



Land Use Questionnaire

(Must be completed for low, medium and high volume driveway applications only.)

(The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247 of 1968 as amended by Acts 67 and 68 of 2000), 53 P.S. §10101 *et seq.*, requires state agencies such as the Department of Transportation to amend their permit review process. The Department of Transportation shall consider, and under certain conditions may rely upon, comprehensive planning and zoning ordinances in their decision-making process on applications related to infrastructure or facilities. All low, medium, and high volume driveway Highway Occupancy Permit applicants are required to answer the following six questions. When completing the questionnaire, applicants are encouraged to obtain assistance from the municipality and/or county. This questionnaire does not apply to Highway Occupancy Permit applications for projects located in the City of Pittsburgh or the County of Philadelphia (these municipalities are not subject to these requirements).)

1. Does the county where your project is located have a comprehensive plan?
 YES NO
2. Does the municipality where your project is located have a comprehensive plan?
 YES NO
3. Does the municipality or county where your project is located have a zoning ordinance?
 YES NO
4. Has the municipality where your project is located adopted a joint municipal zoning ordinance?
 YES NO
5. Has the municipality where your project is located entered into a cooperative implementation agreement?
 YES NO
6. Is your project a permitted use by right, as specifically authorized in the applicable zoning ordinance, or have you obtained formal zoning approval?
 YES a. If the project is a permitted use by right, what is the zoning classification for this property? AC
 (Attach a copy of the applicable section(s) of the zoning ordinance and map.)
 OR
 b. If formal zoning approval(s) was required, what approval(s) did you obtain?
 (Check all that apply and attach copy of zoning approval.)
 Variance Curative Amendment Rezoning
 Special Exception Conditional Use
 NO

Under and subject to all the conditions, restrictions and regulations prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (see in particular 67 Pa Code, Chapter 441), the applicant certifies that this questionnaire, information and documentation therein or required by the Department is accurate, pursuant to 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to false swearing to authorities.

The Applicant is (an individual) (a partnership) (a corporation incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania)

Signed on: 10/02/14 (date) ES III, L.P. (name of applicant)

Witness or Attest: [Signature] Title: Proj. Mgr. By: [Signature] Title: General Partner

*Township of Radnor, PA
Monday, October 13, 2014*

Chapter 280. ZONING

Article III. AC Agricultural-Conservation District

§ 280-9. Use regulations.

A building may be erected or used and a lot may be used or occupied for any of the following purposes:

- A. Single-family detached dwelling.
- B. Forest, game preserve, wildlife preserve, arboretum or other conservation purpose.
- C. Agricultural use, that is, the planting, growing, storing and sale of plants and crops therefrom and the breeding, raising, keeping and/or sale of animals and products thereof, provided that such uses shall be conducted on a lot not less than five acres in size and shall not include a commercial piggery, poultry hatchery or establishment for slaughtering or processing poultry or livestock. Any building for the sheltering of animals or the sale of farm products shall be located not less than 100 feet from any street right-of-way line and not less than 150 feet from any other property line. Buildings utilized for sales shall conform to the accessory use standards for the sale of farm products; see Subsection **H(5)** below.
- D. Park, day camp, riding academy, golf course or other outdoor recreational use customarily located in natural woodland and rural areas and for public and private use, including a country club, swimming club, hunt club or similar club or lodge in conjunction with any permitted outdoor use, provided that:
 - (1) The minimum lot area of the property on which the use is conducted shall not be less than 10 acres.
 - (2) The use and its design are compatible with the natural character of the area.
 - (3) Each structure shall be clearly incidental to the outdoor use.
 - (4) Any club or lodge building and its services shall be for the use of members and their guests only. Any associated public facilities shall be used by those participating in club-approved activities only.

- (5) No commercial activity shall be permitted except for the charging of admission, the sale of refreshments or other purposes clearly incidental to the permitted outdoor use.
 - (6) Each permitted use or activity shall be required to screen and separate itself from an adjoining property by providing a buffer planting strip not less than 25 feet in depth. This provision shall not apply to a proposed golf course or where:
 - (a) The proposed use constitutes a similarly natural or open outdoor use; and/or
 - (b) Where the existing abutting use is a predominantly natural or open outdoor use.
 - (7) Each incidental commercial use permitted above shall be located or screened so that it shall not be visible from a public street.
- E. Office use for administrative and/or service purposes, to be utilized solely by nonprofit organizations providing advice and services to agricultural practitioners who could but need not be located within the district, i.e., those engaged in the planting, growing, storing and/or selling of plants and crops or horticultural plants and the breeding, raising, keeping and/or selling of animals and products thereof.
- (1) The number of persons regularly engaged in such activities at any location shall not exceed one person for each two acres of land owned at such location, including parcels adjacent thereto, by such organization or its lessor or the provider of the site and facility, and in no case shall exceed 20 individuals at any one time.
 - (2) No subdivision of the existing tract shall be required to accommodate such use; however, any proposed construction of new buildings for office use shall be considered a land development and shall be subject to the applicable requirements of Chapter **255**, Subdivision of Land. Alterations to, including expansion of, existing buildings shall be minimized so as to retain the current character and integrity of the building.
 - (3) Parking for such use shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of § **280-103B** of this chapter.
- F. The following uses, only when authorized as a conditional use by the Board of Commissioners pursuant to the requirements of Article **XXIII**, Conditional Uses:
- (1) Density modification development, in accordance with the requirements of Article **XIX**, Density Modification Development.

G.

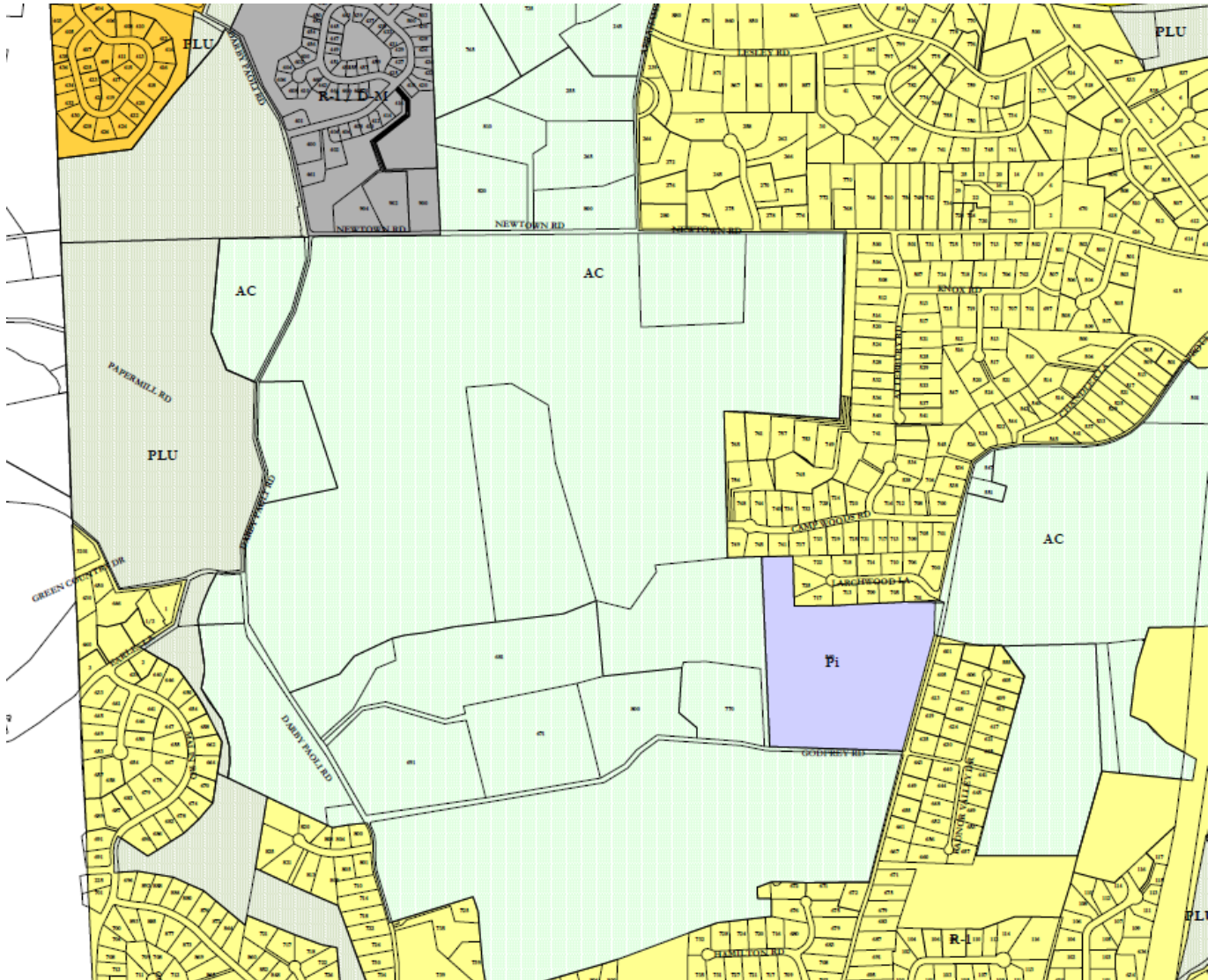
The following uses, only when authorized as a special exception by the Zoning Hearing Board, subject to the general standards prescribed in § **280-145**.

- (1) A stable for horses or a kennel for the keeping of dogs and cats, provided that any building and yard for the keeping of animals shall not be less than 200 feet from any street right-of-way line or property line, and subject to such additional requirements as the Zoning Hearing Board shall deem necessary to ensure that the conduct of the use will not detract from the character of the surrounding area.
 - (a) The minimum site area for such uses shall not be less than five acres.
 - (b) For horses or ponies, a maximum of three animals may be kept on a five-acre parcel. One additional such animal may be kept for each acre of lot size or portion thereof in excess of five acres.
 - (c) With regard to kennels for the keeping of dogs and cats, the following shall also apply:
 - [1] There shall be sufficient facilities to enable the dogs or cats to be sheltered indoors as necessary; such facility shall be the preferred location during the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
 - [2] Sound baffle devices or other appropriate noise control measures shall be installed where necessary to protect adjacent properties from noise problems.
 - [3] Fencing shall be installed in a manner that prevents dogs from leaving the property.
 - (2) A bed-and-breakfast use in accordance with the requirements set forth in § **280-115.3**.
[Added 2-27-2012 by Ord. No. 2012-01]
- H. Accessory use on the same lot with and customarily incidental to any of the foregoing permitted uses. Each permitted use shall comply with the provisions of § **280-103** relating to off-street parking. The term "accessory use" shall not include a business, but may include:
- (1) Private parking or garage space.
 - (2) Home occupations, subject to the provisions of Article **XX**, Section 115.1.
[Amended 10-26-1998 by Ord. No. 98-09]
 - (3) Tenant house, provided that the lot is not less than four acres. Such lot shall be restricted against further subdivision in a manner satisfactory to the Township,

unless the tenant house is located on the lot such that it could comply with Chapter **255**, Subdivision of Land.

- (4) Farm buildings.
- (5) The sale or display of farm products, in accordance with the following:
 - (a) At least 75% of such products shall have been grown or produced on the property on which they are offered for sale.
 - (b) Parking space for at least three cars shall be provided on the lot. Where building area exceeds 600 square feet, one additional parking space shall be provided for each additional 200 square feet of building area.
 - (c) Sale of farm products shall be conducted either from a temporary stand, dismantled at the end of the growing season, or from a permanent building, the location of which complies with all Township setback standards for that zoning district. Any temporary structure shall be set back at least 25 feet from the right-of-way line of the road.
- (6) Signs, as permitted in Article **XXI**, Signs.
- (7) Private swimming pools, tennis courts and similar uses, when illuminated by lighting fixtures attached to or mounted on freestanding poles or standards, subject to the following standards:
[Amended 12-13-1991 by Ord. No. 91-52]
 - (a) The pool or tennis court is not located within the front yard setback or closer than 25 feet to any side or rear property line.
 - (b) Lighting fixtures are not located within the front yard setback and are a minimum distance of 25 feet from any side or rear property line.
 - (c) The lighting fixture, including standards for mounting, do not exceed a height of 16 feet above grade.
 - (d) Prior to installation, a lighting plan is prepared and submitted to the Township Engineer for approval. Such plan shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted engineering standards and shall not provide for lighting intensity at any property line in excess of 0.10 footcandles.
 - (e) The lighting fixtures are approved by the Township Engineer and are designed, mounted and shielded in such a manner as to prevent the light source from being visible off the property. Such lighting shall also be located and positioned in such a manner as to not illuminate adjacent properties.

(f) Lights shall be turned off by 11:00 p.m.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF RADNOR TOWNSHIP, PA

Docket No. 2012-CU-05

Applicant: E.S. III LP
107 Twaddell Mill Road
Wilmington, DE 19807
Attn: Edgar Scott, III

Owners: The Robert L. Montgomery Trust dated 6/4/12
Mellon Bank, N.A. and W. Gresham O'Malley, Trustees
Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoades, LLP
123 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19109
and
The Sydney F. Tyler Trust # 6 dated 5/30/17
First Union Bank, Trustee
Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoades, LLP
123 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19109

Subject Property: The subject property consists of 311.54 acres of the balance of the original Ardrossan Farm, Portfolio No. 36040202300, Block-Unit 06-03-008:000.

Requested Relief: The Applicant requests conditional use approval of a Density Modification Development, pursuant to §280-90 through §280-100 of the Radnor Township Zoning Ordinance ("Zoning Ordinance"), in order to develop up to 87 residential lots, 11 of which will accommodate existing structures on the property.

Hearing History: The original application was filed in Radnor Township on July 31, 2013. A revised application was submitted to Radnor Township on August 19, 2013. Hearings were held on September 30, 2013¹; October 17, 2013; October 29, 2013; November 14, 2013; and November 21, 2013 at the Radnor Township Building, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, PA.

¹ The Applicant and the Applicant's attorney signed waivers of the requirement to hold the first hearing within 60 days of the date of filing of the application (Exhibits HO-6 and HO-7), and agreed to the hearing being scheduled on September 30, 2013.

Appearances:	Applicant by:	John C. Snyder, Esquire Saul Ewing LLP 1200 Liberty Ridge Drive Suite 200 Wayne, PA 19087-5569
	Radnor Township by:	John B. Rice, Esquire Grim, Biehn & Thatcher 104 South Sixth Street P.O. Box 215 Perkasie, PA 18944
	Radnor Township Tax Payers Association by:	James Ettelson, Esquire Offit/Kurman 10 Penn Center 1801 Market Street Suite 2300 Philadelphia, PA 19103
	Radnor Conservancy by:	David C. Toomey, or Ginny Kreitler 332 Walnut Avenue Wayne, PA 19087
	Ginny Kreitler, Pro Se:	646 Lakeview Circle Newtown Square, PA 19073
	Leslie Morgan, Pro Se:	12 Farm Lane Wayne, PA 19087
	Colleen Price, Esquire Pro Se:	536 Atterbury Road Villa Nova, PA 19085
	Brian Price:	536 Atterbury Road Villa Nova, PA 19085
	Radnor League of Women Voters, Pro Se	P.O. Box 7113 Wayne, PA 19087 c/o Barbara Schraudenbach
Date of Issuance:	January 6, 2014	

DECISION

FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. The hearings in this matter were conducted by William J. Bolla, Esquire who was appointed as the Hearing Officer to determine the application pursuant to §908 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, 53 P.S. §10908.

2. The Applicant is the equitable owner of the subject property pursuant to a valid Agreement of Sale with its Owners dated July 31, 2013.

3. Radnor Township was granted party status through its solicitor John B. Rice, Esquire.

4. The Radnor Township Tax Payers Association was granted party status through its counsel, James Ettelson, Esquire. It is a civic organization consisting of Radnor Township taxpayers and organized as a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation. Its purpose is to “unite local residents to discuss projects and public improvements and disseminate information of public interest to the community”.

5. The Radnor Conservancy was granted party status through its President, David C. Toomey, and alternate representative, Ginny Kreitler. The Conservancy is dedicated to the protection of open space and the environment of Radnor Township and organized as a Pennsylvania Non-Profit Corporation.

6. In addition, Ms. Kreitler entered her appearance as a Radnor Township resident, living on property located in the vicinity of the subject property.

7. Leslie Morgan was granted party status. She is a Radnor Township resident who lives on property in the vicinity of the subject property.

8. Colleen Price, Esquire, was granted party status. She is a Radnor Township resident who lives on property in the vicinity of the subject property.

9. Brian Price was granted party status. He is a Radnor Township resident who lives on property in the vicinity of the subject property.

10. The Radnor League of Women Voters was granted party status through its Vice-President, Barbara Schraudenbach. The League of Woman Voters is a civic organization that monitors zoning, planning, transfer and acquisition of land in Radnor Township and supports the protection of open space and recreational lands within its borders.

11. The subject property is as depicted on Exhibit MT-16, a Conditional Use Plan for the development of 64-87 residential lots, prepared by Momenee and Associates, Inc., dated July 31, 2013, last revised October 17, 2013 (the “Plan”). It consists of approximately 311.54 acres, including a 10.022 acre parcel containing the

main residential structure on the property, which parcel is to be retained by one of the Sellers, the Robert L. Montgomery Trust (the “Mansion Lot”).

12. The subject property is identified as the “Main Tract” of the remaining balance of the original Ardrossan Estate² containing a 22 bedroom mansion and 10 additional existing single family residences, 3 garage apartments, a dairy barn and numerous outbuildings. It consists of rolling terrain and is burdened with two stream corridors which contain the headwaters of the Darby Creek.

13. Darby Creek is an impaired stream located to the west of the subject property. The subject property is in the Darby Creek watershed and contains two streams, Camp Run and Wigwam Run, that are first order streams having their origin on or near the subject property. First order streams are of particular importance in remediating the Darby Creek and its watershed.

14. The testimony of Maya K von Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, confirmed the significance of the headwaters of the Darby Creek located on the subject property and the high priority importance of the protection of them and, therefore, their logical location within the common open space, as depicted on the Plan.

15. The subject property is located in the AC, Agricultural-Conservation Zoning District of Radnor Township. Its net area, after deduction of existing road rights-of-way; 50% of slopes greater than 20% grade; wetlands; and 50% of flood plains; is 293.84 acres. The Applicant proposes to develop portions of the subject property as a Density Modification Development, creating 64 to 87 residential lots pursuant to the Plan.

16. The Plan proposes five phases of development containing 64 to 87 residential lots depending upon the housing layout options depicted on the plan and whether a proposed sale of a portion of the subject property, located northeast of the intersection of Darby-Paoli and Newtown Roads, identified during the hearings as “the rye field”³, takes place. Eleven of the proposed lots will accommodate existing structures.

17. The construction of single family detached dwellings on the subject property is permitted, by right, pursuant to §280-9.A of the Zoning Ordinance.

18. Pursuant to §280-10.B.1, the minimum lot area for a residential building lot in the AC Zoning District is 2 acres. According to the testimony, the resultant permitted density on the subject property would be 139 units.

² The Ardrossan Estate is a property of historic significance in Radnor Township, being the last remaining undeveloped major estate within its borders. It also served as the inspiration for the Academy Award winning film “The Philadelphia Story”. Portions of the estate, both to the north and south of Newtown Road, have been subdivided into large estate lots and developed as such. The subject property is part of the remaining core of the Ardrossan Estate.

³ All parties agree that the rye field, approximately 27.4 acres in size, represents one of the most beautiful viewsheds in Radnor Township and is sought to be preserved. Radnor Township was, at the time of these hearings, negotiating with the Owners to purchase this tract of land for preservation purposes. The 64 lot Plan would be utilized, in the event that its purchase was successful.

19. The use regulations of the AC Zoning District also permit, when authorized as a conditional use, a Density Modification Development provided that the proposed development meets the objective criteria of Article XIX of the Zoning Ordinance, contained at §280-90 through and including §280-100.

20. A Density Modification Development encourages the creation and maintenance of common open space within a development by allowing residential lots of varying sizes and allowing them to be less than the 2 acre minimum required in the AC District. It also provides a density bonus to the development upon the provision of a minimum of 15% common open space. As applicable to this matter, the permitted density would result in the yield of 154 residential units on the subject property, upon the provision of 15% common open space.

21. Further, the maximum yield of the subject property, consistent with Zoning Ordinance requirements under the Density Modification provisions, would be 167 residential lots if 42% common open space were provided. (Exhibit MT-9).

22. The Plan proposes five phases of development with phases 3 and 4 having alternative layouts and unit counts to take into consideration the issue of whether Radnor Township will purchase the rye field. The maximum number of units proposed under the Plan is 87 residential lots.

23. In order to prevail upon its request for conditional use approval, the Applicant must evidence compliance with Article XXIII of the Zoning Ordinance, which outlines the intent, process, procedure, and standards for approval of conditional uses.

24. One of the standards for approval set forth at §280-137.2 is that the use shall meet the requirements of §280-145 relative to special exception applications before the Township Hearing Board.

25. Further, §280-137.A requires that the proposed use must meet all of the specific standards and regulations set forth in Article XIX, regarding Density Modification Developments.

26. Therefore, factual determinations are necessary to judge whether the Applicant has presented satisfactory evidence of compliance with each of the objective standards set forth in §280-90 – §280-100.

27. §280-90 states the objectives and intent of the Zoning Ordinance amendment that provided for Density Modification Developments. It allows modification of lot area, yard, and use requirements for a single family dwelling development in order to: A) Encourage conservation and use of open space; B) encourage land development which preserves trees and natural topography, prevents soil erosion and promotes the best interests of Radnor Township from an aesthetic, ecological and natural resource standpoint; and, C) encourage attractive arrangements of dwellings by permitting the design and layout of dwellings to be closely related to the physical characteristics of the site in harmony with the surrounding tracts.

28. §280-90.C indicates that the Density Modification Development Ordinance was based upon the Comprehensive Plan of Radnor Township.

29. §280-91.A requires that any Density Modification Development contain at least 15% common open space. The Plan, as well as the testimony of the Applicant's civil engineer, David R. Fiorello, who was qualified to testify as an expert in civil engineering, evidences that the common open space to be provided in connection with this application represents 15.28% of the tract size. Additionally, each phase of the development proposed will contain at least 15% of its area as common open space.

30. In compliance with §280-91.C, the Applicant has evidenced that the common open space shall be contiguous to the subject property and will not be separated from it by existing roads.

31. Consistent with §280-91.D, the Plan evidences that consideration was given to the arrangement and location of the common open space to take advantage of the physical characteristics of the site and allow its easy access and view from dwelling units, at the same time preserving natural features.

32. The Applicant has agreed to compliance with §280-91.E at the appropriate time during land development.

33. The common open space consists of a combination of land and water within the subject property designed and intended for the use and enjoyment of residents of the development with consideration given to the site considerations set forth in §280-95.

34. The Plan evidences compliance with §280-91.G regarding buffer strip requirements.

35. §280-92.A.1 sets forth three standards for Density Modification Developments in the AC Zoning District as follows:

- A. The minimum tract size must be at least 20 acres. The gross area of the subject property is 311.54 acres. Its area net of ultimate rights-of-way is 304.81 acres. Its adjusted tract area, accounting for a reduction in natural resources to be preserved, is 293.84 acres.
- B. The evidence indicates that the development of the subject property into two acre residential lots, permitted by the Zoning Ordinance, would yield 139 residential lots. A Density Modification Development, providing 15% common open space, has a maximum yield of 154 residential lots. A Density Modification Development, providing for 42% common open Space, would yield a maximum of 167 residential lots. The Plan proposes up to 87 residential lots.

- C. Buildings must not be located within 75 feet of an existing street right-of-way line or within 50 feet from any adjacent property line. The Plan proposes compliance with this standard.
36. This application is consistent with the use regulations set forth at §280-93.
37. The Plan evidences compliance with the dimensional requirements of §280-94 of the Zoning Ordinance.
38. The Plan, as well as the testimony of the Applicant's engineer, indicates that streams on the subject property are being preserved and wooded slopes impacted as little as possible. The natural resource features on the property have been adequately preserved and/or consideration given to their disturbance.
39. In compliance with §280-96, the Applicant proposes that the development of the subject property shall be served by sanitary sewers and public water supply.
40. The Plan evidences compliance with §280-97 regarding the dimensional yard setback requirements for a Density Modification Development.
41. In compliance with §280-98, the evidence adequately establishes that the location of residential structures on the property will take advantage of existing topography and natural features, sunlight exposures and viewsheds.
42. The Applicant proposes ownership and maintenance of the common open space in a homeowner's (or similar) association, in compliance with the requirements of §280-99.
43. §280-100.A requires compliance with the conditional use requirements of Article XXIII of the Zoning Ordinance, and the Applicant proposes compliance therewith.
44. §280-100.B requires disclosure of the landowners' interest in the land to be developed. The Applicant proposes the creation of up to 87 single family dwelling lots to be owned in fee by intended Buyers. The common open space will be owned and maintained by an association of the property owners, or similar entity.
45. Up to 87 residential lots are proposed on the subject property, in compliance with §280-100.2.
46. The storm water management feasibility narrative (Exhibit MT-11) establishes the feasibility of providing adequate storm water management facilities for the subject property and its development consistent with applicable Township and State requirements.
47. Consistent with §280-100.3, the Applicant proposes that a homeowners' association, comprised of the owners of the residential building lots, be created to own

and maintain the common open space, except for any portions of it which are deeded in fee to a conservation organization, such as the North American Land Trust or the Natural Lands Trust. However, even assuming conveyance to such a Trust, the association may retain responsibility to maintain the common open space area.

48. The Plan adequately exhibits the approximate height, bulk and location of dwellings and other structures on the subject property.

49. The Applicant established, through its sanitary sewer feasibility narrative (Exhibit MT-10), the ability of the proposed lots to be served by public sewer.

50. The evidence establishes that the proposed development can be served with a public water supply system.

51. The Plan evidences compliance with the requirement for the provision of parking of vehicles and the location of proposed streets and public ways within the subject property, consistent with §280-100.A.7.

52. §280-100.A.8 requires a statement that shows the ecological and economic impact of the development on the Township and surrounding areas. The Applicant presented Exhibit MT-22, a Statement of Ecological and Economic Impacts, dated July 30, 2013, prepared by Glackin Thomas and Panzak, Inc., and the credible testimony of its planner, Erik Hetzel, to establish that the economic impact of the proposed development on Township services and the Radnor School District, will yield a net positive for both, for a home valued much less than expected for those to be developed on the subject property. No ecological impact was identified.

53. §280-100.A.9 requires that traffic studies be conducted on roads surrounding, or nearby, the subject property. The Applicant presented an “Ardrossan Farm-East Parcel Transportation Impact Study” dated July 26, 2013 (Exhibit MT-19), prepared by Traffic Planning and Design, Inc., and the testimony of Robert G. Richardson, PE to establish the results of the traffic studies conducted. Mr. Richardson was qualified to testify as an expert in the field of traffic engineering.

54. The credible evidence presented indicated that all intersections that were studied function at levels of service, both before and after the proposed development, of “A” or “B”, on a scale of “A” through “F”.

55. Richardson established that all required sight distances for the proposed 10 entrances and exits to and from the subject property meet PennDOT desirable sight distance standards, or will be required to meet such standards during the land development process.

56. The Applicant has agreed to update the traffic studies during land development to account for the closure of a bridge on one of the roads studied (Darby-Paoli Road) and to consider the impact of schools being in session, as the study was performed during the summer. There are an inordinate number of schools within the vicinity of the subject property.

57. The Township's Traffic Engineer has identified intersections and/or areas of the Traffic Impact Study which need to be updated and/or addressed. The Applicant has agreed to cooperate with the Township's Traffic Engineer in that regard.

58. Zoning Ordinance §280-100.A.6 requires that the Applicant present the substance of covenants, grants of easements, or other restrictions proposed to be imposed upon the land, buildings and structures.

59. The Plan delineates the following areas:

- A. The areas containing up to 87 proposed residential lots;
- B. The 46.57 acres of proposed common open space;
- C. The areas proposed for internal street rights-of-way; and
- D. The areas not proposed for residential use or for common open space, identified by the Applicant as "Non-Residential Lots".

60. The areas of Non-Residential Lots are not restricted against future development for residential use, but may not be developed as such under any approval granted in this Decision, even though the area of the Non-Residential Lots is subject to this Density Modification Application.

61. The Applicant presented the testimony of its managing partner, Edgar Scott, III concerning the Non-Residential Lots.

62. Mr. Scott credibly established that the Applicant desires to see limited development of the subject property, with preservation of its natural features and vistas. In order to financially justify the limited development of the subject property as proposed, the Applicant needs to achieve maximum value of the residential lots created.

63. The Plan evidences that the Applicant has sited the proposed residential lots to take advantage of the natural features of the property, with proximity to, and vistas of, common open space and wooded areas.

64. Scott's testimony is found to be sincere with regard to the Applicant's intent concerning the Non-Residential Lots, in that:

- A. It is the Applicant's intent to market the Non-Residential Lots to enable their preservation by the use of lawful tax provisions of the Internal Revenue Code that will permit significant, and practical tax advantages to intended buyers;
- B. Scott has had successful experience in marketing lots for that purpose as part of his involvement on behalf of developers of other portions of the original Ardrossan Estate; and

- C. Scott has identified a number of potential purchasers of such restricted lots, either to enable the tax advantages available, or to preserve the vistas on the subject property, if they are property owners, or both.

65. The Applicant presented the testimony of Michael J. Samuels, CRE, who was qualified to testify as a real estate appraisal and valuation expert. Samuels established that any restriction against development placed upon the future use of the Non-Residential Lots would substantially and unnecessarily devalue such lots, thereby substantially or totally eliminating the possibility that potential buyers would acquire them and subsequently gift or ease them for conservation purposes.

66. Samuels also credibly established that there is no basis in real estate valuation theory or studies that would indicate the development of the subject property, as proposed, would have any negative impact upon the real estate or property values of any nearby properties.

67. Any future development of the Non-Residential Lots, for purposes other than preservation, requires a new conditional use application to be filed and hearings held to determine compliance with then applicable zoning, or Subdivision And Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) requirements.

68. §280-134 of the Zoning Ordinance sets forth the intent of conditional uses, and the procedures necessary to obtain them. This Section recognizes that uses permitted by conditional use constitute major uses that have the potential for substantial impact upon the community.

69. The Applicant has complied with the application submission and content requirements of §280-135 of the Ordinance.

70. This application has been reviewed consistent with the requirements of §280-136.B through and including E regarding the hearings held on the application.

71. §280-136.F recognizes the ability to attach conditions to any approval, if those conditions are deemed necessary, including specific modifications to otherwise applicable area and bulk requirements.

72. The Applicant has established that the subject property is historic and unique, containing driveways and farm roads that are tree lined and that fit naturally into the terrain. It intends to utilize these driveways and farm roads as the basic layout of its internal street system to serve the lots created. It intends to seek waivers of specific SALDO regulations with regard to road width and design requirements in order to permit the internal road system to maintain its historic nature and to avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural features of the site.

73. However, the Applicant's engineer, Mr. Fiorella, credibly established that if such waivers were not granted, those requirements could be met without redesigning the layout of the Plan but, perhaps, with negative impacts upon existing historic and/or natural features.

74. Phase 3 of the Plan proposes a cul-de-sac road that would exceed the maximum length permitted under SALDO. If the requested waiver from that provision is denied, the Applicant can establish compliance with the cul-de-sac length requirements, however, once again, with possible negative impacts upon other aspects of the development.

75. The decision to grant specific waiver requests from the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance of Radnor Township is not a subject of this Density Modification Conditional Use application and is within the jurisdiction of the Radnor Township Board of Commissioners during the land development plan review process.

76. In response to viewshed concerns expressed by the Radnor Conservancy and other parties, the Township presented its municipal engineer, Roger Phillips, PE who credibly established that, although portions of the homes proposed along the Phase 3 cul-de-sac would be visible from perimeter roads, that impact upon the viewshed across the rye field would be significantly and reasonable softened with buffering vegetation of appropriate density and height.

77. The Plan, as well as Exhibit MT-11 provides that:

- A. Storm water management for the proposed development will be provided by structural BMPs with an underground detention/recharge pipe system to control runoff from proposed public and private roads, driveways and lots; and
- B. Ground water seepage beds will be installed on each lot in order to capture and recharge storm water runoff from the property.

78. The Radnor Township Taxpayers Association was a party to this matter. Its position was that the Applicant's plans did not comply with all applicable provisions of the Township's SALDO, and that the Traffic Impact Study required reanalysis. Both the Applicant and Radnor Township agreed that, upon conditional use approval, the Plan would be reconsidered during subdivision and land development review and modified, consistent with the determination of the Township's Board of Commissioners, as appropriate, at that time. Further, these three parties agreed that additional traffic counts and reanalysis of an intersection would be necessary during land development.

79. The Radnor Conservancy was a party to this matter. The Conservancy supported the Density Modification Development Plan but requested, as a condition of approval, that the residential structures proposed to be located on Lots 3-2 through and including 3-10 be moved westward of the ridge line overlooking the rye field and the intersection of Darby Paoli and Newtown Roads.

80. The record does indicate that the highest portion, at least, of some or all of these structures may be visible from motorists on each of those roads. However, the Applicant, in response to Township concerns during the review process, relocated

approximately 4 acres of open space from the stream valley areas to a 100 foot wide common open space buffer area between the rye field and the referenced lots.

81. The Township's Engineer, Roger Phillips, PE, established that the appropriate planting of vegetation and trees in this 100 foot buffer area would, when mature, successfully soften the visual impact of the tops of the houses from the roadways so as to eliminate any negative impact.

82. Leslie Morgan was a party to this matter. She expressed concerns about the amount and location of the common open space proposed in the Plan. Ms. Morgan presented no testimony or evidence to indicate that the Plan was not in conformity with the applicable Zoning Ordinance requirements.

83. Colleen and Brian Price were each granted party status. They are husband and wife and collectively expressed concerns about the amount and location of the common open space; the location of some of the residential building lots, vis-à-vis their property; and a request that a condition precluding any further development of the subject property be imposed.

84. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Price presented any evidence that would indicate that the Plan was not in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance regarding the common open space or the siting of proposed residential lots. Further, their proposed condition would eliminate the marketability of the Non-Residential Lots for preservation purposes.

85. A number of other Township residents testified in opposition to the proposed Plan. Their concerns centered about traffic and storm water issues, density, and the impacts of the development upon the subject property's natural resources and historic features.

86. No evidence was presented by any opposing party or objecting neighbor to indicate that the Plan was not in compliance with the applicable Zoning Ordinance provisions.

87. No evidence was presented by any opposing party or objecting neighbor that would establish a high degree of probability that the proposed use will adversely affect the public welfare.

88. Radnor Township was a party to this action. It expressed no objection to the proposed Plan but did request the imposition of conditions to ensure compliance during subdivision and land development.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Applicant has presented competent and credible evidence that establishes that the Plan meets the objective standards set forth in §280-90 of the Zoning Ordinance.
2. Further, it establishes compliance with all of the objective standards of Article XIX.
3. The Applicant has complied with all applicable sections of Article XXIII with regard to the application submission and content provisions of §280-135.
4. As authorized by §280-136.F, conditions of approval will be imposed.
5. The proposed use meets all of the standards set forth in §280-145, applicable to special exception applications.
6. Development of the subject property as proposed in the Plan will not result in any adverse impacts upon nearby properties that are not contemplated by the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.
7. The development of the subject property as proposed will be less impactful than a residential development permitted by right in the AC Zoning District, by subdivision into two acre building lots.
8. The proposed development will be less impactful than one that would be permitted pursuant to the Density Modification Development provisions of the Ordinance, with a maximum yield of 154 residential lots.
9. The approval herein granted permits no more than 87 residential lots on the subject property, located as depicted on the Plan, subject to appropriate modification during subdivision and land development.

DECISION

The conditional use request of the Applicant is hereby approved for the development of the subject property into up to 87 single family residential lots as depicted in the Plan, subject to compliance with all other applicable governmental ordinances and regulations and the following specific conditions:

1. All new construction proposed for Lots 3-2 through 3-10 shall be done in a fashion which provides for maximum protection of the Darby-Paoli/Newtown Road viewshed when viewed from the intersection of those roads. The Township Board of Commissioners shall approve the ultimate placement of proposed buildings on each of these lots so as to maximize the viewshed from the existing public roads and soften the impact of the view of the residential structures to be constructed there, prior to the issuance of grading and building permits.
2. A landscape plan, in accordance with the Radnor Township Shade Tree Ordinance, sufficient to screen Lots 3-2 through 3-10 from the above referenced intersection, within the 100 foot buffer strip adjacent to the rye field, shall be prepared and submitted and subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners during the land development process.
3. All proposed new construction on all lots shall be limited in height to 35 feet from the average grade (the average of the grade taken at 20 foot intervals around the building perimeter) to the top of the highest roof beams of a flat roof width or to the mean level of a sloped roof, provided that chimneys and spires shall not be included in measuring the height. The height shall be measured from finished grade and, in no event, shall any fill material result in an increase in building height beyond 35 feet, unless soil conditions necessitate the placement of fill, as determined by the Radnor Township Municipal Engineer.
4. In the event that the Applicant, or any of its successors or assigns, proposes to build any additional dwellings beyond the proposed maximum limit of 64 or 87, depending upon which plan is approved, such additional development shall be considered through submission of a new Conditional Use Application, meeting all Zoning Ordinance requirements of Article XIX for a Density Modification Development, and shall require a new subdivision application. Any such submission shall not be considered an amendment of the existing proposed plan for development.
5. The 100 foot proposed buffer strip adjacent to the rye field shall contain no buildings or structures; and shall be deed restricted in a form and manner to the satisfaction of appropriate Radnor Township officials.
6. All new lots and proposed new or existing residential buildings shall provide for individual on-lot storm water management through seepage

pits or other non-structural BMPs in accordance with the Radnor Township Storm Water Ordinance. Any and all roof drains and sump pumps shall be tied into such on-lot storm water facilities.

7. The Applicant shall perform such studies and make such improvements as are necessary in order to establish sufficient sewage capacity within the Township's main transmission line servicing the property.
8. The Applicant shall modify and update the Traffic Impact Study with regard to conducting new traffic counts when the nearby schools are in session and re-examination of any intersection, as determined by the Radnor Township Traffic Engineer.
9. The Plan shall be subject to modification by the Board of Commissioners of Radnor Township, as appropriate, during the Subdivision and Land Development review process.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William J. Bolla

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Hearing Officer