

Applicant Responses to Staff Report 21-107

1.) Staff questions the frequency of animals being let outside overnight, where noise would be most disruptive to neighbors.

- It is common practice for Boarding Kennels to refrain from overnight bathroom accommodation. Commercial boarding facilities (typically) do not employ overnight staff to perform such duties as most pet owners do not wake up throughout the night to let their dogs out (a canine without special medical needs is able to “hold it” comfortably for 10-12 hours a night per the American Kennel Club). Hudson Hounds would keep with this common practice for purposes of practicality as well as avoiding ‘continuous or repetitious barking or howling’ per section 648.14 of the city’s Code of Ordinances.

2.) Staff recommends consistent 9am-5pm hours of operation during the work week.

- Applicant will comply with this request.

3.) The applicant should submit information/photos of any proposed exterior lighting to confirm compliance with applicable standards of Section 1207.14, which prohibits glare or other lighting nuisances.

- Applicants will not be altering or adding to the existing lighting put in place from the previous owner as it is sufficient for the intended use of the property. Additionally, with the adopted condition of 9am-5pm business hours, exterior lighting will remain virtually unused.

4.) The applicant should provide information on the anticipated number and frequency of deliveries.

- Due to the low supply use of the sole employee, deliveries will be utilized only to restock animal care supplies (anticipated to be every 3-4 months). Deliveries will be made by standard residential shipping services such as UPS and FedEx and require no special accommodation.

5.) Staff notes recent improvements were made to the façade without first obtaining a zoning permit. A permit application has been submitted and staff is reviewing to verify compliance with the city's architectural design standards.

- Applicants have since had all alterations approved retroactively by the city and code inspector Nick Bellas (Alterations Certificate 21-47). Applicants were unaware of zoning permit requirements and will be diligent about consulting with the city for any future projects.

6.) Staff notes the property entrance is currently obscured by mature pine trees, inhibiting proper sight distances. Suggest the applicant works with City staff to trim or clear a portion of the existing trees at the drive entryway to improve visibility.

- Applicants will comply with this request.

7.) The applicant should provide documentation on expected customer traffic and how they are meeting the need.

- The proposed business will have only one employee (Amy Millsaps) utilizing an 'appointment-only' scheduling system. As such there will never be more than one customer/ vehicle coming or going at a time. In the unexpected event that late/early customers cross paths, the ample driveway space allows for multiple customers, vehicle turn-around, etc. Applicants note again that this would be rare based on the proposed business model.

8.) The applicant should provide a landscape plan indicating how the use and parking area would meet the applicable buffer yard/screening requirements.

- Applicants will be purchasing 15 arborvitae tree plants from the Lowes Garden Center in Stow, OH. Expected shipment date arrives to the store on March 10th, and applicants will pick up once plants have achieved proper root development and reached their purchasing height of 2 feet tall in Spring. They will be planted in the pictured locations labeled "Partial view of parking" and "Western Boundary" (once weather

permits) to properly buffer/screen the exposed areas. Arborvitae grow approximately 3 feet per year and will reach a mature width of 3-4 feet wide within that time. Being part of the coniferous genus, the plants will remain evergreen year-round and provide coverage as dictated in Section 1207.04 of the city's Code of Ordinances.