

April 7, 2011

Mr. William J. Mueller,
Village President, and
Board of Trustees
Village of Lombard

Subject: PC 11-04; 55 W 22nd Street, Suite 200

Dear President and Trustees:

Your Plan Commission transmits for your consideration its recommendation regarding the above-referenced petition. The petitioner requests approval of a conditional use for a trade school in the OPD Office Planned Development District.

After due notice and as required by law, the Plan Commission conducted a public hearing for this petition on March 21, 2011.

Janet Gilbreath, 23W134 Shurebrook Lane, Glen Ellyn and Hana Malik, 1S125 Ingersoll Lane, Villa Park, IL presented the petition. Ms. Gilbreath provided background on their experience and stated that Hana and her are partners and seeking to start a nursing school in August. They selected this site to train LPN's and they will do the teaching. It will be a one-year nursing program with a maximum of 24 students in the building at one time. There will be classroom activities and theoretical coursework on site. Clinical work will occur outside the facility.

Ms. Malik provided some additional information about the layout of the facility stating that there will be only one classroom. She further stated that the primary use of this location is for theoretical instruction only. There will be no blood, by-products, chemicals or any type of bio-hazardous materials used on site.

Chairperson Ryan asked if anyone was present to speak in favor or against the petition.

No one spoke in favor or against the petition.

Chairperson Ryan then requested the staff report.

Christopher Stilling, Assistant Director of Community Development, presented the report. He stated that the Illinois College of Nursing (ICN) is requesting a conditional use for a trade school in the OPD Office Planned Development District. The primary use of the space will be for office purposes; however they will have up to 24 nursing students there for theoretical coursework only. They have indicated that all technical training will be provided elsewhere.

The petitioner is seeking to occupy a 2,554 square foot office space in an existing three (3) story office building. Another trade school, the Illinois Center for Broadcasting, used to be located in this building, however they relocated to 455 Eisenhower Lane in 2008. The facility will primarily be used for administrative offices; however there will be one lecture room and a study area for up to twenty-four (24) students. According to the petitioner, only theoretical coursework will be occurring onsite. The clinical training is held elsewhere at hospitals and other healthcare facilities. The O Office district lists both "trade schools" and "colleges and universities" as separate conditional uses. As the proposed use is specific and specialized to nursing, staff considers the use a "trade school". The petitioner has stated that at maximum capacity will be twenty-four (24) students and three (3) employees. They have indicated that classes will be scheduled from 8AM to 2:30PM on weekdays. Staff supports the requested conditional use for the Illinois College of Nursing as it will be a relatively low-impact user and it is compatible with the other tenants on the property. Furthermore, this location has a history of being used for trade schools.

Staff finds that the existing building has sufficient parking to accommodate the proposed use. The subject property is currently improved with a total of 236 parking spaces. The existing building requires a minimum of 208 parking spaces. The proposed use requires 26 spaces (1 space per student and 2 spaces for every 3 employees) for a total required parking of 234 spaces (surplus of 2 parking spaces).

Staff believes the standards have been met and that the use is compatible with the Comprehensive Plan and surrounding land uses and therefore staff recommends approval of the conditional use subject to the conditions noted in the staff report.

Chairperson Ryan then opened the meeting for comments among the Commissioners.

Commissioner Sweetser stated that this use will be a welcome addition to the Village of Lombard. She also asked about accreditation. Ms. Malik indicated that they are working on that now.

Commissioner Burke asked staff to clarify condition #3. He questioned if staff was just referring to the occupancy comment. Mr. Stilling answered that they will need a life safety inspection noted by the Bureau of Fire Prevention and once they submit for a building permit there might be other comments generated.

On a motion by Commissioner Burke and a second by Commissioner Sweetser, the Plan Commission voted 4 to 0 that the Village Board approve the petition based on the finding that the petition had met the required Standards as set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.

Based on the submitted petition and the testimony presented, the proposal does comply with the standards required by the Lombard Zoning Ordinance; and, therefore, I move that the Plan Commission adopt the findings included within the Inter-departmental Review Report as the findings of the Lombard Plan Commission and recommend to the Corporate Authorities approval of PC 11-04, subject to the following conditions:

1. The petitioner shall develop the space in substantial conformance with the floor plan prepared by DD MR Planning, dated February 2, 2011.
2. Illinois College of Nursing shall be limited to a maximum enrollment of twenty-four (24) students. Should they wish to increase enrollment, the university shall seek a conditional use amendment along with any other necessary zoning relief. Consideration of the requested relief shall be subject to review by the Village as part of a public hearing petition.
3. As part of the approval, the petitioner shall also address the comments included within the IDRC Report.

Respectfully,

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD

Donald Ryan, Chairperson
Lombard Plan Commission

c. Petitioner
Lombard Plan Commission