

### Docket Item #5 Encroachment #2024-00002 461 Swann Avenue – Founding Farmers Outdoor Dining Encroachment

Application	General Data	
Request:	<b>Planning Commission</b>	September 5, 2024
Public Hearing and consideration of	Hearing:	
a request for an Encroachment of	City Council	September 14, 2024
outdoor dining and related	Hearing:	
structures into the public right-of-		
way at 461 Swann Avenue		
Address: 461 Swann Avenue	Zone:	CDD #24/Coordinated
		Development District #24
Applicant: OT Block A1 Sub, LLC	Small Area Plan:	Potomac West / Oakville
		Triangle & Route 1 Corridor Plan

**Staff Recommendation:** APPROVAL subject to compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances and the recommended conditions found in Section III of this report.

#### **Staff Reviewers:**

Brian Dofflemyer, PE, Division Chief, brian.dofflemyer@alexandriava.gov Julian Swierczek, Urban Planner, julian.swierczek@alexandriava.gov Nathan Imm, Principal Planner, <a href="mathan.imm@alexandriava.gov">nathan.imm@alexandriava.gov</a> Robert Kerns, AICP, Division Chief, <a href="mathan.imm@alexandriava.gov">robert.kerns@alexandriava.gov</a>

#### PROJECT LOCATION MAP



#### I. DISCUSSION

The applicant, OT Block A1 Sub, LLC, requests approval for a 1,651 square foot encroachment into the Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway right-of-way to allow for an outdoor dining use, including an enclosed pergola structure, revolving door, and other outdoor dining furnishings (including tables, seating, lighting, and non-permanent planters) in connection with an approved restaurant at 461 Swann Avenue.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

The proposed encroachment is located in the area adjacent to the sidewalk along Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway that has been designated as the "Retail Area" in previous plans, on the northeastern corner of the building at 461 Swann Avenue. This building is now branded as the "Raeburn," and is a 7-story building that is nearing

completion with ground-floor retail along Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway and residential apartments above, with an entry on Swann Avenue to the apartment lobby in the northwestern corner of the building. Adjoining the building directly to the south is the new Inova Hospital building. Additional planned first floor retail uses will complete the Richmond Highway façade between Founding Farmers and the Inova Hospital. The 1.95-acre subject property is bound by Oakville Street to the west, Swann Avenue to the north, Route 1(Richmond Highway) to the east, and the Inova Hospital building to the south, with the south end of the block bordered by Fannon Street. The property is located in the center of Oakville Triangle and the restaurant will have direct visibility from Route 1, particularly from southbound traffic.

#### BACKGROUND

The building on the subject property was approved as DSUP2020-10028 in January 23, of 2021 as Block A1, a part of the planned Oakville Triangle development by Stonebridge. The project replaced a collection of warehouse self-storage and auto repair shops with a mixed used building including the upper levels of multifamily development containing 324 units of residential apartments, and approximately 40,000 square feet of ground floor retail. The building has been named the Raeburn and is finishing construction and beginning leasing of units in the coming months.

Founding Farmers is currently in progress with the tenant fit-out for the corner retail space of the building, approximately 9,190 square feet, and is not yet open to the public.

#### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant requests approval of an encroachment into the public right-of-way on Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway to provide outdoor dining for Founding Farmers restaurant in the sidewalk areas adjacent to the building.

As shown in Figure 1 below, the 1,651 square foot encroachment is proposed as a continuous narrow band along the majority of the restaurant frontage at the northeast corner of the building along Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway. The area is proposed to be delineated by fencing and decorative planters and a permanent pergola to provide for all-weather seating. The covered outdoor seating area would include 72 seats for outdoor dining associated with the restaurant. Also included in the encroachment area will be the revolving door that serves as an entrance to the restaurant.



The proposed encroachment covers 1,651 square feet of public right-of-way. The total outdoor eating area will be slightly larger due to variations in the building façade, however the Right of Way (ROW) line effectively abuts the building face. The encroachment has 113.87 feet of frontage on the south side of Swann Avenue with a depth of 7.5 feet and 92.07 feet of frontage on the west side of Richmond Highway with a depth of 8.0 feet. With the landscaped areas between the sidewalk on both Swann Avenue and Richmond Highway, the enclosed seating area will reduce the width of the sidewalk adjacent to the enclosure to about a 6-foot width on Swann Avenue and a 6-foot width on Richmond Highway. The enclosure is 6.0 feet from the back of the ADA accessible ramp on Swann Avenue and 8.0 feet from the back of the ADA accessible ramp on Richmond Highway.

As noted, the applicant is proposing to construct a pergola structure to accommodate 72 outdoor seats within the right-of-way. A Right of Way—Administrative Encroachment Permit is required through Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) to allow the outdoor dining, subject to the requirements of City Code Section 5-2-29. The right-of-way permit is processed administratively as a separate application.

#### ZONING/MASTER PLAN DESIGNATION

The subject property is in Coordinated Development District (CDD)#24 – Oakville Triangle. The Founding Farmers restaurant outdoor dining use is consistent with the Oakville Triangle Route 1 Corridor Plan recommendations to activate street life and the public realm. The Oakville Triangle Route 1 Corridor Plan specifically designates the section of the building fronting on Swann Avenue as "Primary Retail", which is further defined as restaurant and shopping establishments. Per the Streets section of the Corridor Plan, Swann Avenue is envisioned with a streetscape specifically designed to accommodate retail and restaurants. The Potomac West Small Area Plan / Corridor Plan was further amended through MPA202-00003 and CDD2020-00003 to accommodate the proposed uses associated with the Inova and Stonebridge development for these blocks.

#### VALUE OF ENCROACHMENT

Section 3-2-85 of the City Code defines the annual charge for commercial encroachments to be the equivalent of what would be the real estate tax upon the land being encroached if it were owned by the owner of the encroaching property. The Department of Real Estate Assessments has assessed the land component of the adjacent property at \$75.00 per the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) and the encroachment contains 1,651 square feet. Using the per FAR rate as the most appropriate measure, the size of the encroachment, and the 2024 tax rate of \$1.135/\$100 of assessed value, the indicated **annual fee for the encroachment is \$1,405, or \$1,400 (rounded)** 

#### II. STAFF ANALYSIS

Staff supports the applicant's request for encroachments into the public right-of-way for outdoor dining in association with the new Founding Farmers restaurant location. The proposed area of encroachment will allow for greater activation of the retail centric street corner in the Oakville Triangle neighborhood and allow the new

restaurant to provide additional seating (subject to approval of a separate Right of Way– Administrative Encroachment Permit through Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES)). Additionally, the areas of encroachment have been reviewed by City Departments to ensure the location does not pose an obstacle that would impede pedestrian circulation, does not negatively impact vehicle visibility or traffic, and does not impede existing utilities or easements.

Staff finds the proposed area of encroachment to be largely in keeping with other recent encroachments in the City approved as associated with outdoor dining. The depth of the proposed encroachment (7'6" along Swann Avenue frontage; 8' along the Richmond Highway frontage) are of an appropriate depth to allow for outdoor seating, with the associated 72 outdoor dining seats being proportional to overall restaurant seating. The proposed development associated with the encroachment is also in keeping with the goals of the Oakville Triangle & Route 1 Corridor Vision Plan, as well as Coordinated Development District #24.

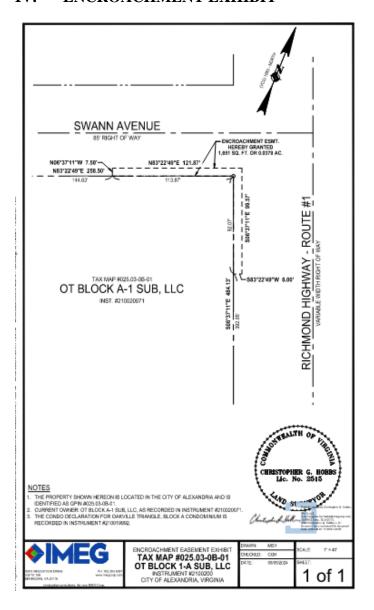
Subject to the conditions contained in Section III of this report, Staff recommends approval of this request.

#### III. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS

Staff recommends **approval** subject to compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances and these conditions:

- 1. The owner shall obtain and maintain an encroachment permit and policy of general liability insurance in compliance with the permit requirements in § 5-2-29(a)(3). Follow the link for details. (**T&ES**)
- 2. Neither the City nor any Private utility company will be held responsible for damage to the private improvements in the public right-of-way during repair, maintenance, or replacement of any utilities that may exist within the area of the proposed encroachment. (**T&ES**)
- 3. If the City in the future needs the encroachment area, then the applicant shall remove any structure that encroached into the public right-of-way within 60 days upon notification by the City. (**T&ES**)
- 4. The applicant is responsible for replacement and repairs to adjacent public right-of-way, including any areas damaged during construction of the encroaching element. (**T&ES**)
- 5. Within the encroachment areas identified in the metes and bounds exhibit, the applicant may not erect any additional equipment or structures or enlarge or intensify any existing equipment or structures shall without prior approval of the Directors of P&Z and T&ES. No administrative changes may be made after approval of the encroachment ordinance. (P&Z)
- 6. The applicant shall bear all costs associated with the removal of any infrastructure installed within the encroachment. (**T&ES**)
- 7. The proposed encroachment must comply with DSUP2020-10028. (Zoning)

#### IV. ENCROACHMENT EXHIBIT





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**Area of Encroachment** 



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#### **APPLICATION**

### ENCROACHMENT

GGIS			
PROPERTY LOCATION:	461 Swann Ave, Alexar	odria VA 22301	
TAX MAP REFERENCE:	60040700	ZONE: CDD #24	
APPLICANT			
Name:	OT Block A1 Sub, LLC		
Address:	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 700, Bethesda MD 20814		
PROPERTY OWNER			
Name:	OT Block A1 Sub, LLC		
Address:	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Su	ite 700, Bethesda MD 20814	
PROPOSED USE:  This encroachment request is for outdoor restaurant seating and a revolving entry door on Swan Ave/Route 1 for retail tenant Founding Farmers. This is placed within the "retail zone" allocated in DSUP2020-10028.			
INSURANCE CARRIER A certificate of general liabil an additional insured must be	ity insurance in the amount	of \$1,000,000 which will indemnify the owner and names the city as	
		croachment Ordinance in accordance with the provisions of Sectic f the City of Alexandria, Virginia.	
	Commission Members to	on from the property owner, hereby grants permission to the City visit, inspect, and photograph the building premises, land etc	
Alexandria to post pla	- ·	on from the property owner, hereby grants permission to the City for which this application is requested, pursuant to Article XI, Section City of Alexandria, Virginia.	
I* I		ne information herein provided and specifically including all are true, correct and accurate to the best of their knowledge and	
OT Block A1 Sub, LLC			
Print Name of Applicant or A	Agent		
7373 Wisconsin Ave, Su	-	301.913.9610	
Mailing/Street Address		Telephone # Fax #	
Bethesda, MD	20814	hackel@stonebridge.us.com	
City and State	Zip Code	Email address	
		4/28/2024	
		Date	

#### OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Use additional sheets if necessary

1. Applicant. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership	
<sup>1.</sup> OT Block A1 Sub, LLC	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 700, Bethesda MD 20814	0%	
2. Oakville Triangle Owner, LLC	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 700, Bethesda MD 2081	100%	
3.			

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
<sup>1.</sup> OT Block A1 Sub, LLC	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 700, Bethesda MD 20814	0%
<sup>2.</sup> Oakville Triangle Owner, LLC	7373 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 700, Bethesda MD 20814	100%
3.		

3. Business or Financial Relationships. Each person or entity indicated above in sections 1 and 2, with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property are require to disclose **any** business or financial relationship, as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance, existing at the time of this application, or within the12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review. All fields must be filled out completely. Do not leave blank. (If there are no relationships please indicated each person or entity and "None" in the corresponding fields).

For a list of current council, commission and board members, as well as the definition of business and financial relationship, click here.

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
<sup>1.</sup> OT Block A1 Sub, LLC	None	None
<sup>2.</sup> Oakville Triangle Owner, LLC	None	None
3.		

NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.

4/28/2024	Douglas M. Firstenberg	Doualas M. Firstenbera
Date	Printed Name	Signature

### INSTRUCTIONS ENCROACHMENT INTO RIGHT-OF-WAY APPLICATION

An encroachment is the projection of a building, structure, stoop, step, or other improvement beyond a property line into a public right-of-way such as a sidewalk, street or alley. The encroachment must be approved by the Alexandria City Council through public hearings.

FILING DEADLINE. Applications are encouraged to be submitted by the 'Recommended Submission Date for Completeness Review,' as listed on the Hearing Schedule and Filing Deadlines form on our <u>Forms webpage</u>. Applications are not docketed for a particular hearing until they are deemed complete by staff. Submission by the final filing deadline for a certain hearing does not guarantee the application being docketed for that hearing.

APPLICATION FORMS. Encroachment applications must contain a certificate of insurance indicating a \$1,000,000 policy and naming the City as an additional insured. Complete the application form using black ink or type. Sign the form, and include a daytime telephone number.

PLANS. Applicants must submit a PDF of a scaled survey and/or other scaled plans showing the proposed area of encroachment with the application.

FILING FEE. See current fee schedule.

PROPERTY OWNER NOTIFICATION. Applicants must send written notice to all adjoining and facing property owners; notices must be sent by certified or registered mail at least 10 days prior to the Planning Commission public hearing and not more than 30 days prior to the City Council public hearing. Applicants may use the notice form supplied with the application forms. In the event the application is deferred, notification must be given again.

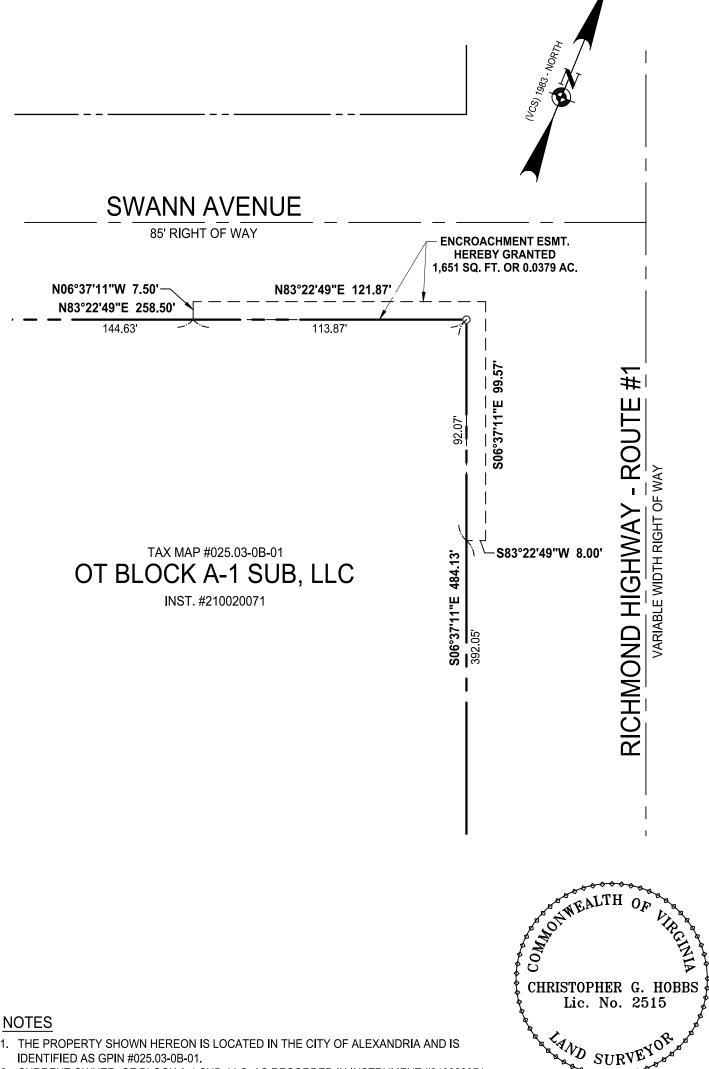
The following must be submitted to the Planning Department no later than five calendar days prior to the public hearing:

- a copy of the notice letter sent,
- a copy of the list of the names and addresses of those persons to whom notice was sent,
- · a copy of the post office receipts for the certified or registered mail,
- a certification of notice statement that notice was sent by certified or registered mail to those to whom notice is required to be given.

Failure to send accurate or correct notices will result in deferral of the application to a later hearing date. Property ownership information may be obtained from the City Real Estate Assessment Office, Room 2600, City Hall, 301 King Street or on the City's website at alexandriava.gov.

STAFF REPORT. A staff report and recommendation will be prepared and made available in the Department of Planning and Zoning office. The report is typically available 7 business days prior to the Planning Commission hearing.

FOR ASSISTANCE WITH ANY OF THESE PROCEDURES, CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ZONING AT 703.746.4666



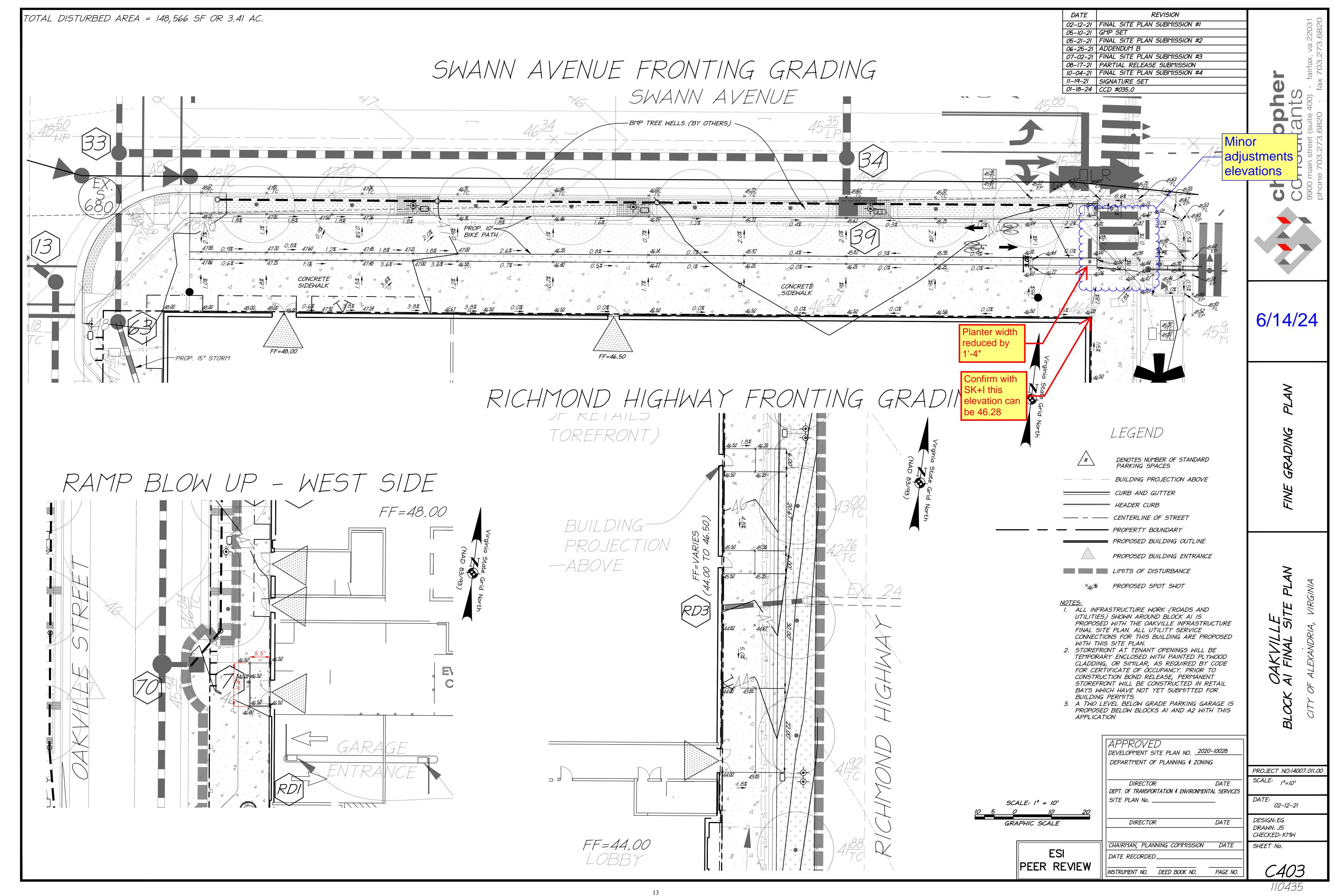
- IDENTIFIED AS GPIN #025.03-0B-01.
- 2. CURRENT OWNER: OT BLOCK A-1 SUB, LLC, AS RECORDED IN INSTRUMENT #210020071.
- THE CONDO DECLARATION FOR OAKVILLE TRIANGLE, BLOCK A CONDOMINIUM IS RECORDED IN INSTRUMENT #210019992.



**ENCROACHMENT EASEMENT EXHIBIT** TAX MAP #025.03-0B-01 OT BLOCK 1-A SUB, LLC

INSTRUMENT #2100200 CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

DRAWN:	MEH	SCALE:	1" = 40'
CHECKED:	CGH		
DATE:	08/05/2024	SHEET:	
		1	of 1
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Projections @ Retail

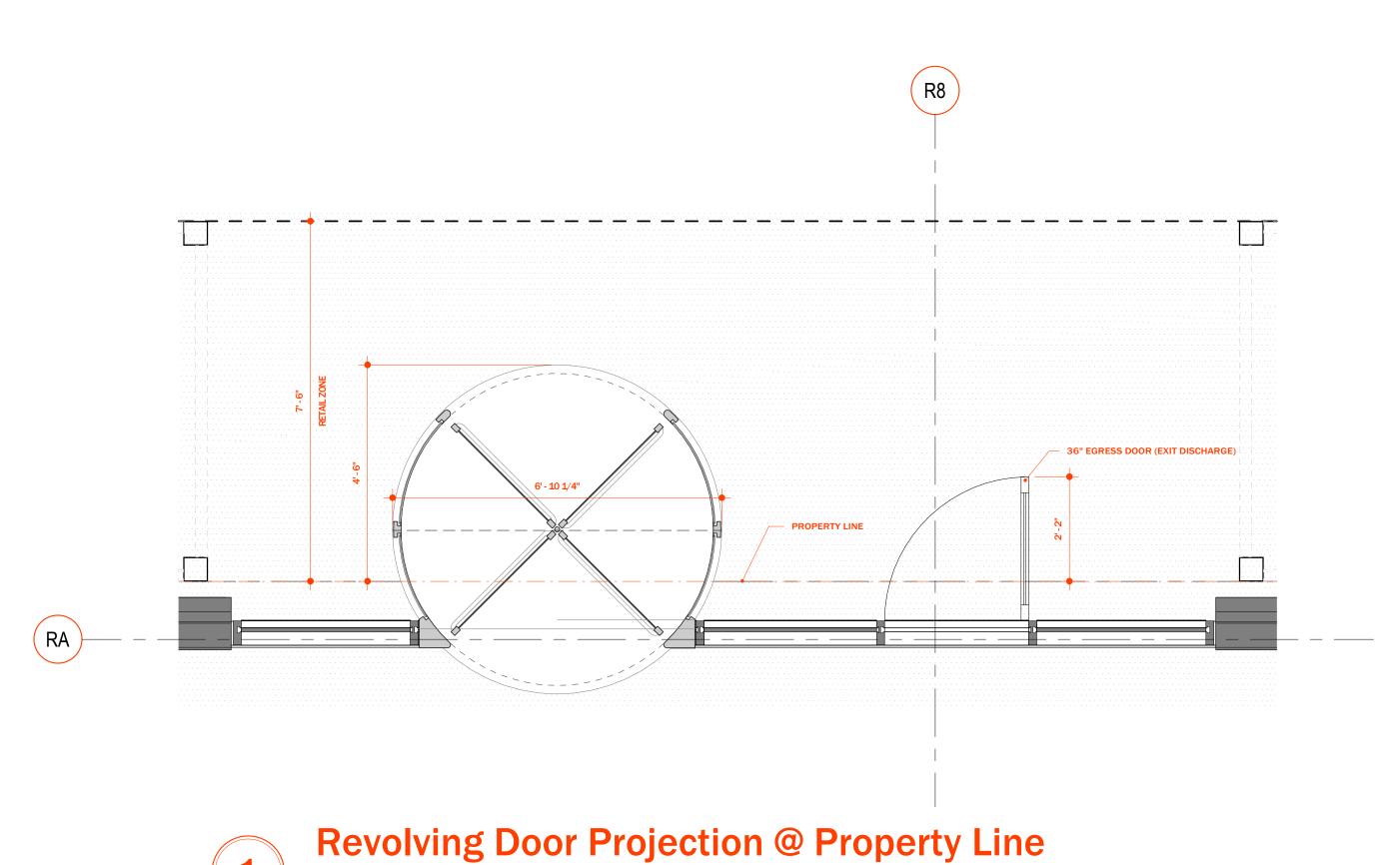
2' LANDSCAPE BUFFER 6' SIDEWALK PER DSUP METAL PERGOLA W/ LOUVERED CANOPY METAL PERGOLA W/ LOUVERED CANOPY 7'-6" RETAIL ZONE PER DSUP

— SWANN AVENUE ——

Swann Avenue - Projections @ Retail Zone
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

RICHMOND HIGHWAY — SIDEWALK - SEE CIVIL 10' TREE LAWN PER DSUP 6' SIDEWALK PER DSUP METAL PERGOLA W/ LOUVERED CANOPY 8' RETAIL ZONE PER DSUP EXIT DOOR

Richmond Highway - Projections @ Retail Zone SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



FF ALX

Project No.



Revisions

Project North

Scalo 1/2" -

Projections @ Retail Zone

A4.81

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"

DATE: II-02-2023

DESIGN: EG DRAWN: JS CHECKED: KMW

SHEET No.