

By: Planning  
Public Hearing: 03/10/20  
Adopted: 03/10/20

**WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 20-14(AM)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVING  
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 20-04 TO OPERATE A GOODWILL RETAIL  
STORE AND DONATION CENTER IN AN EXISTING 23,059 SQUARE FEET  
COMMERCIAL BUILDING AND CONSTRUCT A 510 SQUARE FEET LOADING  
DOCK AND A 1,316 SQUARE FEET DONATION CANOPY, LOCATED ON LOT 11A,  
CREEKSIDE PLAZA SUBDIVISION.**

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WHEREAS, Lumen Design, agent for Goodwill Industries, submitted Conditional Use Permit #20-04 on February 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the application included the required site plan and narrative that addresses the general approval criteria in §16.16.050 of the Wasilla Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, notice of the application was mailed to all property owners within a 1,200 foot radius, the appropriate review agencies, the Wasilla Planning Commission, and the Wasilla City Council as required by §16.16.040(A)(2) of the Wasilla Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, a notice of the Planning Commission public hearing was published in the Frontiersman on March 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on this request on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Wasilla Planning Commission deliberated on this request taking into account the information submitted by the applicant, the evaluation and recommendation by staff contained in the staff report, public testimony – both written

and verbal, the applicable provisions of the Wasilla Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan, and other pertinent information brought before them; and

WHEREAS, the Wasilla Planning Commission adopted Findings of Fact, attached as Exhibit A, summarizing basic facts and reasoning of the Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla Planning Commission hereby approves this application with the Findings of Fact, attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein, with the following conditions:

1. The use of the site and the proposed additions must be consistent with the site plan and elevation drawings/renderings attached to this resolution as Exhibit B. Any changes to these plans must be submitted to the City Planner for review and approval. Substantial modifications to the plans and drawings will require submittal of an amended conditional use permit application, including applicable fees, for Planning Commission review and approval.
2. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fire Chief's office must review this proposal for compliance with all applicable fire codes, building codes and emergency access as related to the public health, safety and welfare prior to construction.
3. The applicant must install the following signage at the first driveway entrance on E. Financial Drive (immediately east of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway) for the following: (1) Signs restricting vehicle traffic to donation customers and Goodwill delivery trucks; (2) Signs prohibiting left hand turns from the parking lot onto E. Financial Drive; and (3) Signs directing donation traffic to enter the donation canopy from the west and exit to the east.
4. The applicant must submit a revised landscape plan that addresses the following:
  - (1) Revise landscape beds to indicate the use of vegetative mulch.
  - (2) Add the required hedge between the parking spaces and the 10-foot wide perimeter landscaping bed at the southeast corner of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway and Financial Drive.
  - (3) Add appropriate plantings required in the 10-foot wide perimeter landscape bed at the southeast corner of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway and Financial Drive.



**EXHIBIT A**  
**Wasilla Planning Commission Resolution 20-14**  
**FINDINGS OF FACT – Section 16.16.050, General Approval Criteria**

*An administrative approval, use permit, elevated administrative approval, elevated use permit or conditional use may be granted if the following general approval criteria and any applicable specific approval criteria of Section 16.16.060 are complied with. The burden of proof is on the applicant to show that the proposed use meets these criteria and applicable specific criteria for approval. An approval shall include a written finding that the proposed use can occur consistent with the comprehensive plan, harmoniously with other activities allowed in the district and will not disrupt the character of the neighborhood. Such findings and conditions of approval shall be in writing and become part of the record and the case file.*

**16.16.050(1)&(5) *Neighbors/Neighborhoods. Due deference has been given to the neighborhood plan or comments and recommendations from a neighborhood with an approved neighborhood plan.***

Finding: This criterion is not applicable since the subject property is not part of an adopted neighborhood plan.

**16.16.050(2) *Plans. The proposal is substantially consistent with the city comprehensive plan and other city adopted plans.***

Finding: The proposed retail store is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan's *Expected Future Land Use Map* designation, "Generally Commercial/Business", and the Commercial zoning that implements the adopted Comprehensive Plan.

**16.16.050(3) *Special Uses. The proposal is substantially consistent with the specific approval criteria of Section 16.16.060.***

Finding: The specific approval criteria under 16.16.060 are not applicable.

**16.16.050(4) *Reviewing Parties. Due deference has been given to the comments and recommendations of reviewing parties.***

Finding: The City mailed 64 notices to neighboring property owners within 1200' and the 22 review agencies that are typically provided with the opportunity to comment. Three comments were received by MSB review agencies. Copies of the comments received by staff are included in this packet. Any comments received after the compilation of the packet will be provided at the public hearing.

**16.16.050(6)** *Fire Safety and Emergency Access. The proposal shall not pose a fire danger as determined by the State Fire Marshal or the fire chief of the district in which the proposed use is located. Adequate access for emergency and police vehicles must be provided.*

Finding: The Borough Fire Chief's office will review the proposed retail store and additions for compliance with all applicable fire codes, building codes and emergency access as related to the public health, safety and welfare.

**16.16.050(7)** *Traffic. The proposed use shall not overload the street system with traffic or result in unsafe streets or dangers to pedestrians...*

Finding: The proposed retail store will not significantly impact the street system or create a danger to pedestrians. However, staff is proposing a condition of approval that requires the applicant to eliminate the first drive aisle (immediately east of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway) to improve traffic flow and reduce the potential for vehicle conflicts.

**16.16.050(8)** *Dimensional Standards. The dimensional requirements of Section 16.24.010 are met.*

Finding: The attached site plan submitted by the applicant complies with the minimum setbacks and maximum height requirements of §16.24.010.

**16.24.050(9)** *Parking. The parking, loading areas, and snow storage sites for the proposed development shall be adequate, safe and properly designed. The developer may be required to install acceptable lighting at pedestrian or vehicular access points.*

Finding: The site currently has 88 parking spaces, including four handicap spaces. This exceeds the requirement for 83 parking spaces for a 24,885 square feet retail building (total for existing building and proposed additions).

**16.16.050(10)** *Utilities. The proposed use shall be adequately served by water, sewer, electricity, on-site water or sewer systems and other utilities.*

Finding: Water, sewer, and other utilities are available in the area.

**16.16.050(11)**      ***Drainage. The proposed use shall provide for the control of runoff during and after construction. All roads and parking areas shall be designed to alleviate runoff into public streets, adjoining lots and protect rivers lakes and streams from pollution. Uses may be required to provide for the conservation of natural features such as drainage basins and watersheds, and land stability.***

Finding:                      The site currently has adequate on-site drainage and retention.

**16.16.050(12)**      ***Large Developments. Residential development of more than four units or non-residential development of more than ten thousand (10,000) square feet gross floor area may be required to provide a site plan showing measures to be taken for the preservation of open space, sensitive areas and other natural features; provision of common signage; provision for landscaping and provisions for safe and effective circulation of vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles. Nonresidential large developments must be located with frontage on one of the following class of streets: interstate, minor arterial, major collector or commercial.***

Finding:                      This development has frontage on the Palmer-Wasilla Highway, which is an Arterial roadway and has adequate preservation of open space and protection of sensitive areas and natural features since there is no development or clearing proposed within 75 feet of Cottonwood Creek.

**16.16.050(13)**      ***Peak Use. The proposed use shall not result in significantly different peak use characteristics than surrounding uses or other uses allowed in the district.***

Finding:                      The proposed use will not result in significantly different peak use characteristics than the surrounding uses or area since the property is in an area that is predominantly developed and zoned Commercial.

**16.16.050(14)**      ***Off-Site Impacts. The proposal shall not significantly impact surrounding properties with excessive noise, fumes or odors, glare, smoke, light, vibration, dust, litter, or interference in any radio or television receivers off the premises, or cause significant line voltage fluctuation off the premises. Radio transmitters and any electronic communications equipment regulated by the Federal Communications Commission is specifically excluded from regulation by this section. Welding, operation of electrical appliances or power tools, or similar***

*activities that cause off site impacts as described above are specifically regulated by this subsection. Buffering may be required to ameliorate impacts between residential and nonresidential uses. The owner of the property upon which the buffer is constructed is responsible for the maintenance of the buffer in a condition that will meet the intent of these criteria.*

Finding: The proposed retail store should not produce any significant negative impacts from noise, fumes, light, etc.

**16.16.050(15)** *Landscaping. The proposed use shall be designed in a manner that minimizes the removal of trees and vegetative cover, and shall conform to the standards in this title concerning the provision and maintenance of landscaping, and any landscaping plan that is required for the proposed use under this title. The approval authority also may condition approval on the provision of the following:*

- a. A fenced storage area for common use, adequate to store boats, trailers, snowmobiles, recreational vehicles and similar items.*
- b. Adequately sized, located and screened trash receptacles and areas.*

Finding: Because this is an existing legal nonconforming site, the applicant is proposing additional landscaping that meets the current regulations to the greatest extent feasible as allowed in 16.33.030(F). However, there are three issues that need to be addressed to be consistent with the landscaping regulations: (1) the applicant is proposing the use of rock mulch versus vegetative mulch; (2) the perimeter landscape bed at the southeast corner of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway and Financial Drive does not contain the required hedge between the parking spaces, it does not have the appropriate plantings required in the 10-foot wide perimeter landscape bed, and the fence must be located between the hedge and the perimeter planting bed. Staff is including a condition of approval in the resolution requiring the submittal of a revised landscape plan addressing these requirements. Additionally, staff is proposing a condition of approval that requires the applicant to plant the required street trees along the Palmer-Wasilla Highway at such time that the AKDOT removes the existing trees in the right-of-way along the subject property.

**16.16.050(16)** *Walkways, Sidewalks and Bike Paths. Pedestrian walkways or bicycle paths may be required where necessary to provide reasonable circulation or access to schools, playgrounds, shopping areas, transportation or other community facilities. Improvements must be constructed to standards adopted by the engineer.*

Finding: A pedestrian pathway exists along the Palmer-Wasilla Highway but there is no pedestrian sidewalk along E. Financial Drive. Staff is proposing a condition of approval to meet this requirement by requiring the applicant to submit a revised site plan providing a pedestrian sidewalk connection between the pathway along the Palmer-Wasilla Highway to the parking lot of the retail store with appropriate stiped pedestrian crossings to the main entrance of the store.

**16.16.050(17)** *Water, Sewage and Drainage Systems. If a proposed use is within five hundred (500) feet of an existing, adequate public water system, the developer may be required to construct a distribution system and the connection to the public system. A developer may be required to increase the size of existing public water, sewer or drainage lines or to install a distribution system within the development. The commission may require any or all parts of such installation to be oversized. The developer must submit to the engineer an acceptable plan that shows that if within ten (10) years an increase in capacity will be required to serve other areas how these needs will be met by oversized facilities. When installation of oversized facilities is required, the developer shall install such facilities at their own expense. The developer shall be reimbursed the amount determined by the engineer to be the difference in cost between the installed cost of the oversized utility lines and the installed cost of the utility lines adequate to serve both the development concerned and all other land to be served by the lines which is owned or under the control of the developer, provided the developer may not be required to install facilities unless funds for such oversizing have been appropriated for the purpose by the city and there is a sufficient unencumbered balance in the balance in the appropriation. No reimbursement may be made unless the developer has entered into such agreement with the city, including conveyances of personal property including lines, lift stations and valves and conveyances of land or rights in land, as the city determines may be necessary to ensure complete control by the city of its sewer, drainage and water lines when they are extended to serve the property of the developer. Notwithstanding the*



*requirement that the developer construct improvements to existing systems, the commission may elect to accomplish the design or construction, or both, of improvements to be made to existing public systems. In such a case, the commission may require advance payment to the city of the estimated cost of work to be accomplished by the city. The developer shall reimburse the city for all expenses of such design or construction not paid in advance. A public system is adequate if, in the judgment of the engineer, it is feasible for the developer to make improvements to the public system which will provide the increased capacity necessary to serve the existing users and the new development at the same level as is being provided to the existing users. Prior to approval of a use for which a community water system is required, the developer must submit evidence showing that there is available a satisfactory source of water. A source of water is satisfactory only if it can be shown that the proposed source will produce water sufficient in quality and quantity to supply the development. The water system and the connection between such distribution systems and the source must be sized and constructed to meet fire flow and hydrant requirements for fire protection and that the developer has obtained or can obtain a water appropriation permit or certificate for the water from the state. The system must be built to city specifications available from the engineer.*

Finding: Water and sewer is available for the site and the applicant will coordinate with the Public Works department to obtain any necessary City permits.

**16.16.050(18)** *Historic Resources. The proposed use shall not adversely impact any historic resource prior to the assessment of that resource by the city.*

Finding: The Mat-Su Borough Cultural Resources Office was notified of this application and but did not provide any comments.

**16.16.050(19)** *Appearance. The proposed use may be required to blend in with the general neighborhood appearance and architecture. Building spacing, setbacks, lot coverage, and height must be designed to provide adequate provisions for natural light & air.*

Finding: The applicant proposes to paint the existing building and is reasonably compatible with the building architecture in the surrounding area (see elevation drawings in packet).

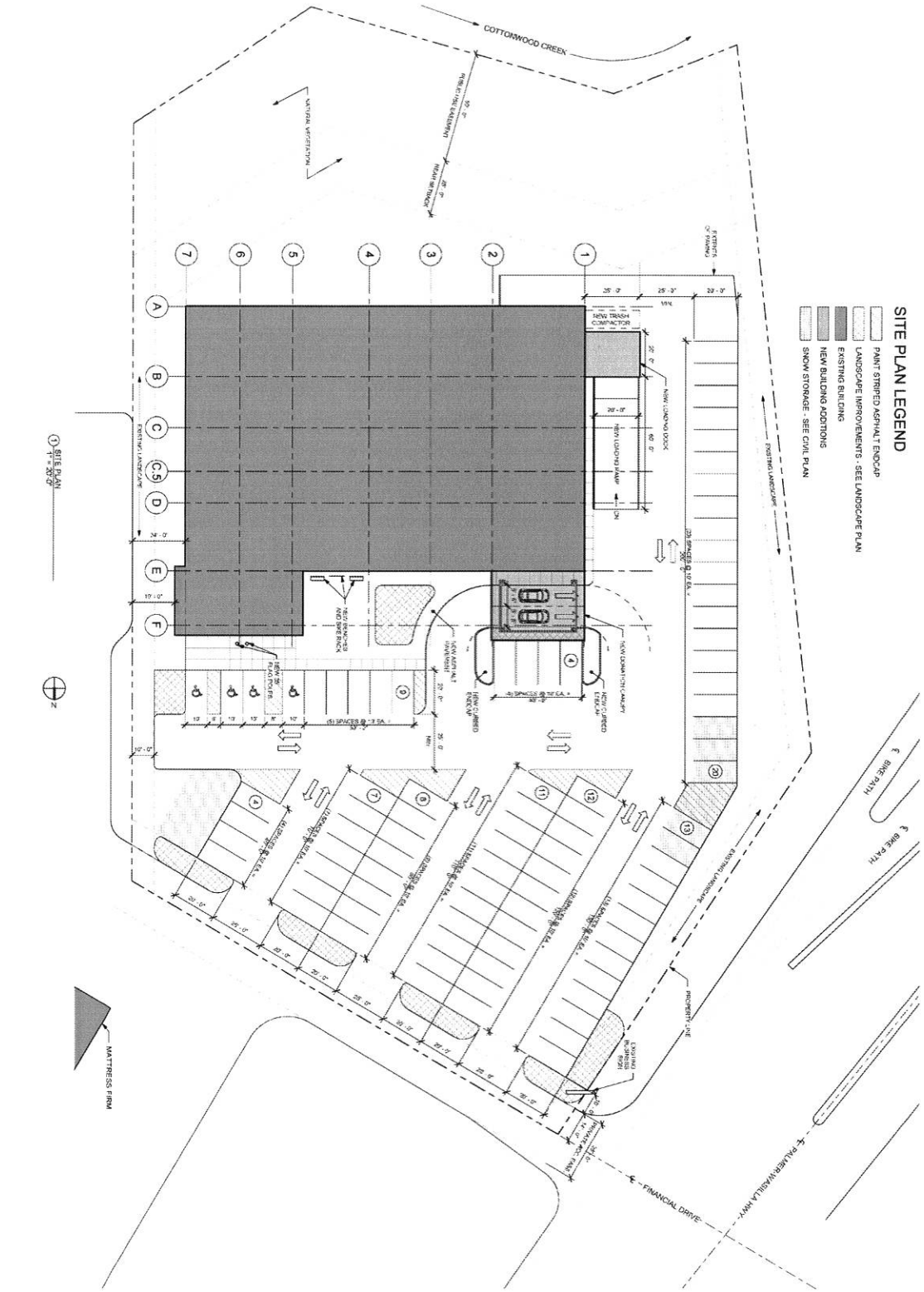
**16.16.050(20)**      ***Open Space and Facilities. The applicant may be required to dedicate land for open space drainage, utilities, access, parks or playgrounds. Any dedication required by the city must be based on a written finding that the area is necessary for public use or safety and the dedication is in compliance with adopted municipal plans and policy. The city finding shall conclude that a direct connection exists between the development and the need for the provision of the dedication...***

Finding:                      This criterion is not applicable.

**16.16.050(21)**      ***Winter Hassles. The proposed use shall not significantly increase the impact on the surrounding area from glaciation or drifting snow.***

Finding:                      There are no foreseeable problems anticipated from winter conditions.

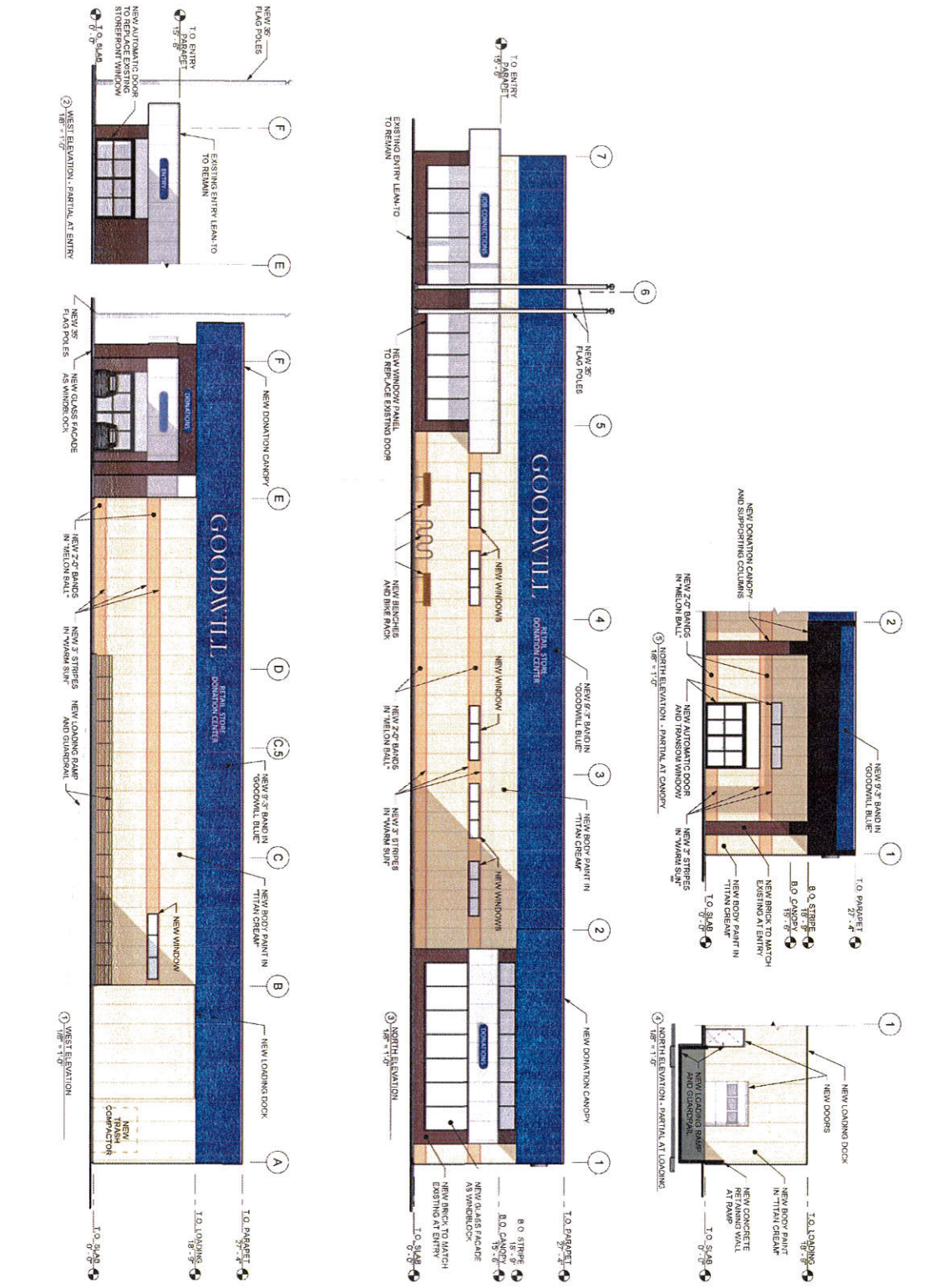




- SITE PLAN LEGEND**
- PAINT STRIPPED ASPHALT FINISHP
  - LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS - SEE LANDSCAPE PLAN
  - EXISTING BUILDINGS
  - NEW BUILDING ADDITIONS
  - SNOW STORAGE - SEE CIVIL PLAN

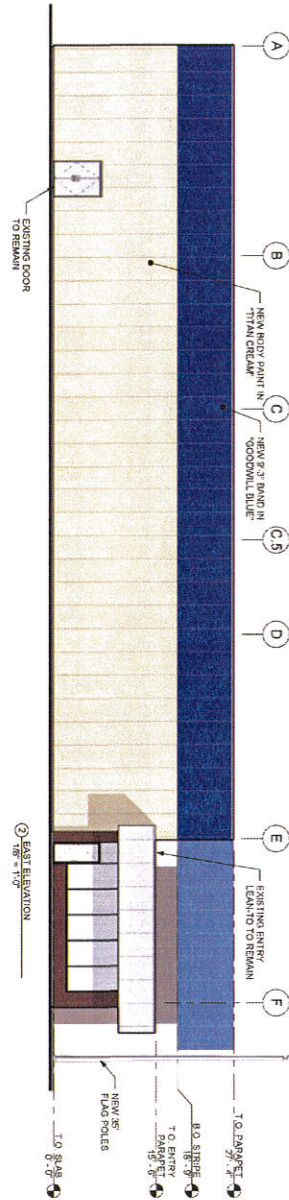
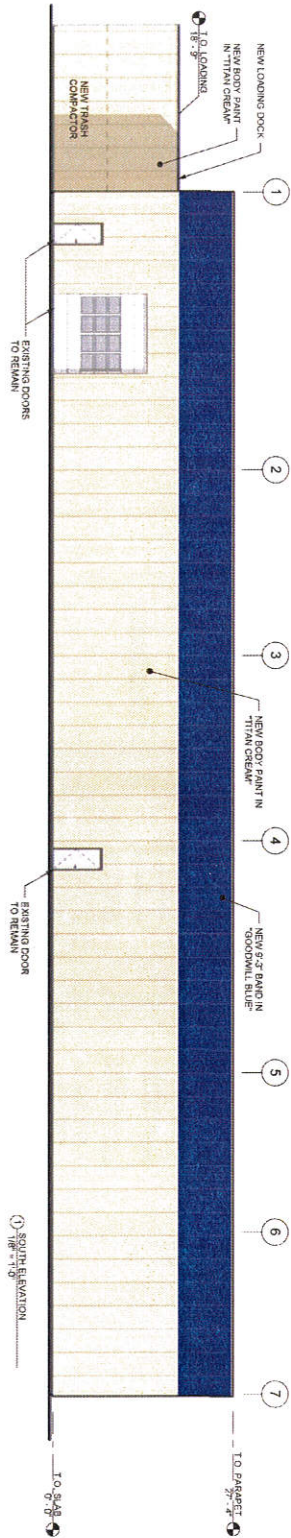
35% CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

	<p><b>A0.1</b></p>	<p>ARCHITECTURAL SITE PLAN</p>	<p>JOB NO. 2001 DATE: 02/07/2020 DRAWN BY: RLWM</p>	<p>REVISION</p>	<p><b>GOODWILL WASILLA</b></p>	<p><b>LUMEN design llc</b></p>
					<p>GOODWILL INDUSTRIES</p>	<p>ANCHORAGE, ALASKA</p>

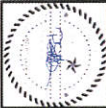


35% CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

	<b>A2.0</b> BUILDING ELEVATIONS	JOB: 2001 DATE: 02/27/2020 DWG BY: RLW	<b>GOODWILL WASILLA</b> GOODWILL INDUSTRIES      ANCHORAGE, ALASKA	<b>LUMEN design llc</b> 305 G Street Anchorage, AK 99501      T 907 771 9840
		REVISION	REVISION	REVISION



35% CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS



**A2.1**

BUILDING ELEVATIONS

DATE 02/07/2020  
 DWG BY RANW

REVISION

**GOODWILL WASILLA**  
 GOODWILL INDUSTRIES ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

**LUMEN design llc**  
 306 G Street Anchorage, AK 99501 T 907 771 9940







