

Civil Site Planning Environmental Engineering

133 Court Street Portsmouth, NH 03801-4413

July 8, 2024

Rick Chellman, Chairman City of Portsmouth Planning Board City of Portsmouth Municipal Complex 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

Re: Application for Preliminary/Conceptual Review Assessor's Map 222, Lot 11 550 Sagamore Avenue Altus Project No. 5591

Dear Mr. Chellman,

On behalf of Green and Company (Green), Altus Engineering, LLC (Altus) is pleased to submit an application for the Planning Board Conceptual/Preliminary Review. Green has an agreement to purchase the property located at 550 Sagamore Avenue from The Frances E. Mouflouze Revocable Trust of 2015. They are proposing to construct a new subdivision roadway to access three new residential house lots.

Enclosed is the Existing Conditions Survey Plan and the Conceptual Subdivision Plan for discussion at the July 19, 2024 Planning Board meeting.

There is a single residence on the 1.44-acre parcel. The parcel lies within the Single Resident B Zoning District which has a minimum 15,000 SF lot size requirement. By area, the parcel can support 4-homes. Multiple dwelling units on a lot is not permitted in the zone. The current Owner applied for variances on two occasions to allow 4 then 3 dwelling units on the parcel without subdivision with the concept to preserve and protect the majority of the forested area. The Board of Adjustment denied the variances in both scenarios leaving the only viable alternative to develop the parcel as a conventional subdivision.

The majority of the parcel is forested with some ledge outcrops. There is a small wetland system along the northerly boundary that is not a vernal pool and does not require any buffer protection. Enclosed is documentation from Joseph Noel, Wetlands Scientist, confirming the wetland status.

We are proposing to construct a private 40-foot wide with a 20-foot-wide paved surface roadway to access the lots. All of the lots will be accessed from the new private street. A homeowner's

Tel: (603) 433-2335 E-mail: Altus@altus-eng.com

association will maintain the roadway and stormwater management system. The lots will be serviced with municipal water and sewer.

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, we presented the proposal to the Technical Advisory Committee to obtain their feedback and input. They gave us guidance on the technical aspects of the design should we decide to proceed with permitting.

We look forward to getting input from the Board. Please feel free to call or email me directly should you have any questions or need any additional information in advance of the meeting.

Sincerely,

**ALTUS ENGINEERING, LLC** 

Enclosures

eCopy: Michael Green

Jenna Green

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## Letter of Authorization

I/We, Ted W Alex and Patricia Cameron trustees of The Frances E Mouflouze Revocable Trust of 2015 u/d/t dated September 24, 2015, as owner of certain real property situated in Portsmouth, NH further described 1.48 +/- acres of land with single family home located at 550 Sagamore Avenue with 140' of frontage on Sagamore Avenue, as shown in Tax Assessors Map 222 Lot 11 and further defined by legal description found at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds Book 5660 Page 2227 dated October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. (hereinafter, "Property") do hereby authorize Green & Company Building and Development Corp. and its Affiliates, Agents, Assigns and Engineers to act on my/our behalf and to appear before the zoning board of adjustment and/or the planning board of said city/town and/or any of its boards or commissions, in my/our behalf for the purpose of seeking any regulatory relief that may be requested by the person I/we have above authorized, including variances, special exceptions, dimensional waivers, site plan approval, lot line adjustment approval and subdivision approval, hereby ratifying any actions taken by him/her/them to obtain any such relief. I/We authorize Green & Company Building and Development Corp. and its Affiliates, Agents, Assigns and Engineers to act in my/our behalf in all matters concerning the development and approval process, without limitation, for the above stated property, to include any required signatures.

I/We shall cooperate fully with Green & Company Building and Development Corp. and its Affiliates, Agents, Assigns and Engineers in seeking timely public approvals and for the completion of the sale contemplated herein. I/We agree to use my/our good faith efforts to provide any assistance I/we reasonably can to Green & Company Building and Development Corp. and its Affiliates, Agents, Assigns and Engineers throughout the development process, including but not limited to signing permit applications as needed.

Sharon L. Hartford	DocuSigned by:	5/29/2024
Witness	Owner:	Date
Sharon L. Hartford	DocuSigned by:	5/29/2024
Witness	Owner:	Date

## JOSEPH W. NOEL P.O. BOX 174 SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE 03908 (207) 384-5587

CERTIFIED SOIL SCIENTIST

WETLAND SCIENTIST

LICENSED SITE EVALUATOR

June 15, 2024

Mr. Eric D. Weinrieb, P.E.
Altus Engineering
133 Court Street
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

RE: Wetland Delineation, 550 Sagamore Avenue, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, JWN #24-58

## Dear Eric:

On May 10, 2024, an on-site was made to the above-referenced property (per your request). The purpose was to determine if there were any areas on the lot that would classify as a wetland. A residential home is situated near Sagamore Avenue with the eastern side of the lot being wooded with sporadic bedrock outcrops. One small isolated basin, centrally located on the northern property line did qualify as a wetland. Six sequentially numbered pink and black striped flags (labelled EOW1 thru EOW6) were placed along the wetland-upland boundary.

To determine the wetland boundary, the methodologies in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers document Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987) along with the required Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region, (Version 2.0) were used. Wetlands were identified based on soils, vegetation, and hydrology. Except in special cases, all three factors (hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and wetland hydrology) must be present for an area to classify as wetland.

The wetland area was not ponded with surface water on the day of the site visit. There was evidence of occasional surface water (i.e., water marks) along with blackened leaves and orientated pine needles on the soil surface. The lack of surface water eliminated this area, in my opinion, from being a potential vernal pool. There appears to be a limited watershed that contributes run-off to this basin. Also, there is some evidence that the abutting lot has added fill material that may have blocked the natural runoff from this basin to downslope areas. To be a viable vernal pool surface water needs to be present in the early spring and the hydroperiod needs to be long enough for the breeding amphibians to complete the early life cycle to a juvenile age. This spring there were a number of rain events that filled most vernal pools and this basin did not contain water on May 10, 2024.

This basin does classify as a wetland based on: the poorly drained soil conditions (i.e., hydric soils), evidence of soil saturation and occasional ponding (evidence of wetland hydrology), and

while vegetation was limited in the basin, a few red maples (Acer rubrum) were observed (i.e., hydrophytic vegetation).

I hope this letter is sufficient for your planning purposes. Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Noel

Josh W. Niel

NH Certified Soil Scientist #017 NH Certified Wetland Scientist #086







