

248 BEACON HOLDINGS LLC
PROPOSED MULTIFAMILY DEVELOPMENT AND OFFICE BUILDING
CONSISTENCY WITH FCD DISTRICT CRITERIA FOR GRANTING CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL

The following demonstrates the project's consistency with the Fishkill Creek Development (FCD) District criteria to be considered by the City Council for granting concept plan approval per Section 223-41.13.F(3)(b).

[1] *The proposed Fishkill Creek development project is consistent with the purposes and requirements of the Fishkill Creek Development District and is otherwise in the public interest.*

According to Article IVC, *Fishkill Creek Development (FCD) District*, the purposes of the FCD District include:

- A. *Encourage the development and/or redevelopment of undeveloped or underutilized industrial properties along the Fishkill Creek in a manner that provides a mix of residential and nonresidential uses. Properties in this category are generally more remote from the Central Business District, but offer larger sites for a flexible range of compatible nonresidential uses.*

The project will fulfill this purpose, as it represents redevelopment of an abandoned industrial site with a mix of residential and non-residential uses. The Zoning Law Section 223-41.13(B)(1) specifically permits "attached apartment and multifamily dwellings" and "professional and business offices in buildings that face streets" in the FCD district. The proposed density of 64 dwelling units is permitted by zoning, as shown in the density calculations which are provided on Sheet EC1 of the concept plan set.

- B. *Establish and preserve open space corridors along Fishkill Creek and the Hudson River, and seek open space linkages to the large areas of open space in the Hudson Highlands on the slopes of Mount Beacon.*

The proposed project provides a buffer along the Fishkill Creek, with setbacks that range from 45 feet to 110 feet, with an average setback of 75 feet from the Fishkill Creek. The proposed layout avoids any development along the steep areas that surround the creek, as well as floodplain areas. This will supersede the 6-foot easement along the Fishkill Creek shown on the filed subdivision map.

- C. *Continue to develop greenways along the Hudson River and Fishkill Creek for public recreation, and provide linkages to trails towards the Hudson Highlands and the slopes of Mount Beacon. Improve boat access to Fishkill Creek and the Hudson River. Determine the future use of the railroad tracks along Fishkill Creek for vehicles capable of utilizing the tracks or for a bicycle and pedestrian path, and implement the decision.*

The project includes the construction of a Greenway Trail that extends along the easterly boundary of the property along the Fishkill Creek. The trail extends a distance of approximately 1,830 linear feet, with an additional 470 linear feet within two spurs, representing a significant addition to the City's Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail (FCG&HT) Master Plan fulfillment. This trail will connect to Wolcott Avenue, and to the Sisters property to the South. Public access to the trail is also provided from Tioronda Avenue.

In summary, the project is consistent with the purposes of the FCD District, as it represents redevelopment of an abandoned industrial site, provides a mix of uses, preserves a buffer along the Fishkill Creek, and provides a Greenway Trail for public use which can connect to future trails along the creek on adjacent properties.

[2] The proposed Fishkill Creek development project complies with § 223-41.13I(15), Fishkill Creek vegetative buffer, of this chapter.

The project provides a buffer along the Fishkill Creek to preserve existing vegetation and significant trees, as well as viewsheds along this corridor. The setback from the Fishkill Creek as measured from the top of the creek bank varies from approximately 45 feet to 110 feet, with an average setback of 75 feet, which exceeds the minimum required setback of 25 feet and the minimum required average setback of 50 feet. The layout was designed to avoid 100-year floodplain areas, and very steep slopes are avoided to the extent practicable. Site development is fitted to the topography and soil so as to create the least potential for vegetation loss and site disturbance. The buffer along the creek will be protected by a conservation easement as required. This will supersede the existing 6-foot easement along the Fishkill Creek shown on the filed subdivision map. The approved site plan was endorsed by the City of Beacon Greenway Trail Committee. The proposed Greenway Trail location avoids the stream and floodplain areas.

[3] The proposed Fishkill Creek development project meets the Fishkill Creek development design standards set forth in § 223-41.13I, to the extent applicable at the concept plan stage.

The approved project was determined to meet these standards, and the proposed project is similar in many ways to the approved project. Many of these standards are related to other FCD requirements, and design details are described in the FEAF Narrative and "Summary of Consistency with FCD Application Requirements", as well as throughout this document. The project meets the current Fishkill Creek development design standards set forth in Section 223-41.13.I, to the extent applicable at the concept plan stage, as described below. Some of these standards will be addressed during the site plan review process.

- (1) *All new buildings or substantial alterations of existing buildings in the Fishkill Creek Development District, shall comply with the following design standards. These standards are intended to supplement the provisions in Chapter 86, Architectural Design, and to relate historic buildings and traditional streetscapes in the area to new redevelopment efforts, while still allowing contemporary architectural flexibility.*
- (2) *Key terms. Standards using the verb "shall" are required; "should" is used when the standard is to be applied unless the City Council or Planning Board, as applicable, finds a strong justification for an alternative solution in an unusual and specific circumstance; and "may" means that the standard is an optional guideline that is encouraged but not required.*
- (3) *General district standards. While the FCD District may contain various uses, development shall be planned as a cohesive unit, with a comprehensive plan for access, connected greenspace, landscaping, signs, circulation, and compatible architectural elements. Plans should build on the existing Beacon environmental and historic context.*
 - (a) *Proposals shall show previous buildings on the site and document inspiration from the City's industrial past along the riverfront and creek frontage, including the type and texture of materials, roof forms, spacing and proportions of windows and doors, and exterior architectural features. Building details may be traditional or may be more modern and simple.*
 - (b) *Construction on parcels in or directly adjoining the Historic District and Landmark Overlay Zone should reinforce historical patterns and neighboring buildings with an emphasis on continuity and historic compatibility, not contrast. The goal is to renew and extend the traditional character of the district, but new construction may still be distinguishable in up-to-date technologies and details, most evident in windows and interiors (see also Chapter 134, Historic Preservation).*

- (c) *The plan shall be sensitive to the site's relationship to the Fishkill Creek and developed in such a way as to maximize important public views and view corridors throughout the development.*

The project has been planned as a cohesive unit, with a comprehensive plan for access, connected greenspace, landscaping, signs, circulation, and compatible architectural elements. The concept plan builds on the existing Beacon environmental and historic context. Please refer to concept plans and architectural plans, as well as the FEA narrative.

- (4) *Specific standards. See also the annotated photo examples in Figures 13-1 through 13-3, illustrating the design standards.*

The plans will be refined during the site plan review process.

- (5) *Energy efficiency. The plan for the Fishkill Creek development project shall be designed and arranged in such a way as to promote energy efficiency to the maximum extent practicable for all buildings, such as taking advantage of passive solar and solar panel opportunities.*

The project will incorporate various energy saving features such as low flow toilets, energy star appliances and electric standards, double-paned windows, and energy efficient lighting. Additional energy saving features may be incorporated as more detailed architectural plans are developed.

- (6) *Landscaping, screening and buffering. A comprehensive landscaping plan, including proposed streetscape and rooftop elements, shall be submitted for the project.*

(a) *Sidewalks, open spaces, parking areas and service areas shall be landscaped and/or paved in a manner which will harmonize with proposed buildings. Materials for paving, walls, fences, curbs, benches, etc., shall be attractive, durable, easily maintained and compatible with the exterior materials of adjacent buildings.*

(b) *The Planning Board may require street trees, buffer landscaping, fencing or screening to separate land uses and to screen parking lots or structures, utility buildings, refuse collection areas, cooling systems and other similar installations and features.*

(c) *All plants, trees and shrubs shall be installed in accordance with a planting schedule provided by the developer and approved by the Planning Board. Landscape materials selected shall emphasize native species, not include invasive species, and shall be appropriate to the growing conditions of the environment and this climatic zone.*

(d) *Green roofs and rooftop terraces and gardens are encouraged for visual and environmental reasons.*

Architectural elevations and landscape plan have been provided, and architectural details are described in the FEA Narrative.

- (7) *Lighting. A comprehensive lighting plan with photometric measurements and fixture specifications shall be submitted for the project. Streets, drives, walks and other outdoor areas shall be properly lighted to promote safety and encourage pedestrian use. Lighting fixtures shall be a maximum of 15 feet in height, except pole lights in parking lots shall be a maximum of 20 feet high. Lighting shall be energy efficient, have full spectrum color quality, and, except for short-term event lighting, shall use full cut-off fixtures to prevent any lighting that directly projects above the horizontal level into the night sky.*

All exterior lighting will be downward directed, and will be of such type and location and will have such shading to prevent the source of light from being seen from any adjacent residential property or from

the street in accordance with Section 223-14.B of the zoning regulations. Lighting will consist of decorative full cut-off lighting with International Dark-Sky Association-approved "dark sky friendly" performance. The average level within the parking lots, access, and sidewalks will be sufficient to promote safety and encourage pedestrian use. Lighting photometrics and details will be provided during the site plan review process.

(8) *Signage.*

(a) *All signs shall be planned and designed in accordance with an overall comprehensive signage plan, which shall be subject to Planning Board review and approval as part of site plan review process.*

(b) *All signs shall be of a size and scale as determined appropriate by the Planning Board to accomplish their intended purpose.*

Signage details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with the City's sign regulations.

(9) *Vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian circulation system and traffic access. The rights-of-way and pavement widths for all internal streets, drives, walks or other accessways for vehicles, bicycles and/or pedestrians shall be determined on the basis of sound current planning and engineering standards, which shall accommodate projected demand but minimize impervious surface to the maximum extent practicable and be narrow enough to slow traffic speeds. Commercial uses should be pedestrian oriented and assist in building walkable streets and a connection to downtown Beacon.*

Access to the project site is provided from Tioronda Avenue over an at grade crossing easement granted by the MTA. This access was used for many years when the Tuck Industries manufacturing facility was in operation. The grade crossing provides access both to the project site and to the adjoining Sisters property, avoiding multiple accesses onto Tioronda Avenue. The Filed Subdivision Map (FM #10970 filed February 20, 2000) provides for a shared access. The Applicant will offer emergency access to other owners of the FCD properties subject to contribution of a fair share of the costs of building the emergency access. The 555 South Avenue property has its own entrance, at a point approximately 2,400 feet south of the entrance to Beacon 248.

The general interior configuration of the project road system is shown on the plans. The road system provides for circulation by means of a left turn inside the site to reach the proposed buildings, and a right turn inside the site to reach Sisters property.

The project will generate new traffic in the vicinity of the project site, since the site is currently vacant. All traffic will be oriented to travel to and from the site via the intersection of Tioronda Avenue with Wolcott Avenue/Route 9D. The present access design is to prohibit arrivals to the site from the south, and prohibit left turns out of the site to travel south on Tioronda Avenue. This traffic routing meets the needs of travelers, since Wolcott Avenue provides the best routing in either direction to I-84, the train station, and Route 9D going either north or south. It also protects the neighborhoods to the south and west of the site from additional traffic through local neighborhoods. The limitation on turning movements does not create any traffic difficulties for the residents of the project or for the local community.

(10) Public access for greenway trails.

- (a) While a Fishkill Creek development will require certain private elements for the security and benefit of its residents and property owners, a Fishkill Creek development shall provide public pedestrian access in a manner which enhances existing public access opportunities, and coordinates such public access with existing or anticipated opportunities for public access on adjacent lands to facilitate future linkages in a continuous pedestrian path system.*

The project provides a Greenway Trail for public use which can connect to future trails along the creek on adjacent properties. The trail extends a distance of approximately 1,830 linear feet with an additional 470 linear feet within two spurs, representing a significant addition to the City's proposed Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail (FCG&HT) Master Plan fulfillment. This trail will connect to Wolcott Avenue by means of the emergency access to Wolcott Avenue, and to the Sisters property to the south. Public access to the trail is also provided from Tioronda Avenue.

- (b) In order to foster the purposes of this article, in order to implement the policies expressed in the City's Comprehensive Plan and the Fishkill Creek Greenway and Heritage Trail Master Plan, including the creation of greenway trails, and in order to increase public pedestrian access to and the potential for enjoyment of Fishkill Creek, each FCD project shall show a dry-land right-of-way or easement for the enjoyment of the public, which easement shall be not less than 20 feet in width traversing the entire length of the site unless configured otherwise by the Planning Board during the site development plan review process. To the maximum extent practicable, said right-of-way or easement shall be integrated so as to create linkages with existing and anticipated public pedestrian and bicycle trail systems on adjacent lands.*

Please refer to the consistency description provided for Conceptual Approval Criterion #4.

- (c) The trail within said right-of-way or easement shall be constructed by the project developer and shall be maintained by the property owner. Said trail may be located in the Fishkill Creek buffer.*

The project developer will be responsible for construction and maintenance of the trail.

(11) Off-street parking and loading.

- (a) General parking requirements.*

[1] Off-street parking and loading areas shall be designed with careful regard to their relation to the uses served. They shall be coordinated with the public street system serving the project in order to avoid conflicts with through traffic or obstruction to pedestrian walks.

[2] Parking and loading facilities not enclosed in structures shall be suitably landscaped and/or screened as determined appropriate by the Planning Board. Off-street parking shall be located toward the rear or side of the site, under the ground floor of buildings, and/or screened from public views by approved landscaping or architectural elements.

[3] The construction of any proposed parking structures to accommodate the FCD project shall be integrated into the development.

Parking is provided in a surface lot located between the proposed office building and residential buildings, and within a parking garage located below grade that extends under and between the

two residential buildings. The parking garage enables more green space on the site. Please refer to concept plan.

- (b) *Parking requirements. The FCD District parking requirements shall be in accordance with § 223-26 of this chapter, except that the requirements in § 223-26F shall be both the minimum and maximum requirements for a FCD project.*

According to the City of Beacon Zoning Code Section 223-26.F, a multifamily residential use requires 1 space for each dwelling unit plus 1/4 space for each bedroom, and a professional office use requires 1 space for each 200 square feet of gross floor area, excluding utility areas. Therefore, the 64-unit residential development with 28 one-bedroom units and 36 two-bedroom units (100 bedrooms total) requires 89 parking spaces and the 25,400 SF office building requires 127 parking spaces, for a total required parking of 216 spaces. This requirement is both a maximum and minimum for an FCD project. The proposed concept plan provides 89 parking spaces for the residential portion (15 surface lot spaces and 74 garage spaces). The proposed concept plan provides the required spaces for the office use, with a portion of the required spaces being land banked spaces which would be reserved for future use if needed.

- (c) *With respect to any building, structure or use for which the required number of parking spaces is not specifically set forth in § 223-26F of this chapter, the Planning Board, in the course of site plan review, shall determine the number of off-street parking spaces required, which number shall bear a reasonable relation to the minimum off-street parking requirements for specified uses as set forth in the above schedule.*
- (d) *Up to 20% of the required parking may be designated for compact automobiles at the discretion of and in accordance with standards as determined by the Planning Board.*

No compact spaces are proposed.

- (e) *Off-street loading shall be provided as the Planning Board may find appropriate.*

Per Section 223-26.H(b), a minimum of 1 loading space for the first 20,000 square feet of GFA, is required plus one space for each additional 40,000 square feet of GFA or major portion thereof. Therefore, the project with 25,400 SF of office space is expected to require 1 loading space, which is shown on the concept plan.

(12) *Utilities and services.*

- (a) *Underground lines. All on-site television, power and communication lines, as well as all on-site water, sewer and storm drainage lines, shall be installed underground in the manner prescribed by the regulations of the government agency or utility company having jurisdiction. Any utility equipment to be necessarily located above ground shall be adequately screened from view in an attractive manner.*

All utility installations will be underground. Details will be determined during the site plan review process.

- (b) *Approval of appropriate jurisdictions. All buildings within Fishkill Creek development projects shall be served by water supply, sanitary sewage and stormwater drainage systems as approved by the appropriate government agency or agencies having jurisdiction thereof. Stormwater drainage shall minimize siltation and nonpoint source discharge of salted areas and any other pollutants. Best management practices shall be required.*

The project will be served by City of Beacon municipal water and sewer service. A 12" water main and 8" sewer main are located along Tioronda Avenue. Sewage generated from both residential and non-residential buildings will be conveyed via gravity flow to an onsite sewage pump station, where it will be pumped via force main and tapped in to the existing 2-inch fiberglass pipe which extends under the railroad property and ties into the City sewer system. The project proposes to use a combination of standard stormwater management practices and alternative practices as described in the FEAF Narrative. The site will continue to discharge stormwater runoff to the Fishkill Creek.

- (c) *Television hookups. Television hookups shall either be by cable television or a central antenna system designed to minimize adverse aesthetic impact and shall not be by multiple individual satellite dishes.*

Details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with this standard.

- (d) *Refuse collection. The Fishkill Creek development project shall provide an adequate means of storing refuse between collections, and shall comply with all applicable City requirements, including recycling requirements. Such storage systems shall be designed to minimize adverse aesthetic impact.*

Details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with this standard.

- (e) *Cooling systems. Cooling systems shall be designed so as to minimize adverse aesthetic impact.*

Details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with this standard.

- (f) *Placement of utilities. Where possible, all utilities shall be placed within the right-of-way.*

Details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with this standard.

- (g) *Utility deficiencies. The FCD project shall address all known utility deficiencies which have a relationship to the project, the project's impact upon said utilities, and the project's implementation and/or financing of its fair share of the mitigation of said impact and deficiencies, including the dedication of utility easements to the City.*

Details will be determined during the site plan review process, consistent with this standard.

- (13) *Floodplain. The Fishkill Creek development project shall comply with the applicable provisions of Chapter 123, Flood Damage Prevention, of the City Code. All habitable stories shall be elevated above the one-hundred-year floodplain elevation.*

According to the National Flood Insurance Program Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), City of Beacon, New York, Community Panel 360217, a portion of the project site along the Fishkill Creek is located within Flood Zone AE, which is described as an area of the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual (100-year) chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights. No building construction is proposed within Zone AE.

- (14) *Historic preservation. Every reasonable effort shall be made to preserve and/or incorporate significant historic structures and artifacts as part of the FCD project.*

A Phase 1A Archeological Investigation dated July 2013 was conducted by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. The report concluded that as a result of the impacts related to the continuous industrial development of the property combined with the impacts surrounding the removal the buildings

associated with the New York Rubber Company facility, it is likely no significant cultural deposits, specific to the early to mid-19th century development of the property remain. The Phase 1A report was submitted to NYSOPRHP for review, under the previously approved project. Correspondence from NYSOPRHP dated September 27, 2013, requested additional project information due to the project's location adjacent to a National Register-Eligible district to the east. The Applicant then submitted the additional requested information, and in correspondence dated December 23, 2013, NYSOPRHP concluded that the massing of the buildings as proposed at that time was appropriate for the site, and determined that the approved project would have No Adverse Impact upon cultural resources in or eligible for inclusion in the State and National Register of Historic Places. Information and plans for the currently proposed project have been uploaded to NYSOPRHP CRIS for review and determination. Since the project is similar to the approved project in regard to disturbance area and architecture, it is anticipated that NYSOPRHP's determination will remain the same, and no impacts to cultural resources will occur.

(15) Fishkill Creek vegetative buffer.

- (a) A protective creekside buffer measured from the top of the creek bank shall be observed. "Top of the creek bank" shall mean the highest elevation of land which confines Fishkill Creek.*
- (b) The protective creekside buffer dimension in § 223-41.14(15)(a) of this chapter is a minimum and may be increased if necessary to mitigate the impact of the proposed development.*
- (c) With respect to development near the creekside buffer, the site plan shall address the following requirements:*
 - [1] Site development shall be filled to the topography and soil so as to create the least potential for vegetation loss and site disturbance.*
 - [2] Vegetation removal shall be limited to that amount necessary for the development of the site. Protection of tree crowns and root zones shall be required for all trees planned for retention.*
 - [3] Vegetation indigenous to the site or plant community shall be restored in areas affected by construction activities. Temporary vegetation, sufficient to stabilize the soil, may be required on all disturbed areas as needed to prevent soil erosion. New planting shall be given sufficient water, fertilizer and protection to ensure reestablishment.*
- (d) All approved measures to mitigate the loss or impact to riparian habitat shall become conditions of approval of the project.*
- (e) The creekside buffer shall be protected by a conservation easement and/or covenants and restrictions which provide for the preservation of existing and proposed vegetation within said buffer.*

The proposed layout maintains the original land form, as it utilizes the existing disturbed area from the former heavy industrial development, while the area at the top of the bank of the creek is preserved. Most of the development is within the limits of previous development. No impacts to wetlands or the stream will occur. A Greenway Trail is proposed which will include a conservation easement. The project provides a buffer along the Fishkill Creek to preserve existing vegetation and significant trees, as well as viewsheds along this corridor. The setback from the Fishkill Creek as measured from the top of the creek bank varies from approximately 45 feet to 110 feet, with an average setback of 75 feet, which exceeds the minimum required setback of 25 feet and the minimum required average setback of

50 feet. The layout was designed to avoid 100-year floodplain areas, and very steep slopes are avoided to the extent practicable. Site development is fitted to the topography and soil so as to create the least potential for vegetation loss and site disturbance. The buffer along the creek will be protected by a conservation easement as required. This will supersede the existing 6-foot easement along the Fishkill Creek shown on the filed subdivision map. The approved site plan was endorsed by the City of Beacon Greenway Trail Committee. The proposed Greenway Trail location avoids the stream and floodplain areas.

[4] The proposed Fishkill Creek development project is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (if applicable), and Fishkill Creek Greenway and Heritage Trail Master Plan, and will not hinder or discourage the appropriate development and use of adjacent lands.

City Comprehensive Plan

The City of Beacon Comprehensive Plan adopted December 17, 2007, proposed a combination of new open spaces and parks balanced with new opportunities for commercial and residential development in several key areas of the City, including the former industrial sites along the Fishkill Creek. The 2007 Comprehensive Plan encouraged residential development at these old industrial sites, and actually provided for greater density (15 dwelling units per acre), stating that: "Allowing these lands to be built at greater densities represents an efficient use of land in a location capable of supporting this level of development. The City expects to benefit from this through the physical revitalization of these areas."

The Comprehensive Plan Update adopted April 3, 2017, (the "Plan") reflects land use, demographic and socioeconomic changes that have taken place since the 2007 plan was adopted. The updated recommendations in the Plan address environmental protection, economic development, affordable housing and improved community services and facilities. The primary focus of the 2017 Plan is the waterfront and train station area; therefore, many of the policies and recommendations of the 2007 Comprehensive Plan that applied to the project site are still applicable.

One of the Goals of the Plan is to "encourage a vibrant business community in harmony with existing commercial and industrial areas throughout the community. Employ all available mechanisms to meet the City's objectives for economic development" (page 66), and Objectives and Recommendations under this Goal for vacant industrial sites is to "encourage the environmental cleanup and redevelopment of the unused or underutilized industrial sites along Fishkill Creek for new light industrial, commercial, or residential uses, as appropriate. New uses proposed for the vacant sites away from Main Street should not conflict or compete unduly with existing uses in the City" (page 68).

The goals of the Plan that relate to "Environmental Resources" include to "preserve environmentally significant features and create an open space system of sufficient size to reserve adequate areas for the protection of water related resources, wildlife, and land forms of particular environmental value. The rare assets of the City, such as the Hudson River and Fishkill Creek, should be protected, as should the Hudson Highlands on the slopes of Mt. Beacon" and to "encourage high environmental standards for development and infrastructure, develop sources of renewable energy and improve the environmental performance of City-owned property (page 24)." One of the objectives of this goal is to "establish and preserve open space corridors along Fishkill Creek and the Hudson River, and seek open space linkages to the large areas of open space in the Hudson Highlands on the slopes of Mt. Beacon". The proposed public Greenway Trail is consistent with this goal and objective, as the trail area along the creek is preserved with a conservation easement, and extends across the site to allow connection to adjacent properties along the creek.

The goal of the Comprehensive Plan that relates to “Population and Residential Development” includes “(1) strive to maintain a variety of housing opportunities that area accessible to a wide variety of income levels”; “(4) encourage residential development of vacant and underutilized former industrial sites”; and “(5) ensure continued racial, ethnic, age and economic diversity of the population through encouraging a wide range of housing choices” (page 52). The City’s creation of the Fishkill Creek Development (FCD) district represents implementation of this goal and these objectives. The project is consistent in that it is a mix of uses which include market rate residential housing along with a public Greenway Trail. The project will comply with the requirements for affordable-workforce housing per Article IVBX of the zoning code. Stormwater management will include green infrastructure practices such as bioretention.

The goal of the Comprehensive Plan that relates to “Commercial, Office, and Industrial Development” is to “encourage a vibrant business community in harmony with existing commercial and industrial areas throughout the community. Employ all available mechanisms to meet the City’s objectives for economic development” (page 66). An objective of this goal (Objective F) is to “encourage the environmental cleanup and redevelopment of the unused or underutilized industrial sites along Fishkill Creek for new light industrial, commercial, or residential uses, as appropriate. New uses proposed for the vacant sites away from Main Street should not conflict or compete unduly with existing uses in the City” (page 68).

The project consists of the redevelopment of the former Tuck Industries manufacturing site for a multifamily residential development and office building. The project site was listed in the NYSDEC’s Environmental Remediation Database as a Site Code 314044, formerly operated as a tape manufacturing facility. The listing was the result of leaking drums and storage tanks that contained solvents and solvent recovery system waste which resulted in soil contamination. The industrial buildings were demolished and removed, and the site was remediated to the satisfaction of NYSDEC, and is ready for redevelopment, consistent with this goal and objective of the Comprehensive Plan.

The goal of the Comprehensive Plan that relates to “Recreation and Community Facilities” is that “community services for all age groups should be provided consistent with the economic growth of the City and its available resources. Regional facilities should be encouraged to locate in the City. Develop a recreational open space system of sufficient size and locational qualities to meet the complete range of recreational needs for the people” (page 142). An objective of this goal is to “continue to develop Greenways along the Hudson River and Fishkill Creek for public recreation, and provide linkages to trails towards the Hudson Highlands and the slopes of Mt. Beacon” and to “determine the future use of the railroad tracks along Fishkill Creek for vehicles capable of utilizing the tracks or for a bicycle and pedestrian path, and implement the decision” (page 144).

The project includes a Greenway Trail along the Fishkill Creek that will be accessible to the public and which can connect to adjacent properties. The proposed Greenway Trail is likely to alleviate some of the pressure on other public parks and recreational facilities in the City.

Based on this information, the project is consistent with the City of Beacon Comprehensive Plan.

LWRP

The Planning Board made a determination on June 11, 2019, that the project is entirely consistent with the LWRP policies that apply to the project. Policy #25 of the LWRP adopted March 7, 2011, lists 13 viewsheds that should be protected which contribute to the scenic quality of the coastal area. None of the views extends over the subject development site, or over any nearby site in the Fishkill Creek Corridor. The project is consistent with the applicable LWRP recommendations for development in scenic viewsheds, including setback from the Fishkill Creek shoreline to preserve the privacy and some grade-separation of the pedestrian

trail along the Creek. Section 12.0, Community Character, provides a description of the proposed architecture and preliminary information regarding visual impacts.

Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail Master Plan (FCG&HT)

The Greenway Trail will be constructed to the guidelines of the City's Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail Master Plan (FCG&HT) as approved by the Planning Board. The approved site plan was endorsed by the City of Beacon Greenway Trail Committee. The proposed Greenway Trail has been relocated to avoid the stream and floodplain areas. The proposed Greenway Trail represents a significant addition to the City's proposed FCG&HT Master Plan fulfillment. This trail will connect to Wolcott Avenue by means of the emergency access to Wolcott Avenue, and to the Sisters property to the south. Public access to the trail is also provided from Tioronda Avenue. The width of the proposed trail easement is 20 feet, while presently, the City has only a 6-foot wide easement at the property edge, pursuant to the filed subdivision map. The proposed Greenway Trail is likely to alleviate some of the pressure on other public parks and recreational facilities in the City, and is a major benefit to the City. The proposed project will enhance the site, thus improving the value and development capability of nearby properties.

- [5] *The proposed Fishkill Creek development project is planned as a cohesive unit with a comprehensive plan for ingress, egress, open space, landscaping, signage, circulation and utility service and the land uses are complementary.***

The project has been planned as a cohesive unit, with a comprehensive plan for access, connected greenspace, landscaping, signs, circulation, and compatible architectural elements. The concept plan builds on the existing Beacon environmental and historic context.

- [6] *The land uses in the proposed Fishkill Creek development project relate, visually and functionally, with surrounding land areas and land uses, and shall relate compatibly with other elements of the Fishkill Creek corridor.***

The project involves the redevelopment of a deteriorated former industrial site. The project will aesthetically improve the site with new landscaping, decorative lighting, and architecturally pleasing new buildings, as well as providing a public Greenway Trail along the Fishkill Creek. The properties north of the project site are vacant residential land and the City of Beacon highway garage. The project site is separated from Tioronda Avenue by a railroad bed owned by MTA, and across Tioronda Avenue are single family residences and a public school. Adjacent to the project site to the south is a vacant industrial property, also located in the FCD district. Uses across the Fishkill Creek from the project site include single family residences, a two-family residence, vacant residential land owned by the City of Beacon, and an animal rescue facility. The proposed residential and office uses will blend in with the other uses in the area and will be consistent with future development of the FCD property to the north and south.

Architectural elevations have been provided. The architecture and building materials depicted on the exterior elevations of the buildings are quality examples of urban architecture typical of older City of Beacon structures. The buildings are designed to present a subtly varied, yet ordered and cohesive appearance in terms of architectural style. Architecturally pleasing from all sides, they will be consistent with older industrial buildings in the city, but with more residential proportions. Scales, forms and materials used are appropriate to ensure that buildings and other structures are compatible with and add interest to the landscape. The elevations are clad predominately in brick. Third story and cellar level elevations are set back to mitigate the perceived height of the buildings on all sides. The setbacks are clad in black metal panels which complement the brick cladding well. Windows, doors and trim will be black powder coated aluminum. Painted black steel balconies will be provided for a number of units. Proposed retaining walls on the site will be poured in place

concrete with fieldstone veneer. Proposed retaining walls will be segmental concrete block walls in earthtone colors. The proposed refuse container will be screened from view by a cedar fence, and will comply with the City's requirements in Section 223-14.C.

[7] *The Fishkill Creek development project shall be sensitive to the site's relationship to the Fishkill Creek and shall be designed accordingly.*

The Greenway Trail will be constructed to the guidelines of the City's FCG&HT Master Plan. The provision of the trail easement is a major benefit to the City. The width of the proposed trail easement varies from 10 feet to 20 feet. Presently, the City has only a 6-foot wide easement at the property edge, pursuant to the subdivision map. The project site contains a very attractive section of waterfront, including views of a waterfall.

[8] *The FCD site is proposed to be developed in such a way as to maximize important views and view corridors throughout the development; and site layout and design has incorporated, protected and/or enhanced important views and view corridors, including those identified in the LWRP.*

The architecture and building materials depicted on the exterior elevations of the buildings are quality examples of urban architecture typical of older City of Beacon structures. The buildings are designed to present a subtly varied, yet ordered and cohesive appearance in terms of architectural style. Architecturally pleasing from all sides, they will be consistent with older industrial buildings in the city, but with more residential proportions. Scales, forms and materials used are appropriate to ensure that buildings and other structures are compatible with and add interest to the landscape. Cross sectional views were submitted which show that the properties to the west are much higher in elevation than the project property, and the site drops off to a lower elevation east of the tracks. Since the project site is much lower than much of the surrounding area, only the higher portions of the proposed buildings are expected to be visible. Photo simulations were provided which depict the three proposed buildings as seen from eye level vantage points along Tioronda Avenue. These vantage points are shown on the "Vantage Point Location Plan". Starting at the northwest corner of proposed residential Building 300, the vantage points advance southwards, ending at the west side of the proposed commercial building at the south of the property.

The City's Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan designates 13 local viewsheds under Policy 25A that are designated for protection. The applicant's development site is not within any of the designated viewsheds. The proposed development area is not located in a designated LWRP viewshed; however, the project design is consistent with the applicable LWRP recommendations for developing in scenic view sheds.

The proposed layout maintains the original land form, as it utilizes the existing disturbed area from the former heavy industrial development, while the area at the top of the bank of the creek is preserved. The natural grade changes across the site (west to east), serve to screen the parking and lower the height of the buildings as viewed from Tioronda Avenue and from residential properties across Tioronda Avenue.

The access road to Wolcott Avenue does not present adverse visual impacts. The new wall required for the access to Wolcott Avenue is substantially lower than the existing wall associated with Tioronda Avenue itself. The new wall serves to hide some of the graffiti on the Tioronda wall. The applicant intends to design plantings to soften views of the new wall (to be refined during site plan review by the Planning Board).