

Presentation & Consent Agenda

Agenda Item #	1 and 4A
Meeting Date	September 22, 2008
Prepared By	Iлона Blanchard Community Development Coordinator
Approved By	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

Discussion Item	Resolution of Support for Proposed Family Restaurant at 7001 Carroll Avenue
Background	<p>Ms. Gillian Clark and Ms. Robin Smith, owners of Avenue Oven, LLC, have requested support from the City for a new business in Old Takoma. Avenue Oven, LLC is proposing to open an independent, community-owned, full-service family restaurant business at 7001 Carroll Avenue (formerly Taliano's). The concept is American-style food with an Eastern European flavor. The Council, as a show of support for the proposal, has been asked to consider a resolution endorsing the following: 1) the issuance of a beer, wine, and liquor license and 2) the provision of gap financing from the State of Maryland Neighborhood BusinessWorks loan program. Support of these actions will further their efforts to establish a new business in Takoma Park.</p> <p><u>Beer and Wine License:</u> Beer and wine licenses are issued by the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners after a public hearing and have been recently issued to Middle East Café and Tijuana Mexican Café. Avenue Oven, LLC is proposing to request a on-site consumption license and will have business hours until 11 p.m.</p> <p><u>Financing:</u> Local businesses such as Orchard Avenue Offices, LLC, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Takoma Park-Silver Spring Coop, Bikram Yoga, and the Eden Park Guest House have received funding from Neighborhood BusinessWorks loan program to facilitate the development or expansion of their operations and to improve their properties. To apply for this financing, the State of Maryland requires the local municipality to provide the business with a resolution of support for its project and the proposed financing.</p> <p>7001 Carroll Avenue will undergo significant renovation to bring the space into compliance with current codes and to create a restaurant that meets the needs of the Takoma Park market. While this project has moved forward with community financing, gap financing will also be needed, for which Council support is required. The business owners also need the Council's support for their liquor license application. There is strong community support for this business.</p>
Policy	To support locally owned and operated independent businesses in Takoma Park.
Fiscal Impact	NA

Attachments	Resolution of Support for Proposed Family Restaurant at 7001 Carroll Avenue
Recommendation	Approve the attached resolution.
Special Consideration	

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2008-

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR AVENUE OVEN, LLC (7001 CARROLL AVENUE)
TO OBTAIN AN ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE FROM THE MONTGOMERY
COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS AND FINANCING FROM THE
NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSWORKS LOAN PROGRAM OF THE MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR A FAMILY
STYLE RESTAURANT**

WHEREAS, Ms. Gillian Clark and Ms. Robin Smith of Avenue Oven, LLC notified the City of their intention to apply for a beer and wine license from the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the City Council met with Ms. Clark and Ms. Smith to consider the pending license application; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, Ms. Clark and Ms. Smith have received positive feedback from the community regarding the sale of beer and wine at the restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Clark and Ms. Smith, owners of Avenue Oven, LLC, notified the City of their intention to apply for funding from the State of Maryland Neighborhood Business Works small business financing program; and

WHEREAS, this project is located in a State-approved locally designated revitalization area and conforms to the local zoning code; and

WHEREAS, the regulations of the Neighborhood BusinessWorks loan program require that all projects receiving financing be approved and supported by the appropriate governing body of the locality in which the project is situated; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is interested in promoting community revitalization by encouraging the development and/or expansion of for-profit and nonprofit small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reached the conclusion that the granting of the requested license and gap financing would be supportive of the business and beneficial to the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that the Council does hereby support the following actions in furtherance of Avenue Oven, LLC's proposal to establish a family restaurant at 7001 Carroll Avenue, in

Takoma Park, Maryland:

Section 1. The issuance of a beer and wine license.

Section 2. Providing financing through the Neighborhood BusinessWorks loan program.

Adopted this _____ day of September, 2008.

ATTEST:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk