BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD

Regular Meeting Tuesday September 8, 2015 —MINUTES—

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Rusak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.in the Municipal Courtroom, 100 Commons Way, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. On <u>January 19, 2015</u>, proper notice was sent to the Courier Newspaper and the Star-Ledger and filed with the Clerk at the Township of Bridgewater and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Please be aware of the Planning Board policy for public hearings: no new applications will be heard after 10:00 pm and no new testimony will be taken after 10:15 pm. Hearing Assistance is available upon request.

Accommodation will be made for individuals with a disability, pursuant to the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), provided the individual with the disability provides 48 hours advance notice to the planning department secretary before the public meeting." However, if the individual should require special equipment or services, such as a CART transcriber, seven days advance notice, excluding weekends and holidays, may be necessary

3. SALUTE TO FLAG:

There was salute to the flag.

4. ROLL CALL:

Stephen Rodzinak – present James Franco – present Chairman Walter F. Rusak – present Councilman Allen Kurdyla – present

Ron Charles – present Tricia Casamento – absent Mayor Dan Hayes – present Evan Lerner, Alt. #1 – present

Others present: Board Attorney Tom Collins, Board Engineer Robert C. Bogart, Board Planner Scarlett Doyle, Recording Secretary Marianna Voorhees and Diane M. Holmes CCR.

5. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:

August 11, 2015, Regular Meeting (pending)

The foregoing minutes will be presented for Board consideration when completed. No action was taken.

August 24, 2015 - Motion by Mr. Lerner, second by Mr. Franco, the foregoing minutes were adopted as written on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE:

Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Chairman Rusak, Mayor Hayes, Councilman

Kurdyla, Mr. Franco, Mr. Lerner

ABSENT:

Mrs. Casamento

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD Regular Meeting Tuesday, September 8, 2015

-MINUTES-

6. MEMORIALIZATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Toys R Us Inc. (Babies R Us)

Block 349 Lot 5

#15-026-PB, Minor Site Plan

Time: 9/17/15

Eligible to Vote: Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Mr. Franco, Councilman Kurdyla, Mr. Rusak, Mayor

Hayes, Mr. Lerner

DECISION: Approved with conditions 8/24/15

The foregoing resolution memorializing the approval with conditions on 8/24/15 was adopted as presented on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE:

Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Chairman Rusak, Mayor Hayes, Councilman

Kurdyla, Mr. Franco, Mr. Lerner

ABSENT:

Mrs. Casamento

7. LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS:

Al Falah Center

Block 477 Lot 17 & 18

#15-025-PB, Preliminary and Final Site Plan

Time: 11/14/15

See attached Transcription dated September 8, 2015.

Prepared by: Diane M. Holmes, C.C.R. of Rizman Rappaport Dillon & Rose, 66 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039

The Al Falah Center application will be carried to September 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with no additional notice required.

8. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Board on any matter not listed on the agenda.

9. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Franco, second by Mr. Charles, the Board approved the professional services resolution for Andrew Feranda of Shropshire Associates LLC for traffic review of the Chimney Rock Crossing LLC East and West application on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE:

Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Chairman Rusak, Mayor Hayes, Councilman

Kurdyla, Mr. Franco,

ABSENT:

Mrs. Casamento, Mr. Lerner (left at 10:55)

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Marie Lehberger Secretary to the Planning Division

In The Matter Of:

In Re: Al Falah Center

Transcript of Proceedings September 8, 2015

Rizman Rappaport Dillon & Rose
66 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave.
Livingston, N.J. 07039
(973) 992-7650
reporters@rizmanrappaport.com

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

!	Page	1	Page 3
1	PLANNING BOARD	1	CHAIRMAN RUSAK: We'll move on to the
2	TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER COUNTY OF SOMERSET		next item of business and that is the land
3	STATE OF NEW JERSEY		development application of the Al Falah Center.
4	IN THE MATTER OF:	4	3.60 00 00 1 3.6 00 1
5	AL FALAH CENTER TRANSCRIPT OF		board members. I'm Lloyd Tubman. I'm the attorney
6	BLOCK 477 LOT 5 PROCEEDINGS #15-025-PB	- 1	for the applicant. I'm with Archer & Greiner in
7	PRELIMINARY AND FINAL SITE PLAN		Flemington, and this is a continuation of your last
8			hearing.
9	Bridgewater Township Municipal Building 100 Commons Way	9	
10	Bridgewater, New Jersey Tuesday, September 8, 2015		engineer, Mr. Ardman. I'll wait a second. You
11	Commencing approximately 7 p.m.		heard the testimony of Yasser Abdelkader who is the
12	BEFORE:		president of Al Falah Center. We had questions by
13	BOARD MEMBERS		the board of Mr. Abdelkader. We have we did not
14	RON CHARLES		have questions of the public. So that would be the
15	JAMES V. FRANCO		next order of business.
l	DANIEL J. HAYES, JR., Mayor ALLEN KURDYLA, Councilman	16	The second secon
16	EVAN LERNER STEPHEN RODZINAK MALTER F DIGAY Chairman		statement at the last hearing. Mr. Abdelkader
17	WALTER F. RUSAK, Chairman		
18	THOMAS F. COLLINS, JR., ESQ., Board Attorney ROBERT BOGART, FE, Township Engineer	19	
19	SCARLETT DOYLE, PP, Township Planner MARIANNA VOORHEES, Board Secretary		correct that on the building now, and I'd like to
20		21	
21	APPEARANCES:	22	
22	ARCHER & GREINER, P.C.	23	
23	Attorneys for the Plaintiffs 361 Route 31	24	and appear to the part of the control of the contro
24	Flemington, New Jersey 08822 BY: LLOYD H. TUBMAN, ESQ.		everyone. Thank you very much for allowing me to
25			everyone. Thank you very maon for allowing into to
	Page	2	Page 4
1	# AT 15 PT TO		
1 -	INDEX	1	speak again.
2	I N D E X EXAMINATION PAGE	l i	speak again. What I wanted to correct is basically
_	EXAMINATION PAGE	2	What I wanted to correct is basically
2	EXAMINATION PAGE YASSER ABDELKADER 3 RALPH FINELLI 39	3	What I wanted to correct is basically the number of students that the school will can
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- 1 this, so the number of classrooms in the building
- 2 will be how many classrooms?
- 3 MR. ABDELKADER: The number of rooms in
- 4 the building is 24. So 24 rooms can actually
- 5 function as classrooms, but you can't have every
- 6 single room as a classroom. We will need multiple
- 7 ones that will actually be the classrooms.
- 8 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: I'm smiling because I
- 9 spent 35 years as a superintendent of schools. So I
- 10 do understand how classrooms can be used, but go 11 ahead.
- What's your capacity for the student
- 13 body or the personnel in the building? The
- 14 capacity, that's the number of people that will --
- 15 can be in the building.
- 16 MR. ABDELKADER: Four hundred.
- 17 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Four hundred?
- 18 MR. ABDELKADER: Yes.
- 19 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Okay. For the record,
- 20 it's 400 people and 24 rooms.
- 21 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we should
- 22 open now to the public for questions or comments.
- 23 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Anyone in the public
- 24 wish to cross-examine the witness and any concerns
- 25 that they had in dealing with his synopsis of the

- 1 sworn in as a witness. You are with --
 - 2 MS. COFFEY: I'm with Porzio, Bromberg
 - з & Newman.
 - 4 MR, COLLINS: Peter Wolfson was here at
 - 5 the last meeting and you work with Peter. Is that
 - 6 correct?
 - 7 MS. COFFEY: That is correct.
 - 8 MR. COLLINS: I don't think I've meet
 - 9 you personally. So go ahead.
 - 10 MS. COFFEY: Hello. I'm here on behalf
 - 11 of Woodmont, a single owner of a single-family lot
 - 12 dwelling as well as a hundred-unit rental community
 - 13 in the area of the proposed site. We just have a
 - 14 few questions.
 - 15 One was I think there was testimony at
 - 16 the last meeting that you'd anticipated a higher
 - 17 attendance in the summer months when school is out.
 - 18 MR. ABDELKADER: This is only for
 - 19 Friday, for the Friday service, and that's going to
 - 20 be -- yes. When school is out, you see more of the
 - 21 children who don't need to go to school in the
 - 22 summer.
 - MS. COFFEY: How much do you expect to
 - 24 be worshipping in the summer on those Friday
 - 25 occasions?

Page 6

Page 8

- 1 building?
- 2 MR. COLLINS: Or make a statement if
- з you'd like.
- 4 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Or statements or
- 5 concerns.
- 6 MS. COFFEY: Good evening.
- 7 MR. COLLINS: Were you sworn in at the
- a last meeting?
- 9 MS. COFFEY: I was not.
- 10 MR. COLLINS: Please raise your right
- 11 hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- 12 whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you
- 13 God.
- 14 MS. COFFEY: I do.
- 15 MR. COLLINS: Can you state your name
- 16 and spell your last name?
- 17 MS. COFFEY: The name is Katharine
- 18 Coffey, C-O-F-F-E-Y.
- 19 MR. COLLINS: Katharine, you're an
- 20 attorney, right?
- 21 MS. COFFEY: I am an attorney.
- 22 MR. COLLINS: I'm sorry.
- MS. COFFEY: That's all right. I'll
- 24 tell the truth anyway.
- MS. COLLINS: You don't have to be

- 1 MR. ABDELKADER: Probably 175 I believe
- 2 roughly speaking.
- 3 MS. COFFEY: And what is the maximum
- 4 capacity for the mosque, the building that is used
- 5 for worship?
- 6 MR. ABDELKADER: That, if you don't
- 7 mind, I'll leave for Ralph, our architect. He will
- 8 be better able to answer that.
- 9 MS. COFFEY: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 MR. ABDELKADER: Sure.
- 11 MS. COFFEY: Do you anticipate that
- 12 most of the folks coming to worship will be
- 13 traveling by car?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Yes.
- MS. COFFEY: I understand there will be
- 16 classrooms in the mosque in addition to the school
- 17 building?
- 18 MR. ABDELKADER: Well, the classrooms
- 19 in the mosque are basically going to be classrooms
- 20 in the meantime until school is available. So there
- 21 are some classrooms in the mosque that will be used
- 22 for Sunday school.
- MS. COFFEY: And will their use be
- 24 limited to Sunday school only?
- MR. ABDELKADER: No. They will be used

- 1 for Sunday school, Islamic school on Sunday. They
- 2 will be double -- you know, they would double as
- 3 rooms for the daycare. We plan to have a daycare
- 4 during weekdays, and they might also have some use
- 5 in the evenings by small groups of like adults for
- 6 adult education, small study groups and stuff, you
- 7 know, such functions.
- 8 MS. COFFEY: And is the intention of
- 9 the daycare to always be located in those classrooms
- 10 or will it eventually move over to the school
- 11 building?
- MR. ABDELKADER: That we have not
- 13 really thought out yet, but most likely, the school
- 14 will be dedicated as a school once it's open. So,
- 15 most likely, it will stay in the mosque, in the
- 16 mosque building.
- MS. COFFEY: Am I right that the plans
- 18 for the daycare to be open Monday to Friday 8 a.m.
- 19 to 7 p.m.?
- 20 MR. ABDELKADER: Again, the hours
- 21 haven't really been decided. I mean we will
- 22 basically see what's typical and what's normal for a
- 23 daycare and those normal hours of operation.
- MS. COFFEY: And the daycare will be
- 25 available to members of the public. It won't be

- y 1 MR. ABDELKADER: That we haven't -- we
 - 2 haven't thought about that, but I mean we would --
 - 3 we would welcome people from the community, but that
 - 4 it's not going to be rented or anything.
 - 5 MS. COFFEY: And will there be some
 - 6 sort of a process, if someone wanted to have a
 - 7 soccer game, they would contact you?
 - 8 MR. ABDELKADER: Yes, it will be
 - 9 coordinated and scheduled.
 - 10 MS. COFFEY: Thank you.
 - 11 MR. ABDELKADER: You're welcome.
 - MR. COLLINS: You could just state your
 - 13 name.
 - MR. ROBERTS: Chris Roberts, address
 - 15 737 West Foothill Road in Bridgewater.
 - 16 These questions are just for you. Am I
 - 17 right? I can't make any statements or anything like
 - 18 that?
 - MR. COLLINS: Now you can make a
 - 20 statement.
 - MR. ROBERTS: The first question is the
 - 22 last time you were here you under oath said the
 - 23 soccer fields would only be for your people in your
 - 24 community. Now you're saying it might be used for
 - 25 the whole town, like travel team wants to use it.

Page 10

Page 12

- 1 restricted?
- 2 MR. ABDELKADER: Correct.
- 3 MS. COFFEY: One of my questions is how
- 4 many classrooms are in the school, and you covered
- 5 that. Thank you.
- 6 And what grade levels do you anticipate
- 7 will be at the school?
- 8 MR. ABDELKADER: The school is intended
- 9 to be full K through 12. However, we -- it's going
- 10 to be ramped up over probably many, many years
- 11 because we will start with the lower grades, and as
- 12 those generations start graduating, we will make the
- 13 higher grades open.
- MS. COFFEY: And do I understand that
- 15 you are also planning to have playing fields,
- 16 soccer, volleyball, basketball at that rate?
- 17 MR. ABDELKADER: One of each, yes.
- 18 MS. COFFEY: And who will be using
- 19 those facilities?
- 20 MR. ABDELKADER: The school when it's
- 21 functional and for community for its community
- 22 members.
- 23 MS. COFFEY: When you say community
- 24 members, you mean members of your congregation or
- 25 the community of Bridgewater at large?

- 1 I specifically asked that question, and
- 2 you answered it, no, it's only for the people that
- 3 go to your mosque. That was your answer, and you're
- 4 already changing things the first time you're here.
- 5 MS. TUBMAN: I will check the
- 6 transcript, but I think I flinched when he said some
- 7 people from the public company use the field also.
- 8 MR. ROBERTS: No. He didn't, He
- 9 looked at that gentleman right there and he said no.
- 10 You can look at the transcript. That's what you
- 11 said, and that's a concern of the local people,
- 12 especially the people that live on West Foothill
- 13 Road. Okay.
- 14 I don't know how this turns from a
- 15 religious building to a school, okay, a K through 12
- 16 school. Is that -- I'm asking the board is that
- 17 allowed?
- 18 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Schools are allowed
- 19 as a conditional use in the zone. A place like
- 20 this, a house of worship, can have a school as well
- 21 on its premises, but it's going to be there
- 22 independently.
- MR. ROBERTS: But you guys understand
- 24 my concern. If you look at the transcript, a
- 25 specific question was asked, and your answer was no,

4 Okay.

7 question first?

14 no. It hasn't changed.

22 about anything extravagant.

MR. ROBERTS: Sure.

5

1 and my house is the one that's going to be the

2 closest to that soccer field. I don't want to see3 that, Okay. It's a quiet, residential street.

One other question I have for you is --

10 very specific by you and I remember it. If the

11 field -- if the field or the courts will be rented 12 to anybody or if there's going to be any leagues,

13 available to any leagues, and the answer is still

16 mean we are not going to stand and say unanimously

17 you're not allowed. That's not right to start with.

18 If there's a friendly, friendly game, if there's a couple of people from the neighborhood, that's what

20 I'm talking about. I'm not talking about renting

21 it. I'm not talking about leagues. I'm not talking

24 question about leagues because two of their lawyers'

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I know their

25 children play travel soccer. That's what their

What I'm talking about is that if -- I

MR. ABDELKADER: Can I address the

MR. ABDELKADER: The question was very,

Page 13

- 1 going to make a statement.
 - 2 We know that the -- if this is -- this
 - 3 doesn't go through, it's going back to the -- it's
 - 4 going back to the Redwood Inn. Am I correct in
 - 5 saying that?
 - 6 So if this gets -- if this gets
 - 7 rejected by this group here, it automatically goes
 - 8 back to Redwood Inn property.
 - 9 MR. COLLINS: It could.
 - 10 MR. ROBERTS: It's written in black and
 - 11 white, Mr. Collins. It's written in black and
 - 12 white.
 - MR. COLLINS: There's rights to appeal
 - 14 that denial, sir.
 - 15 MR. ROBERTS: Okay.
 - 16 MR. COLLINS: It's not --
 - MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Hayes lives a mile
 - 18 away from the Redwood Inn property.
 - MR. COLLINS: Why don't you focus on
 - 20 this case?
 - 21 MR. ROBERTS: I'm talking about this
 - 22 case right now.
 - 23 MR. COLLINS: No.
 - MR. ROBERTS: I'm not. Now, you're
 - 25 telling me I'm not talking about this case. I live

Page 14

- 1 question is. Okay.
- 2 The second question I have -- I mean
- 3 whatever. The second question I have is when you
- 4 guys were going to go up on the Redwood Inn
- 5 property, you were going to renovate, just renovate
- 6 one building. Now, all of a sudden, you have this
- 7 big, extravagant plan.
- 8 I'm wondering is this because of the
- 9 \$5.6 million settlement you're getting that you're
- 10 able to do all this?
- 11 I just -- I think that's a fair
- 12 question. I mean going from a small plot of land
- 13 you were going to renovate to this.
- 14 MR. ABDELKADER: Can I --
- 15 MS. TUBMAN: It's not really an
- 16 appropriate question, but you can answer it.
- MR. ROBERTS: Why is it not an
- 18 appropriate question?
- 19 MS. TUBMAN: A source of funding is not
- 20 a planning board concern.
- MR. COLLINS: That's an objection, Mr.
- 22 Roberts, and the objection is correct. It's
- 23 irrelevant what the source of funding is.
- 24 MR. ROBERTS: Okay. My question is
- 25 then -- I'm going to make a statement. Then I'm

Page 16

- 1 300 feet away from that soccer field. I don't want
- 2 it in my backyard. I live in a very quiet,
- 3 residential street. Okay. You guys got -- the
- 4 people up the Mountaintop got a whole load of people
- 5 together. You guys changed the laws. These people
- 6 sued you. Your insurance company told you
- 7 litigation is going nowhere. You better settle, and
- 8 this is what we were stuck with.
- 9 Am I wrong in saying that, Mr. Collins?
- 10 MR. COLLINS: Yes, you are wrong in
- 11 saying that.
- MR. ROBERTS: I am. Well, I don't
- 13 agree with you. Okay.
- MR. COLLINS: That's fine. Why don't
- 15 you focus on what -- we understand you object to
- 16 this site plan. That's what's relevant in this
- 17 case. Focus on those statements.
- 18 MR. ROBERTS: But you said I could make
- 19 a statement. I wanted to make a statement to the
- 20 board.
- MR. COLLINS: And I haven't stopped you
- 22 from making that statement. You do have to focus
- 23 your statements on this site.
- MR. ROBERTS: So I asked a question and
- 25 I was told that he doesn't -- he can't answer it

- 1 although he wants to answer it. How do you go
- 2 from --
- 3 MR. COLLINS: He answered the question,
- 4 and you can move on to the next question.
- 5 MR. ROBERTS: No, he didn't answer it.
- 6 I asked --
- 7 MR. COLLINS: You can repeat it because
- 8 he certainly answered questions that were relevant.
- 9 I agree with the objection of the attorney that the
- 10 other statements are irrelevant. The number of
- 11 dollars is irrelevant.
- MR. ROBERTS: You're ridiculous. You
- 13 really are.
- 14 MR. COLLINS: No, I'm not.
- 15 MR. ROBERTS: Well, I object to that
- 16 statement. How about that?
- 17 MR. COLLINS: Raise your right hand.
- 18 Were you sworn in the last meeting? You were?
- MS. AMIN: You want my name?
- 20 MR. COLLINS: State your name.
- MS. AMIN: Pushpa Amin, P-U-S-H-P-A
- 22 A-M-I-N.
- MR. COLLINS: Ma'am, I don't think you
- 24 were. Please raise your right hand. Do you swear
- 25 or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and

- 1 are closer to their business and pray there for
- 2 Friday service.
- 3 MS. AMIN: So based on your present
- 4 structure, how many people do you expect at the
- 5 location where you will hold your service?
- 6 MR. ABDELKADER: Okay. It used to be
- 7 exact. Generally, we have around like between 100,
- 8 125 on Friday service which is one between 1 and 2
- 9 p.m. That's 100, 125, but during the summer, we see
- 10 the attendance get bumped up a little bit to roughly
- 11 175 because school is out and you see more family,
- 12 more mothers with children and things like that.
- MS. AMIN: So, in future, you would
- 14 anticipate more people to be coming here because
- 15 it's a bigger space?
- MR. ABDELKADER: We can't really tell.
- 17 No one knows the future really.
- 18 MS. AMIN: I'm more concerned for the
- 19 traffic and all that in that area, and that's the
- 20 reason why I'm going to this question, and the
- 21 second reason for asking this question is planning
- 22 why such a big place when are you -- with that
- 23 traffic based on the 200 at most? So the capacity
- 24 of this one, the new mosque, how big is it?
- 25 Space-wise, how many people can it hold?

Page 18

Page 20

Page 19

- 1 nothing but the truth so help you God?
- 2 MS. AMIN: I do. How many people in
- 3 your congregation live in Bridgewater area in the
- 4 township?
- 5 MR. ABDELKADER: We don't track. We
- 6 don't have exact count of that.
- 7 MS. AMIN: Do you expect other people
- 8 from the surrounding areas to attend your church,
- 9 your mosque?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Typically, people go
- 11 to the mosque nearest to their residence. I don't
- 12 know what the boundaries are going to be, but,
- 13 typically, people would look at -- anybody further
- 14 than probably 10, 15 minutes, they're bound to find
- 15 another mosque that is close to them, and,
- 16 typically, people go to the one that's closest to
- 17 them to worship with family and friends and
- 18 neighbors and people are not going to travel far.
- 19 MS. TUBMAN: On Fridays.
- MR. ABDELKADER: On Fridays people who
- 21 are working in the vicinity would come to the Friday
- 22 service, and that's only because it's a workday and
- 23 it's closest to the place of business, but on the 24 flip side, residents of Bridgewater who work far
- 25 also will go to mosque. They will find mosques that

- 1 MR. ABDELKADER: Well, space-wise and
- 2 how many people it can hold, again, I will defer to
- 3 Ralph, our architect, who will be testifying after
- 4 me. He would be better -- he will speak to that a
- 5 lot better than me.
- 6 However, in terms of capacity and
- 7 growth, we have two services annually, twice a year.
- 8 The Eid service, for that one, we will receive
- 9 higher attendance, somewhere in the vicinity of like
- 10 300, 325, 350 people. So for that purpose.
- 11 MS. AMIN: I have a few questions of
- 12 the school.
- 13 MR. ABDELKADER: Sure.
- MS. AMIN: You have mentioned that the
- 15 school would be used as a private school from up to 16 grade 12.
- MR. ABDELKADER: Correct. Yes.
- 18 MS. AMIN: So are you going to bus the
- 19 students or will they be dropped off?
- 20 MR. ABDELKADER: This is -- I mean
- 21 just -- I'm not sure if you were here the last
- 22 hearing, but the school is going to be Phase II.
- 23 This is not going to be built for quite some time

due to a lot of logistics and funding and so forth.

25 So it hasn't really been even a subject

24

- 1 of discussed how the kids are going to be brought
- 2 in, but it's going to be more or less like any other
- 3 school.
- MS. TUBMAN: I can answer that question
- 5 in part. I did look it up. Under the regulations
- 6 governing school transportation in the school
- 7 district, transports to a certain distance, any of
- 8 its students, it's obligated to do the same for
- 9 private school. If it does not provide bussing for
- 10 students that were crossing municipal boundaries,
- 11 then there is no obligation to provide busses.
- MS. AMIN: That's where I was leaning
- 13 at was because some of the rules require that the
- 14 township has to provide bussing in certain
- 15 situations. The schools in our town would require 16 it.
- MS. TUBMAN: That is what the 17
- 18 regulations say.
- MS. AMIN: That puts an extra burden on
- 20 us, the taxpayers.
- The next question I have is, the school 21
- 22 itself, have you got the approval from the state
- 23 education department on the application of what it
- 24 is?
- MR. ABDELKADER: I'll defer to that.

- MS. TUBMAN: Do you own the retract
- 2 right now?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Not yet. 3
- MR. KURZ: So under what guise are you
- proposing to build this mosque?
- MS. TUBMAN: I think that's a question
- 7 to me. We have the owner's consent to file the
- 8 application.
- MR. KURZ: Have any of the owners of
- 10 the Township of Bridgewater made an offer to the
- mosque to provide the facilities or provide land? 11
- MS. TUBMAN: Not to my knowledge. 12
- MR, ABDELKADER: No. 13
- MR. KURZ: Has this owner provided you 14
- 15 any other facilities to look at to consider or was
- this the only property that was offered? 16
- MS. TUBMAN: I'm going to take issue 17
- with the word offer because there were a number of 18
- properties that were discussed.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Then that answered my 20
- 21 question.
- So clarify how many properties were 22
- 23 discussed, two, four, six?
- 24 MS. TUBMAN: Probably six along the
- 25 way, but we are digressing from this site plan.

Page 22

Page 24

- MS. TUBMAN: You don't know the answer
- 2 to that. We've made no application to any outside
- 3 agencies but a school here would have to be
- 4 accredited.
- MS. AMIN: The next question I ask
- 6 about the layout of the school is really for
- 7 architect to answer. Does it meet the state
- 8 requirements? That's the question?
- MS. TUBMAN: I cannot answer that
- 10 question, nor can this witness, but the architect
- 11 will.
- 12 MS. AMIN: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. ABDELKADER: You're welcome. 13
- MR. KURZ: Robert Kurz, 775 West
- 15 Foothill Road, and I was sworn at the last meeting.
- MR. COLLINS: You're still under oath. 16
- MR. KURZ: Sir, quick question I have. 17
- 18 Is this the first property the town offered you for
- 19 the arrangements? Whatever the arrangements would
- 20 be, is this the first property?
- MS. TUBMAN: I can't say that the
- 22 township offered any property. There was discussion
- 23 of a number of properties.
- MR. KURZ: Then I ask the question does
- 25 your mosque -- do they own that property now?

- MR. KURZ: Not completely because I'm
- 2 going to ask you why is this site plan in better
- terms for your mosque than the other five?
- 4 MS. TUBMAN: You can try to answer
- 5 that.
- MR. ABDELKADER: Of all the other б
- 7 properties that were potential or possibilities,
- 8 some were omitted because of environmental reasons,
- 9 because of the amount of wetland or unusable area.
- 10 Some were omitted because of economics. They were
- 11 far, far to expensive and some were eliminated
- 12 because of distance. They were just much too far
- 13 for our community.
- MR. KURZ: But they were in the 14
- 15 Township of Bridgewater?
- MR. ABDELKADER: A few feet from the 16
- 17 border. So it's not really convenient. Bridgewater
- 18 is very big.
- MR. KURZ: So you would say because 19
- 20 this property met all of the criteria you needed is
- 21 why you asked to start this procedure?
- MR. ABDELKADER: It was the most 22
- 23 suited.
- MR. KURZ: In relation to the placement 24
- 25 of the building and the size of the building, you

- 1 had some input to the architect, correct?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Correct.
- MR. KURZ: You gave him ballpark 3
- 4 figures let's say of how many people you'd like to
- 5 have the capacity for or handle?
- MR. ABDELKADER: No. It wasn't really
- 7 based on ballpark capacity and how many people we
- 8 expect to handle because this would handle more than
- 9 our current needs, but as far as what's allowed to
- 10 build on this lot, that's within those parameters.
- MR. KURZ: So being that you now have a
- 12 site, you just told the architect build it as big as
- 13 you can get it?
- MS. TUBMAN: Sir, you were at the last
- 15 meeting when our engineer testified as to coverage,
- 16 square footage, floor area ratio, all of which are
- 17 lesser than is permitted by ordinance.
- MR. KURZ: Yes, I was, but that's not
- 19 the question I have.
- 20 Did the gentleman give carte blanche to
- 21 the architect and say build it as big as we are
- 22 allowed and permissible or did you say -- I'll let
- 23 you answer that question.
- MR. ABDELKADER: We basically looked
- 25 at, again, what the ordinance allows and what we can

- MR. KURZ: With your current
 - 2 congregation -- I apologize. I don't know the
 - 3 terminology. Your current congregation, if that was
 - 4 at a -- it's been how long, five years I think you
 - 5 said?
 - MR. ABDELKADER: Five years. 6
 - MR. KURZ: Five years. Do you believe 7
 - 8 you've reached your maximum capacity at the facility
 - you have now?
 - MR. ABDELKADER: We don't have a 10
 - 11 facility.
 - MR. KURZ: I mean where you're at, the 12
 - 13 Holiday Inn, is that getting too crowded for you
 - 14 now?
 - MR. ABDELKADER: It hasn't really 15
 - 16 changed a whole lot for the time we used it.
 - MR. KURZ: I'll expand on that question 17
 - 18 then. Proportionately, how much larger would you
 - expect your congregation and/or to have this
 - 20 facility and why did you decide to go with a larger
 - 21 facility?
 - MR. ABDELKADER: Again -- and I 22
 - 23 apologize. I can't predict the future. I have no
 - 24 idea as to what the growth would be.
 - MR. KURZ: And if you can't predict the 25

Page 26

Page 28

- 1 build and we decided to go with that.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Now, under the guise
- 3 of what you said there -- and I apologize. It was
- 4 not you. I thought it was you. It might have been
- 5 the landscape person.
- One of the remarks that was made was
- something to the effect, if people come because it's
- 8 more -- it's larger or bigger, great. That's what
- 9 my concern is.
- You may be starting out with an X
- 11 amount of your congregation now, but as word gets
- 12 around, it's a potential for growth. You know, two
- 13 people tell two people, it gets larger. Would that
- 14 not be correct?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Unfortunately, no one 15
- 16 has a crystal ball. No one can tell the future. I
- 17 don't know where those people would move. There's
- 18 certain growth areas of the township. You can, I
- 19 guess, use that as a measure of growth, but,
- 20 basically, people tend to go to mosques that are 21 within their vicinity.
- I mean they are not going to pick up
- 23 and come here because -- I mean there are many
- 24 mosques that are bigger and better and more
- 25 established and so forth.

- 1 future, then you can't tell me when you intend on
- 2 opening up the school?
- MR. ABDELKADER: No.
- MR. KURZ: But you have to have the
- 5 property designed -- I'll ask the attorney. The
- 6 property has to be designed. As long as that's in
- 7 the plans, it's available. Is that correct?
- MS. TUBMAN: That's correct.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Next question. The
- 10 frontage on 202/206, did you have any say to the
- 11 landscape -- landscape architect I believe that
- 12 spoke.
- MS. TUBMAN: Our civil engineer also 13
- 14 did the landscaping.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Did you have any 15
- 16 input as to how you wanted traffic to flow or did he
- 17 provide you with what he said would be the best?
- 18 MR. ABDELKADER: Well, we have --
- 19 between our engineer, our architect and our traffic
- 20 engineer, they -- they have designed it in the best
- 21 way to allow good flow and, you know, reasonable --
- 22 I don't want to venture into that. I'll also leave
- 23 that to our architect and traffic engineer who is
- 24 here also.
- MR. KURZ: I don't know. I believe I 25

- 1 asked this question once before.
- 2 When the gentleman leaves here and the
- 3 architect comes up, we're not allowed to ask this
- 4 gentleman questions about a statement he makes. Is
- 5 that correct?
- 6 MS. TUBMAN: Generally, he will have
- 7 finished his testimony. If something comes up where
- 8 I feel it's necessary ---
- 9 MR. KURZ: You feel. What if I have a
- 10 question?
- MS. TUBMAN: I think you should ask
- 12 your questions now because it's based upon his
- 13 testimony.
- 14 MR. KURZ: That's what I want to find
- 15 out. I don't want to jump the gun and ask a
- 16 question I shouldn't be asking.
- 17 The design as I have seen it calls for
- 18 your mosque and your school. The mosque being a
- 19 dome of 48 feet tall. Is that correct?
- 20 How tall is the mosque going to be up
- 21 at the Redmont facility? Is this larger? That's
- 22 the question I'm asking.
- 23 MR. ABDELKADER: Honestly, I don't
- 24 recall at the Redwood Inn how high the dome was
- 25 going to be.

- --3- --
- MR. KURZ: I'm asking you is there any
- 3 reason, not why the architect did it, but for you?
- 4 Obviously, I ask you the question and the architect

Page 31

Page 32

- 5 is going to answer it.
- 6 MR. ABDELKADER: It is Islamic icon and
- 7 it's architecturally beautiful. That's how we
- 8 intended it to be.

1 better.

- 9 MR. KURZ: But five are required?
- 10 MR. ABDELKADER: They're not required.
- MR. KURZ: Again, I apologize for not
- 12 knowing the religion. How many minarets are
- 13 required under the --
- MR. ABDELKADER: There is no
- 15 requirement. There is no religious requirement that
- 16 basically says that you need X number of minarets.
- 17 MR. KURZ: Okay. And as far as the
- 18 height of the dome itself, is there any requirement
- 19 under Islamic -- Muslim religion how high it be,
- 20 because I've seen they're proportionate? In this
- 21 direction it has to be so many feet high?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Again, there is no
- 23 actual requirement, but in terms of proportion and
- 24 architecture, I'll let Ralph speak to that.
- MR. KURZ: But I'm asking you as far as

- MR. KURZ: This projects calls for,
- 2 there's some question, I'm not an architect, between
- 3 five and six minarets. How many minarets were
- 4 called for or designed into your Redmont or Redwood
- 5 facility?
- 6 MR. ABDELKADER: It's technically five
- 7 for this facility.
- 8 MR. KURZ: Architecturally, I counted
- 9 six. I wasn't sure.
- 10 MR, ABDELKADER: There's a big
- 11 difference. There's a big difference. At the
- 12 Redwood Inn we pretty much had a building that we
- 13 had to work with and we had to make the design
- 14 around that building. So we were bound by that.
- This is a brand new from the ground up
- 16 facility. So we had the, I guess, ability to design
- 17 it how we like it.
- 18 MR. KURZ: I believe it was Mr. Lerner
- 19 asked a question is there any reason that there's
- 20 five minarets called for in this design?
- 21 I saw a plan from the other design was
- 22 only one minaret. Is there any reason for five
- 23 versus one?
- 24 MR. ABDELKADER: Well, I will -- you
- 25 know, the architect will be able to answer that

- 1 religious aspect, not architect, but religious
- 2 aspect,
- 3 MR. ABDELKADER: Correct, no religious
- 4 requirement.
- 5 MR. KURZ: When you were shown this
- 6 site -- I correct myself.
- 7 The building itself is going to be
- 8 used, the mosque now, until such time as the need
- 9 arises for the school is what you're saying?
- 10 MR. ABDELKADER: Correct.
- 11 MR, KURZ: So that will cover the
- 12 daycare plus the religious education.
- 13 MR. ABDELKADER: Correct. Religious
- 14 education will be only on Sunday through the
- 15 weekend.
- MR. KURZ: And part of your testimony
- 17 last week was about the amount of cars -- amount
- 18 cars coming and going. One of the reasons you based
- 19 on your current attendance was the amount of cars
- 20 proportionate to that, but you made no statement as
- 21 far as the intent and/or amount of vehicles for the
- 22 daycare.
- 23 I know they're not staying there, but
- 24 there would be more vehicles there because of the
- 25 teachers or class aides and stuff like that. Am I

1 not correct?

Page 33

- 1 so close there. No. I try to explain. No, we're
- MS. TUBMAN: We have a traffic engineer
- 3 to answer that question this evening.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. That's one question I
- can move over to that side then. 5
- All right. I'm just trying to think of
- 7 any questions, because if the gentleman leaves and
- 8 he brings up something over here, we're stuck out in
- 9 the wind because we can't go back and ask, well, why
- 10 would they want that. The architect is going to say
- 11 that's what we were told and then I can't ask is
- 12 that what they were told.
- MS. TUBMAN: I can tell help you a 13
- 14 little bit. Do you have a board of directors that
- 15 consulted with your architect on the design of the 16 building?
- MR. ABDELKADER: Yes. 17
- MR. KURZ: I know that. I know you're
- 19 a professional. I don't mean you in particular. I
- 20 meant you as the congregation.
- MS. TUBMAN: I'm trying to help you get 21
- 22 there.
- 23 MR. KURZ: Thank you. Question for the
- 24 board. In my limited reading --
- MR. COLLINS: The board doesn't

- 2 on an angle. I'm looking to see if we can have some
- 3 input.
- That would be zoning board. If he gets 4
- 5 the approval here to be build, then they go to
- zoning board for asking for variances?
- MR. COLLINS: No, they're here, and
- 8 their application, generally speaking, is just a
- conditional use and the ordinance of the township.
- MR. KURZ: So how would we go about 10
- 11 asking for that?
- MR. COLLINS: You can ask them. That's 12
- 13 your request of them. If you want to ask that, you
- 14 should ask that.
- MR. KURZ: Yeah. The attorney or 15
- 16 yourself, this may come under the architect, is that
- 17 a lot of concern is the height. In other
- 18 applications they've had balloons up to show people
- 19 exactly how high it is. Tree lines or the rest of
- 20 the people have misconceptions of how high 78 feet
- 21 is. That I think would waylay some fears and plus
- 22 the amount.
- I mean you put up one balloon. They 23
- 24 are going to say one balloon. Put up six balloons.
- 25 People are going to see what six 78 feet towers are

Page 34

Page 36

- 1 necessarily answer questions. The boards makes a
- 2 decision at the end of the case but maybe we can
- 3 help you.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Let me ask you a
- question, quick question.
- In previous applications, the board and
- 7 whoever the proper agency was has certain requests
- 8 of the applicants before they vote on things so that
- 9 the public can see what's going on. Is that not 10 correct?
- MR. COLLINS: Yes, that's correct. 11
- 12 MR. KURZ: One of the things I can
- 13 bring up, and I don't know the exact details, was
- 14 the cell tower down at Green Knoll Firehouse.
- MR. COLLINS: That's probably the 15
- 16 zoning board and not this board.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. That's what I was 17
- 18 looking for, because if they're going to be doing
- 19 certain things, I would ask for the same things that
- 20 they got there which was balloons and stuff to show
- 21 how high things are.
- A lot of people have discussion what's 22
- 23 78 feet? You know, I live right in addition to the
- 24 pond, and I have certain people, my wife included,
- 25 saying we're going to be looking at the tower. It's

- 1 going to look like and you might lessen some
- 2 concerns. That's something I'm considering
- 3 broaching, but that's all I have for the gentleman.
- Thank you very much, sir. 4
- MR. ABDELKADER: Thank you. 5
- 6 MS. TUBMAN: Does the board have
- 7 further questions?
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Anyone else of the 8
- public have questions? Yes, sir.
- MR. MC NALLY: I just have a small 10
- 11 statement. My name is Thomas Mc Nally. I live at
- 12 842 --
- 13 MR. COLLINS: Raise your hand.
- MR. MC NALLY: I didn't know I was 14
- 15 swearing. I thought that came after. I live at
- 842 ---16
- 17 MR. COLLINS: Do you swear or affirm to
- 18 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
- truth so help you God? 19
- MR. MC NALLY: Yes, I do. 20
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name 21
- 22 and address.
- MR. MC NALLY: My name is Thomas Mc 23
- 24 Nally. I live at 842 Carnoustie Drive, Bridgewater,
- 25 New Jersey.

- Carnoustie Drive is a dead end area,
- 2 and the only thing I have to say by way of a
- 3 statement is I hope all of the people who are going
- 4 to church there realize how much they're taking
- 5 their lives into their hands. The people who drive
- 6 202/206 are nuts. They're genuinely nuts.
- We have been hit twice at the very same
- 8 area within a two-month period. We were coming up
- 9 north on 202/206. My wife has the directional
- 10 signal on. We're in the turn to make -- to go into
- 11 Carnoustie and ba-boom. Somebody comes up on our
- 12 right side. We send it to the auto people to take
- 13 care of the collision and repair the car. Really
- 14 looked good.
- Two weeks later my wife is making a
- 16 right turn into Carnoustie Drive. The signal of her
- 17 right-hand signal is on and she got hit again.
- 18 They're nuts. They come up there at the rate of 55
- 19 to 60 miles an hour without any concern with regard
- 20 to people, whether they live there or not, whether
- 21 they're on the road there or not.
- So your people are going to have to be
- 23 extremely concerned, and I would suggest that they
- 24 take a few runs up and down just to see how bad it's
- 25 going to be, but it's nuts.

- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Anyone else from the
 - 2 public, the board? If none, next witness please.
 - MS. TUBMAN: All right. The next
 - witness is Ralph Finelli who is our architect.
 - MR. COLLINS: Mr. Finelli, please raise
 - 6 your right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the
 - 7 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so
 - 8 help you God?
 - MR. FINELLI: I do.
 - MR. COLLINS: Please state your name 10
 - 11 and address.
 - 12 MR. FINELLI: Ralph Finelli, F, as in
 - 13 Frank, I-N-E-L-L-I, Post Office Box 144,
 - 14 Sergeantsville, New Jersey.
 - MS. TUBMAN: The exhibit that is up 15
 - 16 there is A-2. It's superimposition on a Google map.
 - 17 It was introduced last time. The next exhibit would
 - 18 be A-4.
 - 19 MR. FINELLI: I'll mark that with
 - 20 today's date. Is that correct?
 - 21 MS. TUBMAN: Yes.
 - MR. COLLINS: That would be fine, and 22
 - 23 just describe what it is.
 - MR. FINELLI: Exhibit A-4 is a floor
 - 25 plan.

Page 38

Page 40

Page 39

- The only comment we had from the fellow
- 2 who repaired the car the second time is too bad they
- 3 didn't hit you on the left side. You would have had
- 4 a new car almost, the two kids, and it's -- the
- 5 first time I ever addressed this, the group was for
- 6 some other thing that they were putting up, and I
- 7 said to the people -- the people there that drive at
- 8 8 o'clock to 9 o'clock in the morning are going to
- 9 work, they love their jobs because they won't give
- 10 an inch. They'll kill you in order to get to their 11 job. They love it.
- I know this is rather humorous, but
- 13 it's not so humorous when you're in the condition on
- 14 a regular basis, and when I consider anybody making
- 15 a left turn into your one entrance and exit, be
- 16 careful. Be careful. It's a poor, poor
- 17 determination to be putting all of these additional
- 18 properties and building on them and increasing the
- 19 population. Not in terms of the whole population.
- 20 I think the number of people who will be making
- 21 these turns will be very mild, but the number of
- 22 people driving that road are not mild neither in
- 23 temperament, nor in amount.
- 24 Thank you very much.
- MR. ABDELKADER: Thank you. 25

- MS. VOORHEES: Can you use the
- 2 microphone please.
- MR. FINELLI: Exhibit A-4 is a floor
- 4 plan of the Phase I building referring to the site
- 5 plan that the engineer provided. The mosque itself
- 6 is a Phase I building. It's comprised of 16,520
- 7 square feet of space. Within that space is the
- mosque itself.
- The classrooms have been already
- described to you that would serve as either Sunday
- 11 school rooms weekend or daycare rooms during the
- 12 week, a couple of office space and, of course, the
- 13 service and utility aspects of the building,
- 14 restrooms, corridors and things like that.
- 15 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Finelli, if you can
- 16 just confirm for the record that you are a license
- 17 architect?
- 18 MR. FINELLI: Yes, sir, I am.
- MR. COLLINS: And the board recognizes 19

MR. FINELLI: Okay. The next sheet

- 20 and accepts Mr. Finelli's qualifications as a
- 21 licensed architect. Please go ahead.
- 22 MR. FINELLI: Thank you.
- 23 MS. TUBMAN: Thank you, Tom.
- 25 called A-5 --

24

- MR. COLLINS: That will be A-5, and 2 just describe what it is.
- MR. FINELLI: And that's the same floor
- 4 plan, but when I rendered this floor plan is the
- area that's devoted to primary worship space and
- 6 then the area that could be potentially devoted to
- worship space.
- As you know, we worked out and we've
- described our parking count as well as our occupancy
- 10 parking counts, of course, based on the ordinance
- 11 standard of 30 square feet of gross building parking
- 12 space and occupancy is a function of -- actually, of
- 13 the building code and assembly use. Assembly uses
- 14 are defined in the building code.
- 15 There are really are three qualifiers,
- 16 whether a space has tables and chairs, whether a
- 17 space has chairs only and whether a space is
- 18 standing room only. Those areas are based on net
- 19 square footage. So we would take a space really
- 20 similar to this room and we'd subtract the egress
- 21 corridors and things like that to come up with a net
- 22 square foot number. That would be the number used
- 23 for occupancy. The numbers that the building code
- 24 uses, again, refer to tables and chairs or chairs or
- 25 standing room.

- 1 divided by nine is 306. That prayer space -- the
 - 2 main prayer space as described on all these plans
 - 3 will have a compliant occupancy of 306 persons.
 - We designed the structure so that in
 - 5 the event of the couple of times a year that have
 - 6 already been described to you where there would be
 - 7 an extraordinary amount of celebrants rather than
 - 8 the traditional or the typical expected Friday
 - 9 afternoon prayers. We've designed the structure so
 - 10 that we can accommodate a larger gathering.
 - The areas that are devoted to the 11
 - 12 community room and to the gym recreation space,
 - 13 those partitions that separate this central core of
 - 14 the building would be movable partitions, removable
 - 15 partitions, sliding partitions so that we'd have one
 - 16 large worship space. That space totals 6750 square
 - 17 feet of gross square footage and the net square foot
 - 18 number is it's 5400 square feet divided by that same
 - 19 nine square feet of net space is 600 occupants in
 - 20 the building. That's our maximum number.
 - We looked at this, as I mentioned 21
 - 22 before, as a function of a combination of different
 - 23 spaces. A daycare space by building code is one
 - 24 occupant per 35 square feet of net space. So we did
 - 25 the calculation where we divided up these rooms that

Page 42

Page 44

- My prior testimony we've established
- 2 the fact the occupancy and the prayer space is
- 3 really going to be defined as one person per nine
- 4 square feet. So the information we're providing for
- 5 the occupancy load that we will provide and that we
- 6 will have posted in the building ultimately, the
- 7 maximum occupancy will be based on nine square feet
- 8 net of worship space or potential worship space.
- That is the largest and most intense
- 10 use of the building, and I can go through these
- 11 numbers with you, but if we look at the building as
- 12 the prayer space and the daycare or Sunday school
- 13 and office space, if we tally up all of those
- 14 occupancies based on the different uses, we have a
- 15 lower number than the more intense use of all of the
- 16 potential worship space being divided by nine square
- 17 feet of net space.
- So I established that our occupancy --
- 19 our maximum occupancy in the building is 600. The
- 20 area devoted to the primary worship space that's
- 21 rendered crosshatched here in blue and on the floor
- 22 plans it's the primary prayer space is 3675 square
- 23 feet. That translates to 2760 square feet of net
- 24 space, again, subtracting out means of egress,
- 25 corridors and things like that. Twenty-seven sixty

- 1 were listed as educational classrooms that were
- 2 planned. If they were used for daycare, which is
- 3 the intent, they'll be used as daycare during the
- 4 week. At 35 net square feet, we'll have 50
- 5 occupants in those rooms.
- As education rooms, the standard for
- 7 education is 20 square feet net per person. Using
- 8 those same rudiments as Sunday school rooms, we'll
- have 70 occupants available to us in those rooms.
- Office space, office space is a hundred 10
- 11 square feet of gross space per person. So we tally
- 12 up all of these. If we tallied up individual uses,
- we'd have 591 occupants. If we use the worship
- 14 space as the most intense use of the space, we have
- 15 600 occupants. So we'd be using the higher number,
- 16 more conservative number to establish the occupancy 17 of the building.
- 18
- And, again, besides the worship space,
- as has been previously mentioned, the building is 19
- 20 available to the general public. There is a
- 21 community room, the Sunday school rooms, the daycare
- 22 rooms, the gym and recreation space would be open to
- the general public as a matter of just the
- community's relationship with the congregation.
- The next sheet is -- we'll call this

- 1 A-6.
- 3 you just describe?

2

- 4 MR. FINELLI: A-6 contains the east
- 5 elevation and the west elevation of the building.

MR. COLLINS: That would be A-6. Can

- 6 So, generally speaking, even though we're not
- 7 parallel to the road, I would call it the east
- 8 elevation, the front elevation. It's what most
- 9 faces Route 202/206. The west elevation faces the
- 10 rear of the property.
- And as there have been some discussion
- 12 about -- about how the design evolved, yes, we had
- 13 plenty of meetings with the building committee, a
- 14 very fun group of interested people, interested in
- 15 architecture, obviously, history of how architecture
- 16 represents their faith, and we designed really
- 17 together a building that I think I would
- 18 characterize more as a traditional -- as a
- 19 traditional mosque, traditional elements, shapes and
- 20 forms. The building will be stucco, glass, also
- 21 muted with glass, but largely just those two
- 22 materials, just glass and stucco building.
- To confirm some of the questions that
- 24 were brought before, just to read this off, the
- 25 height to the top of the dome is 48 and a half feet

- 1 MR, COLLINS: Please mark A-7 as A-7.
 - 2 MR. FINELLI: Correct, A-7.
 - 3 MR. COLLINS: All of these marked
 - 4 Exhibits are deemed to be in Evidence.
 - 5 MS. TUBMAN: And they're not colored
 - 6 are also in the plan sets that were submitted with

Page 47

Page 48

- 7 the application.
- 8 MR. FINELLI: Right. Exhibit A-9, the
- 9 floor plans for Phase II.
- 10 MR. COLLINS: That's A-8.
- 11 MR. FINELLI: A-8.
- MR. COLLINS: We're up to A-8. Just
- 13 describe again what that is.
- MR. FINELLI: Yes. This is the floor
- 15 plan of the Phase II building which is primarily a
- 16 school building and, again, as has been testified
- 17 to, they're 24 classroom spaces. We have called
- 18 them all classrooms because, in fact, they may well
- 19 be all classrooms, but as testified to, we expect to
- 20 have science labs, computer labs. We expect to have
- 21 educational aspects there. So they may not be K
- 22 through 12 educational classrooms, but they are
- 23 educational spaces.
- Nonetheless, we have also used the same
- 25 20 square feet of net space per occupant, had to
- 1 come up with our occupancy, maximum occupancy load
- 2 for that building. In addition to the classrooms
- 3 themselves, we have a gymnasium. That's a two-story
- 4 high space at the far south end of the building.
- 5 We've also used that space in our calculations as
- 6 additional educational space, again, to be really
- 7 extra conservative when it came to our occupancy
- 8 numbers.
- 9 Taking all of those into account, the
- 10 actual number is 383. It's been testified it's 400.
- 11 It's a round number. We'll leave it at 400. I
- 12 think that's perfectly fine. If I take -- if I take
- 13 each one of these individual rooms and provided a
- 14 means of egress and all of that, really, the number
- 15 is shaved down just an incremental amount. So 400
- 16 is certainly more than accurate.
- 17 This building would be equipped with an
- 18 elevator. It's a two-story building. We have
- 19 accessible means of egress for both levels, and if I
- 20 point to Exhibit A-2, as was described in Mr.
- 21 Ardman's testimony initially, based on the way that
- 22 the lot slopes, the upper floor of the school
- 23 building is essentially flush with the main level of
- 24 the mosque. So most of our access points, that's
- 25 the primary entrance to the school is really on the

Page 46

1 and the height to the top -- to the peak of the

- 2 minarets is 78 feet. There are various layers of
- 3 flat roof around the worship space, obviously, is
- 4 the highest space in the building. There are
- 5 various flat roofs at different elevations that sort
- 6 of concentric to that main space.
- A-7 is the north and south elevations
- 8 which I would simply characterize as the site
- 9 elevations of the building. The south side sort of
- 10 has an oblique presentation of 202/206. The north
- 11 side is really very visible at the vehicular
- 12 entrance to the site, and the areas that we're
- 13 seeing here in the center and further reinforce in
- 14 the site plan are the principal pedestrian entry to
- 15 the building. So you can see we have one-way
- 16 traffic here, a bank of our --
- MS. TUBMAN: You're referring to what?
- 18 MR. FINELLI: I'm sorry. I'm referring
- 19 to --
- 20 MS. TUBMAN: A-2.
- MR. FINELLI: -- A-2. So most closely
- 22 adjacent to the north and south elevations where the
- 23 pedestrian entrances are would be our ADA parking
- 24 spaces. We have large covered entry to protect the
- 25 elements before entering the building.

1 second floor.

Page 49

- Now, we're at A-9. A-9 contains the
- 3 exterior elevations of the school building, again,
- 4 similar materials, similar fence striations, similar
- 5 fence patterns, but much more muted in terms of its
- 6 three-dimensional elements. It will always be
- 7 designed to be subordinate to the mosque visually.
- 8 So it's a two-story building, flat roof. Again,
- 9 we're bringing the same colors, materials and glass
- 10 pattern.
- 11 And then A-10 is a rendering of the
- 12 project. This view of the building of the property
- 13 site, this is our main ingress/egress drive. This
- 14 is 202/206 in the foreground. So that gives you an
- 15 idea of the view of the building. It really -- I'm
- 16 point to go A-2, the view of the bidding just
- 17 immediately north to the vehicular ingress. It's a
- 18 stucco building, cream earth tones, pale blue glass.
- 19 The dome, of course, is yellow. You can see the
- 20 school building off -- off to the right, the
- 21 suggestion of the parking, parking lot lights,
- 22 recreation fields in the back. That is a colored
- 23 rendering of the property fully developed.
- 24 I think that's about it.
- 25 MS. TUBMAN: Questions of Mr. Finelli.

- MR. FINELLI: As classrooms, while they
- 2 are classrooms, again, education is one occupant per
- 3 20 net square feet of space. We have 10 rooms,
- 4 seven occupants per room, 70 occupants. As daycare,
- 5 it's a little less intensive. One occupant per 35
- 6 net square feet, ten rooms. That would be five
- 7 occupants per room, 50 occupants.
- 8 I didn't specifically mention the
- 9 community and gym before, if we break them out, but
- 10 I'll break them out for you now. The community
- 11 room, net square footage is 880 net square feet of
- 12 space. Now, that's --
- 13 MS. TUBMAN: Point that out.
- MR. FINELLI: Sure. The community room 14
- 15 is this next largest space across the hallway from
- 16 the main prayer space. Its overall dimensions are
- 17 49 feet by 29 feet three inches. The net square
- 18 footage of that space is 880 square feet. When it's
- 19 not being used as part of this overall worship
- 20 space, it would be a general assembly space much
- 21 like this one.
- So if it were tables and chairs, we 22
- 23 would use that 15 square foot per occupant
- 24 standards. At 15 square feet per person, that's 59
- 25 persons. If chairs only, similar to the way this

Page 50

Page 52

- MR. LERNER: I have one. If you could
- 2 go back to the black and white with the two blue
- 3 with the green shading? I don't remember the
- 4 number.
- The question I think I heard you say
- 6 that the occupancy is 600 maximum based on using
- 7 both the blue and green.
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. You're correct.
- MR. LERNER: My question is, if you
- 10 have that as 600 and you have the classroom
- 11 perimeter rooms occupied simultaneously, is that a
- 12 different -- would that lead you to a different
- 13 occupancy number?
- MR. FINELLI: Well, they wouldn't be
- 15 occupied simultaneously. So as has been testified
- 16 to in terms of the general worship practices, at
- 17 those events, the Eids prayer, the other twice a
- 18 year, those sorts of -- those events, there wouldn't
- 19 be school.
- MR. LERNER: It's always an either or. 20
- MR. FINELLI: It's always an either or, 21
- 22 correct.
- MR. CHARLES: What is the capacity of
- 24 each of those rooms since there's 10 shown as
- 25 classrooms?

- 1 was set up, that's seven square feet, and that's 126
- 2 people. When I did that occupancy comparison, I
- 3 used the 126. I always use the highest number for 4 comparison.
- The gym, likewise, if it were used as
- 6 other than accessory to the daycare education. So
- 7 if we use it as an assembly, it would be a more
- 8 intense use. The overall dimensions of the gym is
- 9 49 by 21.3. That net square footage is 610 square
- 10 feet. Using the same assembly standards at 15
- 11 square feet net, that would get 40 occupants. At
- seven square feet net, that would be 87 occupants. 12
- 13 So, again, just to belabor the point,
- 14 we use a higher number at every point. We're still
- 15 a higher occupancy based on the overall use of the
- 16 space as worship space.
- MR. CHARLES: Just for clarity, I see 17
- 18 the ground floor plan which includes what you're
- looking at right there. I don't see it, this second
- 20 story plan in this.
- MR. FINELLI: On the mosque -- on the 21
- 22 mosque there is no second story.
- MR. CHARLES: Okay. Just the school, 23
- that building there has no second story. 24
- 25 MR. FINELLI: Correct.

- 1 MR. FINELLI: There's always
 - 2 consideration, but we also start with the ideal. So
 - 3 knowing that the -- knowing that the specific
 - 4 exception to building height is for buildings of
 - 5 this type, knowing that we really have the full
 - 6 license of design to present to the board a facility
 - 7 that looks proportionate and looks appropriate,
 - 8 that, yes, there's always consideration, but, again,
 - 9 we always do start with the idea.
 - 10 MR. CHARLES: More specifically, seeing
 - 11 as Bridgewater is such a diverse community with
 - 12 temples and churches and synagogues, did you take a
 - 13 look and see what the highest church steeple was,
 - 14 how high the JCC, you know, synagogue is and things
 - 15 like that?
 - 16 MR. FINELLI: I did drive through. I
 - 17 drove quite a lot. I didn't see anything that I
 - 18 would guess was 78 feet tall. I did not, no, and I
 - 19 did not go out with a tape measure.
 - 20 MR. FRANCO: I guess the only concern I
 - 21 had was pretty much the number of minarets. Now,
 - 22 looking at other mosques, I did research that. The
 - 23 majority of them had two. The most I saw was four.
 - I guess my greatest concern was were
 - 25 those minarets that are on the site is the elevation

- 1 MR. CHARLES: And the capacity in the
- 2 prayer space with the doors closed is -- just one
- 3 more time. I want to make sure.
- 4 MR. FINELLI: The prayer space with the
- 5 doors closed, the overall dimensions for that are 49
- 6 feet by seven feet. The net square footage of that
- 7 space -- well, the gross square footage is 3675.
- 8 The net square footage is 2760. So I take that 2760
- 9 divided by nine, I have 306 occupants.
- 10 MR. CHARLES: Three hundred and six.
- 11 MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MR. CHARLES: And then with the doors
- 13 open it's 600.
- MR. FINELLI: Correct, and by doors
- 15 open, we mean open all the way.
- 16 MR. CHARLES: Straight down.
- 17 MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- 18 MR. FRANCO: What are the stairs used
- 19 for?
- 20 MR. FINELLI: I'm sorry. I didn't
- 21 hear.
- MR. FRANCO: You show the stairs on the
- 23 plan. Is that to mechanical access?
- MR. FINELLI: Yes.
- MR. FRANCO: Is that to the basement?

Page 54

Page 56

- MR. FINELLI: Yes, basement. We will
- 2 likely have -- it's a big space, a lot of volume.
- 3 We will likely have some rooftop, but primarily most
- 4 of the utilities would all be basement.
- 5 MR. CHARLES: The relationship between
- 6 the height of the dome and the height of the
- 7 minarets, what factors went into that decision to be
- 8 30 feet high?
- 9 MR. FINELLI: We're looking now at
- 10 Exhibit A-10 which is a colored rendering. It's
- 11 very much a study of proportion. It's very much a
- 12 study of proportion of the main structure and the
- 13 dome, the height of the dome, the width of the dome,
- 14 whether it is elliptical or semi-circular and the
- 15 relationship of that part of the building to the
- 16 minarets, and we -- I really can't count how many
- 17 iterations we looked at to be honest with you, but
- 18 there is no -- there is no rule of thumb. There is
- 19 no -- there is no standard. It really is a
- 20 subjective assessment of incremental adjustment
- 21 until it looks right.
- MR. CHARLES: Was there a consideration
- 23 for the height of other buildings within the
- 24 township knowing that this would probably be an area
- 25 of discussion?

- 1 183, the back of the site is the elevation 44. That
- 2 would put that at 117 feet above the rear of the
- 3 site which is where the residential properties
- 4 occur, and I know, given the contentious nature of
- 5 these cell towers, this kind of falls into that same
- 6 realm.
- MR. FINELLI: Well, dimensionally, but
- 8 design-wise, really, they couldn't be more
- 9 different. I know the point you're talking about.
- 10 I'm pointing to Exhibit A-2. The rear of the
- 11 building we're talking about is here.
- MR. FRANCO: That's at elevation 23.
- MR. FINELLI: The nearest residence --
- 14 I mean the nearest residence might be a thousand
- 15 feet away. So I understand -- I understand your
- 16 question.
- 17 MR. FRANCO: But looking uphill a lot
- 18 of that is cleared away. It's been cleared away for
- 19 drainage and parking.
- 20 MR. CHARLES: And more will be cleared
- 21 away for the soccer fields.
- 22 MR. FINELLI: I understand the
- 23 question.
- MR. CHARLES: I think the one question
- 25 that your client will be asked to ponder is reducing

- 1 the height of the minarets. So I don't know if
- 2 that's the time to have that discussion or if that's
- 3 something you need to consult with your client with.
- 4 I think that's a question that needs to be asked.
- 5 MR. FRANCO: Or the number as well.
- 6 MR. CHARLES: And the number.
- 7 MR. FINELLI: Let me just address the
- 8 number. You mentioned you visited sites where you
- 9 saw two or four and maybe you said predominantly
- 10 four. The one thing I will tell you, as a design
- 11 determinant in a lot of Muslim architecture,
- 12 geometry is a very strong determining factor.
- We have -- one of the issues in this
- 14 particular site was, of course, our worship space
- 15 needs to face that way, and we have the relationship
- 16 with the road. Really, none of the planning
- 17 assumptions that we often have where the front of
- 18 the building would be parallel to the road. We have
- 19 the geometry and we have a configuration where the
- 20 five-sided figure became -- you know, became the
- 21 geometry that, you know, that we put all of our
- 22 decision-making through. So that's why they are
- 23 five minarets and not three or four or some other
- 24 number.
- 25 I think the -- you know, as far as

- 1 about will support an occupancy of 50 people.
 - 2 MS. COFFEY: You said the daycare will
 - 3 never be in operation at the same type as the
 - 4 worship space?
 - 5 MR. FINELLI: No. I didn't say that.
 - 6 I said that there are specific -- there are specific
 - 7 worship events throughout the year that have been
 - 8 testified to earlier, the Eids prayers, for example,
 - 9 and the Ramadhan, for example. Those times where
- 10 really the full function of the building will be as
- 11 a worship space. Those are the only times where it
- 12 would preclude the use of any other function in the
- 13 building.
- MS. COFFEY: Is there a scenario where
- 15 the membership of the congregation were to expand
- 16 the gym and the community room would ever be
- 17 expanded to full-time worship shape? Could that be
- 18 done?
- 19 MR. FINELLI: To full-time worship
- 20 space?
- 21 MS. COFFEY: They would be having
- 22 services to routinely accommodate members
- 23 essentially up to 591 people?
- MR. FINELLI: Well, we've designed the
- 25 space and all of our occupancy and parking, restroom

Page 58

Page 60

- 1 height, I mean we'll certainly talk that over.
- 2 Again, there is no -- you know, there is not a
- 3 standard. It's not -- there's not a rule of thumb.
- 4 There's not a standard. It is a subjective
- 5 determination.
- 6 MR. CHARLES: And I don't know if going
- 7 into those discussions it might make sense to meet
- 8 with the township to get those other actual heights
- 9 of the church and synagogue and whatnot just as a
- 10 frame of reference.
- 11 MR. FINELLI: Certainly.
- MR. CHARLES: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any other questions of
- 14 the board? If none, questions from the public.
- MS. COFFEY: Good evening. A few
- 16 questions.
- 17 With regard to the maximum capacity for
- 18 the daycare, you said the maximum capacity was 50
- 19 occupants?
- 20 MR. FINELLI: Yes.
- MS. COFFEY: And it's my understanding
- 22 that previously you anticipated it to be up to a
- 23 hundred people in the daycare, but that's going to
- 24 be limited to 50. Is that right?
- MR. FINELLI: The rooms we're talking

- 1 facilities, egress capacity, suppression systems,
- 2 everything will be designed for that maximum number.
- 3 Whether it's used for that or not, we would
- 4 anticipate it being used for that at those specific
- 5 times of the year.
- 6 MS. COFFEY: But if, for example, they
- 7 were so fortunate that their congregation were to
- 8 grow beyond the numbers they have now or even beyond
- 9 that 306, could they be having their regular
- 10 services in that whole space?
- 11 MR. FINELLI: It's really a question
- 12 for the congregation, what they're comfortable with,
- 13 whether it's typical of any other congregation,
- 14 their growing pains. Growing pains usually result
- 15 in our facilities. The congregation spreads. It
- 16 divides. It grows a building someplace else, but
- 17 that's really a practice -- excuse me, an
- 18 administrative question, not so much a building.
- 19 The building will accommodate it and the parking
- 20 will accommodate it.
- 21 MS. COFFEY: Where I'm headed with this
- 22 is it's my understanding the daycare is going to be
- 23 open Monday through Friday from morning to evening.
- 24 So there would be potentially a scenario, if they
- 25 were to grow routinely, that expansion space where

- 1 you have the daycare and the expansion space in
- 2 operation which would be potentially 640 people.
- 3 MR. FINELLI: Well, again, if you look
- 4 at the numbers that were provided at the earlier
- 5 testimony, the last testimony, the heaviest use of
- 6 the building would be Friday midday prayers. So
- 7 there would be perhaps one two-hour period during
- 8 the week where the building would be maxed out. So
- 9 the daycare is a subordinate use in the building, a
- 10 subordinate use to Al Falah and then we have --
- MS. COFFEY: If the daycare were open
- 12 full-time to the public presumably and they were at
- 13 full capacity with their expansion space, that would
- 14 be up to 640 people?
- MR. FINELLI: You know, I don't see it
- 16 happening that way, but if you use the same numbers,
- 17 you know, it would be that overlap for a two-hour
- 18 period a week.
- MS. COFFEY: And then in terms of
- 20 the -- what portion -- I'm not sure if I'm going to
- 21 use the right terms.
- 22 What portion of the roof is occupied by
- 23 the dome? How much of the roof is the dome?
- 24 MR. FINELLI: I'm looking at Exhibit
- 25 A-5. That floor plan you will see concentric

- 1 a question. Mr. Finelli, is there any intent to
 - 2 light the minarets?
 - 3 MR. FINELLI: I'm sorry. I didn't
 - 4 hear.
 - 5 MR. FRANCO: Is there any intent to
 - 6 light?
 - 7 MR. FINELLI: The light?
 - 8 MR. FRANCO: To put lights in the
 - 9 minarets
 - 10 MR. FINELLI: The minarets have -- we
 - 11 have some glass in the minarets. There will be --
 - 12 when the building is occupied, the interior space
 - 13 lights on the inside will be on. The minarets are
 - 14 not occupiable. There is no space. There is no
 - 15 floor. You can't go in there, but as a matter of
 - 16 lighting, they will have a low level light.
 - 17 MR. FRANCO: Up lighting on each level?
 - 18 MR. FINELLI: From the outside you're
 - 19 talking about?
 - MR. FRANCO: From the outside.
 - MR. FINELLI: From the outside, of
 - 22 course, we would have lighting over the covered
 - 23 entrance. The points of entry would be lit.
 - As far as the building itself, that
 - 25 side of the building that faces the primary drop off

Page 62

Page 64

- 1 circles centered over the main worship space. So
- 2 the smallest circle is the actual dome itself. It's
- 3 tiered up a couple of tiers, but that is the entire
- 4 space of the dome. So the dome itself is a 40-foot
- 5 diameter.
- 6 MS. COFFEY: And what's the diameter of
- 7 the rest of the roof or the total roof?
- 8 MR. FINELLI: Well, the building is
- 9 16,520 square feet, and the dome at 40 feet, right.
- 10 Pi R squared, 400 times three, 1250 square feet of
- 11 space is the dome. Let's call it 1300 square feet.
- 12 Less than 10 percent.
- MS. COFFEY: And you said that the dome
- 14 is in concentric circles?
- 15 MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MS. COFFEY: At its highest, how high
- 17 is the ceiling from the inside?
- MR. FINELLI: The dome would be open to
- 19 the dome.
- MS. COFFEY: It would be 48 feet high?
- 21 MR. FINELLI: Besides minus the
- 22 construction.
- 23 MS. COFFEY: Thank you.
- 24 MR. FINELLI: You're welcome.
- 25 MR. FRANCO: Mr. Chairman, I just have

- 1 and faces the front of 206, I would anticipate very
- 2 low level building wash. Yes.
- 3 MR. FRANCO: But on the minarets
- 4 themselves, as you go up in each tier --
- 5 MR. FINELLI: No.
- 6 MR. FRANCO: No lighting?
- 7 MR. FINELLI: We would be expecting
- 8 ground mounted lighting so that we're talking about
- 9 that primary facade, and then above that level,
- 10 again, window, window, and I have lighting up there,
- 11 very muted lighting, but very small proportion of
- 12 the lights.
- MS. DOYLE: Mr. Chairman.
- 14 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Yes.
- 15 MS. DOYLE: A simple question on that.
- 16 Is there any kind of translucent characteristics of
- 17 the dome that there would be a glow from the dome if
- 18 the lights were on inside or outside?
- MR. FINELLI: That there would be a
- 20 glow from the dome?
- MS. DOYLE: Is there a translucency so
- 22 you can see interior lighting?
- MR. FINELLI: No. The dome is solid
- **24** roof.
- MS. DOYLE: It's opaque.

Page 65 Page 67 MR. FINELLI: Solid. 1 up into the minarets or the dome? 1 MR. FINELLI: No. 2 MS. DOYLE: Thank you. MR, KURZ: Robert Kurz, 775 West MR. KURZ: From on top of the roof 3 3 4 shining onto the dome or anything like that? 4 Foothill Road. MR. FINELLI: No. Sir, the town ordinance from what I 6 understand is maximum of 35 feet for height? MR. KURZ: As far as the -- I don't 6 MR. FINELLI: Correct. 7 know whether you have this answer or not. Phase I MR. KURZ: No. Yeah, 35 feet. You're is the mosque. Phase II would be the school. 9 over top of that. Why are we going over top of the As the mosque is built, will the 9 10 maximum height that is allowed? parking lot be built completely? 10 MR. FINELLI: Well, 35 feet for the MR. FINELLI: Yes. 11 12 roof, and exception, the ordinance has an exception MR. KURZ: So even though the school is 12 13 specifically for this type of rooftop appurtenance, 13 not built yet, the full parking lot is going to be 14 built? 14 domes, fire, belfries, bell towers has an exception 15 for that, and that exception is there is no 15 MR. FINELLI: Correct. All of the 16 limitation to the height. So the limitation is to 16 infrastructure -- all of the infrastructure is 17 the flat roof or -- well, it would be the roof. completed as part of Phase I. MR. KURZ: Now, as far as the lighting, MR. KURZ: Including plumbing and stuff 18 19 you're kind of contradicting yourself. There is 19 for the school? 20 glass inside the minarets. Is that correct? 20 MR. FINELLI: Roughing. MR. FINELLI: Correct. MR. KURZ: I mean roughing. 21 21 MR. FINELLI: Right. You'll bring the MR. KURZ: Will there be light inside 22 22 23 the minaret shining out through that glass? 23 main to, you know, five feet or 10 feet from the 24 foundation. So when the school does get built, 24 MR. FINELLI: I said yes. 25 MR. KURZ: Well, there's been two 25 we're not trying to park the parking lot to bring Page 68 Page 66 1 different discussions. The woman asked the same 1 the utility lines through. 2 questions. You said, no, there would be no MR. KURZ: Thank you. MS. AMIN: Pushpa Amin. The question 3 lighting, and then you said there would be lighting. 3 MR. FINELLI: I'll very clear. I said 4 is about the height of the minarets. Is there a 5 there would be a light inside the minarets. There 5 criteria that you used for selecting the height? 6 are windows in the minarets. MR. FINELLI: No. MS. AMIN: The minarets are a certain MR. KURZ: How many levels? I see 7 8 height that are projecting even above the dome to a 8 three levels. 9 MR. FINELLI: That is correct. certain extent, right? MR. KURZ: Three levels. MR. FINELLI: That's correct. 10 10 MR. FINELLI: There are three levels of MS. AMIN: What is the height of the 11 11 windows, ground level, mid level and upper level. 12 minaret? 12 MR. KURZ: Is there going to be any MR. FINELLI: Seventy-eight feet to the 13 14 ground lighting up from the ground shining up onto 14 apex of the minaret. MS. AMIN: Is there a criteria for 15 15 them? MR. FINELLI: Again, I'm repeating 16 selecting the height? 16 17 myself. Yes, there would be a low level wall wash MR. FINELLI: There is not a criteria 17 18 only at the ground level up at the building, just 18 for selecting the height. By that, I assume you

23 sidewalk.

24

25

19 the primary facade.

MR. FINELLI: No.

MR, KURZ: Okay. I didn't understand

22 this low level thing. I interpreted that to mean

MR. KURZ: There's no spotlights going

21 your phrascology when you said it before. You said

20

21

24

23 feature?

25 feature, yes.

19 mean an objective criteria for selecting the height.

MS. AMIN: And the number of minarets

22 are decided on a certain basis or architectural

MR. FINELLI: It's an architectural

There is not, no.

Page 69 MS. AMIN: Will there be lighting on 1 entry plaza. 2 top of the minarets?

MS. AMIN: Only the light from the

ground will be shining?

MR. FINELLI: And the light within the

window within the minaret.

MR. FINELLI: No.

MS. AMIN: And will that go off at a

9 certain time?

MR. FINELLI: Yes. If the building is

11 not occupied, the lights will not be on.

MS. AMIN: The question regarding the

13 school, you said there are 24 classrooms?

14 MR. FINELLI: Yes.

MS. AMIN: Based on the previous 15

16 testimony, I understand that would like to have up

17 to 12 grade at school. So is that going to be like

18 a suitable space with labs and classroom and

19 cafeteria and kitchen and all that?

MR. FINELLI: Yes. 20

MS. AMIN: So there will be delivery 21

22 trucks coming, all those kind of things?

MR. FINELLI: There may be. 23

24 MS. AMIN: Okay. So how many students

25 did you say would be occupying that school at full

MS. AMIN: And last question along the

3 same lines is it a requirement for you to go and get

4 some kind of approval from the State Department of

Page 71

Page 72

5 Education or anything on your building design? Are

6 you required to get approval from the State

7 Department of Education?

MS. TUBMAN: Wait a minute. Only one

person can speak at a time.

MS. AMIN: It's designed for that? 10

MR, FINELLI: There is an accreditation 11

12 process that will be pursued at the appropriate

13 time, but from the building code perspective for

14 definition of education use for means of egress, for

plumbing fixture count, for safety, for aisle

16 widths, for stair widths, for all of the aspects

that the building code defines, the building as

drawn is compliant with public codes. 18

MS. AMIN: That's all I have. Thanks. 19

MR. FINELLI: You're welcome. 20

MR. MC NALLY: Same name. Same 21

22 address. Same me. Thomas Mc Nally.

You stated that there's no standard by 23

24 any kind of Islamic requirement for -- I could give

25 a hoot about the height of those things, but there

Page 70

1 are a lot of people seem to have some concern about

2 something.

If there's no standard Islamic

4 requirement or Islamic law or anything, I disagree

5 that there are other standards, and the other

6 standards have been mentioned by some of the people

7 today that, you know, there's a standard of

8 community. There's a standard of accommodation.

There's a standard of newness in an area. There's a

10 standard of rural acceptance, and I guess I would

11 hate to see a minaret put up at a given height by

12 someone's determination that is stick in your face,

13 and I was glad to hear you say that the height of

14 the minarets is going to be based on what's been

15 presented, that the height of the minarets is going

16 to be of some concern in the determination of the

17 offering here tonight by the people of this project.

Thank you again. 18

MR. ROBERTS: One question. When 19

20 you're coming south on 202/206 there, is that going

21 to be the view? Is there going to be more

22 landscaping there or is that going to be the direct

23 view, like wide open?

MR. FINELLI: When we rendered the 24

25 site, when we rendered this building, we have the

1 capacity?

MR. FINELLI: We said the maximum

3 capacity of the school is 400 persons.

MS. AMIN: Four hundred school. And I

5 ask question before bussing. I guess you're not the

6 right person to ask this question, but do you have

7 like the building is designed that there is a

8 building plan for waiting of the children in the

9 front of the building?

The design of the building is set up so

11 that the children will be loaded and unloaded from

12 busses so that they can get into the school?

Generally, there is a space where the 13

14 busses stand and load and unload the children and

15 the children get off the busses, right? Is your

16 building designed for that kind?

MR. FINELLI: Well, the parking lot has

18 been designed for safe circulation, for safe pick up

19 and drop off. That's been testified to by the

20 engineer, and the traffic expert will even more

21 specifically be able to answer questions about

22 stacking spaces and things like that, but the

23 building itself, yes, the building is fully ADA 24 compliant. So it's an accessible means of ingress

25 and egress from both buildings from a common main

4 show the building.

11 be built in a later phase?

17 you can set up for that.

7 whatever.

Page 73

- 1 MR. ROBERTS: So it is a town
- 2 responsibility?
- 3 MR. BOGART: I didn't say that, but the
- 4 town will clean it out.
- 5 MR, ROBERTS: Can I know who is
- 6 responsible for it?
- 7 MR. BOGART: It's on land that is a
- 8 result of a subdivision and will be part of the town
- 9 land
- 10 MR. ROBERTS: When the purchase is
- 11 made. Okay. Thank you.
- 12 MR. KURZ: Robert Kurz again.
- Sir, one thing you said before, and I
- 14 didn't think about it when you said it, about the
- 15 towers, you said the closest house was about a
- 16 thousand feet away or something like that.
- 17 MR. FINELLI: I was guessing. I could
- 18 measure it.
- MR. KURZ: You pointed down to that
- 20 lower west corner there. What about the houses
- 21 directly across the street and the houses on West
- 22 Foothill Road?
- MR. FINELLI: I think these are
- 24 commercial if I'm not mistaken but I could measure
- 25 that if you want.

- Page 74
- There's no light. There's no light
- 3 stanchions. So it's really -- it really is -- you
- 4 know, on a scale, it's probably no different than

1 trees to replace the landscape architecture, and if

2 I took that view and showed it to you, you couldn't

3 see the building. I took some trees away so I could

5 MR. ROBERTS: You said that the school 6 building is not going to be until stage two or

How about the basketball court,

9 volleyball court, soccer court field, is that all10 going to be built initially or is that also going to

MR. FINELLI: When I mentioned

13 infrastructure, I meant the physical improvements,

14 drainage, lighting and those sort of things. As

15 part of that infrastructure, that area back there,

16 the intention is to do all of the grading so that

There's very little improvements back

21 graded for volleyball and things like that. There

22 are some measures that have to be done because

19 there other than grading. The soccer field is

20 grass. A soccer field is a field. The area is

23 they're part of the grading. There are some

retaining walls and things like that, but there'svery little real improvement back there other than

- 5 your backyard except it's a backyard for a 16,000
- 6 square foot building, but that's really -- you know,
- 7 that's really what it is.
- 8 So, again, to be clear, utilities are
- 9 definitely a part of the infrastructure. Grading
- 10 will be part of the infrastructure. Anything that
- 11 has to do with safety on the property for conveyance
- 12 of stormwater. So retaining walls, fencing, we have
- 13 to do fence in certain areas, that's all a part of
- 14 Phase I.

1 the field.

- 15 MR. ROBERTS: One question, if I may,
- 16 up here, last meeting my neighbor had asked about
- 17 that drainage ditch, and we talked about grading the
- 18 drainage ditch. You guys were going to look into
- 19 who was in charge of cleaning that out.
- 20 MR. BOGART: That had already been
- 21 cleaned out.
- MR. ROBERTS: Is it a state or town
- 23 just so we know. It will be cleaned out?
- MR. BOGART: It will be cleaned out by
- 25 the town.

- MR. KURZ: The immediate house maybe,
- 2 but, you know, that's all residential area there.
- 3 I'm just pointing that out --
- 4 MR. FINELLI: Right.
- 5 MR. KURZ: -- for the sake of the
- 6 board.
- 7 MR. FINELLI: My response in a
- 8 contexted conversation we were talking about the
- 9 view from back here. We were sort of looking
- 10 upgrade.
- 11 MR. KURZ: I think the question was as
- 12 far as the view from any grade.
- 13 MR. FINELLI: Yes.
- 14 MR. COLLINS: Slow down. Maybe ask him
- 15 again.
- 16 MR. KURZ: What I'm asking is -- I'm
- 17 just clarifying is his statement was from that one
- 18 distance was a thousand feet.
- MR. COLLINS: Every question is in the
- 20 context of his prior question. So just take a
- 21 minute. Take your time and ask him.
- MR. KURZ: What's the closest residence
- 23 to where the towers are?
- MR. FINELLI: We might as well measure
- 25 it to be accurate, right?

Page 76

- MR. KURZ: I'm not asking you for exact
- 2 footage but approximately. You quoted a thousand
- 3 feet before. I'm just asking you now.
- MR. FINELLI: South on 202 there is at
- 5 least 500 feet from the building corner to the
- nearest residence. б
- West there is roughly a thousand square 7
- 8 feet.
- Across the street, since I don't really 9
- 10 know what the use of those buildings is, I would
- 11 just tell you that directly across the street we're
- 12 probably about 200 feet.
- MR. ROBERTS: That's a house there just
- 14 so you know.
- 15 MR. FINELLI: I don't know if it's a
- 16 residence or not.
- MR. ROBERTS: That's her house. 17
- MR. FINELLI: I wasn't sure. Okav. 18
- 19 That's about 200 feet.
- 20 MR. KURZ: As far as I asked before, is
- 21 there any consideration being given in all this
- 22 review from counselor or the mosque to show people
- 23 how high 78 feet is?
- MR. FINELLI: I think what we discussed 24
- 25 and what I'd probably rather do is to -- amongst

- MR. FINELLI: Excuse me? 1
 - MR. KURZ: Light. 2
 - MR. FINELLI: Not lighted. We have 3
 - 4 windows.
 - MR. KURZ: With lights behind them. 5
 - MR. FINELLI: Turned off when the 6
 - 7 building is not occupied.
 - MR. KURZ: The building would be
 - occupied approximately 5 o'clock in the morning and

Page 79

Page 80

- 10 then again later at night after dark.
- MR. FINELLI: The hours of operation 11
- 12 were testified to.
- MR. KURZ: Yes, before -- right after 13
- 14 dawn and then after dark. Okay. I want to clarify
- 15 that, and as far as the -- thank you.
- 16 MS. AMBLER: Diane Ambler. I live at
- 17 861 U.S. Highway 202/206.
- MR. COLLINS: Were you previously 18
- 19 sworn?
- 20 MS. AMBLER: No.
- MR. COLLINS: Do you swear or affirm to 21
- 22 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
- 23 truth so help you God?
- 24 MS. AMBLER: I do.
- 25 MR. COLLINS: State your name and spell

Page 78

- 1 your last name.
- MS. AMBLER: Diane Ambler, A-M-B-L-E-R,
- 3 861 U.S. Highway 202/206.
- So you talked about the Phase I of the
- 5 project, and I wanted to know what would be like the
- 6 duration of that construction? What would Phase I
- 7 entail, a time period, and I don't mean the start
- 8 date or end date, but like a duration?
- 9 MR. FINELLI: I think it's probably
- 10 every bit of that about 18 months, 18, 20 months.
- MS. AMBLER: How much time between that 11
- 12 and your Phase II?
- MR. FINELLI: That time span is not --13
- 14 you know, really a function of the growth of the
- 15 congregation and demand of the growth. There is no
- 16 real timetable.
- MS. AMBLER: You mentioned before 17
- 18 accreditation of the school. Does that have to
- 19 happen before you build your school or does that
- 20 happen as you start enrollment and try to get
- 21 accredited?
- 22 MR. FINELLI: The typical process is to
- 23 review the -- review everything about the entity for
- 24 the state. So we honestly have to -- the building
- 25 is going to be part of it, but, no, there's not a

1 myself and talk about how we'd modify the design and

- 2 I think at the board's suggestion use other
- 3 buildings in the township as a point of reference.
- 4 and I think that -- I really think that's -- I don't
- 5 want to say that's all we have to do, but I think
- 6 that the whole idea of loading balloons in the air
- 7 seems so out of place.
- MR. KURZ: We did it for the cell
- 10 MR. FINELLI: Cell tower is a
- 11 completely different animal. This is 78 feet. You
- 12 know, 200, 300, whatever the cell tower is.
- MR. KURZ: I can't quote the exact
- 14 height. I don't believe it was that high, but still
- 15 78 feet is an area --
- MR. FINELLI: Two-story building has to
- 17 be 35 feet for residence and 35 feet is measured
- 18 from the eave of a peak of a two-story house on one
- 19 of the newer let's say, you know, late '80s to
- 20 mid-'90s homes is probably 40 to 40 feet. That's
- 21 probably what we are talking about. So -- and
- 22 that's a bulk of footprint that might be a 2500 23 square footprint as opposed to something that is
- 24 eight feet in diameter and 78 feet tall.
- 25 MR. KURZ: Light,

- 1 level, anything on this level of the mosque is at
- 2 just a matter of how we implement it.
- MS. AMBLER: The question about the

1 matter -- it's not a question of would it. It's

- 4 building and then the minarets. From where my
- 5 property is located, I wanted to know what part of
- 6 the building where the lighting where the minarets I
- 7 would be able to see from where my residence is.
- MR. FINELLI: Okay. If you don't mind
- 9 pointing out your residence, I might be able to help **10** you.
- MS. AMBLER: Sure. Can I walk over 11
- 12 there?
- MS. TUBMAN: Sure. 13
- MS. AMBLER: I am that property here 14
- 15 which is on the corner of 206 and West Foothill
- 16 Road.
- MR. FINELLI: This is your house, 17
- 18 correct?
- MS. AMBLER: Uh-hmm. You mentioned
- 20 about one of the minarets being I thought 118 feet.
- 21 So I'm not exactly sure where this is going to land.
- MR. FINELLI: You're about 600 feet
- 23 from the nearest minaret, and I'm not really -- I
- 24 guess I probably should ask the engineer if he has
- 25 an idea of the grade, but the grade continues to go

- 2 the ground level.
- MS. AMBLER: So those lights from the
- 4 minarets will be on from before prayer until after
- 5 the last prayer?
- MR. FINELLI: I would say likely that.
- 7 MS. AMBLER: So after 10 o'clock at
- 8 night and before 5 o'clock in the morning?
- MR. FINELLI: In general, we'd treat
- 10 the building as one. So I would say, yes, as part
- 11 of --
- MS. AMBLER: I do have a concern about 12
- 13 that.
- 14 MR. FINELLI: I understand. It's part
- 15 of fine tuning that aspect of how the building is
- 16 illuminated and what part of it is, what time of
- day. I'm sure it's something we can refine more,
- 18 but in a general sense, yes. When the building is
- occupied, it will be on.
- 20 MS. AMBLER: I have a question about
- 21 parking.
- MR. FINELLI: Sure. 22
- 23 MS. AMBLER: You said full capacity 600
- 24 people.
- 25 MR. FINELLI: Sure.

Page 82

Page 84

- 1 down. So I don't know if I can answer that. Can
- 2 you see -- can you see Woodmont?
- MS. AMBLER: Absolutely not. 3
- MR. FINELLI: Can you see the nursing 4
- 5 home?
- MS. AMBLER: Every day and every bit of
- that light.
- MR. FINELLI: Well, good. They'll
- 9 shield that. Don't worry about it.
- MS. AMBLER: I know from previous talks 10
- 11 that the lighting was going to be like a low
- 12 grading. I don't know what the nursing home got
- 13 approved for, but that's not a low grade lighting.
- 14 So at 5 o'clock in the morning, those lights are on
- 15 24/7, the nursing home. Ambulances in and out of
- 16 there all the time. So that lighting is in my face
- 17 all day.
- 18 So I'd like to know, in addition to
- 19 that, you know, how much more lighting is going to
- 20 be coming in that way?
- MR. FINELLI: I really don't -- I have
- 22 to look at the topography, but if this is your
- 23 building and the nursing home is there, you know,
- 24 you may see -- you may see lights from these -- from
- 25 these small upper windows, but anything on the first

- MS. AMBLER: I understood from my
- 2 understanding of what's in the news before, what's
- 3 on the website, these are our doctors, these are our
- 4 scientists, these are our co-workers from areas
- 5 around that come when they can, you know, from their
- 6 workplace to pray either in the morning or in the
- 7 evening.
- So, to me, that's one gentleman at a
- 9 time coming from his workplace to his place of
- 10 worship. That's 600 cars. So how does -- how does
- 11 that work, 600 versus the 290-ish for the parking?
- MR. FINELLI: I think, again, the
- 13 traffic expert will explain that more fully, but I
- 14 think the simplest way to look at it, the way the
- 15 worship day was testified to at the last meeting
- 16 that there were a handful, 12 and 20 people during
- those regular daytime prayer services. 17
- We are talking about -- when we're 18
- 19 talking about the full capacity occupancy, it's
- 20 similar to a Sunday service at a church, a Saturday
- 21 service at temple. It's that one time. It's not,
- 22 you know, that there are five prayer times a day.
- 23 It's not five times a day that there are 600 people,
- 24 and, again, the traffic expert will give you
- 25 examples of other -- just how this works in a

- 1 typical mosque, but it would not be the 600 cars.
- 2 It just wouldn't happen.
- 3 MS. AMBLER: There's a plan if there
- 4 are 600 cars?
- 5 MR. FINELLI: Actually, it would not be
- 6 600 people five times a day.
- 7 MS. AMBLER: No. You said full
- 8 capacity would be for the high prayers.
- 9 MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- 10 MS. AMBLER: I understand that,
- 11 MR. FINELLI: And at those particular
- 12 times, you know, those -- again, it's the same thing
- 13 as was testified to last time. It's varies like
- 14 Christmas or Easter service. Those are expected to
- 15 be and intended to be family celebrations. So it
- 16 wouldn't be the one person coming in the middle of
- 17 the workday because it's the midday prayer. It
- 18 would be the family coming in on that particular
- 19 holiday.
- MS. AMBLER: Okay. So there's no
- 21 concern that extra people who come for worship are
- 22 going to be finding, you know, every side road that
- 23 they can to park on similar to how it is in
- 24 Somerville for the churches and how it is for
- 25 Raritan for the churches?

- MS. AMBLER: The third alternative is
 - 2 really what you're talking about if they wanted to
 - 3 open up, the prayer was full, right, and not have
 - 4 the wall and then you have up to 600 people could be

Page 87

- 5 in that area so that that plan would also be for
- 6 valet parking.
- 7 MR. FINELLI: Yeah. That plan -- that
- 8 plan was used to generate the maximum number of
- 9 parking. So that plan -- that 600 -- 600 people in
- 10 the worship space would be supported by the number
- 11 of parking spaces that we had in the parking lot.
- MS. AMBLER: Isn't that like 290?
- MR. FINELLI: The exact number is 282.
- 14 MS. AMBLER: I'm sorry. I'm not
- 15 hearing the difference. I'm hearing 282 and I'm
- 16 hearing 600.
- 17 MR. FINELLI: Two hundred eighty-two
- 18 parking spaces, 600 occupants. That's correct.
- MS. AMBLER: So you're feeling that
- 20 multiple people are going to come in a vehicle?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. Two hundred
- 22 eighty-two parking spaces would mean a little more
- 23 than two people per car. I think that's pretty
- 24 reasonable.
- 25 MS. AMBLER: Okay. Thank you.

Page 86

- I mean that's the way it works for the
- 2 churches that I attended. If the lot is full,
- 3 people just park all over the place and walk to the
- 4 church to get to mass on time.
- 5 So is that what the extent of the plan
- 6 is or is there a plan for 350 plus extra people who
- 7 might be coming say during Ramadhan in the winter,
- 8 in the dark on all of these side roads, or is there
- 9 a better plan than that for all of these extra
- 10 people to come?
- 11 MR. FINELLI: Were you here at the last
- 12 meeting or no?
- MS. AMBLER: For part of it.
- 14 MR. FINELLI: So what was testified to
- 15 last time was, in the event that the congregation
- 16 outgrew the space as designed, that they have a
- 17 couple of considerations. They have rented space in
- 18 the past and they would continue to rent space in
- 19 the future so that this facility would not be used.
- 20 That was one option.
- The second was to have multiple
- 22 services. That's the second option. The third
- 23 option was to have some parking plan where there is
- 24 valet parking. There are at least three
- 25 alternatives that are available.

- 1 MR. FINELLI: You're welcome.
- MR. FRANCO: Mr. Finelli, just as a
- 3 point of reference and maybe might help people
- 4 understand the height you're talking about, the
- 5 four-story nursing home, your best guess, nothing we
- 6 can hold you to, what would you estimate the height
- 7 of the building?
- 8 MR. FINELLI: The nursing home is four
- 9 stories?
- 10 MR. FRANCO: Correct.
- MR. FINELLI: Forty-four to 45 feet
- 12 tall.
- 13 MR. FRANCO: Okay.
- MR. FINELLI: So it's going to be as
- 15 tall as the dome or the dome is going to be as tall
- 16 as the nursing home.
- 17 MR. CHARLES: Just for clarity sake --
- 18 I'm sorry.
- 19 MR. FINELLI: That's all that's
- 20 visible.
- 21 MR. CHARLES: Just for clarity sake, we
- 22 had asked -- last week I had asked if, in fact, for
- 23 whatever reason the parking lot is full, would the
- 24 mosque consider arrangements similar to what some of
- 25 the -- I think the Green Knoll Grill has on Saturday

- 1 nights where there are a lot of industrial buildings
- 2 up 206 where they would have entered into an
- 3 agreement with them to, you know, bus accordingly or
- 4 have people park there and would the congregation be
- 5 told ahead of time, once it's built, that, you know,
- 6 if the parking lot is full, you know, to not park on
- 7 side streets, and I think there was a nod that that
- conversation would take place?
- MS. TUBMAN: The answer was yes. 9
- MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you. 10
- MS. TUBMAN: If there are no other 11
- 12 questions for Mr. Finelli, I have a question for him
- 13 which is a follow-up to Ms. Coffey's questions.
- When you looked at building height, you 14
- 15 looked at the ordinance section that specifically
- 16 excludes spires, domes, et cetera. Did you not?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. 17
- MS. TUBMAN: And the question was then 18
- 19 asked by Ms. Doyle, because of the general
- 20 definition of heights in the ordinance, whether
- 21 there was specific -- were there specific coverage
- 22 issues for domes, mechanicals, et cetera, and as a
- 23 result of that question, I went and responded to Ms.
- 24 Doyle and to you, and by doing so, I went to an
- 25 ordinance history. Do you recall that?

- 1 four ordinances that addressed church steeples and
- 2 then added mechanicals and then added parapets did
- 3 not amend in the definition the exception for domes
- 4 and steeples but instead mixed them altogether. So
- 5 it looked as if there were a coverage limit for
- 6 spires and steeples.
- MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MS. TUBMAN: And based on those
- 9 ordinances, is it correct that none of those
- 10 intervening amendments that were folded into the
- 11 definition apply to steeples and domes?
- MR. FINELLI: Agreed. 12
- MS. TUBMAN: Okay. I wanted that on 13
- 14 the record because of the question that was asked.
- 15 It's not clear in the ordinance unless you go
- 16 through the revision recitals at the end of each
- ordinance section as to how the general definition
- of height became at best confusing in the ordinance. 18
- MR. COLLINS: Let us confirm for the 19
- 20 record that I reviewed the subject and I'm satisfied
- 21 that they are within the height exception when they
- 22 talk about the domes or the spires or minarets, but
- we may have a dialogue with the applicant and the 23
- 24 applicant committee about whether there's some
- 25 accommodation that might be considered on the height

Page 90

Page 92

- MR. FINELLI: Yes, I did. 1
- MS. TUBMAN: And the original ordinance 2
- 3 excepted from the measurement of height domes,
- 4 spires, et cetera, with no qualifications, correct?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MS. TUBMAN: And then there was a
- subsequent ordinance that was adopted, let's see, in
- 8 Ordinance 832 and two specific other amendments
- 9 placed a limit on height of mechanicals above a flat
- 10 roof of 10 feet. Is that correct?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. 11
- MS. TUBMAN: And placed a limit on the 12
- 13 coverage of mechanicals?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MS. TUBMAN: And placed a limit on the
- 16 height of parapets to shield those mechanicals,
- 17 correct?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. 18
- 19 MS. TUBMAN: And none of those as we
- 20 went through affected the definition of heights for
- 21 spires, domes, steeples, et cetera?
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. 22
- MS. TUBMAN: And the conclusions, if
- 24 you will agree with me, based on those ordinances
- 25 that I distributed, are that the codifier took the

- 1 of the minarets.
- MS. TUBMAN: We have not precluded
- 3 that, but there is no single person who could make
- 4 that decision. So that we hear your concern and we
- 5 have said we will discuss it.
- MR. COLLINS: Thank you.
- MR. CHARLES: And since we're
- 8 clarifying things, there's one thing that I haven't
- 9 gotten straight in my mind.
- 10 We've used the word classroom and
- 11 school. It's a little bit confusing to me because
- 12 of the two buildings. So we have a school which is
- 13 the separate building, and that's where you'll go
- 14 through -- that would be Phase II. There will be
- 15 accreditation with the state as to making sure
- 16 that's ready to go. That's where busses -- the
- question of busses will be involved.
- 18 The classrooms that are adjacent to the
- 19 house of worship, that's really right now intended
- 20 to be the space for daycare, you know, which
- 21 probably has its own types of approvals and all that
- 22 type of stuff, but that's part of Phase I.
- 23 MR. FINELLI: Correct.
- MR. CHARLES: All right. I just wanted 24
- 25 to be clear. Daycare and religious education will

- MR. FINELLI: Yes.
- MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you. 3

1 be taking place in there just to be clear.

- MR. ROBERTS: One more question. This
- 5 is more for the attorney. You just said -- Chris
- 6 Roberts.
- You just said that no one person can 7
- 8 make that decision about the heights. Could you
- clarify what you mean by that?
- MS. TUBMAN: Yes. We have a board of 10
- 11 directors. We have a congregation. We have a
- 12 building committee, and I can't turn around to Mr.
- 13 Abdelkader and say will you make a decision. He has
- 14 to consult.
- MR. ROBERTS: No. No. I understand
- 16 that. Don't these guys make a final decision if
- 17 that's allowed or not?
- MS. TUBMAN: No, because it's not
- 19 within the definition of height in the ordinance.
- 20 We are complying.
- MR. ROBERTS: The building next door is 21
- 22 three stories by the way, not four, and that would
- 23 be considered like eight stories. I hope you would
- 24 consider the area around there. The highest
- 25 building is three stories, not four stories.

- 1 back to my architect because there is a rationale in
- 2 the proposal we will make.
- MR. FINELLI: So I'm referring to
- 4 Exhibit A-7 that was the north and south elevation
- 5 and we see all the minarets there. So what we were 6 discussing and what we're proposing to do is to
- 7 reduce the height of the minarets by 10 percent. So
- 8 it's roughly a eight-foot reduction in height as you
- 9 look at the plan.
- Now, it really means it would be the 10
- 11 elimination of this upper shaft brings the whole
- 12 minaret down eight feet. As you're look at the plan
- 13 in front of you or looking at this plan, that's the
- 14 reduction in building height. It's a 10 percent
- 15 reduction. It's an eight-foot reduction. That's a
- 16 significant change in the design without adversely
- 17 affecting the proportion. So I think we can do
- 18 that.
- 19 The other thing that we will -- that we
- 20 are proposing to do, as it was mentioned sort of
- 21 that -- the relative height of these minarets
- 22 from -- as they're perceived from different parts of
- 23 the property, and from the back of the property, as
- 24 the topography continues to go down, the relative
- 25 height of this particular minaret seems quite tall.

Page 94

Page 96

- You know, not that you know that, but I
- 2 hope you consider what is around there. Everything
- 3 else is one story, two stories tops, and that would
- 4 be more like eight stories. So I hope you and your
- 5 group would consider that.
- Thank you. 6
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any other questions 7
- 8 from the public?
- If none, maybe we'll just take a
- 10 five-minute break, and we'll come back at 9:15 with
- 11 the traffic consultant.
- MR. COLLINS: Traffic consultant is the 12
- 13 next witness.
- (Recess taken.)
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Are there any other
- 16 questions for this witness or can we move on to the
- 17 next witness?
- MS. TUBMAN: Before we do, Mr.
- 19 Chairman, when I'm sitting here, I can't see anybody
- 20 who is behind me. When I turn around, I have at
- 21 least a bare quorum of my building committee behind
- 22 me and we were able to caucus in the hall and we
- 23 would like to discuss minaret height.
- 24 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you.
- MS. TUBMAN: And for that, I would go 25

- 1 So, in addition to reducing the height of the
- 2 minarets by 10 percent, we can eliminate that
- 3 minaret in its entirety. So from all of the back
- 4 portion, you know, that minaret, that, relatively
- 5 speaking, would be the tallest will be -- will
- 6 disappear from the proposal. We will excise that
- 7 from the proposal, and we'll reduce the height of
- the remaining four minarets by eight feet.
- MS. TUBMAN: Would you just expand a
- 10 little upon why a greater than 10 percent reduction
- would negatively impact your design? 11
- MR. FINELLI: As we talked about this 12
- early on, every aspect of this design really is
- 14 subjective. It's a matter of proportion and what
- 15 looks good and what looks good to the eye between --
- 16 as you blend all of these elements.
- 17 So the top of the dome is 48 feet. The
- 18 top of the minaret is 30 feet above that. So it's
- 19 one and three-quarters times the height of that. At
- 20 those proportions, those proportions are -- they're
- 21 elegant proportions. We're reducing it by 10 feet.
- 22 As a percentage, you know -- I mean it will be
- 23 visible to me. To be perfectly honest, it probably
- won't be visible to many others. 24
 - I think we have so play in that number.

- 1 It's not a hard and fast number. There are no
- 2 objective standards. We've got some play. There's
- 3 some malleability in that number as we go higher and
- 4 lower. So we can reduce it by that which is
- 5 effectively this top shaft dimension and still look
- 6 the way the building is designed to look.
- MR. RODZINAK: So you're going from
- 8 five to four.
- MR. FINELLI: Correct,
- MR. RODZINAK: From 78 to 70. 10
- MR. FINELLI: Correct. 11
- 12 I'm looking at Exhibit A-2. The one
- 13 we're eliminating is the one on the back of the
- 14 building in that entry plaza between Phase I
- 15 building and Phase II building, and as we're looking
- 16 at Exhibit A-7 on the south elevation, it would be
- 17 the one all the way to the left.
- MR. RODZINAK: Thank you. 18
- MR. KURZ: Can you show the crowd 19
- 20 because his body was blocking each time he pointed?
- MR. FINELLI: Sure. So on the site
- 22 plan, Phase I building, Phase II building. There is
- 23 a minaret on the -- in the center, the back facade
- 24 of the Phase I building. This is the one that we
- 25 had talked about as being relatively feeling the

- 1 substantial building. Is it not?
 - MR. FINELLI: The nursing home, even if
 - 3 we're correct that it's a three-story building, it's
 - 4 a brick and block building, typical floor to floor
 - 5 construction would be about 11 feet, 11 foot four
 - 6 would be in block coursing. That building is in all
 - 7 likelihood 33- to 34-, 35-foot height, and as a
 - 8 point to illustrate, that 35 feet is the top tier
 - that supports the dome.
 - So that's our 35 feet, because in 10
 - 11 design, we consider that the roof, and as mentioned
 - 12 previously when questioned by the attorney for
 - 13 Woodmont, that represents less than 10 percent of
 - 14 the roof area. The primary roof area on this entire
 - 15 building is the parapet is 26 feet. So it's lower
 - 16 by perhaps maybe as much as 10 feet than the nursing
 - 17 home next door and by far lower residential units
 - 18 towards the north.
 - 19 MR. COLLINS: And you're being very
 - 20 conservative in your estimate of the nursing home,
 - 21 correct?
 - MR. FINELLI: Yes. 22
 - 23 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Go back to the nursing
 - 24 home. Also, if I'm not mistaken, it was testified
 - 25 either the first or second week that there will be a

Page 98

- 1 tallest since we're downgrade here and looking up at
- 2 the building. This is the one that we're
- 3 eliminating.
- As we're looking at the architectural
- 5 plan sheet, excuse me, Exhibit A-7, this top drawing
- 6 is the south elevation. That's the elevation
- 7 essentially facing the nursing home property, the
- 8 one to your far left is the one that will be
- 9 eliminated.
- MR. COLLINS: Approximately how high 10
- 11 will the highest light in the minarets be if you
- 12 make the proportional adjustment like that to the
- 13 highest of the three -- I guess there were three
- 14 lights -- three levels of lights? You'll still use
- 15 the design. You're just going to lower it. 16
- MR. FINELLI: Proportionately, right. 17
- MR. COLLINS: So about how high are the 18 highest lights?
- MR. FINELLI: The top of that is
- 20 about -- once we shrink this a little bit, the top
- 21 of that window will be approximately the same height
- 22 as the top of the dome. So it will be in that
- 23 48-foot neighborhood plus or minus.
- MR. COLLINS: Okay. You don't have the 24
- 25 details of the nursing home. The nursing home is a

Page 100

- 1 landscape berm between the temple and the nursing
- MR. FINELLI: Yeah. If I refer to 3
- 4 sheet A-2, it's not a berm, but there is a landscape
- 5 buffer really extending from about midway on the
- 6 Phase II building almost all the way to the front.
- That's a very dense visual buffer.
- Now, it is, honestly, more designed to
- 9 shield any ambient light that we might generate from
- the nursing home residence, but, clearly, it will
- 11 have that effect to anyone downhill.
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you for your 12
- considerations. 13
- 14 If there are no other questions, we can
- 15 move on to the next witness.
- MR. FINELLI: You're welcome. 16
- 17 MS. TUBMAN: Next witness is Gary Dean
- 18 who is our traffic engineer. I know you've been
- 19 here, but state your name and --
- MR. DEAN: Gary Dean, D-E-A-N. 20
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Dean, please raise 21
- 22 your right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the
- 23 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so
- 24 help you God?
- 25 MR. DEAN: Yes, I do.

- 1 extends on the northerly side of the lot.
- 2 It was better in terms of the location
- 3 of the buildings. I evaluated site distance along
- 4 the highway, and we will have to do some clearing
- 5 within the right of way for site visibility, but in
- 6 terms of consistency with the design of the adjacent
- 7 driveways along the corridor, that the modest
- 8 relocation -- and when I say modest, I think it's
- 9 about 75 to a hundred feet to the north, my
- 10 expectation is that it too when I say it, the
- 11 current or the proposed driveway design will also be
- 12 approved by the New Jersey Department of
- 13 Transportation. The design meets all of the
- 14 dimensional criteria I will say is virtually
- 15 identical in terms of radii, width, alignment, how
- 16 it's perpendicular to the highway as to the driveway
- 17 that's already been approved.
- 18 In terms of traffic, any development on
- 19 the site is going to generate traffic activity on
- 20 the highway. We're aware of that. As we've seen
- 21 from our neighboring development properties, those 22 uses obviously contribute highway. One of the more
- 23 unique aspects of the proposal is the fact that its
- 24 primary traffic activity, much like any house of
- 25 worship, occurs at off-peak times, and traffic
 - Page 104

1 MR. COLLINS: And please restate your

- 2 name and your address.
- 3 MR. DEAN: Gary Dean, professional
- 4 address 792 Chimney Rock Road in Martinsville, New5 Jersey.
- 6 MR. COLLINS: The board recognizes and
- 7 accepts Gary Dean's qualifications as a traffic
- 8 engineer.
- 9 MR. DEAN: Thank you.
- 10 As requested by the applicant, we have
- 11 reviewed a number of components of this particular
- 12 project, most notably, the means of ingress and
- 13 egress that are proposed to Route 202/206.
- By way of background, I've been
- 15 involved with a number of properties along the
- 16 corridor over the past 25 years including the
- 17 Woodmont apartment building that was approved and
- 18 constructed some years prior that's immediately to
- 19 the north of the site, the Bridgewater veterinarian
- 20 office to the south at Foothill Road and Route
- 21 202/206, and I represented the township probably 15
- 22 or so years ago in the design of the traffic signal
- 23 that was installed at Talamini Road, and our office
- 24 is also involved with the Center of Excellence
- 25 project further to the north on the Sanofi campus as
 - Page 102
- 1 well as a number of other projects on the corridor.
- 2 We also represented the Recharitable
- 3 Trust who appeared before this board seeking amended
- 4 site plan approval for 39 townhouses on the subject
- 5 property that under the age conversion bill were
- 6 subsequently approved for market rate units. As
- 7 part of that application, our office working with
- 8 Mr. Ardman's office, who was the site engineer, we
- 9 obtained a New Jersey Department of Transportation
- 10 approval for a driveway on this particular property.
- 11 However -- and I'd like to refer to -- I don't know
- 12 how it's been marked, but Exhibit 2, the aerial
- 13 exhibit --
- 14 MS. TUBMAN: A-2.
- MR. DEAN: I'm sorry. There it is.
- 16 A-2, and I'm going to point that the driveway
- 17 approved by DOT within the past I think it's year.
- 18 year and a half was slightly further to the south
- 19 than is proposed under the current application, and
- 20 we met with the applicant as well as Mr. Ardman to
- 21 evaluate the value in either retaining or saving
- 22 that DOT approval for the driveway or to consider as
- 23 it is depicted now on the site plan which was to
- 24 relocate it slightly to the north, and you can see
- 25 the massing of the buildings and how the access

- 1 engineers customarily talk about peak hours which
- 2 are the commuting rush hours, generally, somewhere
- 3 between seven to nine in the morning and four to six
- 4 in the afternoon.
- While this use will generate or has the
- 6 potential to generate some traffic during those
- 7 hours, it is generally far less than the peak
- 8 activity that would occur during the week which is
- 9 Friday around noon for the more highly attended
- 10 prayer services and then the uses on the weekends
- 11 and, of course, holidays. So if there's a -- to a
- 12 degree, a benefit, it's the fact that the use,
- including the daycare and the school, as it comes
- 14 online with the expectation of bussing that the
- 15 overall traffic will be fairly modest, limited to
- 16 maybe a dozen or two vehicles during the peak rush
- 17 hours, but that the primary activity occurring,
- 18 again, on roughly Friday at noon to 1 o'clock which,
- 19 if I recall the testimony correctly, would have
- 20 about 125 worshippers throughout the majority of the
- 21 year with a slight increase during the summer
- 22 months.
- As part of our evaluation of this
- 24 application, we perform traffic counts along the
- 25 highway. As expected, the commuter rush hours, the

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- 1 peak hours, if you will, are fairly I would
- 2 characterize it -- I'll call it very busy. During
- 3 the morning peak hour, there are roughly 1500
- 4 vehicles per hour traveling in both directions on
- 5 Route 202/206. During the evening peak hour, rush
- 6 hours, if you will, that volume jumps up to just
- 7 under 1900 vehicles per hour.
- 8 However, during the midday hours when
- 9 the highest attendance -- highest attended prayer
- 10 services would occur, that volume is hundreds of
- 11 vehicles less, roughly 1250 vehicles per hour during
- 12 that Friday midday hours. So with there being
- 13 hundreds of vehicles or fewer vehicles along the
- 14 highway, we expect during those hours that the
- 15 highway will be able to accommodate the traffic from
- 16 worshippers leaving at say the conclusion of a
- 17 service, 1 o'clock, 1:15, 1:30 in the afternoon, and
- 18 then, of course, as the school is dismissed slightly
- 19 later, maybe around 3 o'clock, we would expect the
- 20 same, but very little traffic impact would occur
- 21 during the traditional commuter peak hours, and for
- 22 that reason, I find that it is a use, yes, that will
- 23 generate traffic, but it won't be of such a
- 24 magnitude say like an office use or something that
- 25 would generate its peak activity during the commuter

- 1 anything I've overlooked, Ms. Tubman, please let me
 - 2 know accordingly, but, otherwise, I'd be happy to
 - 3 answer any questions the board has or the public.
 - 4 MR. KURDYLA: Mr. Dean, if I understand
 - 5 your testimony correctly, while there will be
 - 6 traffic generated from the site and so on, the main
 - 7 thing that you keyed on in any recommendation to
 - 8 this site is that most of the activity is off hours?
 - 9 MR. DEAN: Correct. The peak activity
 - 10 of the use is off hours, yes.
 - Obviously, with a school and daycare
 - 12 component, there's an expectation that there will
 - 13 be, as I said, a dozen, maybe two dozen vehicles
 - 14 actually during the peak hour.
 - MR. KURDYLA: For the daycare.
 - MR. DEAN: Correct, or the school
 - 17 itself as that comes online. Not so much in the
 - 18 evening, but, obviously, in the morning at whatever
 - 19 time school starts, 7:30, 8 o'clock in the morning,
 - 20 fairly coincident with rush hour.
 - 21 MR. KURDYLA: If my next question is
 - 22 naive, please forgive me, but if -- not if, but when
 - 23 the time comes that the school is -- the school
 - 24 project is moved, with the width of 202/206 and the
 - 25 thought that there might be school busses turning

Page 106

Page 108

- 1 hours.
- In terms of overall site circulation,
- 3 again, as I've indicated I've reviewed the design of
- 4 the driveway and I've concluded that that would be
- 5 safe and efficient as proposed. The internal
- 6 circulation, I have to commend Mr. Ardman. It is
- 7 rather ideal in terms of providing a
- 8 counterclockwise circulation pattern that would
- 9 allow for drop off, and I'm not pointing to A-2, but
- 10 to the school gym building. It would allow maximum
- 11 use of the curb frontage and the sidewalk on the
- 12 northerly side of the building to facilitate pick up
- 13 and drop off activity as we would expect and is
- 14 highly desirable for any school.
- 15 To the extent that it became busy, the
- 16 site design allows for even more stacking and
- 17 circulation all the way to the westerly side
- 18 basically following the perimeter of the parking lot
- 19 to maximize stacking. So I feel that there is no
- 19 to maximize stacking. So I feel that there is no
- 20 potential for spilling or encroachment out onto the
- 21 highway and that all of the traffic queuing,
- 22 stacking and activity can occur self-contained on
- 23 the property.
- 24 That's really all I have from a traffic
- 25 perspective. If there are specific questions or

- 1 into that property, if I'm going north and I'm
- 2 turning across the southbound lane, is the -- was
- 3 any thought given to the width of the road, whether
- 4 it's adequate for that?
- 5 MR. DEAN: Quite a bit actually, and
- 6 this came up as part of the DOT's review of the
- 7 veterinary application which is somewhat puzzling to
- 8 me but perhaps beneficial in the long-term. I'm
- 9 pointing again to A-2, but in the bottom right-hand
- 10 corner of the exhibit, you'll see some yellow
- 11 striping on Route 202/206 which begins the left turn
- 12 lane allowing for movements onto Foothill Road.
- MR. KURDYLA: The center lane?
- 14 MR. DEAN: Correct. It's southbound
- 15 left-turn lane to turn east on Foothill Road.
- 16 Because of the physical width of the blacktop on the
- 17 highway, it requires merely restriping for that
- 18 lane, and we did the exact same thing for the vet's
- 19 office just south of Foothill Road. We took the
- 20 existing blacktop, got rid of the lines that were 21 there and then created this transition area and the
- 22 dedicated turn lane for the vet's office.
- To answer your question, yes, we did
- 24 consider a similar treatment for the site driveway.
- 25 The challenge is you'll note just how much physical

- 1 space the transition has taken as a function of the
- 2 speed on the road. It then creates an issue with
- 3 the access to the nursing home and Arthur Road. The
- 4 shoulders are wide enough to allow bypass of any
- 5 stopped traffic turning as occurs in all the other
- 6 driveways. I didn't I'll say predict or anticipate
- 7 the DOT would want the turn lane, but I could expect
- 8 that issue to surface during their review, and if
- 9 DOT concludes that the lane would be appropriate,
- 10 then the applicant will provide it. There's no
- 11 question.
- 12 I just -- I can't stand here and say
- 13 it's a good idea or not a good idea. Just it's the
- 14 state's highway. Given that they did it for a small
- 15 vet's office, I could infer they might ask for it,
- 16 but every week is a new adventure with the DOT. I
- 17 don't mean to be livid, but it literally is.
- MR. KURDYLA: I understand, but we were
- 19 talking, you know, worship service, and what sort of
- 20 gets into the mix is the fact that it's going to be
- 21 a mixed use between worship, and our last meeting
- 22 the numbers -- the number of people who would be
- 23 worshipping during the day are pretty low, quite
- 24 honestly, but my concern is, once the daycare was
- 25 mentioned, I could think of, you know, 7 o'clock in

evaluates the patterns of development along thecorridor.

Page 111

- 3 You'll note that Woodmont I think there
- 4 were -- I want to say there were about a hundred
- 5 units in there. There was no turn lane required.
- 6 So, you know -- and the volume of traffic coming
- 7 into those apartments at night is probably on the
- 8 order of 30 to 40 turning left, and, again, that's
- 9 akin to the same volume we might expect for the
- 10 daycare center. The daycare would be roughly half 11 or less.
- So if we try to compare it, if it
- 13 wasn't warranted or required at that location -- and
- 14 as I said, the challenge is -- and I'm not saying it
- 15 can't be done, is to create a small refuge turning
- 16 lane for the site that then allows for a transition
- 17 for a left-turn lane into Arthur which then also
- 18 allows for shifting the center line for a transition
- 19 for a left-turn lane into the daycare -- I'm sorry,
- 20 the nursing home center.
- 21 So it physically can be done, and it's
- 22 striping. It's not tearing up blacktop or moving
- 23 curbed lines because I know I'm pointing and it's
- 24 difficult to see from the dais, but the pavement
- 25 width itself is very wide. So it's literally a
- 1 matter of eradicating the white yellow lines.
- 2 MR. KURDYLA: Like I said, it's my
- 3 concern. I'd like to see it addressed. That's all.
- 4 How you do it, I'm not an expert on it.
- 5 MR. DEAN: It can be done, but we just
- 6 have to wait to get through that process unless Mr.
- 7 Bogart has a specific recommendation. I don't mean
- 8 to put you on the spot. We can accommodate it.
- 9 MS. TUBMAN: You're the one to deal
- 10 with DOT.
- 11 MR. BOGART: I pay no attention to
- 12 someone whispering in my ear for the overpass.
- MR. CHARLES: What exactly is the
- 14 process?
- MR. DEAN: With the state?
- MR. CHARLES: Yeah, from here going
- 17 forward. Obviously, I mean every site along this
- 18 highway people are concerned about traffic. Every
- 19 person who lives on the east side can't make a
- 19 person who haves on the east side can't make a
- 20 left-hand turn on 206. You know the situation,
- 21 So specifically to this application,
- 22 how does it work now? How does it go?
- MR. DEAN: The application is filed
 - 4 with the DOT. They review it for completeness which
- 25 is much like your process, and then they have 90

- Page 110
- 1 the morning, right in the middle of rush hour
- 2 between seven and eight people waiting to turn to
- 3 bring the children into the daycare. So that's a
- 4 concern that I have.
- 5 MR. DEAN: If I heard Mr. Finelli's
- 6 testimony correctly, I believe the daycare
- 7 enrollment was limited or I guess that the space of
- 8 the classrooms was about 50, and having represented
- 9 hundreds of daycare operators, they don't all come 10 in at once. Some start showing up at six and they
- 11 go up until nine.
- Again, it is a volume of maybe 15 to 20
- 13 per hour. In other words, they don't all show up at
- 7:30, and, you know, one car coming in, even if they
- 15 all came from the south say every four or five 16 minutes, that would be the kind of frequency.
- MR. KURDYLA: What I'm concerned about are the ones going north and cutting across the
- 19 southbound lane.
- 20 MR. DEAN: As we make the road wider
- 21 and there are two southbound lanes or at least wider
- 22 transition for a northbound turn lane, it's more
- 23 distance for that individual to turn left. So
- that's why I said I don't have all the answersbecause so much is dependent on how the state

- 1 days, and within that period, there is an
- 2 opportunity for the municipal engineer to opine, the
- 3 county planning board to weigh in, and, obviously,
- 4 the DOT takes into consideration much -- sort of the
- 5 same process I went through, how many other
- 6 driveways and intersections are affected, and as a
- 7 policy, the state agency, should they be looking at,
- 8 on this applicant's dime so to speak, putting in
- 9 some of those improvements much like has already
- 10 occurred at Foothill.
- 11 So the process is they review it. They
- 12 send it back to us for changes both in the geometry,
- 13 the striping, and we revise it and refile and so
- 14 forth.
- 15 MR. CHARLES: Could they come back with
- 16 something as significant as the installation of a
- 17 traffic light here?
- 18 MR. DEAN: I would say the type of
- 19 application that was filed is for -- there's really
- 20 three types in DOT, what's called a minor which are
- 21 for home office conversions, single-family home
- 22 driveways, things of that nature that are low
- 23 traffic generators, a major permit which are typical
- 24 highway commercial, you know, small to mid-size
- 25 office buildings, a CVS, and it's a function of

- 1 you're satisfied that the proposed parking is
- 2 sufficient for the number of maximum expected and

Page 115

Page 116

- 3 population for both uses. Is that correct?
- 4 MR. DEAN: I am. I recall the question
- 5 that was proposed by the public, and the short
- 6 answer is, with 282 parking spaces that are
- 7 proposed, and I believe 20 or so are -- I don't know
- 8 if you're still doing that, are banked?
- 9 MS. TUBMAN: No.
- MR. DEAN: They're all to be
- 11 constructed. It's designed to accommodate that
- 12 maximum service loading that Mr. Finelli described
- 13 of 600, and following your ordinance requirements of
- 14 one per 30 square feet and then added to that was
- 15 the school use, I am convinced that, obviously, we
- 16 satisfy your ordinance, but that it also provides an
- 17 appropriate number, and the reason that occurs is
- 18 that, much like other religions, during high holy
- 19 days that are attended more by families, there's a
- 20 greater ridership per vehicle.
- 21 Whereas, weekly services may attract
- 22 principally single occupant vehicles. As we get to
- 23 those limited two, three days a year as families
- 24 attend, the ridership goes up to two and a half,
- 25 three, four people per car. So just going through

- 1 traffic generation, and then they call major
- 2 planning, and something like the Sanofi campus,
- 3 because of the land mass, the acreage and the
- 4 development size, that requires a more comprehensive
- 5 review by the state.
- 6 We are simply a major. So falling into
- 7 that category means it's not the type of use that
- 8 generates enough traffic for a signal. You know,
- 9 for years, I know consideration -- you know, we
- 10 looked at -- not we, but I know consideration was
- 11 given to Foothill, and there is a concern that it 12 would act as a magnet and possibly draw more traffic
- 13 through that neighborhood that necessarily might be
- 14 avoiding it today, and we went through the same
- 15 process with Talamini.
- The short answer, not that I can do
- 17 that, is it takes a sufficient amount of traffic
- 18 sustained over eight hours of the day for the DOT to
- 19 say we need a light, and for one, maybe two hours
- 20 for a use such as a house of worship, it wouldn't qualify.
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Dean, I don't think
- 23 you said this. So if you just would confirm this,
- 24 you worked on this with the design engineer and the
- 25 architect and with the applicant and Ms. Tubman and

- 1 the math, say three people per vehicle with a 600
- 2 space capacity is 282. So I am convinced, to answer
- 3 your question, Mr. Collins, that an appropriate
- 4 number of parking spaces are provided and will serve
- 5 this site for many years into the future.
- 6 Obviously, a lot of infrastructure into
- 7 the parking is being constructed once for economic
- 8 reasons rather than have to tear up the site and
- 9 revisit these issues at some point down the road.
- 10 So it does provide excess capacity to accommodate
- 11 the future.
- MS. TUBMAN: There was one question
- 13 asked at the last meeting which -- to which we said
- 14 we would provide an answer.
- 15 The question from the audience was how
- 16 many parking spaces would be lost if we were to
- 17 eliminate the design waiver for nine width wide
- 18 stalls as opposed to nine and a half. The answer is
- 19 16 stalls. So we are still significantly
- 20 overparked.
- 21 MR. RODZINAK: That's based on
- 22 municipal ordinance, correct?
- 23 MS. TUBMAN: Correct.
- 24 MR. RODZINAK: I just wanted to make
- 25 that clear.

- MR. COLLINS: On that subject, Mr.
- 2 Dean, you're satisfied the proposed parking width is
- 3 an adequate width for the proposed uses?
- 4 MR. DEAN: Nine by 18 is the standard.
- 5 I don't know how it's left. If it's the board
- 6 preference to adhere to your ordinance requirement
- 7 at nine and a half, you have your answer as to how
- 8 many spaces would be lost, and I assume that the
- 9 applicant is willing to comply.
- 10 It does allow it, and I will say it is
- 11 a good way to start a site, and however many years
- 12 down the road, if parking ever becomes an issue, you
- 13 may or may not revisit your ordinance standards
- 14 depending on what happens to cars and oil prices and
- 15 those types of issues, but you have the benefit of
- 16 knowing that the lot can always be restriped subject
- 17 to the requisite proofs to add 16 more spaces.
- MS. TUBMAN: But at present, we are
- 19 asking for a design waiver to have them designed
- 20 nine by 18 which is a standard size in my
- 21 experience.
- MR. DEAN: Correct, for commercial.
- 23 I'll say for residential, commercial parking with
- 24 the exception of things like Home Depot and
- 25 supermarkets where large parcels it's beneficial to

- 1 fender twice, two different incidents making the
- 2 same turn, and they really are traveling at very
- 3 high rates of speed. They can't stop, and, yet,
- 4 your signal is on, and I've seen this like with
- 5 people coming out when they have to make a left-hand
- 6 turn or if they're traveling on 202/206 and they
- 7 have to make a left-hand turn, regardless whether
- 8 they're going to make a left-hand turn over the
- 9 southbound lane or whether they're making a
- 10 right-hand turn.
- 11 Cars are not stopping. They're acting
- 12 very carelessly in how they're passing, and I
- 13 don't -- I don't -- there's too many streets that go
- 14 into 202/206 where people have to make a left-hand
- 15 turn, and there are mornings where we have to wait
- 16 10 minutes before we can get out onto 202/206.the
- 17 traffic is just too much in that area.
- 18 How many of you really -- is there
- 19 anyone on this board that ever travels 202/206
- 20 during the day in that area? No.
- Is there any testimony to what kind of
- 22 traffic patterns are there and how they're coming
- 23 out onto the streets and how people have to wait to
- 24 get out if they're going to make a left-hand turn?
- Neighbors make a right-hand turn to

Page 118

Page 120

- 1 have wider spaces.
- 2 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any other questions of
- 3 the board?
- 4 If none, any questions from the public
- 5 or comments?
- 6 MS. MC NALLY: My name is Pat Mc Nally,
- 7 and I live at 842 Carnoustie Drive, and, no, I have
- 8 not been sworn in.
- 9 MR. COLLINS: Please raise your right
- 10 hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- 11 whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you
- 12 God?
- 13 MS. MC NALLY: I do.
- 14 I'm concerned because I think we're
- 15 looking at this in isolation, just the one property,
- 16 and I'm very concerned living on Carnoustie Drive,
- and as my husband said before, being hit twice
- 18 making a left-hand turn traveling north. I mean a
- 19 right-hand turn, I'm sorry, a right-hand turn
- 20 traveling north.
- That's not even going across the other
- 22 lane of traffic, but because people are in such a
- 23 rush and travel at such a high rate of speed, they
- 24 pass you on the right. There's not that much of a
- 25 shoulder and they've hit me in the right front

- 1 make a left-hand turn in order to get onto 202/206,
- 2 go around the block to come out to make a right-hand
- 3 turn. I don't think that's fair to the community,
- 4 and that's not anything in opposition to this
- 5 particular testimony because I'm not opposed to the
- 6 temple, but I don't think the township has done a
- 7 very good job in terms of traffic control, and I
- 8 would look to the mayor and council in terms of your
- 9 master plan and what you're doing in terms of
- 10 rectifying that particular condition.
- 11 Carnoustie Drive is a dead end. I mean
- 12 there's no other egress for entrance onto 202/206.
- 13 You can't go across the back roads like you can if
- 14 you're on Stella or Arthur. So you're stuck. You
- 15 they have to use 202/206, and every day that you use
- 16 that you're taking your life in your hands, and,
- 17 yet, you keep approving more and more large
- 18 development along 202/206. I don't get it. I don't
- 19 understand that. I just don't understand it, and
- 20 it's because you're looking at everything in
- isolation instead of looking at it as a total planfor the township. Like what does the master plan
- 23 say?
- And then when you put the light on
- 25 Talamini -- and it's interesting that you were the

- 1 one who planned that. Why that was picked over
- 2 Foothill Road -- well, I have an idea why it was,
- 3 but now Foothill -- that just allows Foothill Road
- 4 to feed down onto 202/206 further compounding the
- 5 traffic on that road.
- And people talked about Woodmont and
- 7 how that wouldn't interfere because that was going
- 8 to be for the older generation. Well, guess what?
- 9 There's cars that constantly come out of there, and
- 10 they're trying to make a right-hand turn. That's
- 11 okay, but when they have to make a left-hand turn,
- 12 as they come out, that creates a problem for them,
- 13 and so you have people coming out making a left-hand
- 14 turn from the other side of the street coming south,
- 15 that want to go south, and then you have the people
- 16 on the -- I'm sorry, people on the north who want to
- 17 make a left-hand turn to go south and people on the
- 18 south side who want to make a left-hand turn to go
- 19 north and all of these streets are not that far
- 20 apart.
- So if somebody decides that they want 21
- 22 to make -- to pass the person who's making the
- 23 left-hand turn to go into Woodmont and somebody's
- 24 trying to come out of Carnoustie and they're just
- 25 zooming by into the -- on the shoulder of the lane

- 1 of traffic, and I don't know. Is there anything
 - 2 that's going to be done about drainage? I don't
- 3 hear drainage being addressed at all.
- MR. COLLINS: It was addressed at the
- 5 last meeting by the professional engineer and civil 6 engineer.
- MS. MC NALLY: I'm sorry. I missed 7
- 8 that, but I am -- my biggest concern is traffic
- 9 having seen too many accidents in this particular
- 10 strip of 202/206, and now they're talking about
- 11 there's going to be that other Hovnanian application
- 12 before you. You approved this and then you approved
- 13 that. How many more cars are you going to put onto
- 14 the road?
- 15 I think it's time for the township to
- 16 take a look at their master plan and what should be
- 17 allowed. Thank you.
- MR, KURZ: Robert Kurz again. Your 18
- 19 traffic count, where was the positioning of when you
- 20 did your traffic count? Where do they set up to
- 21 count cars?
- MR. DEAN: One was at Foothill and one 22
- 23 was at Arthur.
- 24 MR. KURZ: Do they count just traffic
- 25 on the highway or do they count turning left and

Page 122

- 1 which is very narrow, I don't understand how you
- 2 think that 202/206 is wide, because in my estimation
- 3 it isn't, and I would suggest that all of you before
- 4 you make a decision that you get out there on
- 5 202/206 and take a look at that and not just listen
- 6 to testimony from an applicant who all too often.
- 7 when applicants come in, they're biassed in terms of
- 8 what they're doing, because they're trying to get an
- 9 applicant approved by a board, and I know this. 10 I've sat on boards, but there's also I think a duty
- 11 of the planning board to also protect the residents
- 12 of the township.
- And now it's granted there are not as
- 14 many out here at this meeting as you had from
- 15 Redwood Inn or maybe Tectonic when the applications
- 16 were not approved, but as far as I'm concerned, this
- 17 traffic issue is the primary issue that this
- 18 application should be denied, and I'm not saying I'm
- 19 against the temple, because I am not, but something
- 20 has to be done with the traffic, and I don't think
- 21 just because a driveway was approved for a previous
- 22 applicant, that that has any bearing on what is
- 23 before this board tonight.
- So I would ask that you really look at
- 25 this particular application for what it is in terms

- MR. DEAN: Counted turnings left and
- 3 right.
- MR. KURZ: So I can prestigiously thank
- 5 you for not being able to turn in my street because
- 6 you were the one that created that left-hand turn
- 7 lane, because prior to that left-hand lane, it was
- 8 hard to turn into my street. Now with the left-turn
- 9 lane, I have to cross two lanes to make a left-hand
- 10 turn.
- MR. DEAN: Correct. 11
- 12 MR. KURZ: Now, anybody who has gone
- 13 down West Foothill Road or turns into West Foothill
- 14 Road going north, people try to be courteous and let
- 15 you turn in front of them not understanding that
- 16 traffic is flowing, as the woman said, very fast at
- 17 45 miles an hour southbound, and I'm a pretty good
- 18 judge. I'm a retired police officer, and I can see
- what traffic is really like. 19
- You're talking potential a left-hand 20
- 21 lane for northbound traffic is what you're saying?
- 22 MR. DEAN: Not at all. It's subject to
- 23 the state.
- MR. KURZ: I'm saying potential. If 24
- 25 the state comes along, you think they would probably

Page 124

- 1 ask for a left-hand turn lane for the northbound
- 2 traffic?
- 3 MR. DEAN: If they follow in suit as
- 4 they did with the veterinary application, it's
- 5 conceivable, but it can't be done in isolation
- 6 because it affects Arthur Road and the entrance for
- 7 the nursing home. So the transitions and the
- 8 impacts on abutting lane uses are always of
- 9 consideration to the state.
- MR. KURZ: Okay. Was consideration
- 11 given, and I'm going to throw this out, at Arthur
- 12 Road much like the temple up at Brown putting a
- 13 traffic light in there allowing egress and entering
- 14 and exiting into the mosque property with the
- 15 potential of also allowing access in and out of the
- 16 nursing home?
- MR. DEAN: The short answer is there's
- 18 not enough traffic from any of those driveways or
- 19 access points including the nursing home, Arthur or
- 20 the temple to justify the installation of a signal.
- I mean many driveways and the public
- 22 and board's often feel we need a light here, we need
- 23 a light here, we need a light here. The state's
- 24 policy is every light disrupts highway flow, and
- 25 their whole objective is we want to keep traffic

- 1 That's one car every say four minutes.
 - 2 You would sit there for four minutes. It seems like
 - 3 an eternity when you're waiting at a stop sign, but
 - 4 that is the frequency of vehicles, and it's a very,
 - 5 very low volume from a traffic perspective.
 - 6 So we've considered that. It's
 - 7 certainly in character with the adjacent streets and
 - 8 driveways, and I would even say not dissimilar to
 - 9 West Foothill. I think even peak hour we counted 20
 - 10 cars turning left into West Foothill.
 - 11 MR. KURZ: I ask the board to truly
 - 12 consider that left-hand turn situation. Anybody who
 - 13 lives on West Foothill Road, anybody who is trying
 - 14 to turn onto Arthur going south, it is impossible, I
 - 15 don't care whether it's rush hour, during the day or
 - 16 not, to make a left-hand turn in a reasonable amount
 - 17 of time.
 - 18 I understand what you're saying. Four
 - 19 minutes is not a lot, but when you're sitting on
 - 20 that road facing northbound and you have traffic
 - 21 coming at you behind you and you don't know how many
 - 22 times I've sat there and said this is the one,
 - because they're just flying north on 202/206, and I
 - 24 know this is going to be the one that's going to run
 - 25 into me.

Page 126

Page 128

- 1 moving on the highway.
- 2 So they become very stingy with their
- 3 approval of signals, and just having designed and
- 4 installed literally hundreds, none of these
- 5 locations would be a candidate. So consideration
- 6 was given, but I also temper it with practical
- 7 experience.
- 8 MR. KURZ: I was just asking if you had
- 9 considered it or not.
- 10 MR. DEAN: Yes.
- 11 MR. KURZ: And the traffic flow rate,
- 12 although not -- I think you said add about 15 cars
- 13 per hour or something like that, approximation?
- 14 MR, DEAN: Correct.
- MR. KURZ: But add that hour time span,
- 16 15 extra cars on the highway attempting to make a
- 17 left-hand turn, how does that apply to your
- 18 rationale of saying there's no problem?
- MR. DEAN: Well, again, yes. For
- 20 example, during the morning peak hour, there are 10
- 21 vehicles we counted currently turning left into the
- 22 nursing home. Five vehicles turning left into
- 23 Arthur. That's on scale with what I would expect
- 24 the mosque to generate. On an average, again, that
- 25 occurs over 60 minutes.

- 1 I've had cars skid by me. With my turn
- 2 signal on, I've had cars skid by me on the shoulder,
- 3 go up on that little ramp, not ramp, but berm, go up
- 4 on that turn, not stop and just keep on going. So
- 5 the left turn situation is the primary focus on the
- 6 traffic for me, you know, as far as what's going on
- 7 here.
- 8 I don't care what's built there. It's
- 9 just I don't want anything built there because the
- 10 traffic is just atrocious, and if you have any input
- 11 to the state, I would ask you to put that input to
- 12 the state that the public is saying that they're
- 13 concerned with the traffic, not what the numbers
- 14 say, not what this gentleman has to offer as his
- 15 expertise, but just the practical knowledge of what
- 16 you see there and how you try to drive that road.
- 17 I will invite any one of you gentlemen
- 18 to come over for a glass of ice tea, women included,
- 19 at 4:30 in the afternoon, come north on 206. You
- 20 tell me what kind of traffic that is.
- 21 Thank you.
- MS. AMIN: Pushpa Amin. I did read one
- 23 article says the corner house and my property both
- 24 from the point where actual lot about 330 feet.
- 25 So my question is, if the DOT plans or

- 1 decides to put a left-turn lane into that property,
- 2 will there be enough width from highway to create
- 3 that lane? That's my question.
- 4 MR. DEAN: Yes.
- 5 MS. AMIN: There will not be any
- 6 encroachment on my property?
- 7 MR. DEAN: Where the blacktop ends
- 8 today is my expectation of where it will continue in
- 9 the future, and I know -- I mean I stare at these
- 10 things all day, but looking at the aerial map and
- 11 the width of the ribbon, the gray ribbon that
- 12 represents the highway, it's consistent from West
- 13 Foothill and Foothill all the way up past Woodmont.
- 14 So it can easily accommodate the restriping for a
- 15 turn lane with no widening.
- MS. AMIN: And let's say you have a lot
- 17 of busses going into that property. How far will
- 18 they line up? Will they line up to Arthur Road?
- 19 Let's say in the morning you have four or five
- 20 busses lined up.
- MR. DEAN: I can't predict how far that
- 22 might extend. It depends on the origin of the
- 23 students who are being picked up, whether there's
- 24 more to the north, more to the south, the routes
- 25 they travel, whether they come down Brown Road and

- 1 MR. CHARLES: So the state would just
 - 2 look at Phase I, and then later on when the school
 - 3 is added, the state would come back and look at it?
 - 4 MR. DEAN: Absolutely correct.
 - 5 MR, ROBERTS: Chris Roberts. To what
 - 6 Mr. Charles just said, if it's already there, how
 - 7 would the state disapprove it if it's already there?
 - 8 MR. DEAN: It's not already there. It
 - 9 requires a separate application.
 - 10 MS. TUBMAN: Before the school would be
 - 11 built. I think the answer was misleading.
 - 12 MR. ROBERTS: Okay. Thank you. You
 - 13 said before about the shoulder, that people go
 - 14 around on the shoulder.
 - 15 MR. DEAN: Yes.
 - 16 MR. ROBERTS: You know that's illegal,
 - 17 right?
 - 18 MR. DEAN: No, it's perfectly legal.
 - MR. ROBERTS: My son has gotten a
 - 20 ticket for driving on the shoulder on 202/206 going
 - 21 around a car that was pulling into the old age home
 - 22 there. Got a ticket and the Bridgewater policeman
 - 23 told him it's illegal.
 - 24 I checked with my cousin who is a
 - 25 policeman. Maybe I'm wrong. He also told me it is

Page 130

Page 132

Page 131

- 1 travel south or come down Foothill or say further
- 2 off 287. I can't predict.
- 3 Expectation is that at -- I think the
- 4 maximum capacity I believe was 400. Forty or so
- 5 students fit on a bus, maybe 10 busses, and if I
- 6 took five from the north and five from the south,
- 7 just for discussion purposes, at 35 feet a bus, it

8 won't encroach to Arthur, quick math, but they don't

- 9 all show up at the same time.
- 10 MS. AMIN: True.
- MR. DEAN: They are staggered a few
- 12 minutes apart. That's just the nature of
- 13 operations.
- 14 So I understand your concern that,
- 15 sure, it could block Arthur. I just don't envision
- 16 it for this site. Four hundred students is a lot
- 17 of -- it's a big school.
- 18 MS. AMIN: That's all I have. Thanks.
- 19 MR. DEAN: Thank you.
- 20 MR. CHARLES: Just real quick, for
- 21 clarification, when the state reviews this, do they
- 22 look at it -- the entirety of the application with a
- 23 full school in terms of looking at your traffic
- 24 counts and their assessment or is it just Phase I?
- MR. DEAN: Right now it's just Phase I.

- 1 illegal to drive on the shoulder across that white
- 2 line
- 3 Okay. All right. My main question
- 4 here is, when you did the study, did you do it
- 5 during school hours or was it done during the summer
- 6 of the traffic pattern?
- 7 MR. DEAN: I don't know when schools
- 8 let out in Bridgewater, but the counts were done in
- 9 June of this year and it was late June.
- 10 MR. ROBERTS: School is out by then.
- 11 The reason why I ask is if you could have them maybe
- 12 do another study is that, as you come north, as you
- 13 know, on 202/206 just before the old age home, it's
- 14 a blind hill.
- Okay. Now, our kids when they were --
- 16 my kids, when they were younger, the bus stop is at
- 17 the end of our block which is still there, and like
- 18 I said in previous testimony, there are many young
- 19 kids on our block now. So the traffic -- I think
- 20 you should demand he does -- they do a survey during
- 21 school hours, you know, morning, rush, evening rush
- 22 when there's a lot of school busses around because
- 23 the schools are making a left on Foothill.
- They're going up 202/206 north.
- 25 It's -- you know, do what other people say. It's a

- 1 nightmare getting out of our street, out of Stella,
- 2 out of Carnoustie, out of all those roads. I know
- 3 everybody considers it a highway, but in my opinion,
- 4 it's just my opinion, Route 22 is a highway.
- 5 202/206 here is a two-lane road, one lane each way.
- 6 It should not be considered a highway.
- 7 The way you're talking to me is more
- 8 and more the reason why they should have just left
- 9 it at the Redwood Inn. If there's so little traffic
- 10 worry, why not leave it at the Redwood Inn?
- 11 This is a nightmare. This is an
- 12 absolute nightmare. I'm telling you right now.
- 13 MS. AMBLER: Diane Ambler. You
- 14 mentioned about the striping. Can you rewalk
- 15 through that again about how the striping was done
- 16 to get that left-turn lane towards that West
- 17 Foothill Road so people had an access to go onto
- 18 Foothill?
- 19 You mentioned that was part of the
- 20 veterinary practice.
- MR. DEAN: The striping was already
- 22 there for Foothill. It predates the vet, and there
- 23 was a prior application. Because of the transitions
- 24 that occur with the yellow I call it zebra striping
- 25 or crosshatch, south of Foothill Road, the through

- Page 135
- 1 and told Sanofi Aventis that they had to put that
- 2 left-turn lane on say the Highway 202/206 on their
- 3 property giving directions south on 202/206 to use
- 4 Foothill Road for a back way to get into their other
- 5 Sanofi Aventis building, they had to put that lane
- 6 in there and they took away the state property, it's
- 7 not mine, but it's six feet of my property went from
- 8 a nice curve where we could actually cut our lawn to
- 9 pretty much a vertical and they took piping that was
- 10 coming up from my yard and they tied it all in nice,
- 11 so great for drainage, but when they put that lane
- 12 in coming southbound, people can come down and over
- 13 that hill and sit there and turn left onto Foothill
- 14 Road and people can pass quite fast because it is
- 15 quite wide enough.
- So coming northbound on 202/206, that
- 17 road is falling apart because people come by there
- 18 so fast and use that tiny little bit of shoulder all
- 19 the time that the road is falling apart.
- 20 MR. DEAN: I can't speak for the
- 21 maintenance of the highway. That's a different
- 22 issue. That's endemic and has nothing to do with
- 23 this site.
- MS. AMBLER: All right, Let me talk
- 25 about another point, busses. Tomorrow's the first

Page 134

- 1 traffic had already been I'll say transitioned.
- 2 The state recognized an opportunity to
- 3 essentially -- I'm pointing again. I'm in the lower
- 4 right-hand corner of A-2. The state recognized an
- 5 opportunity to extend the Foothill Road left-turn
- 6 lane essentially to the vet's property, and they did
- 7 it by getting rid of the double yellow line where it
- 8 was, shifting it a little bit to the east, getting
- 9 rid of the white lines that were there and shifting
- 10 them to the east to create a third lane but --
- 11 MS. AMBLER: So you're talking where,
- 12 south of Foothill Road?
- MR, DEAN: South, north. They're all
- 14 the same width. The highway is the same width.
- 15 It's just where the stripes go. It's just a matter
- 16 of whether they're laid more to the right or more to
- 17 the left, and it creates a shift in the center line
- 18 that it no longer runs down the center of the
- 19 highway, but it's skewed in the case of Foothill
- 20 slightly to the east to create two southbound lanes.
- MS. AMBLER: Southbound --
- 22 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- MS. AMBLER: -- but not northbound?
- 24 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- MS. AMBLER: So when the state came in

- 1 day of school. From 10 minutes to seven until
- 2 quarter to nine are the bus stops for all the
- 3 schools.
- 4 So the first bus stop is going to stop
- 5 at West Foothill Road at 10 minutes to seven, the
- 6 kids from parochial school are going to get on 7:05,
- 7 the high school kids are going to get on. That
- 8 traffic is going to back up past -- it's got to be
- 9 to Woodmont apartments. Northbound there's a house
- 10 across the street from mine at 862. One person gets
- 11 on that bus. That bus is stopped 45 seconds, and
- 12 that traffic is backed up all the way to Talamini to
- 13 get that kid on that bus and belted in, and that bus
- 14 stopped, shuts the door and turns the lights on, I
- 15 can see all the way down the highway and now
- 16 Foothill Road is all backed up. Talamini is coming
- 17 up, right? Light's changing, people are coming, and
- 18 it's -- that's the way it is from 7 o'clock until
- 19 quarter to nine throughout the whole school year.
- Now, with 10 more busses coming to
- 21 bring all those kids to school on time, I can't
- 22 imagine 10 busses coming five in each direction
- 23 trying to turn into that property. They're going to
- 24 be down to Green Knoll Grill and up to the new over
- 25 55 community or beyond. Two hours every day.

- 1 MR. DEAN: State law requires motorists
- 2 to stop for school busses. That's safety, prime
- 3 safety concern.
- 4 MS. AMBLER: Thank goodness, because
- 5 people would just go around them.
- 6 MR. DEAN: And it creates congestion.
- 7 MS. AMBLER: There's going to be a
- 8 school. Fine. There's got to be some
- 9 consideration. It's got to be talked about about
- 10 what reality is. It isn't 20 cars turning into West
- 11 Foothill. It isn't 12 cars going down to Arthur or
- 12 whatever the number is. It's hectic.
- 13 I sit and try to come home, how I'm
- 14 going to come home from work depending on what the
- 15 traffic is going to be. I don't leave work until
- 6:30 now because I'm not sitting on 202/206 trying
- 17 to make a left-hand turn at any time that it's going
- 18 to be rush hour. You know, people say to me, you
- 19 know, there's a nice, new grocery store up in there
- 20 in Pluckemin. I said, sorry, I don't make a left,
- 21 and that's reality. That's the way I'm driving
- 22 today.
- 23 So all these new people coming into
- 24 this community, you just have to know it, you know.
- 25 It's a lot of traffic, it's a lot of people and

- 1 the safety of the people coming and going from that
- 2 property during the school year --
- 3 MR. DEAN: Safety is my number one
- 4 concern. I'm sorry. It's my number one concern
- 5 which is why we evaluate site distance, and we look
- 6 at the safety and efficiency, ingress and egress,
- 7 and make sure that it is conventional, logical,
- 8 easily understood by the traveling public and
- 9 subject to an opinion as to whether an improvement
- 10 such as a turning lane might be beneficial, and
- 11 we're certainly willing to do that.
- 12 There's no reluctance to make that
- 13 improvement. I just can't predict it, and if I were
- 14 to say we'd do it and the state would say no, we'd
- 15 be back before you. So this application is subject
- 16 to state approval as well.
- MS. AMBLER: So one other thing. The
- 18 property at one time, I don't know the name of the
- 19 company, was it all owned by Woodmont at one time
- 20 where they were going to have two areas of housing?
- MR. DEAN: It was never owned by
- 22 Woodmont. They had a contract, an option to buy
- 23 what is known as the Retract or the Recharitable
- 24 Trust property to do 39 townhouse units. That
- 25 option expired. Woodmont did not exercise it, and

Page 138

Page 140

- 1 there's a lot of people on weekends too where they
- 2 don't know where they're going, you know.
- 3 MR. DEAN: And that's precisely --
- 4 MS. AMBLER: It's not an easy
- 5 navigation. Somebody mentioned before about, if I
- 6 want to go left, I actually am going to go right. I
- 7 might even go Foothill and go around some of the
- 8 back roads to get here. I'm not going to go left
- 9 out of my street.
- 10 I don't know how all these people
- 11 coming out of the mosque -- it all lets out at the
- 12 same time. You can have a hundred people wanting to
- 13 leave the mosque all at the same time. They are
- 14 going to be sitting there three, four minutes at a
- 15 time if they want to go left.
- MR. DEAN: I would hope under those
- 17 circumstances if it ever exceed the expectations of
- 18 the applicant that those people would follow the
- 19 same rationale as you do in that perhaps 7 a.m. is a
- 20 bad time to visit the mosque and that they will
- 21 adjust accordingly much in the same way you do and
- 22 they'll come later in the evening.
- MS. AMBLER: If they have the
- 24 flexibility to move the five times of prayer, I
- 25 don't know. I'm being sensitive to that, but for

- 1 so the property was retained by the Reed family, and
- 2 they received the necessary approvals to build it3 independently.
- 4 MS. AMBLER: So when that whole design
- 5 was presented to the folks where we live and went up
- 6 to the Bridgewater Manor with all the presentations.
- 7 the plan was they were going to have one entrance on
- 8 and off the highway. So there would be two areas of
- 9 building like where the Woodmont apartments are now
- 10 and where the mosque is going to be in the future
- 11 and there was going to be a road that connected
- 12 between those two properties over that water passage
- 13 so that to the north is where the entrance was only
- 14 going to be.
- MR. DEAN: I have to say, just because
- 16 I was involved with the Woodmont project, that that
 - 7 was known as Woodmont I, and you are correct there
- 18 was a connector that ran parallel to Route 202/206
- 19 through the adjacent Lot 15.
- However, the Woodmont II project on the
- 21 subject tract also had a driveway to the highway,
- 22 and Woodmont received a permit from the state to
- 23 construct the separate driveway to Woodmont II. So
- 24 although they were interconnected internally, there
- 25 were two points of access for both developments.

- So when the Reed family took back their
- 2 property, they retained the approval for the access
- 3 to the highway that we have similarly retained
- 4 ownership.
- 5 MS. AMBLER: So that was different from
- 6 the plans that we all saw?
- 7 MR. DEAN: Correct. The driveway is
- 8 actually moved. Now, you'll see just by looking at
- 9 the exhibit, Arthur Road, I'm pointing to the right
- 10 about a third of the way up Stella drive, the
- 11 proposal now splits the difference between the two.
- 12 Woodmont II had the driveway much closer to Arthur.
- MS. AMBLER: The only other question I
- 14 had was, being that we're talking about the traffic,
- 15 since I live on the property adjacent to the nursing
- 16 home, I mean there are ambulances coming in and
- 17 coming out of there 24/7, you know, 24 hours a day,
- 18 seven days a week, many, many times of the day. So
- 19 if there's all this traffic building up, how the
- 20 heck are those ambulances going to get those people
- 21 in and out of there at the speeds that they're
- 22 coming in and out of there?
- 23 So another consideration just to
- 24 consider like who the neighbors are and the needs
- 25 that they have as well. I don't know if there's

- 1 question more for Mr. Ardman. I can only I'll say
 - 2 affirm those calculations. It sounds about right,
 - 3 correct, what I recall Mr. Finelli's testimony.
 - 4 MS. COFFEY: So they did not factor in,
 - 5 for example, parking spaces that would be used by
 - 6 the daycare?
 - 7 MR. DEAN: I can't that answer that
 - 8 question. I'm not a site engineer.
 - 9 MS. COFFEY: I heard you testify
 - 10 earlier that the parking was sufficient?
 - 11 MR. DEAN: Correct.
 - MS. COFFEY: And did you factor in all
 - 13 the different uses that was going to be on the
 - 14 property?
 - 15 MR. DEAN: Yes.
 - MS. COFFEY: Okay. So in terms of the
 - 17 number of spaces on the property, though, you're not
 - 18 able to say whether that number is factored into the
 - 19 daycare?
 - 20 MR. DEAN: Well, I believe the
 - 21 Bridgewater ordinance allows for shared parking
 - 22 which recognizes that there are different peak times
 - 23 of use.
 - The expectation is that when the school
 - 25 and daycare required their maximum parking that

Page 142

Page 144

- 1 anybody here from Madison tonight.
- 2 MR. DEAN: I don't know.
- 3 MS. AMBLER: I'm not home all day, but
- 4 the hours that I am and the days of the Week that I
- 5 am, these are concerns. I understand properties
- 6 have to develop, but the planning of the highway has
- 7 to go along with it.
- 8 We're hearing that where Linda's farm
- 9 stand is just right south of Foothill Road. There's
- 10 another whole development being planned in there.
- 11 It hasn't moved too far yet. So maybe it's not part
- 12 of the master plan yet, but neighbors on that side
- 13 of the road have gotten notices. So something's
- 14 happening. There's another 200 some odd condo or
- 15 apartments. It's just more.
- MR. DEAN: I agree, and that's why this
- 17 process exists.
- 18 MS. AMBLER: Thank you. Thanks.
- 19 MR. DEAN: Thank you.
- 20 MS. COFFEY: Good evening, Mr. Dean. I
- 21 wanted to talk a little bit about parking. So the
- 22 parking spaces that were calculated, that was based
- 23 on it was 6,750 square feet of the worship area. Is
- 24 that right?
- MR. DEAN: I don't know. That's a

- 1 there would be little, if any, use of the mosque
- 2 that requires the full parking lot capacity.
- 3 On the days when the full parking lot
- 4 capacity is required for a prayer service, the
- 5 daycare and the school components won't be in use.
- 6 Hence, the term sharing of parking. So that's why I
- 7 feel very confident that sufficient parking has been
- 8 provided.
- 9 MS. COFFEY: Did you look at all at the
- 10 Institute of Traffic Engineers numbers related to,
- 11 for example, school parking K through 12?
- 12 MR. DEAN: Yes, I did.
- MS. COFFEY: And do you recall what
- 14 that rate was?
- MR. DEAN: It varies by age group, by
- 16 private school, by public school, but, yes, I recall
- 17 it.
- 18 MS. COFFEY: I think we're talking
- 19 about K through 12 here.
- 20 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- MS. COFFEY: So my understanding was
- 22 0.39 spaces per student.
- 23 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- MS. COFFEY: I think 300 students was
- 25 what was anticipated. Although, up to 400 could be

- 1 accommodated. So that would be 117 spaces.
- 2 MR. DEAN: The caveat being that the
- 3 assumption reading the IT definition for private
- 4 schools is there wouldn't be bussing, and with the
- 5 expectation of bussing, it substantially, much like
- 6 a public school, reduces the need for parent parking
- 7 associated with pick up and drop off.
- 8 So those numbers go down dramatically.
- 9 Excepting even for the moment that 160 spaces are
- 10 required for the school operation, the lot itself is
- 11 282. So there's a surplus of 120 parking spaces.
- MS. COFFEY: The school be in session
- 13 while the worshipping is occurring?
- 14 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- MS. COFFEY: And what about for the
- 16 field, the ITE requirements for fields?
- 17 MR. DEAN: They're not treating it
- 18 separately. They're treated as accessory components
- 19 to the school. So one would not add parking for
- 20 soccer fields because -- or basketball or volleyball
- 21 courts, because much like a public school, they're
- 22 used by the students who are enrolled.
- 23 MS. COFFEY: Although, we did hear
- 24 testimony they'd be made available to the broader
- 25 community?

- 1 based on the worship area and the primary ordinance
 - 2 requirement related to the worship area, there were
 - 3 200 and -- was it 25 parking spaces, there about,
 - 4 that were required, and then I have for the daycare
 - 5 under the Bridgewater ordinance they require one
 - 6 space for every three students?
 - 7 MS. TUBMAN: Isn't that for a
 - 8 free-standing daycare center?
 - 9 MS. COFFEY: I don't know whether it is
 - 10 or not, but I understand this daycare would be open
 - 11 for the public, correct?
 - MS. TUBMAN: Correct, but there is also
 - 13 a provision in the ordinance which says count
 - 14 daycare consistent to the land use law unless it's a
 - 15 stand-alone daycare.
 - 16 However, with that said, we also had
 - 17 testimony there's more than enough parking to
 - 18 accommodate it.
 - MS. COFFEY: If you were to apply the
 - 20 one space for every three daycare students, that
 - 21 would be 16 students or so. Then if you're having
 - 22 50 students -- and then if you look at the ITE rates
 - 23 for private schools, and it may not account for
 - 24 bussing, but that rate for K to 12 was an additional
 - 25 117 spaces. So they're well over the surplus that's

Page 146

Page 148

- 1 MR. DEAN: Not when school is in
- 2 session.
- 3 MS. COFFEY: For example, weekend
- 4 users.
- 5 MR. DEAN: Correct. Again, for the
- 6 shared parking component, it wouldn't be added to
- 7 all the individual or discrete components of the
- 8 site.
- 9 MS. COFFEY: Did you happen to look at
- 10 the Bridgewater ordinance regarding the requirement
- 11 that you combine all the different uses, parking lot
- 12 requirements 126-170.
- MR. DEAN: I did not look at that
- 14 specific requirement. I know from prior experience
- 15 that shared parking was a concept, whether it was
- 16 effective or appropriate at that time.
- 17 A well-recognized planning tool, I'll
- 18 have to defer to Ms. Doyle, but adding a whole
- 19 parking deck so we can look at parking for an
- 20 athletic field, treating it separately and ignoring
- 21 its relationship with the other site components,
- 22 sure. It requires more parking. I don't think that
- 23 that's the appropriate planning exercise however.
- MS. COFFEY: Tell me if these numbers
- 25 sound right to you. It's my understanding that,

- 1 required, correct?
- 2 MR. DEAN: By that simple tabulation,
- 3 yes.
- 4 MS. COFFEY: And is there any street
- 5 parking available in the area?
- 6 MR. DEAN: No.
- 7 MS. COFFEY: And is there any concrete
- 8 plan for where overflow would go?
- 9 MR. DEAN: No. Well, other than what's
- 10 been presented in that inquiries would be made with
- 11 adjacent industrial and/or office complexes for
- 12 surplus parking, a valet plan could be implemented,
- 13 two services could be implemented, but in terms of
- 14 the assertion that a mosque requires 225, the
- 15 testimony was that, when that full capacity of 600 16 and some odd -- 600 attendees requires the 225
- 17 mosque parking spaces, that the daycare and school
- 18 would not be in operation. So they're not added
- 19 based on the testimony.
- 20 MS. COFFEY: Although, it was my
- 21 understanding that, although the maximum capacity is
- 22 600 folks which right now is anticipated for high
- 23 holidays, it has the same potential that the
- 24 congregation could swell to those numbers, correct?
- MR. DEAN: I don't believe there's any

Page 151

- 1 testimony to that effect.
- 2 MS. COFFEY: Perhaps I misunderstood.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 MR. DEAN: You're welcome.
- 5 MR. KURZ: Robert Kurz. Sir, I had a
- 6 question for you as far as the traffic study. Was
- 7 there a study just on the amount of cars or the
- 8 speed of the cars?
- 9 MR. DEAN: Just the amount.
- MR. KURZ: You spoke before about line
- 11 of sight. What's the speed limit on Route 206 now,
- 12 Route 202/206?
- 13 MR. DEAN: Forty-five. It varies
- 14 depending on which section.
- MR. KURZ: Now, going north on Route
- 16 202/206, you're saying that the line of sight would
- 17 allow the traffic to make the left into the parking
- 18 lot. How far back at 25 miles an hour would a car
- 19 need to see that there's a car stopped ahead of
- 20 them?
- 21 MR. DEAN: I'm not following your
- 22 question.
- 23 MR. KURZ: If there's a car turning
- 24 left into your parking lot --
- 25 MR. DEAN: Yes.

- 1 distance, is about 450 feet give or take.
- 2 MR. KURZ: Depending on how far traffic
- 3 is backed up to make that left-hand turn into that
- 4 distance
- MR. DEAN: Bear in mind the left turn
- 6 to the nursing home driveway is even closer.
- 7 MR. KURZ: I agree, but I can't do
- 8 anything for the nursing home. I can at least voice
- 9 my opinion on this driveway.
- 10 MR. DEAN: I will reiterate that the
- 11 proposed driveway location in my opinion meets all
- 12 the recognized DOT and safety criteria, and I should
- 13 bear out, worth repeating that the state already
- 14 approved the driveway at about 100 feet closer to
- 15 West Foothill than we're proposing. So we're
- 16 increasing the site distance over what's already
- 17 been approved twice.
- 18 MR. KURZ: The only question I have is
- 19 were you asked to consider any other ingress or
- 20 egress from the site?
- 21 MR. DEAN: Yes.
- 22 MR. KURZ: Where?
- 23 MR. DEAN: Where it was originally.
- 24 MR. KURZ: No. I mean as far as more
- 25 than one exit and entrance.

Page 150

- 1 MR. KURZ: -- when you're going north
- 2 on 206, you pass West Foothill Road.
- 3 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- 4 MR. KURZ: It's a rise.
- 5 MR. DEAN: Yes.
- 6 MR. KURZ: You make a right. It's
- 7 about at the nursing home and it flattens out.
- 8 MR. DEAN: Correct.
- 9 MR. KURZ: What's that distance
- 10 approximately?
- MR. DEAN: From the crest to the
- 12 driveway?
- 13 MR. KURZ: Approximately.
- 14 MR. DEAN: I --
- MR. KURZ: The reason I'm asking is, a
- 16 car going 45 miles an hour, how long would it take
- 17 to recognize there's a car stopped in the middle of
- 18 the roadway of a highway?
- 19 MR. DEAN: I have about 700 feet of
- 20 visibility from the highest point looking to the
- 21 site driveway.
- 22 MR. KURZ: So traffic flowing -- I'm
- 23 sorry. Go ahead.
- 24 MR. DEAN: At 45 miles an hour, again,
- 25 the site distance, it's called stopping site

- 1 MR. DEAN: No. Part of the reason is
- 2 that the state has regulations for everything, but
- 3 it requires a certain extra amount of frontage for
- 4 sites to qualify for two driveways.
- 5 MR. KURZ: Any other sites like off of
- 6 West Foothill, off of Harding or anything like that?
- 7 MR. DEAN: Well, we -- I believe there
- 8 is a portion of the site, and I could be totally
- 9 mistaken, that is contiguous to the extension of
- 10 West Foothill Road, but for all the reasons that
- 11 you're here as are your neighbors, we didn't feel
- 12 that was a viable connection for this site.
- MR. KURZ: Well, we're talking
- 14 wetlands. So it would be almost impossible.
- MS. TUBMAN: It's not part of the site.
- 16 MR. DEAN: Thank you.
- 17 MR. KURZ: No longer, no, but there's
- 18 no consideration given to attempting putting a
- 19 driveway through one of the other streets.
- 20 MR. DEAN: The applicant doesn't own
- 21 any contiguous property.
- MR. KURZ: The applicant doesn't own
- 23 this property. So I'm asking you is there anything
- 24 planned? Is there anything planned?
- 25 MR. DEAN: Not to my knowledge.

Page 155

- 1 MR. KURZ: Thank you.
- 2 MR. ROBERTS: Sorry.
- 3 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: No. No. Come. Come.
- 4 Especially you, love hearing you.
- 5 MR. ROBERTS: I love talking to you
- 6 too.
- 7 The one question we had about another
- 8 entrance, okay, if you said right now as of now that
- 9 land is -- the other acreage is not going to be part
- 10 of that property, I understand that, if this gets
- 11 passed, this group will get the 10 acres in the
- 12 front and the six acres or so will go back to the
- 13 town. Is that correct? Anyone can answer. Is that
- 14 correct, Madam Attorney?
- MS. TUBMAN: We are only proposing to
- 16 occupy 10.75 acres and not the remainder.
- MR. ROBERTS: So say, as the president
- 18 said over there earlier, you can't tell the future.
- 19 Say it expands and expands and expands, and now they
- 20 want to look into purchasing the land to the back of
- 21 the property.
- 22 Is that up for negotiation, and,
- 23 obviously, our question on our street is would
- 24 then -- is there any potential that they want to
- 25 break through the other end of West Foothill?

- 1 nothing to do with this application. I can't --
- 2 MR. MC NALLY: It has a lot to do with
- 3 common sense I guess. So you are in total agreement
- 4 with the position you had 15 years ago or whenever
- 5 it was that that was okay to go ahead with that.
- 6 This woman spoke today about reality,
- 7 and she is going through a lot of reality and where
- 8 she comes out and she will have to make a right-hand
- 9 turn in order to make a left-hand turn, and that's
- 10 okay with you.
- MR. DEAN: What she does is her own
- 12 business. I have no opinion on that.
- MR. MC NALLY: That's another thing.
- 14 Well, I sat here and just got more and more
- 15 frustrated because reality doesn't count. Reality
- 16 doesn't count. Common sense counts. That's okay.
- 17 I had a justice problem many years ago, 50 years
- 18 ago, and I think it still stands.
- I'll make a statement. Common sense
- 20 yet, but the problem with common sense, it ain't so
- 21 common so many times and especially in the face of
- 22 reality.
- 23 Thank you.
- MS. KURZ: Hi. Jenny Kurz, K-U-R-Z,
- 25 775 West Foothill Road.

Page 154

- 1 MS. TUBMAN: We have no intention.
- 2 MR. COLLINS: No, there is no
- 3 potential.
- 4 MR. ROBERTS: No potential. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Anyone else?
- 6 MR. MC NALLY: Did you make the case
- 7 for the -- to the state to put the light at
- 8 Talamini?
- 9 MR. DEAN: I don't know that I made the
- 10 case other than the fact that the case had
- 11 potentially, if I recall, had already been made. I
- 12 just needed to design the plans for it.
- MR. MC NALLY: And you would stick by
- 14 that according to those plans and according to your
- 15 own ideas on it?
- MR. DEAN: It was at least 15 years
- 17 ago. Sorry. I don't recall whether it had been
- 18 approved by the state to install a light and then
- 19 the town got money to do so and needed to design it
- 20 or whether it was a candidate location and we went
- 21 through the justification at the time. I just don't
- 22 remember.
- 23 MR. MC NALLY: What would be the
- 24 justification for doing this now?
- 25 MR. DEAN: At Talamini? This has

- 1 MR. COLLINS: Jenny, were you
- 2 previously sworn?
- 3 MS. KURZ: I'm sorry.
- 4 MR. COLLINS: Do you swear or affirm to
- 5 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
- 6 truth so help you God?
- 7 MS. KURZ: I do. Thank you.
- 8 I have a comment for the board. My
- 9 neighbor brought it up before. Could we have the
- 10 traffic study rerun during school when school is in
- 11 session because traffic has greatly increased, not
- 12 only bus traffic, but car traffic with the parents
- 13 that take the children to school, the work, school
- 14 activity and then regular school times because
- 15 traffic may be altered.
- During summers the parents may be going
- 17 a different way to go to work and not taking the
- 18 children to school first. So I'd like to have that
- 19 traffic study repeated and see if there is a
- 20 difference between what they found at the end of
- 21 June versus during school time.
- MR. DEAN: I can say conclusively there
- 23 is very, very little difference, and I know that
- 24 from having conducted traffic counts at the Sanofi
- 25 site when schools were definitely in session, and

- 1 the difference is 40 or 50 vehicles per hour, but at
- 2 a volume of roughly 1900 vehicles in total, it's not
- 3 enough to change any of my opinions or conclusions
- 4 or findings.
- 5 It won't in any way affect the site
- 6 plan as it's laid out, the location of the
- 7 buildings, the design of the driveway, and as I've
- 8 indicated, there is very little expected site
- 9 traffic during those peak hours. So the fact that
- 10 school is or isn't in session is not materially
- 11 changing any of these conclusions.
- MS. KURZ: Thank you, but this just
- 13 affects reality, because for all of us that drive
- 14 that way, I am not affected by this. I leave for
- 15 work at 8:15 in the morning. So that's not an issue
- 16 for me, but on days that I'm not working and I head
- 17 to the gym, I leave the same time. Traffic is far
- 18 less in the summer than it is when school is in
- 19 session, and I go to the gym at -- as my other
- 20 neighbor said, 7:30 -- between 7:30 and 8:30, and
- 21 the busses start at 6:50. So this is just another
- 22 example that reality doesn't seem to match up with
- 23 statistics.
- MR. DEAN: But for the morning, as
- 25 indicated, the peak traffic associated with this use

- at 1 are they using their own data?
 - MR. DEAN: The short answer --
 - 3 MR. RODZINAK: Or is it a combination
 - 4 of both?
 - 5 MR. DEAN: It is a combination of both.
 - 6 DOT tends to be a year or two before. Our data is

Page 159

- 7 contemporary.
- The physical geometry of the driveway,
- 9 however, is not affected by traffic volumes on the
- 10 highway. It's the width of the driveway, the radii
- 11 and the drainage that goes along the highway and the
- 12 gutter flow. Those are the design dimensions, and,
- 13 again, traffic fluctuates day by day, week by week.
- We understand, and as I've said, this
- 15 application represents a use that I'll fully concede
- 16 that in the morning, depending on what happens with
- 17 the school, there will be an impact, but Friday at
- 18 noon, evening, it's actually a pretty good use so
- 19 that it won't aggravate traffic on the corridor, and
- 20 I don't believe it will in the morning, but I know
- 21 there's differences of opinion, and I think, of
- 22 course, put a school in and there will be a few
- 23 busses. I accept that,
- MS. MC NALLY: Can I just ask? He
- 25 doesn't seem to be willing to do another traffic

Page 158

- 1 is Friday at noon. So schools in or out of session
- 2 has no impact, nor do schools in or out of session
- 3 have any impact on evening peak hour conditions at
- 4 let's say 4:30 or 5 o'clock because schools are
- 5 dismissed earlier.
- 6 So the morning may have a small
- 7 difference, but the traffic attracted to this use at
- 8 that time is minimum.
- 9 MS. KURZ: I understand that, and right
- 10 now -- and I'm sorry. I had a meeting. I had to
- 11 work. I didn't get out until nine, but at the last
- 12 meeting, the numbers were presented that during the
- 13 day between 5 and 15. It's a low number of people
- 14 coming during the day except for Friday right now,
- 15 but that may change down the road.
- 16 So it's just something we have to keep
- 17 in mind back to my neighbor about this master plan.
- 18 What are we doing here? There's other properties
- 19 available in Bridgewater that would have much better
- 20 travel and traffic areas to deal with this. So it's
- 21 just a big concern to all of us.
- 22 Thank you.
- MR. RODZINAK: Mr. Dean, when DOT
- 24 reviews your application, are they basing their
- 25 approval or not approval on your traffic study or

- Page 160
- 2 do that? Don't you have somebody?
- 3 MR. COLLINS: The township could do a
- 4 traffic study, but, frankly, I think you're hearing
- 5 the reality which is that it isn't the township that
- 6 determines whether the driveway gets permitted by
- 7 the DOT. It is the DOT only and only the DOT that

1 count now which is being asked. Can't the township

- me DO1. It is the DO1 only and only the DO1 that
- 8 has jurisdiction.
- 9 MS. MC NALLY: I would like to
- 10 reiterate what she just said. I would like to see a
- 11 second one done.
- MR. COLLINS: I understand that's a
- 13 request, but it's really not required for the
- 14 township to do a study. It's also even if the
- 15 township did a study and found it to be a negative
- 16 finding, it's the DOT only that determines
- 17 whether --
- 18 MS. MC NALLY: What we need to do is
- 19 write to the DOT.
- 20 MR. COLLINS: Yes.
- 21 MS. MC NALLY: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. CHARLES: Just for clarity, is that
- 23 how the public provides input generally through
- 24 these types of applications? Is it through letter
- 25 writing?

- 1 MR. DEAN: Correct. The application
- 2 and I will advise the board and public has been
- 3 submitted to the state. Public comment would
- 4 certainly be considered by the reviewing staff as to
- 5 your feelings on traffic.
- 6 Again, just for whatever it's worth,
- 7 because of the work I've done along the corridor
- 8 with the Sanofi site earlier in the year when
- 9 schools were in session, the traffic is not
- 10 materially different during the morning.
- 11 MR. CHARLES: Yeah. I think that what
- 12 we're hearing, obviously, the board is looking at a
- 13 specific application that it must be, you know,
- 14 disciplined about, but what we're hearing is a
- 15 broader concern which I think the public needs a way
- 16 to vent that.
- 17 MR. DEAN: And our counts are done at
- 18 the end of June. So school ended a day or two
- 19 prior. It's not say August or post 4th of July as
- 20 families are definitely away on vacation.
- 21 It's very close to the end of the
- 22 school year, and I just don't expect it to be that
- 23 much different. People still go to work.
- 24 Thank you for your time tonight.
- 25 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Okay.

- 1 the public at all?
 - 2 No other comments, the public hearing
 - 3 should be closed, Mr. Chairman.
 - 4 MAYOR HAYES: I think Ms. Doyle has a

Page 163

Page 164

- 5 planning question.
- 6 MS. DOYLE: I have a question for the
- 7 traffic. Sorry, Mr. Dean.
- 8 MR. DEAN: No problem.
- 9 MS. DOYLE: I just want something to
- 10 clarify for the record. You've heard such a thing
- 11 banked parking. Banked parking is where you got the
- 12 ability to place additional parking should you need
- 13 it, but you're not going to do it because the need
- 14 has not shown itself, correct?
- 15 MR. DEAN: Yes.
- MS. DOYLE: There is -- there is on
- 17 this property for the purpose of the size of the lot
- 18 you are providing 5.69 acres and it should be 10.75
- 19 acres, but by ordinance, you only need 5.69 acres.
- 20 So there's a lot of extra land which I
- 21 checked the plans and it also includes a turf field
- 22 in the back. Would that, in your view, be something
- 23 that would satisfy the requirements of banked
- 24 parking should that become an issue?
- MR. DEAN: The short answer is no.

- 1 MR. KURZ: Can I ask one more question?
- 2 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Yes, sir.
- 3 MR. KURZ: I did go to not every
- 4 meeting, but a lot of meetings when Woodmont was
- 5 being designed.
- 6 One of the questions I had was passive
- 7 entrance and exit. That part of the plans would
- 8 just allow southbound traffic in and southbound
- 9 traffic out.
- MR. DEAN: I have no idea what you mean
- 11 by passive.
- MR. KURZ: Well, it's like it wouldn't
- 13 allow a left-hand turn into. Right now a northbound
- 14 car would not be able to turn left into the thing by
- 15 way of the entrance because you have a direct
- 16 perpendicular.
- 17 MR. DEAN: That's opposite Stella,
- 18 correct.
- MR. KURZ: That wasn't for Woodmont II
- 20 then.
- 21 MR. DEAN: No.
- 22 MR. KURZ: Okay. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Okay. If there are no
- 24 questions --
- MR. COLLINS: Any other comments from

- 1 Banked parking to me means a designation on a site
- 2 plan much like you have on A-2, and I'll point to
- 3 the gray area where there are proposed to be paved
- 4 striped spaces that the applicant says, in lieu of
- 5 constructing all of those spaces, we're going to
- 6 take a certain percentage off the table at least for
- 7 our initial construction, and should a need arise to
- 8 add parking in the future, we will then build them
- 9 either through the zoning officer's determination or
- 10 the applicant.
- 11 This plan does not feature that. I
- 12 believe every parking space that is shown on the
- 13 plan is proposed to be constructed. That being
- 14 said, there are other areas of the site that you'll
- 15 see even by the exhibit that are -- have little if
- 16 no improvement proposed that would allow future
- 17 parking areas to be provided. I don't think we're
- 18 anywhere close to impervious. So we have the
- 19 ability to design to make stormwater accommodations
- 20 and whatnot for additional parking in the future.
- 21 MS. DOYLE: Thank you.
- MR. DEAN: That's different than
- 23 banked.
- 24 MS. DOYLE: Thank you.
- MR. DEAN: You're welcome.

Page 165 Page 167 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any questions of the MR. COLLINS: Not necessarily anybody 1 2 general public or concerns? 2 on your side. If none, motion. CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Motion to adjourn. 3 MR. COLLINS: The public hearing is 4 MR. CHARLES: Motion. closed on this application. 5 MR. COLLINS: Is that what you want to CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Come forward. We have 6 6 do? 7 someone. Hold on. CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Yeah. We're going to 7 MS. COFFEY: I apologize. I thought 8 confirm 22nd and 28th will be Al Falah. 9 you said you had additional questions for Mr. Dean. 9 MR. COLLINS: No, 28th. You're not 10 Sit down, relax. 10 using the 22nd. The comments regarding the application 11 MS. TUBMAN: We are not. 12 in general at this point. Okay. Fine. 12 MR. COLLINS: You're not available. MR. CHARLES: Are we taking that at 13 13 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Al Falah is not on the 14 this time of the night? I don't think we should. 14 22nd. 15 I'm not comfortable with doing that. 15 MR. COLLINS: So this hearing on Al MS. COFFEY: I'll sit down. 16 Falah, the site plan, the public hearing will MR. COLLINS: The board has to decide 17 continue until 7 p.m. on September 28. No further 18 when you're going to schedule it. notices will be provided. Ms. Coffey is up first to MR. CHARLES: I would move that we give statements and present her argument. 20 would hold that until next meeting. 20 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Okay. Motion to 21 MR. COLLINS: The next meeting is 21 adjourn. 22 September 29 I believe, Mr. Chairman, for that MR, CHARLES: So moved. 22 23 application. 23 MR. LERNER: Second. CHAIRMAN RUSAK: September 22. 24 24 MR. COLLINS: We're not going to 25 MR. COLLINS: No. 29th. 25 adjourn the meeting. We're carrying that case. Page 166 Page 168 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: 29th is for this (Proceedings conclude at 10:50 p.m.) 1 2 application. 2 MS. VOORHEES: 28th. 3 MR. COLLINS: Is that something Ms. 4 5 Tubman had on this? 28th, next regular meeting. 5 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: It's the 28th. 22nd 6 will be Mid-Jersey Health, Bridgewater Ventures and 7 8 Bridgewater Accessory. 28th will be Al Falah and 8 9 Tumolo Road. 9 10 MR. COLLINS: We're not going to have a 10 11 quorum on 28th. So the next regular meeting. Can 11 12 your team -- do you need anybody available then. 12 13 regular meeting? 13 MS. TUBMAN: Yes, I am available. I 14 15 don't know about my team. 15 MR. COLLINS: I'm not saying you have 16 16 17 to bring anybody because your witnesses are 17 18 basically done. I'm just making sure, if you did 18 19 want to bring anybody, you make them available. 19 20 As far as I can tell, all witnesses 20 21 have been cross-examined, and unless you decide to 21 22 put a redirect on and have some statement by Ms. 22 23 Coffey, I guess the public hearing is going to 23 24 continue on the 28th. 24 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: 28th. 25 25

In Re: Al Falah Center

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1	CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER
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3	_
4	I CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true
5	and accurate transcript of the testimony and
6	proceedings as reported stenographically by me at
7	the time, place and on the date as hereinbefore set
8	forth.
9	I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither
10	a relative nor employee nor attorney or counsel of
	any of the parties to this action, and that I am
12 13	neither a relative nor employee of such attorney or
	counsel, and that I am not financially interested in
14	the action.
1	
16 17	DIANE M. HOLMES, C.C.R. Certificate No. XIO1660
18	Certificate No. XIU1660
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