Tighe&Bond

G-5088-01 June 1, 2023

Ms. Samantha Collins, Chair City of Portsmouth Conservation Commission 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

Re: Request for Conservation Commission Work Session 505 U.S. Route 1 Bypass - Proposed Redevelopment

Dear Chair Collins:

On behalf of Giri Hotel Management (owner/applicant) we are pleased to submit the following information to support a request for a Work Session with the Conservation Commission for the above referenced project:

- Conceptual Site Plan, dated May 2, 2023;
- Conceptual Aerial Overlay Exhibit, dated May 2, 2023;

The proposed project is located at 505 U.S. Route 1 Bypass which is identified as Map 234 Lot 5 on the City of Portsmouth Tax Maps and currently consists of a 56-room motel with associated parking. This parcel of land is located in the General Business district and is bound to the north by Coakley Road, the east by U.S. Route 1 Bypass and south & west by Hodgson Brook.

The proposed project consists of the demolition of the existing motel and the construction of a 5-story, 122-key hotel (Cambria) with first floor parking and a 1-story fast food restaurant/coffee shop with an accessory drive-through (Starbucks). The project will include associated site improvements such parking, pedestrian access, utilities, stormwater management, lighting and landscaping.

As currently conceptually designed, this project would require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for improvements within the 100-foot wetland buffer. In addition, the project will require relief from the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) for efforts to pull buildings and pavement closer to the roads and further away from Hodgson Brook than the existing condition. As such, we are seeking to meet with the Conservation Commission for a Work Session to obtain initial feedback on the concept in advance of formally submitting the various land-use applications that will be required for this project.

This property has unique site constraints in that it is a corner lot bound by two streets to the front and Hodgson Brook to the rear. The project team feels the relief that would be sought for this concept will be reasonable requests given the site's existing condition and the significant environmental benefit the project will provide for Hodgson Brook.

The proposed parking and buildings have been situated in a manner such that all impervious surfaces will be removed within at 25-feet of Hodgson Brook and all buildings will be removed within at 150-feet of Hodgson Brook. The project will require a CUP from the Planning Board for a reduction in the parking requirement through use of a parking demand analysis. Per the City of Portsmouth zoning, this concept would require 177 parking spaces. Utilizing data from the the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Parking Generation Manual for a preliminary parking demand analysis, the average peak parking demand for this conceptual program is 111 spaces where 115 are provided in this concept. This reduction in the parking

required will not only eliminate unnecessary impervious surface but also will be beneficial for the implementation of buffer improvements along Hodgson Brook.

Overall, this concept will reduce impervious surface within the 100-foot buffer by approximately 12,500 SF and will enhance water quality with the addition of stormwater treatment practices that do not currently exist on the site. In addition to removing pavement that goes right up to the edge of the brook, the concept identifies opportunities for buffer enhancement along the brook.

On behalf of the applicant, we respectfully request to be placed on the June 14, 2023, Conservation Commission meeting agenda for a Work Session. Based on coordination with the Planning Department, we understand the commission will be performing site walks on June 7, 2023, and have confirmed a site walk on that day for this project in advance of the June 14 meeting.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me by phone at (603) 433-8818 or by email at <u>pmcrimmins@tighebond.com</u>.

Sincerely,

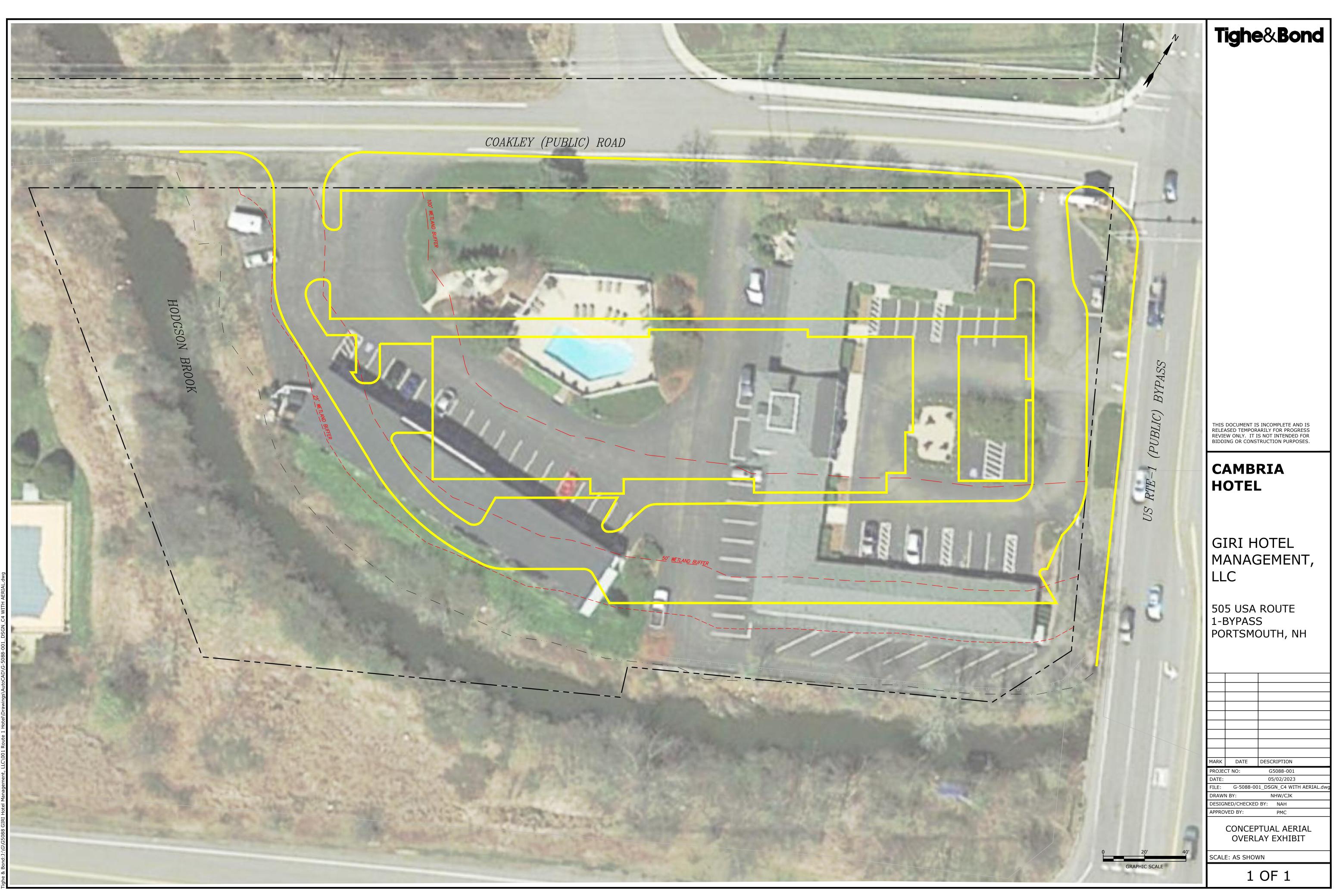
TIGHE & BOND, INC.

Patrick M. Crimmins, PE Vice President

Copy: Giri Hotel Management Bosen & Associates



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UIRED=		177 SPACES



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