

Winstead PC c/o Mr. Arthur Anderson, Esq. 2728 N. Harwood Street, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75207

<u>aanderson@winstead.com</u> 214-745-5745

February 28, 2019

RE: Cowtown Redi-Mix Noise Ordinance Variance Request – 2015 S. McDonald St.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The City of McKinney (the "City") is in receipt of your letter dated February 27, 2019 in which you formally request the approval of another variance from the requirements of Section 70-120(b)(7) of McKinney's Code of Ordinances on behalf of your client, Cowtown Redi-Mix (the "Business"), located at 2015 S. McDonald Street in McKinney, Texas (the "Property").

If you'll recall, a similar variance from the aforementioned requirements was requested on August 30, 2018 and issued on August 31, 2018. This variance had an expiration date of March 1, 2019 and was subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The variance's approval shall be valid until March 1, 2019. Your client may request an extension to this request and that request shall be evaluated by city staff in a similar manner to which this request was evaluated.
- 2. The Business shall comply with all applicable city, state and federal laws.
- 3. The Business shall maintain all mitigation techniques referenced in the Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter (nos. 1-4), attached hereto for reference purposes.
- 4. The Business shall maintain all improvements made to the Property as part of the approval of site plan case number SITE2016-0050, Building Permit Copy dated 06/06/2018 at 3:30:56 p.m., attached hereto for reference purposes, to ensure that the Business' operations do not materially change the impact to adjacent properties over time.
- 5. Prior to any request for an extension of this variance request's approval or any future variance requests, the Business shall provide the City with a noise analysis of sufficient detail to prove that the Business' typical, regular operations fully comply with all applicable noise (Chapter 70, Article V of the Code of Ordinances) and performance standards regulations (Chapter 146, Section 134 of the Code of Ordinances), except as otherwise

stated herein. Any noise analyses shall be produced by a professional with such credentials to ensure the validity and accuracy of any such analyses.

In your letter dated February 27, 2019, you indicate that it is your "understanding that there is no measurement equipment available to test the octave band and decibel measurements listed in Chapter 146, Section 134 of the Code of Ordinances." It is my understanding that city staff has provided you with at least one piece of equipment that can be calibrated to test for compliance with the City of McKinney's regulations. However, it is widely understood that the City's current performance standards utilize an older model of sound measurement. In light of this fact and due to the fact that all other conditions of the original variance were satisfied in good faith, the City hereby approves, with conditions, your client's request for a variance from section 70-120(b)(7) of the Code of Ordinances in accordance with the authority granted in section 70-122(a) of the Code of Ordinance. The approval of this variance request is conditioned as follows:

- 1. The variance's approval shall be valid until April 1, 2019. Your client may request an extension to this request and that request shall be evaluated by city staff in a similar manner to which this request was evaluated.
- 2. The Business shall comply with all applicable city, state and federal laws.
- 3. The Business shall maintain all mitigation techniques referenced in the August 2018 Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter which includes:
 - a. Stopped delivery of material to the site prior to 7:00 a.m.;
 - b. Installed electric blower on plant so that tractor engines are not used to unload cement into the silo;
 - c. Reduced RPM on mixer trucks from 1800 to 1100 rpm while mixing in the yard; and
 - d. Installed a silencer on the dust collector at the plant to reduce noise by about 50%.
- 4. The Business shall maintain all improvements made to the Property as part of the approval of site plan case number SITE2016-0050, Building Permit Copy dated 06/06/2018 at 3:30:56 p.m., attached hereto for reference purposes, to ensure that the Business' operations do not materially change the impact to adjacent properties over time.
- 5. Prior to any request for an extension of this variance request's approval or any future variance requests, the Business shall provide the City with a sound model of sufficient detail to document the noise produced by the Business' typical, regular operations. Additionally, the Business shall indicate what steps will be implemented to proactively and consistently monitor noise levels originating from the typical, regular operations.

Please note that Section 70-120(b)(7) of the Code of Ordinances specifies certain prohibitions on the use of power equipment in quiet zones. Specifically, it states:

"(7) Power equipment.

a. Operating or permitting to be operated any power equipment (as defined herein and excluding construction equipment which is specifically regulated above) within a residential district or quiet zone, or within 500 feet of any residence or quiet zone, in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance. Furthermore, any such activity shall create a noise disturbance per se if conducted between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

b. Operating or permitting to be operated any power equipment (as defined herein and excluding construction equipment which is specifically regulated above) within a nonresidential district in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance in violation of section 146-134."

Should the Business be found to be in violation of any of these aforementioned conditions or any applicable laws, the City may revoke this variance request's conditional approval. Should you or your client have any questions about this variance request's conditional approval, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours.

Paul Grimes, City Manager

City of McKinney, Texas 222 N. Tennessee Street McKinney, Texas 75069

Email: pgrimes@mckinneytexas.org

Phone: 972-547-7510

Attachments:

- 1. Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter dated 2/27/19
- 2. Noise Variance Approval Letter dated 8/31/18
- 3. Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter dated 8/30/18
- 4. Approved Site Plan No. SITE2016-0050, Building Permit Copy dated 06/06/2018 at 3:30:56 p.m.

CC via email:

- 1. Mark Houser, City Attorney (mhouser@bhlaw.net)
- 2. Mark Goldstucker, City Legal Counsel (mgoldstucker@gmail.com)
- Michael Quint, Executive Director of Development Services (mquint@mckinneytexas.org)
- 4. Greg Conley, Chief of Police (gconley@mckinneytexas.org)



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Arthur J. Anderson, Esq. Direct dial: 214.745.5745 aanderson@winstead.com

February 27, 2019

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Paul Grimes – <u>citymgr@mckinneytexas.org</u>
McKinney City Manager
City of McKinney
222 N. Tennessee Street
McKinney, TX 75069

Re: Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request / City of McKinney ("McKinney")

Dear Mr. Grimes:

As you know, our firm represents Cowtown Redi-Mix, Inc. ("Cowtown") which is the owner and operator of a concrete redi-mix facility located at 2015 S. McDonald Street ("Property"). Pursuant to § 70.122 of the City's code of ordinances, Cowtown files its request that the City extend its August 31, 2018 approval of the variance to its prohibition of power equipment operation between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. as contained in § 70.120(b)(7).

Cowtown's legal position is that its operations do not involve (1) power equipment, and/or (2) noise emissions that exceed the City's maximum decibel levels. Assuming that the City disagrees with this legal position, Cowtown points out that it has implemented the noise mitigation techniques that meet the spirit and intent of the ordinance as outlined in its August 30 letter.

With respect to the conditions contained in your August 31, 2018 approval letter, Cowtown has the following responses:

- 1. The Business has complied with all applicable city, state and federal laws.
- The Business has maintained all of the mitigation techniques contained in our August 30, 2018 request letter.
- 3. The Business has maintained all improvements shown on the referenced site plan.
- 4. We have researched the City's condition that "a noise study be provided to prove that the Business' typical, regular operations fully comply with applicable noise (Chapter 70, Article V of the Code of Ordinances) and performance standards regulations (Chapter 146,

Section 134 of the Code of Ordinances), except as otherwise stated herein. Any noise analyses shall be produced by a professional with such credentials to ensure the validity and accuracy of any such analyses."

It is my understanding that there is no noise measurement equipment available to test the octave band and decibel measurements listed in Chapter 146, Section 134 of the Code of Ordinances. As a result, there is no practical way to show that the Business meets the City's performance standards. Furthermore, there are no specific decibel levels described in Chapter 70, Article V of the Code or Ordinances. Please respond with the City's standards that it would like to see in a noise study report (subject to no waiver of Cowtown's legal rights and remedies).

Cowtown therefore requests that it be allowed to operate this equipment between 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on the Property and that the City approves this variance request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours

Arthur 🗸 🖊 Andersor

AJA/vb

CC:

Michael Quint (via e-mail: mquint@mckinneytexas.org)
Mark Houser (via e-mail: mhouser@bhlaw.net)
Mark E. Goldstucker, Esq. (mgoldstucker@gmail.com



Winstead PC c/o Mr. Arthur Anderson, Esq. 2728 N. Harwood Street, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75207

<u>aanderson@winstead.com</u> 214-745-5745

August 31, 2018

RE: Cowtown Redi-Mix Noise Ordinance Variance Request – 2015 S. McDonald St.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The City of McKinney (the "City") is in receipt of your letter dated August 30, 2018 in which you formally request the approval of a variance to the requirements of Section 70-120(b)(7) of McKinney's Code of Ordinances on behalf of your client, Cowtown Redi-Mix (the "Business"), located at 2015 S. McDonald Street in McKinney, Texas (the "Property").

Section 70-120(b)(7) of the Code of Ordinances specifies certain prohibitions on the use of power equipment in quiet zones. Specifically, it states:

"(7) Power equipment.

- a. Operating or permitting to be operated any power equipment (as defined herein and excluding construction equipment which is specifically regulated above) within a residential district or quiet zone, or within 500 feet of any residence or quiet zone, in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance. Furthermore, any such activity shall create a noise disturbance per se if conducted between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- b. Operating or permitting to be operated any power equipment (as defined herein and excluding construction equipment which is specifically regulated above) within a nonresidential district in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance in violation of section 146-134."

In evaluating this variance request city staff has considered factors including, but not limited to your client's efforts to mitigate the audible impacts of the Business' operation on adjacent properties, the physical improvements made to the site as part of the City's development process and your client's continued willingness to partner with the City to address nearby resident concerns.

In light of this evaluation, the City hereby approves, with conditions, your client's request for a variance from section 70-120(b)(7) of the Code of Ordinances in accordance with the

authority granted in section 70-122(a) of the Code of Ordinance. The approval of this variance request is conditioned as follows:

- 1. The variance's approval shall be valid until March 1, 2019. Your client may request an extension to this request and that request shall be evaluated by city staff in a similar manner to which this request was evaluated.
- 2. The Business shall comply with all applicable city, state and federal laws.
- 3. The Business shall maintain all mitigation techniques referenced in the Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter (nos. 1 – 4), attached hereto for reference purposes.
- 4. The Business shall maintain all improvements made to the Property as part of the approval of site plan case number SITE2016-0050, Building Permit Copy dated 06/06/2018 at 3:30:56 p.m., attached hereto for reference purposes, to ensure that the Business' operations do not materially change the impact to adjacent properties over time.
- 5. Prior to any request for an extension of this variance request's approval or any future variance requests, the Business shall provide the City with a noise analysis of sufficient detail to prove that the Business' typical, regular operations fully comply with all applicable noise (Chapter 70, Article V of the Code of Ordinances) and performance standards regulations (Chapter 146, Section 134 of the Code of Ordinances), except as otherwise stated herein. Any noise analyses shall be produced by a professional with such credentials to ensure the validity and accuracy of any such analyses.

Should the Business be found to be in violation of any of these aforementioned conditions or any applicable laws, the City may revoke this variance request's conditional approval. Should you or your client have any questions about this variance request's conditional approval, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours,

Paul Grimes, City Manager

City of McKinney, Texas 222 N. Tennessee Street McKinney, Texas 75069

Email: pgrimes@mckinneytexas.org

Phone: 972-547-7510

Attachments:

- 1. Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request Letter dated 8/30/18
- 2. Approved Site Plan No. SITE2016-0050, Building Permit Copy dated 06/06/2018 at 3:30:56 p.m.

CC via email:

- Mark Houser, City Attorney (<u>mhouser@bhlaw.net</u>)
 Michael Quint, Executive Director of Development Services (<u>mquint@mckinneytexas.org</u>)
 Greg Conley, Chief of Police (<u>gconley@mckinneytexas.org</u>)



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Arthur J. Anderson, Esq. Direct dial: 214.745.5745 aanderson@winstead.com

August 30, 2018

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Paul Grimes – citymgr@mckinneytexas.org
McKinney City Manager
City of McKinney
222 N. Tennessee Street
McKinney, TX 75069

Re: Cowtown Redi-Mix Variance Request / City of McKinney ("McKinney")

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Our firm represents Cowtown Redi-Mix, Inc. ("Cowtown") which is the owner and operator of a concrete redi-mix facility located at 2015 S. McDonald Street ("Property"). Pursuant to § 70.122 of the City's code of ordinances, Cowtown files its request that the City grant a variance to its prohibition of power equipment operation between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. as contained in § 70.120(b)(7).

Cowtown's legal position is that its operations do not involve (1) power equipment, and/or (2) noise emissions that exceed the City's maximum decibel levels. Assuming that the City disagrees with this legal position, Cowtown points out that it has implemented noise mitigation techniques that meet the spirit and intent of the ordinance. These mitigation techniques include the following:

- Stopped delivery of material to the site prior to 7:00 a.m.
- 2. Installed electric blower on plant so that tractor engines are not used to unload cement into the cement silo.
- Reduced RPM on mixer trucks from 1800 to 1100 rpm while mixing at the yard.
- 4. Installed a silencer on the dust collector at the plant to reduce noise by about 50%.

Implementing the 10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. power equipment prohibition would pose an undue hardship on Cowtown in accordance with the following ordinance criteria:

- (1) The sound source will be of short duration and the activity cannot be conducted in a matter as to comply with this article. The noise from the operation of the plant is intermittent and of short duration and the activity is necessary for efficient and economical operation of the plant.
- (2) Additional time is necessary for the applicant to alter or modify their activity or operation to comply with this article. Cowtown is reviewing alternative additional mitigation options to address the City's concerns.
- (3) No reasonable alternative is available to the applicant. There are no alternatives that would allow an economically feasible operation of Cowtown's facility.

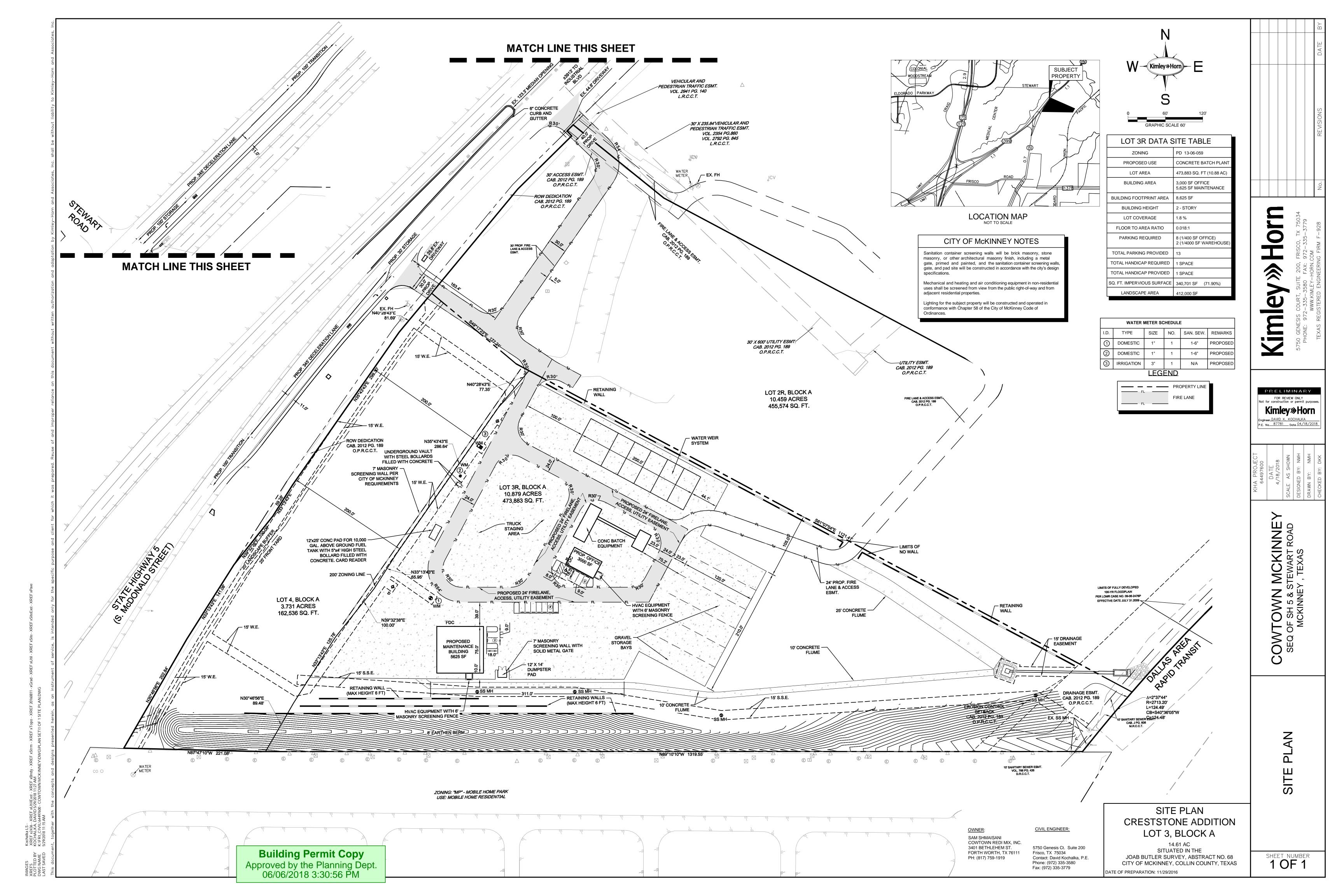
Cowtown therefore requests that it be allowed to operate this equipment between 2:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on the Property and that the City approve this variance request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

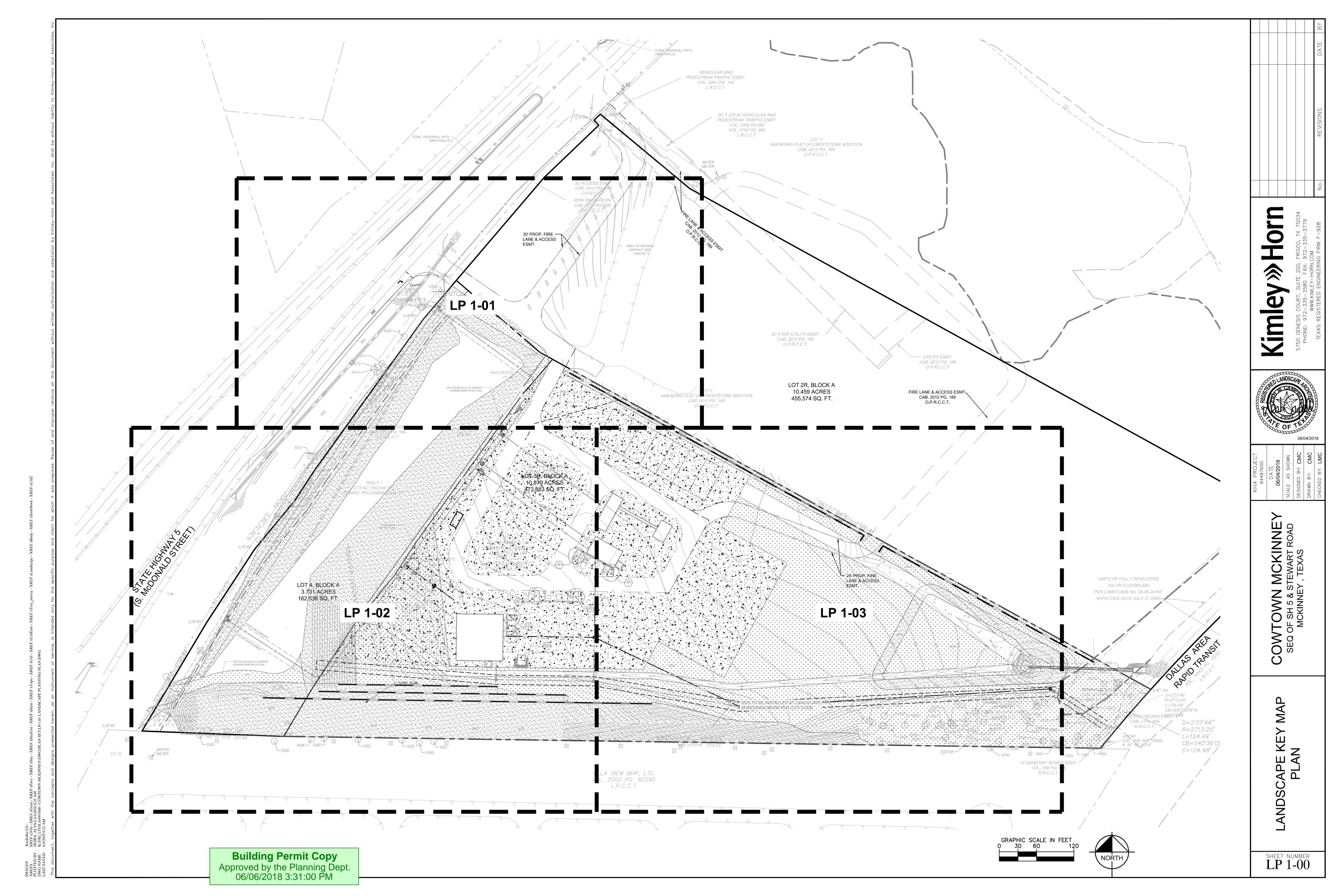
Very truly yours

Arthur J./Anderson

AJA/vb

cc: Michael Quint (via e-mail: mquint@mckinneytexas.org)
Mark Houser (via e-mail: mhouser@bhlaw.net)





SOD TO BE INSTALLED AT LANDSCAPE SCREENING BERM PER CITY CODE.

SEE SHEET LP 1.02

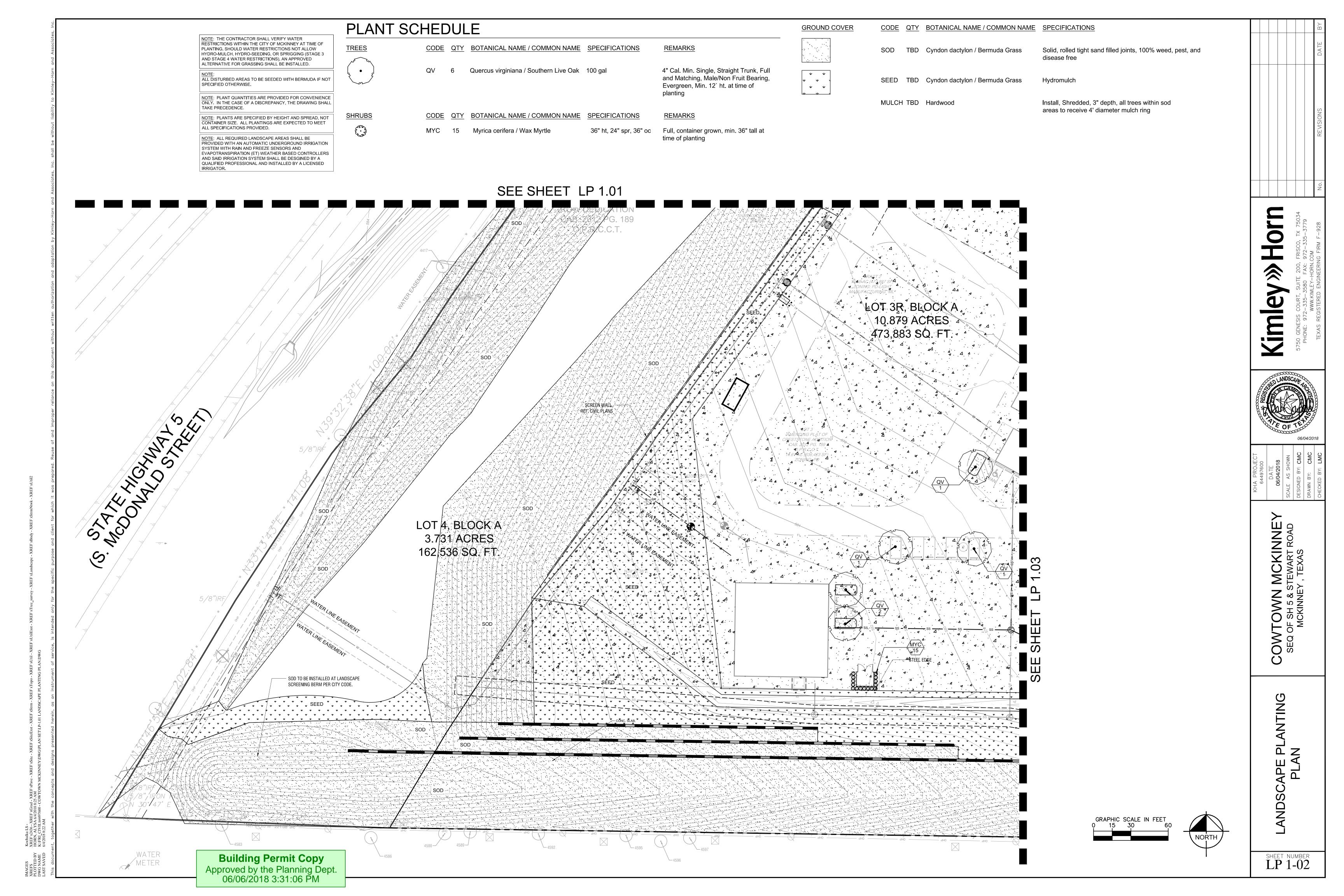
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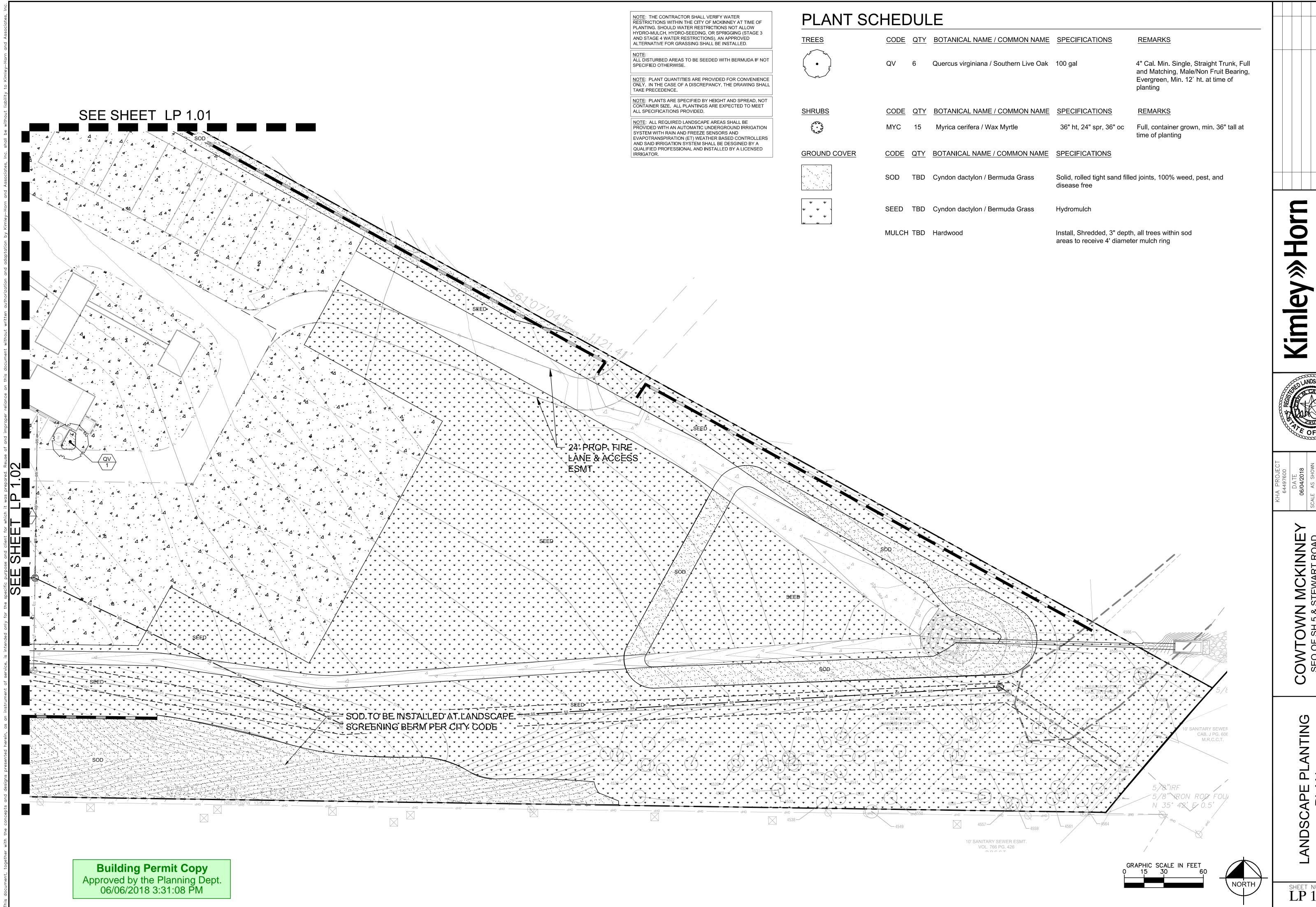
SHEET NUMBER LP 1-01

AMENDING PLAT OF CRESTSTOWE ADDITION

CAB. 2012 PG. 189

O.P.R.C.C.T.





SHEET NUMBER LP 1-03