NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION MEETING

BOARDWALK PLACE PROPERTIES, LLC

DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, February 1, 2024

TIME: Commencing at 6:00 p.m. -6:37 p.m.

PLACE: Madeira Beach City Centre Room

300 Municipal Drive

Madeira Beach, Florida 33708

Reported by:

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1	APPEARANCES:		Page 2
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6		Attorney for Petitioner	
7			
8		Dennis Lang, Architect Laura Smith, Videographer	
9		William Karns Paige Karns	
10		Roy Kerr Sue Kerr	
11		Gaetano Critelli Grace Critelli	
12		Stephanie Berry	
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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 MR. BRAINARD: My name is Scott Brainard.
- 3 I'm with William Karns Enterprises. Boardwalk
- 4 Place Properties, LLC is the owner of this
- 5 property, and is the host of the meeting tonight.
- 6 And the purpose of the meeting is to provide
- 7 information to our community about the proposed
- 8 site plan that is going to be considered by the
- 9 City of Madeira Beach.
- 10 We have a court reporter who is going to be
- 11 transcribing everything that happens, and we've
- 12 got a videographer who is going to be videoing the
- 13 meeting.
- 14 So what will happen is we'll have a
- 15 presentation. Dennis Lang is one of our
- 16 architects. He's going to be providing a
- 17 presentation of the information in the site plan,
- and then we'll open it up to questions so anybody
- 19 who has any question about anything related to the
- 20 site plan, you're welcome to ask and we'll try our
- 21 best to answer -- answer those questions.
- 22 So I'll go ahead and turn it over to Dennis
- 23 and let him do a presentation.
- MR. LANG: Good evening, everybody. Thanks
- 25 for turning out tonight.

- 1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Dennis -- Dennis, I'm
- 2 sorry, can you give me one moment for a technical
- 3 thing?
- 4 MR. LANG: Sure.
- 5 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record.
- 6 (There was a brief recess to adjust the time
- 7 and date stamp on the camera.)
- 8 MR. LANG: So good evening, everybody.
- 9 Thanks everybody for being here. Thank you for
- 10 dealing with our technical glitch there.
- We're very excited about this project that
- 12 we're proposing. It's at the far east end of the
- 13 boardwalk. It's going to be a great new open-air
- 14 establishment. Primarily it's being established
- 15 as an A2 occupancy, which is a bar restaurant, for
- 16 regular understanding of it.
- In our program plans right now, you only see
- 18 bars. We're going to be working with a neighbor
- 19 for food services and we're going to be
- 20 contracting with them. But that's not a part of
- 21 our direct programming.
- But we have overcome a lot of the obstacles
- 23 that would be inherent in operating a business of
- 24 that type in the form of occupancy for our site
- 25 and access for the public. One of the biggest

- 1 things that we worked with the city already to
- 2 overcome was maintaining our coherent access with
- 3 the boardwalk to pedestrians at the same level
- 4 without needing to go up additional ramps or extra
- 5 stairs to get into the building.
- For the purposes of what else we see, we've
- 7 provided for new stairs that give us fire code
- 8 compliance, we've maintained these stairs that are
- 9 already existing at the boardwalk so we're not
- 10 interfering with the way that people are used to
- 11 establish an experience, that big component of the
- 12 water side and waterfront for Madeira.
- 13 And then we also have two additional floors
- 14 that are above the boardwalk level, one with
- 15 additional programming for another air, open-air
- 16 bar, and then an open-air roof deck that people
- 17 can get up to and actually look around and
- 18 experience the waterfront and all of the Boca
- 19 Ciega Bay view front, which otherwise you really
- 20 can't get to, you know, from the boardwalk, other
- 21 than at the level of the water side.
- For what we're talking about in terms of
- 23 experience for people while we're under
- 24 construction, which I've understood to be some of
- 25 the concerns that we have, everything is going to

- 1 be based on our site. You know, we're going to
- 2 still be basing all the construction from the site
- 3 base perspective. And understand that we've only
- 4 got the one access roadway out front, if there's
- 5 ever a time we have to mitigate traffic access,
- 6 it's never going to be for more than a window of
- 7 time while we're performing work out of the
- 8 right-of-way and it's going to be coordinated with
- 9 the city and Department of Transportation. So
- 10 it's nothing that we would ever be blocking or
- 11 consuming roadway access and blocking people from
- 12 for a long duration of time. But that's, you
- 13 know, something we work out during the permitting
- 14 process while we submit the plans for construction
- 15 and how it's going to be phased.
- Really, for what else we have to talk about,
- 17 it's -- it's a building. I mean, you know, it's
- 18 nothing that we're doing that's a novel, crazy
- 19 idea here. It's just another experience on the
- 20 boardwalk that's the same as everything else
- 21 that's going on. I think it's going to be a
- 22 valued contribution in time as people realize what
- 23 we've done for the right reasons. And we're
- 24 excited about bringing it to this community.
- 25 At this point I really would like to just say

- 1 are there questions? Because that's the easiest
- 2 way for me to disavow anybody's concerns is to
- 3 direct -- me directly answer them for you.
- 4 MR. KERR: Can you describe the --
- 5 THE REPORTER: I need your name before you
- 6 speak, every time.
- 7 MR. KERR: Right. Ray Kerr, K-e-r-r.
- 8 Can you describe the actual construction?
- 9 You know, prior to the meeting we started to look
- 10 and just kind of go over --
- 11 MR. LANG: What it is?
- 12 MR. KERR: -- what it is. I mean, we were
- 13 told the columns, you know, nothing below the
- 14 boardwalk besides the supporting columns
- 15 basically.
- 16 MR. LANG: The elevator and the stairs. And
- 17 we're going to have a dumpster enclosure down
- 18 there, but --
- 19 MR. KERR: Well, can you just kind of go over
- 20 the description for the record of what you're --
- 21 what you're building?
- MR. LANG: Absolutely. So what we're
- 23 constructing out there -- right, sure.
- MR. KERR: And slow down.
- MR. LANG: Oh, okay. Again, before the

- 1 meeting started, I told you guys, I'm Italian and
- 2 my mom's from New York, so speed and -- speed and
- 3 loud are kind of my two gifts in life.
- 4 For what we're building, we're building a
- 5 FEMA-compliant Type 2B building. Which, for
- 6 everybody here in the room, what that means is
- 7 we're using steel and concrete, we're going to
- 8 in-fill with some interior wood frame walls. But
- 9 everything below the FEMA control line, which is
- 10 our AE-11 zone, plus our footed free-board which
- 11 we worked with the city to keep, is going to be
- 12 like what you said, column construction. It's
- 13 going to open for water flow below the grade line,
- 14 so that if ever a storm were to come in here,
- 15 there's nothing substantial construction below
- 16 that line that would be of danger to us breaking
- 17 away or to the community from our building
- 18 breaking away and washing into you. That's
- 19 standard building code requirements.
- 20 For our building specifically what we've done
- 21 is, because we're working towards being an
- 22 open-air structure, we have very limited closed
- 23 space on any of our floors, which is actually
- 24 really beneficial for, again, the reasons of the
- 25 neighborhood if -- when we work with building code

- 1 at this point, one of our biggest concerns is
- 2 impact protection and the way the materials
- 3 subjected to wind behave in extreme events, and
- 4 specifically making sure they adhere and stay on
- 5 the building where they're supposed to be and that
- 6 they're not leaving our building and flying into
- 7 other people's properties for damage reasons.
- 8 Our building will 100 percent be doing all of
- 9 those things to the most stringent standards
- 10 available that's required. We're doing all of
- 11 that. And it's going to be one of the safest
- 12 structures on the boardwalk when we're done
- 13 because of those reasons. So if ever an event
- 14 were to occur, we're going to be that building
- 15 that everybody is, unfortunately, taking pictures
- of saying, look at what didn't happen to this
- 17 building that happened to everybody else.
- 18 So when we think about what we're going to
- 19 see in our building, it's going to look like a
- 20 regular construction building because we have very
- 21 thin floor plates, we're doing post-tension
- 22 construction at the ground, that first layer. So
- 23 what we're going to see from the ground level
- 24 experience for everybody walking into the building
- or under it is concrete construction all the way

- 1 up. And when you look up, you're going to see a
- 2 solid poured concrete deck. And it's 18 inches
- 3 thick. It's not going anywhere.
- 4 We've got foundations that are going down
- 5 under the building, you know, working around all
- 6 the existing infrastructure of the city and
- 7 on-site that we possess as well, and it's going to
- 8 be driven down deep so this building ain't going
- 9 to go anywhere. So if your concern is is this
- 10 building going to move, shake, rattle or roll, the
- answer is no, no, no and no. It's going to stay
- 12 put the way it's supposed to.
- MR. KERR: Ray Kerr --
- MR. LANG: Ray, does that answer your
- 15 additional questions?
- MR. KERR: Yeah, it does. I'm trying to give
- 17 you an opportunity to go over some of the
- 18 questions we asked earlier and --
- 19 MR. LANG: In terms of like my elevator and
- 20 my stairs and stuff like that?
- 21 MR. KERR: The elevator, the fuel tanks that
- 22 will -- what's there, the life -- expected life
- 23 span, if they ever need to be serviced or that --
- 24 MR. LANG: So --
- 25 MR. KERR: -- the accessibility of being able

- 1 to do that.
- 2 MR. LANG: So the way that the building is
- 3 designed is to not interfere with any of that
- 4 existing infrastructure. So that's one of the big
- 5 parts of what we've been working around as a
- 6 design team to overcome is where those items
- 7 reside in the ground. You know, our building
- 8 official actually did the initial inspections for
- 9 when those tanks were redone with -- in the most
- 10 recent iteration. He did the inspections. We
- 11 have good, you know, photography and documentation
- 12 for what we found at that time there. You know,
- 13 we've done some excavation out there since we've
- 14 started this project to find and identify any
- 15 additional items that might be in the way. We've
- 16 found some items that are of a little bit of
- 17 concern to us, but those are items that during the
- 18 phase of construction, as soon as we start, that's
- 19 the first thing we have to do is crack open the
- 20 site, excavate out the soils and get a good look
- 21 at everything that's down below grade for the
- 22 exact reasons that you've just identified, to
- 23 identify the longevity of the materials as they
- 24 reside in their current form, and as well as to
- 25 make sure we know where they are, so that in the

- 1 future if there are any questions about where do
- 2 things reside, can they be serviced in the way
- 3 that they're required to by law. They absolutely
- 4 will be accounted for.
- 5 Those things are not going to be overlooked.
- 6 We are absolutely aware of the presence of those
- 7 items and we plan to maintain them in a good
- 8 working order for our benefit as well as for the
- 9 communities in a safe way.
- Okay, in terms of the other items that we're
- introducing at ground level, the only things that
- 12 come down from the building in exception of our
- 13 columns are the stairs and the elevator for access
- 14 reasons. And those are allowed by code. They're
- 15 not air-conditioned. You know, those aren't even
- 16 vestibule configurations by FEMA definitions. So
- 17 we're not putting anything downstairs that's not
- 18 supposed to be there.
- 19 It is -- and also, to the point of safety, I
- 20 mean, the whole building is sprinkled, you know,
- 21 and it's got a fire compliant sprinkle design. We
- 22 haven't designed and not aware of any of these
- 23 items. So all of the things that you're asking me
- 24 about, like can they be serviced in the future?
- 25 The answer for me at this level is yes.

- 1 You know, obviously during the phase of
- 2 construction if something comes up that would
- 3 preclude our opportunity to still have that
- 4 opportunity in the future to make sure we can't
- 5 perform as required, we're going to make decisions
- 6 to modify our decisions we've already made. It's
- 7 not going to be a "too bad, so sad," "we're just
- 8 going to cover this up and hope for the best."
- 9 That's not for anybody's best interest.
- 10 MR. KERR: Ray Kerr --
- 11 THE REPORTER: Mr. Kerr, I know you now.
- 12 MR. KERR: Okay. As far as the architecture,
- it was explained that the first level will be open
- 14 air. The second level --
- MR. LANG: Same.
- 16 MR. KERR: Same? But I guess with railings,
- 17 of course.
- 18 MR. LANG: Yeah.
- MR. KERR: Will it have a wooden feel and
- 20 look, or is it going to be concrete?
- 21 What are finishes going to look like? Is it
- 22 going to blend in with the existing boardwalk?
- MR. LANG: So the way that we propose that in
- 24 the typology is like coastal beach. So it is
- 25 going to have inherent -- it's going to express

- 1 the material of its construction, which is
- 2 concrete, wood and steel. You're going to see a
- 3 lot of those materials because it is open air and
- 4 we're not trying to wrap everything up for just
- 5 the point of obscuring it. However, we are going
- 6 to be finishing it in a way that's appropriate for
- 7 the boardwalk. It's not going to stand out and
- 8 project itself as something that doesn't belong.
- 9 So if you're asking how does our finish
- schedule work, we're going to be wrapping the
- 11 skin, and we have wood that's going to be coming
- in as finished materials. You know, it's not just
- 13 going to be a hard stuccoed finish and concrete
- 14 all over the place.
- MR. KERR: Are the hours of operation, have
- 16 you gotten to that detail?
- MR. LANG: Not with me, sir. That's not
- 18 something at the design level that I really get
- 19 into the minutia of. That really boils down to
- 20 the hours of operation that the boardwalk will
- 21 afford them for compliance reasons.
- MR. KERR: I look forward to seeing more of
- 23 the plans.
- MR. LANG: Yeah. Absolutely. I mean, I'm
- 25 certainly -- I look forward to you guys walking up

- 1 here and asking me some more direct questions. If
- 2 we need to flip through some more of the pages so
- 3 that we can get a better sense of what's going
- 4 on -- there's nothing that we're trying to hide.
- 5 I think that what we're doing is a really solid
- 6 project. I'm happy to stand behind it.
- 7 MR. CRITELLI: I think what --
- 8 THE REPORTER: I need your name, please.
- 9 MR. LANG: Yeah, you can't just talk at
- 10 random. And sir, you were trying to ask me
- 11 something.
- 12 MR. CRITELLI: Gae Critelli.
- 13 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry?
- MR. CRITELLI: Gae Critelli, C-r-i-t-e-l-l-i.
- I think what you're doing is going to look
- 16 great for the rest of business around. I mean, we
- 17 have -- we've been looking at this property for
- 18 the last 40 years. Somebody was going to build it
- 19 before when they extended the boardwalk, and it
- 20 never happened. So if this happens, it would be a
- 21 big plaza that would bring more people on the one
- 22 end of the boardwalk. Right now we don't have it.
- 23 And it's going to look nice, it's going to
- 24 look attractive because it's brand-new. And the
- 25 best thing that could happen to have something on

- 1 the end of the boardwalk because people, when they
- 2 get to a certain point, there's nothing there and
- 3 then they hardly even come back there, they just
- 4 go back on the east end and then on the west end,
- 5 you see.
- 6 And I think it's going to be a great asset
- 7 for the boardwalk and for the people, like Kurt is
- 8 there, myself, we have a business there, we have a
- 9 building there. We benefit for these, ourself
- 10 too. And I would like to see that done tomorrow.
- I have one more question for you.
- 12 MR. LANG: Please.
- MR. CRITELLI: I know many years ago, 1979,
- 14 1980, when we built our building and we still --
- 15 the marina was driving the pilings down, we lost
- 16 seven pilings. And you people weren't around, but
- 17 I know. I was there. We lost seven piles.
- So if they ever drill, make sure you do the
- 19 concrete piling or cement piling.
- 20 MR. LANG: Our design presently shows helical
- 21 piles underneath pile caps.
- 22 MR. CRITELLI: Okay.
- MR. KERR: So but the pile cap sits on what's
- 24 called a helical driven pile, so it's basically
- 25 shaped like a big screw that we screw down to get

- 1 the friction resistance that's required. Before
- 2 we put the pile cap on, we do tests on each of the
- 3 helical piles to make sure that they have the
- 4 appropriate static friction and that we haven't
- 5 lost them or anything like that.
- 6 But again, there are real things that happen
- 7 during construction that we can't account for on
- 8 paper. But construction takes place and so long
- 9 as we come back in line with what the plans call
- 10 for, we have safe construction, that's what we
- 11 need. You know, there's always going to be
- 12 something that you have to answer when it comes
- 13 up.
- MR. CRITELLI: Thank you.
- 15 MR. LANG: Of course.
- 16 MR. BRAINARD: Can I make a suggestion? We
- obviously don't have a lot of people, but we have
- 18 some people who would like to ask specific
- 19 questions about things on the paper. If we want
- 20 to move up here, it may make it a little bit more
- 21 difficult for you, but if you want to move up here
- 22 and actually ask specific things about something
- 23 that's on the plan, why don't we do that?
- MR. KARNS: Just gather around the table?
- 25 MR. BRAINARD: Yeah.

- 1 MS. CRITELLI: Let's set up and we can do
- 2 that.
- 3 MS. BERRY: Well, I have a question.
- 4 MR. LANG: My pleasure. Please.
- THE REPORTER: What's your name?
- 6 MS. BERRY: Stephanie Berry.
- What's the capacity on the second and third
- 8 floor?
- 9 MR. LANG: Each floor?
- 10 MS. BERRY: Yeah, just curiosity how much
- 11 more traffic it could handle. Just because
- 12 it's -- the pass is, you know, growing every year
- 13 and I feel like we need more there. So it's
- 14 exciting to see that we could house more and host
- 15 more.
- MR. LANG: Okay, that's a quick, good
- 17 question. And I know I've got it here in my
- 18 plans, you've got to just give me a second to find
- 19 the right place where I put it.
- MR. BRAINARD: The plan shows 235 seats.
- MS. BERRY: Oh, awesome.
- MR. LANG: Yeah, but I was going to say, but
- 23 in terms of like each floor, I was going to say --
- MS. BERRY: Yeah, total.
- 25 MR. LANG: -- I knew we were at like 240-ish,

- 1 so it's like over 100 people per plate.
- 2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: One at a time for the
- 3 court reporter.
- 4 MR. BRAINARD: I'm sorry.
- 5 MR. LANG: Yeah, so we're easily over 100
- 6 patrons per floor. I think it's closer to 120, to
- 7 be honest with you, okay?
- 8 But again, it's all completely designed by
- 9 fire code. I mean, we're an A -- we're a Type 2
- 10 building, which is a high fire-rated safety, you
- 11 know, it's noncombustible construction material,
- 12 and the building is fully sprinkled. You know,
- which again, versus some of the other structures
- on the boardwalk is an upgrade, you know, in terms
- of life safety components that we're affording.
- 16 MS. BERRY: Yeah, because -- Stephanie
- 17 Berry --
- 18 THE REPORTER: I know you now.
- MS. BERRY: Okay. So once you reach past
- 20 Sculley's or Caddy's, there's just no seating
- 21 anywhere down that direction. So I think to Gae's
- 22 point, that will be fantastic for that end of the
- 23 boardwalk.
- MR. LANG: Oh, absolutely.
- MS. BERRY: You know, all the businesses down

- 1 there cannot hold really very many people, so that
- 2 would be fantastic.
- 3 MR. LANG: So and this will really function
- 4 as a great, you know, public anchor of
- 5 establishments --
- 6 MS. BERRY: Sure.
- 7 MR. LANG: -- to bring patrons all the way
- 8 down to the east side of the boardwalk.
- 9 And it's a unique experience. You know,
- 10 we're going to have three floors of opportunity
- 11 for people to look out and see the water side, and
- 12 it's a 360-degree view at that point from where
- we're at, because we don't have any other
- 14 structures at our height.
- So if anybody would want to come up here and
- 16 start flipping through some sheets, I can step you
- 17 through some.
- 18 THE REPORTER: I think I do.
- 19 MR. BRAINARD: Let's hold on for just a
- 20 second because she's going to have to move up to
- 21 make sure she catches whatever questions and
- 22 comments are made.
- MR. LANG: Okay.
- 24 (There was a brief recess to rearrange the
- 25 tables and chairs.)

- 1 MS. CITRELLI: Grace Citrelli,
- 2 C-i-t-r-e-l-l-i.
- 3 So if and when this gets approved, what is
- 4 your timeline of having it completed?
- 5 MR. LANG: In terms of construction on-site?
- 6 MS. CITRELLI: Uh-huh.
- 7 MR. LANG: I think that we're looking at less
- 8 than 18 months in totality from start to finish
- 9 once we break ground. Realistically I'm sure that
- 10 they're going to want to expedite that process as
- 11 much as possible.
- 12 You know, our construction isn't complicated,
- 13 so really the biggest effort that we have to make
- 14 is that initial point that Ray was asking me about
- 15 a moment ago in regards to the underground
- 16 infrastructure and where it truly resides.
- 17 You know, we've done ground-penetrating radar
- 18 out there, we've done a lot of exploration to see
- 19 what we can at this point. But in the absence of
- 20 a permit to start, for us to remove the concrete
- 21 on-site and excavate the soils, we can't finitely
- 22 answer those questions to 100 percent confidence.
- 23 And we know that we're going to have a moment once
- 24 we crack the site open where we have to come back
- 25 and reassess our plans to ensure that we're at

- 1 full understanding that we're proceeding in the
- 2 best way possible. And that is the window of time
- 3 of discretion when I think truly we have 12 months
- 4 of construction or less because of the type of
- 5 construction we are.
- 6 But because of the questions that could
- 7 arise, our time frame may slide a little bit. But
- 8 we're absolutely going to be working to proceed as
- 9 fast as possible.
- 10 MS. CRITELLI: And tell us a little bit about
- 11 how the restaurant is going to operate.
- 12 MR. LANG: Certainly. So the restaurant
- 13 component --
- MR. BRAINARD: Well, before we get into that,
- 15 the purpose of this meeting is to talk about the
- 16 site plan, not about the operation of whatever
- 17 business goes into the building.
- 18 MS. CRITELLI: Okay.
- MR. BRAINARD: And not that we don't want you
- 20 to know about that, but that's not the purpose of
- 21 this meeting and we'd like to keep the discussion
- 22 about the site plan.
- 23 MS. CRITELLI: Okay.
- MR. BRAINARD: We'll talk about what's going
- 25 to be built, but as far as what kind of restaurant

- 1 or operation or any kind of thing, that's
- 2 something that's beyond the scope of what we're
- 3 here for. So --
- 4 MR. CRITELLI: Okay.
- 5 MR. LANG: Sorry, Grace.
- 6 MS. CRITELLI: No problem.
- 7 MR. KERR: How do you adjust for poor weather
- 8 conditions if it's open air?
- 9 MR. LANG: So there are going to be some
- 10 roll-down elements that we have that are like a
- 11 vinyl screen that can be rolled down, but because
- of the nature of that material, it's not a wind
- 13 code compliant design, so it's not something that
- 14 I'm going to say is my "design" of the building,
- 15 that's why it's an open-air structure.
- The entire building is designed to function
- 17 with air flowing through it in an event that, you
- 18 know, like a hurricane. You know, so the whole
- 19 structure is going to have wind move through it,
- 20 it's going to be stable in that condition.
- 21 For operating reasons, like if it starts to
- 22 rain in the afternoon, we have vinyl roll-downs
- 23 that are going to come down to our bar fronts.
- 24 You know, and to this -- this is a bar that runs
- 25 along the boardwalk on this edge, like a seating

- 1 rail. So we're going to have like a cavity that
- 2 we have that vinyl cage that would roll that down
- 3 so that we can screen it.
- 4 MR. KERR: Storm shutters?
- 5 MR. LANG: It's not a storm shutter. Think
- 6 of it more as like what you'd have on a boat, you
- 7 know, where, like, you have like that vinyl thing
- 8 that would roll down? You know, it's more of that
- 9 type of a material.
- 10 Storm shutters imbue more of a toughness to
- 11 them, and it's not that.
- MR. KERR: So that's on the water's edge --
- 13 MR. LANG: The boardwalk side.
- MR. KERR: -- side. And then the alley side
- 15 or the boardwalk --
- MR. LANG: So the alley side, what we've
- 17 actually done here is architecturally we've built
- 18 this wall a little bit higher when you look at the
- 19 plans. So we actually have a wall that comes up
- 20 behind us, and the level that the window occurs at
- 21 is a lot higher. And that's one of the things
- that we're going to probably have something that's
- in there, but we're still kind of debating whether
- 24 we want that to be like a permanent built shade
- 25 that's like of an aluminum or a wood-type slat

- 1 look so that it fills in the architectural
- 2 opening, or whether that's going to be a roll-down
- 3 that closes an opening in the form of, like, a
- 4 true transparent window.
- 5 So we're still kind of debating those two
- 6 items, but that really isn't something that -- the
- 7 way that it's going to change the safety of the
- 8 structure at all, but in terms of how can this be
- 9 operated during rain? Rain won't be able to kind
- 10 of get back in. We're still debating about what
- 11 that wants to be.
- MR. KARNS: It will be like the Caddy's on
- 13 the beach.
- MR. KERR: Okay.
- MR. KARNS: Where the shades roll down and
- 16 they have the glass --
- 17 THE REPORTER: Who is that?
- 18 MR. BRAINARD: That's Bill Karns.
- 19 MR. KARNS: I'm Bill Karns.
- MR. BRAINARD: K-a-r-n-s.
- 21 THE REPORTER: Thank you.
- MR. LANG: Like I say, there's other -- have
- 23 you been to that out there on the beach?
- MR. KERR: Yeah.
- MR. LANG: It's the same material that they

- 1 roll down on the edge.
- 2 MR. KERR: Okay.
- 3 MR. LANG: But it's not a wind code
- 4 compliant, so that's why I'm saying -- because
- 5 they have an aluminum shutter they roll down
- 6 that's behind that at Caddy's, and that's their
- 7 wind code box. Because they're not an open-air
- 8 structure, they're an AC building. This is not
- 9 that.
- 10 MR. KERR: Yeah, they have a deck.
- 11 MR. LANG: They have a deck that wraps like
- 12 an AC restaurant that's inside; whereas this --
- 13 MR. KERR: This is basically all deck.
- 14 MR. LANG: This is basically all deck,
- 15 effectively, if that's an easier way to think
- 16 about it.
- MR. KERR: Do you have the elevation views?
- MR. LANG: Yeah. So this is where we're at.
- 19 This is water side. This is the level of the
- 20 boardwalk. And this is where -- there's like a
- 21 ramp at the very end. So that's what this line
- 22 here represents for you guys. That's the lowest
- 23 extent going back to the west.
- MR. KERR: Right.
- 25 MR. LANG: And then this is our stair that

- 1 terminates -- we're looking at that site plan over
- 2 on the -- that's this stair.
- 3 MR. KERR: The existing.
- 4 MR. LANG: That's the existing stair. So
- 5 yes, that's correct.
- 6 And then what we see actually in the
- 7 background, this is over here, this is the back
- 8 wall of my stair coming down to the ground, the
- 9 new one.
- 10 It's like from the water side you'd see it
- 11 this way. And then when you turn it around, you
- 12 see it -- I've got a gate here that blocks access
- 13 to that stair so that people can't get up into our
- 14 building.
- MR. KERR: All right. This is the boardwalk
- 16 place, what you'd see from --
- 17 MR. LANG: This is what you'd see from
- 18 inland, yes, sir. Yes.
- 19 So this is my elevator tower that's coming
- 20 down, and then this is that stair that goes back
- 21 up to the boardwalk.
- 22 MR. KERR: All right.
- MR. LANG: Okay? You know, at street level
- 24 we've got parking outside, so that's why there's
- 25 nothing shown in here. There's no strip of

- 1 landscape or anything here. It's all just
- 2 parking.
- 3 MR. KERR: Are any modifications to the
- 4 boardwalk perceived?
- 5 MR. LANG: No. That was one of the things
- 6 that we worked really hard to do is to maintain
- 7 the integrity of the boardwalk in its existing
- 8 shape and form. So we worked with the city to
- 9 secure a variance, make sure that we could
- 10 maintain that connectedness.
- 11 MR. KERR: Right.
- 12 MR. LANG: Now, and we did -- we do make our
- 13 connection at the highest point of the boardwalk.
- 14 MR. KERR: Right.
- MR. LANG: You know, and I think that's
- 16 something that we should all note is going forward
- 17 that even our work to maintain connection only got
- 18 us this close. So like all these other places are
- 19 going to have to work in the same way that we have
- 20 with the city to afford themselves that continued
- 21 perpetual connection, you know.
- 22 And that's something that I've raised to the
- 23 city's attention as a real effort they have to
- 24 make with us. And they've heard us. You know,
- 25 they've been fair in working with us so far, but

- 1 you know, it's a challenge. You know, all
- 2 development is a challenge. There's always
- 3 questions that come up that need fair answers, and
- 4 we're working with every -- all of our established
- 5 partners in the community to make sure we answer
- 6 them right. We want to be fair.
- 7 MR. KERR: Does the stairwell access from the
- 8 street, you could access all the way to the top?
- 9 MR. LANG: You could, but really the stair
- 10 that we've introduced, this little one that's over
- 11 here, our new stair that we're putting in is
- 12 really so that we're not running business
- operations up and down the public right-of-way
- 14 stair. So if we receive deliveries and stuff, we
- 15 can bring them up more directly into our
- 16 establishment. It's going to have a gate down at
- 17 the bottom that's got a fire panel on it so you
- 18 can push it open from the inside. But it's really
- 19 more so that -- it's not meant to be the public's
- 20 up.
- 21 MR. KERR: Okay.
- MR. LANG: Okay. But once you're in the
- 23 building, that stair is accessible and you can use
- 24 it to walk up to the roof.
- 25 MR. KERR: Elevation?

- 1 MR. LANG: Absolutely. It's there for fire
- 2 purposes, you know. For truth, it's there for
- 3 fire, you know, so we can egress the building
- 4 safely in all purposes.
- 5 But the distances involved here and the type
- of construction we are with the fire sprinkler
- 7 involved and the fact that we're open air, there
- 8 is nothing -- there's nothing to burn, you know,
- 9 and it's very -- fire is a scary thing. It's why
- 10 we design really hard for it. But this building
- 11 I'm not worried about. It's super safe.
- MR. KERR: Great. I'm running out of
- 13 questions.
- MR. LANG: I was going to say, you got great
- 15 questions. Keep them coming. I'm happy to deal
- 16 with them. It's a great opportunity to talk about
- 17 a project I'm really excited about.
- 18 MR. KERR: So the -- we were talking about
- 19 the architectural look and feel. This is
- 20 basically cement board?
- 21 MR. LANG: Yeah, it's going to be a Hardie
- 22 board material. That's the technical term for it
- 23 is Hardie board. It comes in a lot of --
- MR. KARNS: Key West-looking structure.
- MR. LANG: This isn't in color, you know, and

- 1 I think that's a really important component of any
- 2 structure at the end of the day is its color and
- 3 vibrancy. And introducing panels like the Hardie
- 4 board, it's going to allow for us to introduce
- 5 color in the facade so it doesn't become this
- 6 white elephant, you know, which I think is a lot
- 7 of people's expectation when they think of big
- 8 things happening, what am I going to see when I
- 9 see a big wall pop up?
- We're not going to have a big white elephant
- 11 at the end of the boardwalk. We don't want that.
- 12 We want something that people are going to look at
- and want to come to. You know, when you're on a
- 14 boat and you're turning around the corner coming
- 15 from any direction of the intercoastal, you're
- 16 going to see us first.
- 17 You know, we want to be something that the
- 18 rest of the boardwalk is really proud of and that
- 19 the rest of the city is really proud of, and that
- 20 people can start to identify with and say, wow,
- 21 this is the kind of new construction we could be
- 22 getting here? This is exciting. This is
- 23 something we should really be working as a
- 24 community to go towards instead of being afraid of
- 25 what development is going to do. Because if this

- 1 is the kind of thing that we can recreate and show
- 2 is a viable option, that's exciting. That's the
- 3 kind of stuff that the community really wants to
- 4 be in favor of. And we really need your support
- 5 because the city at times can be really resistant
- 6 to seeing things happen in a fast and fun way.
- 7 It's true, you know, as much as -- it's true.
- 8 There's a lot of questions involved and sometimes,
- 9 you know, it can be a little friction. I'm happy
- 10 to disavow you of any scary moments.
- 11 MR. KERR: Sure.
- 12 The elephant in the room --
- 13 MR. LANG: Yeah.
- MR. KERR: -- why are we having the meeting?
- 15 I don't see any --
- MR. LANG: That's a great question.
- 17 MR. KARNS: Thank you.
- 18 MR. LANG: So the real answer to your -- no,
- 19 the real answer to your question is it's a
- 20 procedural hurdle that we need to check a box, you
- 21 know, and it's an opportunity for the community to
- 22 see what's going on.
- 23 And because we live in a city that's had a
- lot of resistance to development, the community
- 25 has decided that this is a necessary weigh point

- 1 that we provide an opportunity for stakeholders to
- 2 weigh in.
- If you said something was -- this is
- 4 terrible, Dennis, I have real reasons for not
- 5 liking this, and I said, well, gee, Ray, you're
- 6 right, that is something we should consider
- 7 differently because I hadn't thought of it that
- 8 way, I would go back to my client and I would
- 9 re-evaluate what we're proposing because that's
- 10 the point of this meeting.
- But you haven't done that yet, so keep
- 12 trying.
- 13 MR. KERR: I'm just -- I'm just asking
- 14 questions so I understand what --
- 15 MR. LANG: No, and look --
- 16 MR. KERR: And give you an opportunity to --
- 17 MR. LANG: Well, look, development is --
- 18 MR. KERR: -- explain.
- 19 MR. LANG: It's an industry that requires a
- 20 lot of professional insight to really get behind
- 21 the scenes and understand what's happening. So
- 22 I'm really happy to stand here and I'll talk to
- 23 you all night about what this project is and what
- 24 we're doing.
- THE REPORTER: No, you won't. No.

- 1 MR. LANG: But I would be willing -- I would
- 2 be willing to stand here ad nauseam and talk about
- 3 this project, but we won't for everybody's
- 4 benefit.
- 5 MR. BRAINARD: If I can answer that question
- 6 for you, because this is a development above a
- 7 certain size as defined by the city, one of the
- 8 requirements for the Planning Commission is to
- 9 have a neighborhood information meeting and give
- 10 us the opportunity, and the neighborhood, the
- 11 community, to have an opportunity to review this
- 12 and make comments, ask questions.
- MR. KERR: Of a certain size. Does that mean
- 14 of a certain capacity? Of a certain square
- 15 footage --
- MR. BRAINARD: Anything over 2,000 square
- 17 feet. A new building that's over 2,000 square
- 18 feet requires certain steps you have to follow.
- 19 One of those is a neighborhood information.
- 20 MR. LANG: He's saying P&C meeting.
- 21 MR. KERR: I didn't know -- I didn't know
- 22 that.
- MR. LANG: There's a lot of -- you know,
- 24 we've had what at this point, Paige, four
- 25 different meetings with city staff? You know,

- 1 reviewing our project and ensuring that we have
- 2 the process underway and that everybody is
- 3 weighing in appropriately with us?
- 4 MS. KARNS: Yes.
- 5 MR. LANG: You know, so I mean, it's not
- 6 something that we've been working behind the
- 7 scenes to complete. I mean, it takes a long time.
- 8 You know, projects of this size take a long time
- 9 to pull together.
- 10 Try again.
- 11 MR. KERR: Any of the other questions would
- 12 have to do with materials of construction, and
- zoning and permitting is going to go through all
- 14 that.
- 15 It's just basically the look and feel of
- 16 what -- you know, I think that -- we haven't
- 17 updated our -- and I'm going to get it wrong --
- 18 either the Master Plan or Comprehensive Plan in 20
- 19 years to give the community an opportunity to say
- 20 this is -- this is what we want our community to
- 21 look like.
- 22 MR. LANG: Sure. Like a visioning board.
- 23 MR. KERR: Right. That's up for debate. We
- 24 want to get that to happen soon.
- I just want -- you know, my input would be to

- 1 try to do what you're doing, bring it to what we
- 2 would expect John's Pass Village with the --
- 3 MR. LANG: Sure, I mean, look --
- 4 MR. KERR: Why we're all here, why we all
- 5 live here.
- 6 MR. LANG: -- I grew up in Treasure Island.
- 7 You know, it's like I grew up riding my bicycle up
- 8 to John's Pass and like walking up and down the
- 9 boardwalk and grabbing ice cream actually probably
- 10 at the place that was right next to this, you
- 11 know, as a kid.
- But like, the boardwalk has a unique
- 13 character and feel to it, and it's not anything
- that me personally or us as a group want to
- 15 alienate or violate or damage. Because that's the
- 16 reason we want to be there is to inherit and be a
- 17 part of that legacy, not to denigrate it or
- 18 destroy it, you know.
- So I mean, we see this as something that is
- 20 appropriate for the beach, it makes sense for our
- 21 community, it's not --
- MR. KERR: It's going to enhance --
- 23 MR. LANG: -- not too much.
- MR. KERR: -- the experience of John's Pass
- 25 Village.

- 1 MR. LANG: Well, exactly. It's meant to
- 2 imbue that same experience that generations past
- 3 have had and to bring it forward in a way that's
- 4 viable, because a lot of what we're looking at out
- 5 there needs a pump, you know. And this is the
- 6 kind of thing that if we can go in and pump the
- 7 edge, it's going to help bring out new people to
- 8 the boardwalk. You know, like you were saying,
- 9 it's going to reinvigorate the community to come
- 10 and experience something new.
- 11 And that's what our businesses really need is
- 12 participation. And this is an opportunity for us
- 13 to fill in the missing piece, you know, in a way
- 14 that hopefully will allow for other businesses to
- 15 benefit as well and for them to make that next
- 16 step and continue to build on the legacy of
- 17 John's Pass in a way that doesn't allow for it to
- 18 fall apart.
- Because again, if we're not re-visioning the
- 20 future as a community, it isn't going to be left
- 21 up to us to have a say anymore, which is why I
- 22 think this is really a great opportunity, like you
- 23 guys were saying, this is what we need, you know,
- 24 put it on the record with us that this is going to
- 25 be a great opportunity for us and we want to see

- 1 it come forward in this format that makes it
- 2 right.
- 3 You know, it still touches the boardwalk, it
- 4 still touches the ground in a way that's delicate.
- 5 It continues that experience of transparency to
- 6 the waterfront from the ground level. You know,
- 7 we're not taking that away. I think that's what
- 8 you were trying to ask me earlier is -- and what's
- 9 happening below the building? Transparency.
- 10 You're going to look straight through and still
- 11 see water. You know, I think that's a really
- 12 important component of what John's Pass Village is
- 13 is that connection.
- MR. KARNS: We spent a lot of time on the
- 15 design of the building itself to make sure that it
- 16 fits in with all of the buildings that are on the
- 17 boardwalk and has -- as you can see, it's got
- 18 that --
- 19 MR. KERR: I can see that.
- 20 MR. KARNS: -- a very coastal feel to it.
- 21 MR. KERR: The existing concrete that's there
- 22 now, I'm sure it's weathered and stained with oil
- 23 and everything --
- MR. LANG: You mean the floor? The ground?
- MR. KERR: Yeah, the ground.

- 1 MR. LANG: Oh, it's going to get all cracked
- 2 up and removed.
- 3 MR. KERR: Okay. So that will be fresh?
- 4 MR. LANG: Yeah. 100 percent.
- 5 MS. BERRY: I think aesthetically it anchors
- 6 that boardwalk. Because right now we have one
- 7 anchor and -- on the Hubbard's garage side it's
- 8 not the most appealing anchor either.
- 9 MR. LANG: No.
- 10 MS. BERRY: But this will be not only
- 11 appealing, but anchor it. I think of, you know,
- 12 people go to these malls and if you don't have an
- 13 anchor store at one, it kind of just drops it off.
- 14 And we don't have a cohesive boardwalk
- 15 underneath, and the customer says that all the
- 16 time, well, can I walk underneath? It's like, in
- 17 the water you go can, but not above.
- And so that will help anchor this whole
- 19 boardwalk for the customer to be up there, too.
- 20 MR. LANG: You know, for me, as an architect,
- 21 that's one of my, like, giddy points about this
- 22 was an opportunity to finish the boardwalk and to
- 23 create that visual anchor not just for
- 24 pedestrians, you know, or people on the boardwalk,
- 25 but I grew up here, I grew up on boats. You know,

- 1 like when you turn the corner, that's the thing
- 2 you see.
- MR. KERR: What happens at the lowest level
- 4 at the boardwalk at the water's edge? Is there
- 5 any structural components there? Is there any --
- 6 you have existing boardwalk there now. I think
- 7 you have a fish cleaning station.
- 8 MR. LANG: So the building that's there
- 9 existing is going to remain. That's part of the
- 10 fuel dock.
- 11 MR. KERR: It's a mailbox at the end.
- 12 MR. LANG: So like this is our ground floor
- 13 plan when we're done. So you see my column grid
- 14 that comes in?
- 15 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Guys, one at a time,
- 16 please.
- MR. BRAINARD: If I can comment on that, all
- 18 of the docks, the little building that's there,
- 19 that's all part of the submerged land lease. That
- 20 isn't getting touched. Everything that is there
- 21 on the water is approved by the State for the
- 22 purpose of the submerged land lease. None of that
- 23 is going to get changed. That stays exactly where
- 24 it is.
- 25 MR. KERR: Including the existing?

- 1 MR. BRAINARD: Yes, that little building
- 2 sits --
- 3 MR. LANG: Yeah, that guy that's tucked under
- 4 the boardwalk, he's going to stay there too.
- 5 MR. BRAINARD: 95 -- 98 percent of that
- 6 building is over the water. It's just --
- 7 basically there's about a foot on the seawall and
- 8 the rest of it is -- for support, and the rest of
- 9 it is over the water as part of the submerged land
- 10 lease.
- 11 MR. LANG: You can actually see that right
- 12 here, this solid line right here.
- 13 MR. KARNS: Okay.
- MR. LANG: That's my seawall ledge.
- MR. KARNS: If we had touched that structure,
- 16 you wouldn't be able to permit that back today,
- 17 you know. They're not going to allow you to build
- 18 a structure over the water, so it was very
- 19 important for us --
- 20 MR. LANG: And nothing that low.
- 21 MR. KARNS: -- and a lot of local community
- 22 go in there and buy their fish.
- 23 MR. KERR: Right.
- MR. KARNS: I see them there all the time.
- 25 MR. KERR: So that will remain?

- 1 MR. KARNS: So that will remain. And that
- 2 was important for us to make sure that that
- 3 remained. And that's how we designed around it.
- 4 MR. CRITELLI: It looks great.
- 5 MR. LANG: Thank you, Gae.
- 6 MR. BRAINARD: Any other questions? If we
- 7 don't have any questions, what I'd like to do is
- 8 we can close our meeting and then if you want to
- 9 talk about the restaurant, that's not part of the
- 10 purpose of this meeting, you're welcome to talk
- 11 Bill's ear off all you want about what the
- 12 restaurant is going to be. But at this point
- 13 we're just talking about the site plan.
- If there aren't any other questions about the
- 15 site plan, then we can close the meeting and let
- 16 these ladies have the rest of their evening off.
- 17 MR. CRITELLI: Okay.
- 18 MR. BRAINARD: Okay. All right. Thank you
- 19 very much. I appreciate you being here.
- 20 (The Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.)
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- 25

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