BRENDAN REILLY PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ALDERMAN, 42ND WARD

121 North LaSalle Street, Room 200 Chicago, IL 60602 312 744-3062 alderman@ward42chicago.com



June 14, 2022

The Honorable Tom Tunney, Chairman City of Chicago City Council Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards City Hall, Room 200 121 North LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60602

Re: O2022-1625; Zoning Reclassification Map No. 6-K (PD 735)

Dear Chairman Tunney:

I am writing to respectfully request that O2022-1625 be added to the agenda for consideration at the upcoming Committee on Zoning, Landmarks, and Building Standards meeting.

Planned Development # 735 governs two parcels within the 42nd Ward: a mixed-use building, located at 2 East Erie Street, and a surface parking lot, located at 1 West Huron Street. I have enclosed an excerpt from the Zoning Map to illustrate these boundaries, for your reference.

The surface parking lot within PD 735 is directly adjacent to the Eurostar Magnificent Mile Hotel, located at 660 North State Street. The Eurostar Hotel recently concluded their second public nuisance case with the Mayor's License Discipline Commission, following a shooting incident at the hotel in April 2022. Also enclosed, is my correspondence to the Law Department, summarizing this property's history of negligent behavior.

The PD currently permits all uses in the B7-6 General Central Business District and accessory parking. The proposed ordinance amends the permitted use statement to exclude "hotel". I have proposed this to prevent a hotel development on the empty lot located at 1 West Huron Street.

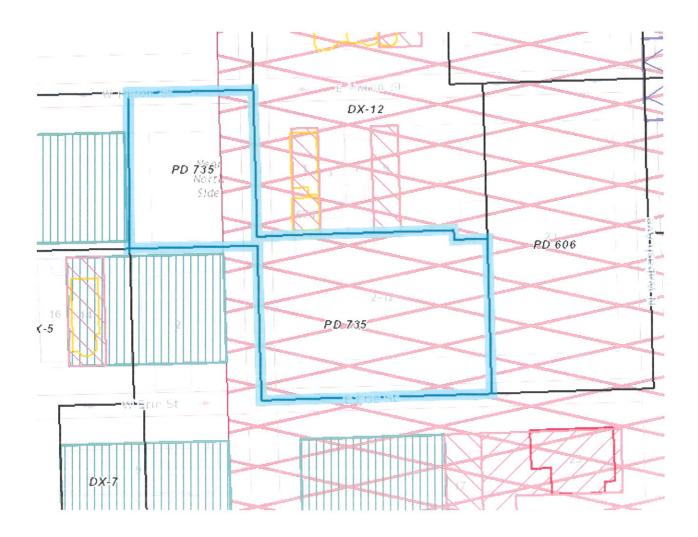
Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact my office if you require additional information regarding this request.

Sincerely.

Brendan Reilly Alderman, 42nd Ward

President Pro Tempore

Enclosure



BRENDAN REILLY PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ALDERMAN, 42ND WARD

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April 8, 2022

Celia Meza Corporation Counsel Department of Law 121 North LaSalle Street #600 Chicago, IL 60602 Ken Meyer Commissioner Department of Business Affairs 121 N LaSalle #800 Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Corporation Counsel Meza and Commissioner Meyer:

I am writing to you today to follow up on case 21-LR-0082 concerning Golden Mile Hotels LLC, DBA: Eurostars Magnificent Mile located at 660 North State Street.

As you know, this is the second disciplinary proceeding involving Eurostar Hotel within 12 months. The first, 21 LR 10, was resolved in September of 2021. As a result, the licensee and Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (DBACP) agreed to an Amended Plan of Operation and Nuisance Abatement Plan "to assure that the operation of the licensed premises will not cause a public nuisance."

Unfortunately, only four short months later, a hotel guest fired a gun on the premises. It was immediately clear that the business continued to be a public nuisance in the heart of River North.

I was made aware that the second disciplinary proceeding, 21-LR-0082, was recently settled via another Amended Plan and fine. I am disappointed that I was not consulted before further amending the already amended Plan of Operation and Nuisance Abatement Plan. As both documents state, "This Amended Plan of Operation and Nuisance Abatement Plan cannot be modified or amended without input from the 42nd Ward Alderman and the 18th District's Police Commander." Neither Commander Hein of the 18th District nor I were asked for our input on the second amended Plan of Operation.

Given that the original Plan of Operation clearly stipulates no plan may be amended or modified without CPD or Aldermanic input- these agreements are unenforceable.

I have meticulously reviewed and compared the two amended plans. The only substantive change to the second amended plan is one sentence in the Gun Policy: "Anyone else found to have a weapon of any kind will be immediately evicted from the Hotel's premises and reported to the police".

This is further proof that the disciplinary and adjudication process for bad businesses is far too lax. I am troubled that Eurostar is afforded the ability to continue their operations, unchanged, after demonstrating that they cannot follow a Plan of Operation not once, but twice.

The actions of this irresponsible business owner are shameful. Eurostar not only violated their original Plan of Operation they agreed to follow; After violating the Original Plan, it was amended during the license disciplinary process and Eurostar agreed to honor the new terms. Then, yet again, Eurostar violated the Amended Plan they signed. Now the City plans to allow Eurostar to operate on a Seconded Amended Plan – despite its failure to follow the two previous plans. Simply paying a fine is a waste of City resources – administratively and in terms of public safety.

Yet again, the system is failing the River North neighborhood. It is no wonder so many licenses flout the rules and negatively impact public safety downtown.

Sincerely,

Brendan Reilly

Alderman, 42nd Ward President Pro Tempore

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Cc:

Commander Jon Hein, 18th District Police

Shannon K. Trotter, Local Liquor Control Commissioner, BACP Kimberly Roberts Moran, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Law