

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

If no one asks to speak about this case prior to the hearing, it will be approved without discussion as part of the Consent Agenda.

Docket Item #3  
SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2007-0115

Planning Commission Meeting  
January 3, 2008

**ISSUE:** Consideration of a request for a special use permit to operate a restaurant within an existing hotel.

**APPLICANT:** Carr Hospitality  
by Hammad Shah

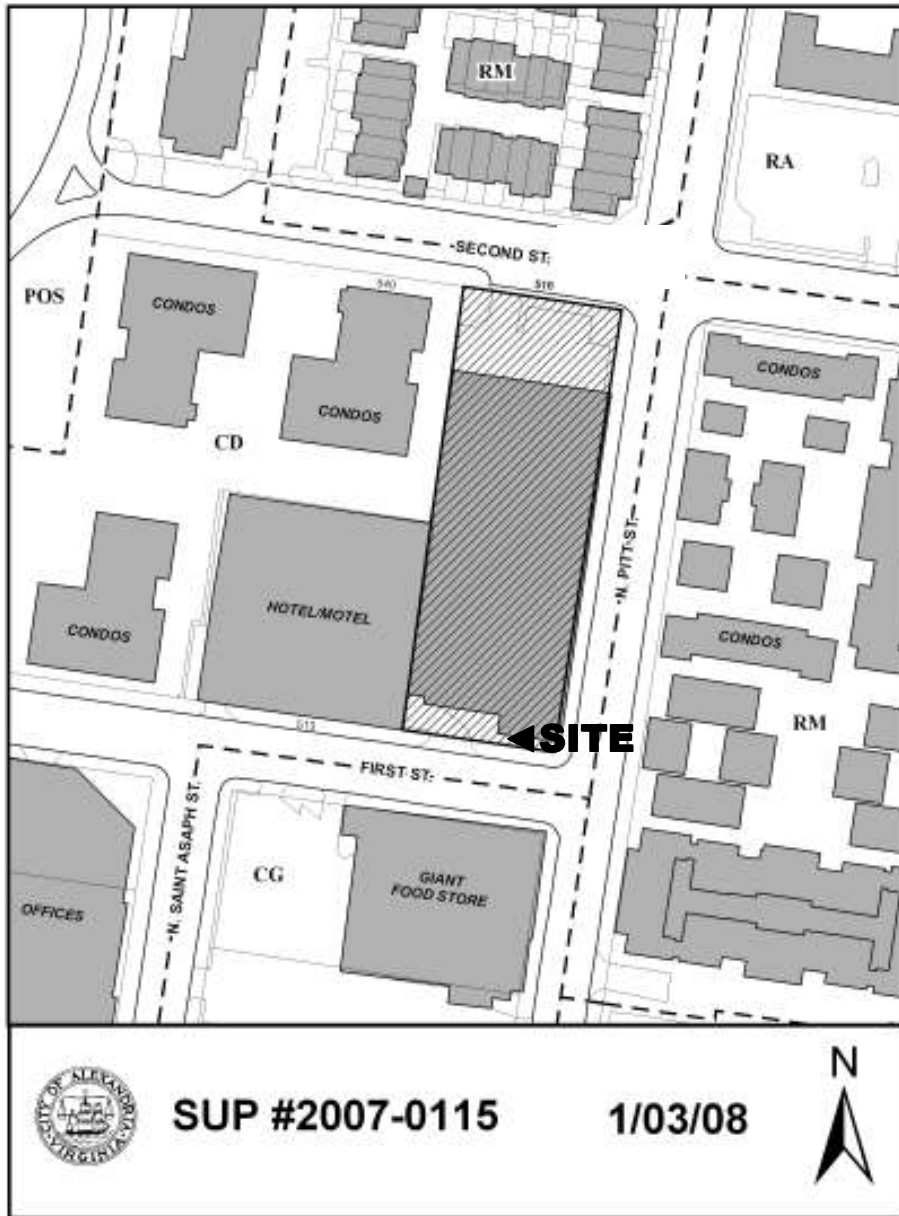
**STAFF:** Richard W. Bray  
Richard.bray@alexandriava.gov

**LOCATION:** 510 Second Street  
(Entrance located on First Street)

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial Downtown

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends **approval** subject to compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances and the recommended permit conditions found in Section III of this report.



SUP #2007-0115

1/03/08



**I. DISCUSSION**

REQUEST

The applicant, Carr Hospitality, requests special use permit approval for the operation of a coffee shop style restaurant located at 510 Second Street.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject property is a hotel located on two lots of record with 295 feet of frontage on First Street, 355 feet of frontage on North Pitt Street, 125 feet of frontage on Second Street and a total lot area of 44,120 square feet. The site is developed with a Holiday Inn Hotel. Primary access to the property is from First Street.



The surrounding area is occupied by a mix of residential and commercial uses. Immediately to the north are townhouses. To the south is a Giant grocery store. To the east and west are condominiums.

BACKGROUND

On November 18, 1978 City Council granted Special Use Permit #1190 for the operation of a hotel and 275 seat restaurant on the subject property. On October 19, 1987 City Council granted Special Use Permit #2049 for the operation of a fitness center at the existing hotel.

On November 29, 2007, staff visited the subject property to determine if the business was in compliance with the conditions of its special use permit. Staff found no violations of the special use permit.

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to operate a coffee shop on the first floor of the existing hotel. The coffee shop will be located in the south east corner of the hotel in the Commonwealth Center.

Hours: 7:00 am – 7:00 pm, daily

Number of seats: 31 indoors  
16 outdoors  
47 total

Noise: No noise impacts anticipated

Trash/Litter: Hotel has commercial trash services

PARKING

According to Section 8-200(A)(8) of the Zoning Ordinance, a restaurant requires one parking space for every four seats. A restaurant with 47 seats will be required to provide 12 off-street parking spaces. The parking requirement is met in the hotel garage.

ZONING/MASTER PLAN DESIGNATION

The subject property is located in the CD/Commercial Downtown zone. Section 4-503(W) of the Zoning Ordinance allows a restaurant in the CD zone only with a special use permit.

The proposed use is consistent with the Old Town North Small Area Plan chapter of the Master Plan which designates the property for retail, office, hotel and service use.

**II. STAFF ANALYSIS**

Staff supports the application for a coffee shop in the Old Town North Holiday Inn. The coffee shop will primarily serve the hotel guests and residents in the neighborhood. A coffee shop is an asset in hotels and the model has worked well in Alexandria. Staff does not anticipate any negative parking or noise impacts from this use as the coffee shop will be located within the existing hotel, there is sufficient parking in the hotel's garage and the proposed unobtrusive entrance and location are not conducive to a destination coffee shop. Although the applicant has indicated operating hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm daily, staff is recommending hours of 6:00 am to 11:00 pm to allow for greater flexibility in operation.

With the following conditions, staff recommends approval of the special use permit.

**III. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS**

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

1. The special use permit shall be granted to the applicant only or to any corporation in which the applicant has a controlling interest. (P&Z)
2. The hours of operation of the restaurant shall be limited to 6:00 am to 11:00 pm, daily. (P&Z)
3. The applicant shall post the hours of operation at the entrance of the business. (P&Z)

4. The applicant shall conduct employee training sessions on an ongoing basis, including as part of any employee orientation, to discuss all SUP provisions and requirements. (P&Z)
5. The applicant shall comply with any requirements adopted as a part of a smoke-free restaurant ordinance. (P&Z)
6. Kitchen equipment shall not be cleaned outside, nor shall any cooking residue be washed into the streets, alleys, or storm sewers. (T&ES)
7. The applicant shall control odors, smoke and any other air pollution from operations at the site and prevent them from leaving the property or becoming a nuisance to neighboring properties, as determined by the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. (T&ES)
8. All loudspeakers shall be prohibited from the exterior of the building and no amplified sounds shall be audible at the property line. (T&ES)
9. The applicant shall provide storage space for solid waste and recyclable materials containers as outlined in the City's "*Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Storage Space Guidelines*", or to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. The City's storage space guidelines and required Recycling Implementation Plan forms are available at: [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) or contact the City's Solid Waste Division at 703-519-3486 ext.132. (T&ES)
10. Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)
11. Applicant shall contribute \$500.00 to the Litter Control Fund for the installation of litter receptacles along the public right-of-ways. Monetary contribution to be submitted to the Department of T&ES, Engineering Division, Room 4130, 301 King Street within 60 days of City Council approval. (T&ES)
12. The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking and/or provide employees who use mass transit with subsidized bus and rail fare media. The applicant shall also post DASH and Metrobus schedules on-site for employees. (T&ES)
13. Provide a menu or list of foods to be handled at this facility to the Health Department prior to opening. (Health)

14. The Director of Planning and Zoning shall review the special use permit after it has been operational for one year, and shall docket the matter for consideration by the Planning Commission and City Council if (a) there have been documented violations of the permit conditions which were not corrected immediately, constitute repeat violations or which create a direct and immediate adverse zoning impact on the surrounding community; (b) the director has received a request from any person to docket the permit for review as the result of a complaint that rises to the level of a violation of the permit conditions, (c) the director has determined that there are problems with the operation of the use and that new or revised conditions are needed. (P&Z)

STAFF: Faroll Hamer, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning  
Richard Josephson, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Zoning;  
Richard Bray, Urban Planner.

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Staff Note: In accordance with section 11-506(c) of the zoning ordinance, construction or operation shall be commenced and diligently and substantially pursued within 18 months of the date of granting of a special use permit by City Council or the special use permit shall become void.

#### IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F - finding

##### Transportation & Environmental Services:

- R-1 Kitchen equipment shall not be cleaned outside, nor shall any cooking residue be washed into the streets, alleys, or storm sewers. (T&ES)
- R-2 The applicant shall control odors, smoke and any other air pollution from operations at the site and prevent them from leaving the property or becoming a nuisance to neighboring properties, as determined by the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. (T&ES)
- R-3 All loudspeakers shall be prohibited from the exterior of the building and no amplified sounds shall be audible at the property line. (T&ES)
- R-4 The applicant shall provide storage space for solid waste and recyclable materials containers as outlined in the City's "*Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Storage Space Guidelines*", or to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. The City's storage space guidelines and required Recycling Implementation Plan forms are available at: [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) or contact the City's Solid Waste Division at 703-519-3486 ext.132. (T&ES)
- R-5 Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)
- R-6 Applicant shall contribute \$500.00 to the Litter Control Fund for the installation of litter receptacles along the public right-of-ways. Monetary contribution to be submitted to the Department of T&ES, Engineering Division, Room 4130, 301 King Street within 60 days of City Council approval. (T&ES)
- R-7 The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking and/or provide employees who use mass transit with subsidized bus and rail fare media. The applicant shall also post DASH and Metrobus schedules on-site for employees. (T&ES)
- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line.

- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99).

Code Enforcement:

- C-1 New construction must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-2 Construction permits are required for this project. Plans shall accompany the permit application that fully details the construction as well as layouts and schematics of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.
- C-3 Alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-4 A fire prevention code permit is required for the proposed operation. An egress plan showing fixture location, aisles and exit doors shall be submitted for review with the permit application.
- C-5 This structure contains mixed use groups and is subject to the mixed use and occupancy requirements of USBC 302.3.
- C-6 Alterations to the existing structure and/or installation and/or altering of equipment therein requires a building permit. Five sets of plans, bearing the signature and seal of a design professional registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, must accompany the written application. The plans must include all dimensions, construction alterations details, kitchen equipment, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical layouts and schematics.
- C-7 Prior to the application for new Certificate of Occupancy, the applicant shall submit a building permit for a change of use. Drawings prepared by a licensed architect or professional engineer shall accompany the permit application. These plans shall show provide existing conditions, construction type data, and a plot plan. In addition, these plans shall show proposed conditions and provide data by the design professional which details how the proposed use will comply with the current edition of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code for the new use in the area of structural strength, means of egress, passive and active fire protection, heating and ventilating systems, handicapped accessibility and plumbing facilities.



- C-8 Toilet Rooms for Persons with Disabilities:  
(a) Water closet heights must comply with USBC 1109.2.2  
(b) Door hardware must comply with USBC 1109.13
- C-9 Toilet Facilities for Persons with Disabilities: Larger, detailed, dimensioned drawings are required to clarify space layout and mounting heights of affected accessories. Information on door hardware for the toilet stall is required (USBC 1109.2.2).
- C-10 Required exits, parking, and facilities shall be accessible for persons with disabilities.
- C-11 Any increase in occupancy must be supported by the required number of restroom facilities within the structure in accordance with the USBC/ International Plumbing Code.
- C-12 Any increase in occupancy will only be considered for the exterior of the structure and will not modify the approved interior approved occupant load. At no time shall any approved outdoor seating be incorporated inside due to foul weather or other situations.
- C-13 The following code requirements apply where food preparation results in the development of grease laden vapors:  
(a) All cooking surfaces, kitchen exhaust systems, grease removal devices and hoods are required to be protected with an approved automatic fire suppression system.  
(b) A grease interceptor is required where there is drainage from fixtures and equipment with grease-laden waste located in food preparation areas of restaurants. Food waste grinders can not discharge to the building drainage system through a grease interceptor.
- C-14 A rodent control plan shall be submitted to this office for review and approval prior to occupancy. This plan shall consist of the following:  
(a) Measures to be taken to control the placement of litter on site and the trash storage and pickup schedule.  
(b) How food stuffs will be stored on site.  
(c) Rodent baiting plan.

Health Department:

- C-1 An Alexandria Health Department Permit is required for all regulated facilities. Permits are not transferable.

- C-2 Permits must be obtained prior to operation.
- C-3 Five sets of plans of each facility must be submitted to and approved by this department prior to construction. Plans must comply with Alexandria City Code, Title 11, Chapter 2, Food and Food Establishments. There is a \$135.00 fee for review of plans for food facilities.
- C-4 Certified Food Managers must be on duty during all hours of operation.
- R-1 Provide a menu or list of foods to be handled at this facility to the Health Department prior to opening.

Parks & Recreation:

- F-1 No Comment

Police Department:

- R-1 The applicant is to contact the Community Relations Unit of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4520 regarding a security survey for the business.
- R-2 The applicant is to contact the Community Relations Unit of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4520 regarding robbery readiness training for all employees.
- F-1 The applicant is not seeking an A.B.C. permit. The Police Department concurs.

**REPORT ATTACHMENTS  
AVAILABLE IN THE PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICE**