passed in Michigan increased the poverty limit for eligible families from 350% to 400% - this will expand eligibility for many of our families as we are a lower priced center and many of our families seek us out for this reason. There is also a whole new group of children in our area that will now qualify. If we utilize an existing classroom for preschool, this will further exacerbate the need for the additional infant slots we are requesting.

Thank you for supporting our small business, the children and families in our community!

Here are some additional resources to consider if you are looking for more information:

- Child care needs map for our state that is one of the reasons for the legislature's investments in and major emphasis on childcare over the past couple of years: <a href="https://cep.msu.edu/projects/child-care-mapping-project/maps-and-charts/areas-with-high-needs-and-urgency?view=draft">https://cep.msu.edu/projects/child-care-mapping-project/maps-and-charts/areas-with-high-needs-and-urgency?view=draft</a> NOTE: Oakland County is labeled "urgent" need for additional childcare slots.
- https://www.michigan.gov/mileap/early-childhood-education/prek-for-all
- Details about recent budget passed: <u>https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-</u> government/michigans-23b-education-deal-free-community-college-all-pre-k-many
- GSRP website: <a href="https://greatstarttoquality.org/free-preschool-programs/">https://greatstarttoquality.org/free-preschool-programs/</a>
   GSRP Oakland County Public School specific site:
   <a href="https://www.greatstartoakland.org/professionals/gsrp">https://www.greatstartoakland.org/professionals/gsrp</a>

PROPERTIES POTENTIALLY IMPACTED BY PROPOSED EXPANDED DAY CARE TEXT AMENDMENT

