

# Report to **Development Permit Panel**

To **Development Permit Panel**  Date

July 15, 2005

From

Re

Holger Burke

File

DP 04-280280

Acting Director of Development

Application by JLA Architecture for a Development Permit at

8711 Alexandra Road

### Staff Recommendation

That a Development Permit be issued which would

- Permit the construction of a 444 m<sup>2</sup> (4,777 ft<sup>2</sup>) karaoke entertainment building at 8711 Alexandra Road on a site zoned Automobile Oriented Commercial District (C6), and
- Vary the provisions of the Zoning and Development Bylaw No 5300 to
  - a) Reduce the road setback from 6 m (19 685 ft ) to 0 m (0 ft ) for portions of the building along Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent,
  - b) Increase the allowable number of small car stalls from 30% (12 stalls) to 73% (27 stalls), and
  - c) Reduce the width of manoeuvring drive-aisles from 7.5 m (24.6 ft.) to 6.7 m (22 ft.)

Holger Burke

Acting Director of Development

KE rg/blg

Att

### Staff Report

### Origin

JLA Architecture, on behalf of Canadian Uni-Top Enterprises Ltd, has applied to the City of Richmond for permission to develop a karaoke entertainment building (444 m² or 4,777 ft²) at 8711 Alexandra Road The site is currently vacant and zoned Automobile Oriented Commercial District (C6)

## **Development Information**

Please refer to attached Development Application Data Sheet (**Attachment 1**) for a comparison of the proposed development data with the relevant Bylaw requirements

### **History of Previous Development Applications**

Three different proposals for this karaoke building have been presented to Development Permit Panel for review The following summarizes each development proposal and the response by the Panel

- January 28, 2004 The Development Permit Panel recommended denial of an application for this property for a karaoke facility. At that time, the proposed karaoke facility was three (3) storeys and 880 9 m<sup>2</sup> (9,479 ft<sup>2</sup>) in size. The application was recommended for denial for a number of reasons, including a lack of secured off-site parking arrangement, significant rear setback relaxations, and concerns expressed by adjacent residents.
- April 14, 2004 The Development Permit Panel recommended approval of the three-storey, 880 9 m<sup>2</sup> (9,479 ft<sup>2</sup>) project subject to the registration of an off-site parking covenant for 31 spaces. The applicant was unable to obtain cooperation from the off-site parking property owner to complete the necessary legal arrangements.
- June 30, 2004 In this proposal to the Development Permit Panel, the applicant reduced the size of the building to 536 m² (5,769 ft²) and reduced the height of the building from three (3) storeys to two (2) storeys in order to provide all parking on site. This Development Permit application was supported. The applicant also requested a number of variances, including the following.
  - ➤ Vary the road setback from the required 6 m to 2 7 m on Alexandra Road and to 5 8 m on Sorenson Crescent,
  - Reduce the manoeuvring aisles from 7.5 m to 6 m, and
  - ➤ Increase the allowable number of small car spaces from 30% (14 stalls) to 48% (22 stalls)

The applicant has come forward with a new Development Permit application for the karaoke building that lowers the building to the existing grade (previous submissions placed the building on stilts above parking) and shifts the building closer to the southwest corner of the site. The size of the building has also been reduced to 444 m<sup>2</sup> (4,777 ft<sup>2</sup>) compared to previous submissions

### **Background**

Development surrounding the subject site is as follows

- Existing single-family dwellings are situated to the north
- Existing automobile oriented commercial developments are located to the east, south and west

### **Staff Comments**

The proposed scheme attached to this report has satisfactorily addressed urban design issues and staff comments identified as part of the review of the subject Development Permit application. In addition, it complies with the intent of the applicable sections of the Official Community Plan (OCP) and is generally in compliance with City Centre and General Commercial Development Permit Guidelines. A review of requested zoning variances is noted below

The required number off-street parking spaces was a primary concern noted by staff in previous submissions of the building. An agreed parking ratio based upon occupant load of this single-purpose building was utilized to calculate the number of required off-street parking stalls (The City's Zoning and Development Bylaw does not identify a parking requirement for Karaoke oriented facilities). Based on a building occupancy of 81 people and a parking ratio of 2.2 people per vehicle, the building requires a total of 37 off-street parking stalls excluding the floor area dedicated to utility areas. Transportation staff have reviewed the required parking based on occupant load of the building and determined that the number of off-street parking spaces is sufficient based on this calculation.

Engineering has determined that a servicing analysis is required to ensure adequate capacity for the proposed development. Completion of this servicing capacity analysis, with all associated upgrades is required. Because the analysis was not required with the previous development proposals on this site, and in order not to unduly delay this application, Engineering staff have agreed that this application can be considered by the Development Permit Panel. The applicant's engineer (D.S. Lee) has provided a servicing capacity analysis to the City for review, along with a signed letter indicating that the applicant/developer is willing to pay for any associated upgrades if deemed necessary from either the servicing analysis or the City's Engineering Department. An agreement is in place to ensure that the Development Permit will not be considered for issuance by Council until the servicing analysis is completed, reviewed and approved by the City's Engineering Department.

### Zoning Compliance/Variances (staff comments in **bold**)

The applicant requests to vary the provisions of the Zoning and Development Bylaw No 5300 to

1) Reduce the road setback from 6 m (19 685 ft) to 0 m (0 ft) for portions of the building along Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent (Staff generally support this variance as it provides additional space above the maximum required setback to the existing single-family dwelling to the north and allows for more off-street parking to be implemented and located behind the building. Situating the building closer to the street at the corner also allows for a better interface with the street and positions the main entrance as a prominent, accessible feature to the site. Only a small portion of the building is located at the 0 m (0 ft) setback. Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent are not through-streets, and this setback variance does not affect any traffic sightlines)

- 2) Increase the allowable number of small car stalls from 30% (12 stalls) to 73% (27 stalls) (Although the number of proposed small car stalls is significantly higher than the typical proportion permitted, staff consider the variance reasonable given the site constraints related to the relatively small size of the property, drive aisle requirements and the pedestrian walkways that are incorporated into the parking lot design. The parking layout is also constrained by the retention of a large Birch Tree at the north edge of the site in order to enhance the visual buffer for the neighbouring residential property. In previous proposals, the panel supported a 48% proportion of small car parking stalls.)
- 3) Reduce the width of manoeuvring drive-aisles from 7.5 m (24.6 ft) to 6.7 m (22 ft) (Staff consider a reduction in drive aisle width reasonable as the applicant has indicated that the proposed width is adequate to take into account vehicle turning radius' and circulation)

### **Advisory Design Panel Comments**

The project was presented to the Advisory Design Panel on May 4, 2005 A copy of the relevant excerpt from the Advisory Design Panel Minutes is attached for reference (Attachment 2) Design Panel members indicated that the project move forward on the understanding that issues pertaining to the building entrance at the corner, introduction of permeable pavers and written proposal on how crime, safety and visibility concerns were going to be addressed. The design response is as follows

- The main building entrance at the corner of Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent has been designed to reflect the overall character of the building and emphasizes a prominent focal point of the building
- Permeable pavers have been implemented in walkways surrounding the building and within the parking lot
- The operator of the proposed building has submitted a letter outlining how crime, security and safety concerns are being addressed. The security and safety plan calls for the implementation of lighting (bollards and ground embedded), surveillance cameras and privately hired security guards, which adequately addresses Design Panel and staff concerns

### **Analysis**

## Conditions of Adjacency

- The building is situated at the southwest corner of the site to allow for sufficient setbacks to the residential property to the north
- An existing one-storey commercial building is situated near the east property line. Due to the limited space on the subject site for parking stalls and drive aisles, a landscaped buffer is proposed on the neighbouring property to the east (between the property line and building). Staff requested the applicant to initiate discussions with the neighbouring property owners to determine if landscaping could be implemented. If no such arrangement can be made, a Cedar fence will be implemented along the property line to provide some screening.

### Urban Design and Site Planning

- The approach of siting the building closer to Sorenson Crescent and Alexandra Road is
  desirable as pushing the building closer to the sidewalk results in a more pedestrian friendly
  streetscape
- The building's location also allows for a prominent, visible entrance to be established at the corner

- The site plan is based on maximizing space for drive aisles and off-street parking towards the rear of the building Vehicle access to the site is proposed from Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent
- The garbage and recycling area is located on the building's ground floor, is integrated into the building design and incorporates direct exterior access

### Architectural Form and Character

- The architectural form is primarily driven by the single-use function of the building as a karaoke entertainment facility. The semi-circular form of the building relates to the design approach utilized in previous reviewed Development Permit submissions and is reflective of the internal layout of karaoke rooms throughout the building
- A prominent front entrance and cylindrical, spiral staircase act as focal points for the building
- Cladding materials proposed is reflective of the purpose built function of the building Aluminium wall panelling is proposed along all building elevations. Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent building elevations are further articulated with the use of coloured panels and sunshades in conjunction with glazing. The spiral staircase at the rear of the building is encased in glass and aluminium panelling similar to other portions of the building.

### Landscape Design and Open Space Design

- A majority of the plantings are implemented around the perimeter of the subject site to provide an adequate landscaped buffer for the residential property to the north and to screen the vehicle parking from the street frontages
- A large Birch Tree is being retained (as in previous Development Permit submissions) at the north edge of the site for an additional visual buffer to the north. Pervious pavers will be implemented around the base of the tree to ensure long-term retention and survival (protective fencing must be implemented around the tree to be retained as well as all existing street trees along Sorenson Crescent prior to issuance of the Development Permit)
- Beautification works along Alexandra Road will be completed as part of this development, which involves implementation of a grass and treed boulevard adjacent to the existing road. There is an existing grass and treed boulevard along Sorenson Crescent.
- A landscape Letter of Credit (\$11,538) has already been submitted as part of the previous approved development, which can be utilized as the landscaping security for this proposed project
- A 1 8 m (6 ft) solid cedar fence is proposed along the north property line to provide additional separation between the site and the neighbouring residential lot

### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

- The applicant has submitted a security and safety plan involving the implementation of security cameras, external lighting and security guards
- Lighting will be implemented within the parking lot and perimeter of the site (3 ft high light bollards) Imbedded ground lights along the walkway in the parking lot will help guide patrons to the main entrance

### Conclusions

Changes have been made to the layout of the site plan and karaoke building proposed at 8711 Alexandra Road compared to previous submissions reviewed by the Development Permit Panel Staff recommend approval of the Development Permit as all conditions of adjacency and design issues identified in previous submissions along with parking requirements have been adequately addressed

Kevin Eng

Planning Technician – Design

(Local 4626)

KE rg/blg

- Prior to Council consideration and issuance of the Development Permit, the applicant/developer must
  - Complete a servicing capacity analysis to the satisfaction of the City of Richmond's Engineering Department, and
  - Install protective fencing around the large, on-site Birch tree and all of the existing street trees along Sorenson Crescent



# Development Application Data Sheet

**Development Applications Department** 

DP 04-280280		Attachment 1	
Address 8711 Alexandra Road			
Applicant JLA Architecture	Owner	Canadian Uni-Top Enterprises Co	
Planning Area(s) City Centre			
Floor Area Gross 444 m <sup>2</sup>	Floor Area Net	444 m²	

	Existing	Proposed	
Site Area	1,761 m²	1,761 m <sup>2</sup>	
Land Uses Vacant		Purpose built karaoke building	
OCP City Centre Land Use Designation	Auto-Oriented Commercial	Complies	
Zoning	C6	No change	

	Bylaw Requirement	Proposed	Variance
Floor Area Ratio	0 5	0 26	none permitted
Lot Coverage	Max 50%	17 4%	none
Setback – Alexandra Road	Mın 6 m	0 m	Variance requested
Setback - Sorenson Crescent	eack – Sorenson Crescent Min 6 m		Variance requested
Setback – North Yard	Mın 75 m	33 m	none
Height (m)	Max 12 m	8 m	none
Off-street Parking Spaces – Regular (Based on Building Occupancy)	37	37	none
Off-street Parking Spaces – Accessible	1	2	none
Off-street Parking Spaces – Small car stalls	30% (12 stalls)	73% (27 stalls)	Variance requested

# Excerpt from the Minutes from The Design Panel Meeting

Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005 – 4 00 p m Rm M 1 003 Richmond City Hall

Commercial/Karaoke

James Lee Architect
8711 Alexandra Road
(Re-submission)

DP 04-280280

Ms Cecilia Achiam, Planner, reviewed the staff comments provided for the project, including a review of the outstanding issues from the previous presentation, a copy of which are attached as Schedule 5 and form a part of these minutes

Mr James Lee, architect, with the aid of model and various other materials, reviewed the response taken to the outstanding issues including – the addition of a front entrance, the relocation of the garbage enclosure to underneath the stair well, the creation of a drop off space, the enhanced lighting, the handicapped washroom access, the clear glass handrail provided for the upper deck, and, the change in exterior materials from stucco to aluminums metal panels

Mr Ross Dixon, landscape architect, reviewed the changes made to the landscape plan

A general questions put forth by the Panel related to the paving around the existing tree on the site that was to be retained *Pervious "Rema" pavers are being proposed* 

The comments of the Panel were as follows

- a colourful project The issues raised at the previous meeting had been addressed
- still a concern about the control of the back lobby area with its direct access to the upstairs
- the main concern had been the lack of entry presence on the street and it has now been provided while it may not be used it gives the building understanding. The building is amazing. The Rema paving could extend out from the centre node and radiate out as part of the extension of the building expression.
- a building type and approach that is unique Strong steps taken to address the issues Would encourage that the entrance portray the exciting nature of the building Huge paving in the rear encourage applicant to take one shape and change the colour of the paving to provide variation. The transparency of the top was great and worked well with the bottom of the building.

July 15, 2005 DP 04-280280

• the parking drop off area is confusing if confronted with the garbage area. There was no consistency in shape and form the building that addressed the corner of the street – ends in a two storey vertical wall. Same concern with handicapped parking stall #21. Link the entrances to the lobby on the back with a canopy that came out and tied in with the exit stair and reached out to the street.

• the RCMP is concerned with the lack of surveillance in the rear stair tower/lobby People can enter upstairs from the parking lot unseen by staff on the ground floor

Mr Lee said that he thought the Advisory Design Panel members had to look at the project with a different perspective – that this was a small project for which his client was losing money in an attempt to build Paving costs would be extensive in addition to the change to aluminum panels, and Mr Lee questioned if further requests would be fair

Mr Lee then said that this was a night building with no activity during the day, that, the building, animated at night, would include an entrance that would be bright and major on the front edge, and that the parking on the street would allow for use of the front entrance

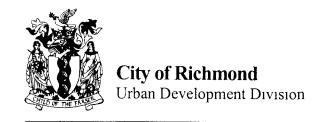
The owner, Mr Michael Wu, then reviewed the extensive plans he had developed for security, which included full time security personnel hired to monitor the parking area and entrances, a receptionist in the front lobby, and, 30 surveillance cameras which would be monitored during open hours Mr Wu also reviewed the accesses and the lockable doors provided

The following motion was then introduced

It was moved and seconded

That DP 04-280280 move forward subject to

- the applicant work with staff on design development to address the entry sequence from the parking lot to rear entrance and to emphasize the front entrance as the main entrance,
- the incorporation of permeable paving to increase the permeability of the paved lot, and.
- submit a security control plan to address parking lot safety and security issues on site



## **Development Permit**

No DP 04-280280

To the Holder

JLA ARCHITECTURE

**Property Address** 

8711 ALEXANDRA ROAD

Address

C/O JAMES LEE VIA ARCHITECTURE

105 - 1285 WEST PENDER STREET

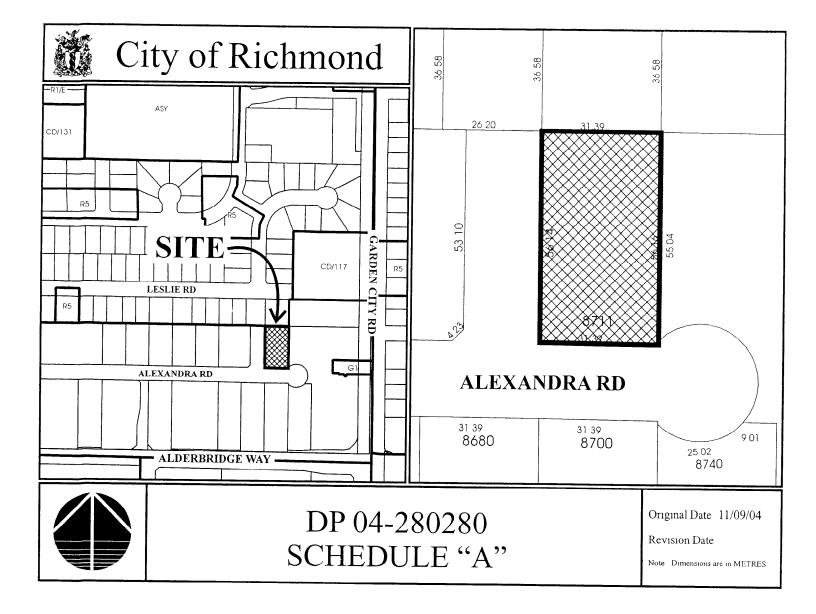
VANCOUVER, BC V6E 4B1

- 1 This Development Permit is issued subject to compliance with all of the Bylaws of the City applicable thereto, except as specifically varied or supplemented by this Permit
- 2 This Development Permit applies to and only to those lands shown cross-hatched on the attached Schedule "A" and any and all buildings, structures and other development thereon
- 3 The "Richmond Zoning and Development Bylaw No 5300" is hereby varied to
  - a) Reduce the road setback from 6 m (19 685 ft) to 0 m (0 ft) for portions of the building along Alexandra Road and Sorenson Crescent,
  - b) Increase the allowable number of small car stalls from 30% (12 stalls) to 73% (27 stalls), and
  - c) Reduce the width of manoeuvring drive-aisles from 7 5 m (24 6 ft ) to 6 7 m (22 ft )
- 4 Subject to Section 692 of the Local Government Act, R S B C buildings and structures, off-street parking and loading facilities, roads and parking areas, and landscaping and screening shall be constructed generally in accordance with Plans #1 to #7 attached hereto
- 5 Sanitary sewers, water, drainage, highways, street lighting, underground wiring, and sidewalks, shall be provided as required
- As a condition of the issuance of this Permit, the City is holding the security in the amount of \$11,538 to ensure that development is carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Permit. Should any interest be earned upon the security, it shall accrue to the Holder if the security is returned. The condition of the posting of the security is that should the Holder fail to carry out the development hereby authorized, according to the terms and conditions of this Permit within the time provided, the City may use the security to carry out the work by its servants, agents or contractors, and any surplus shall be paid over to the Holder. Should the Holder carry out the development permitted by this permit within the time set out herein, the security shall be returned to the Holder. The City may retain the security for up to one year after inspection of the completed landscaping in order to ensure that plant material has survived.
- If the Holder does not commence the construction permitted by this Permit within 24 months of the date of this Permit, this Permit shall lapse and the security shall be returned in full

# **Development Permit**

No DP 04-280280

To the Holder		JLA ARCHITE	JLA ARCHITECTURE			
Property Address		8711 ALEXANI	8711 ALEXANDRA ROAD			
Address		VIA ARCHITEC 105 – 1285 WE	C/O JAMES LEE VIA ARCHITECTURE 105 – 1285 WEST PENDER STREET VANCOUVER, BC V6E 4B1			
		ons of this Permit a	ped generally in accordance with the terms and and any plans and specifications attached to this			
		uıldıng Permit				
	UTHORIZING RESOL AY OF ,	UTION NO	ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL THE			
Dl	ELIVERED THIS	DAY OF	,			
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### History

The owner of this purposely built single use, two storey structure is an experienced operator of Karaoke clubs. He was the owner of Red Music Karaoke Rar which is closed just 100 feat away. His intention is to build the best Karaoke club in the Lower Maintaid. In order to fulfill his dream he uncerstands that he needs to build his own building instead of renting and mod fying an existing commercial building. Thus he has retained VIA Architecture together with Jones Kkong (Ksh.) Structural Engineers Keen Engineers for mechanical and Liew Fingliner for electrical engineering and Phillips Farevaag Smallenberg. Landscape Architects to be his consultants for this protect.

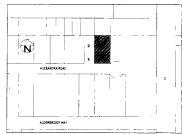
### Requiremen

The renurement of the owner is very simple. He wants an evoting dynamic building that can be divided into two parts both are for Karaoke singing. On the ground floor there are fifteen Karaoke rooms of various sizes on the second floor there is a smaller club that has only two Karaoke rooms and approximately fourly four seats open area with a small slage in the centre. They both singer floor same wasthrooms lobby stanwells and a small kincenne that serves finere floor. There is also a requirement for some staff and office space etc. The smaller membership only cub is actived to adults only where fluor is to be served providing a liquor iticense can be obtained. The ground floor is for the general public where only non activation beverage will be served.

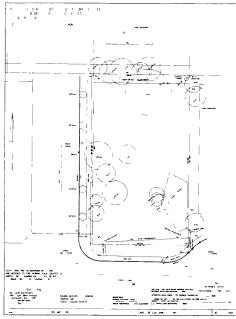
The requirements of the City of Richmond are more onerous. Due to their experience in dealing with Karaoke clubs the city requires that the karaoke rooms are to be opened to the common area and have at least 50% of the wait facing the common area in salled with ransparent glass. Parking is also a concern for the city officials.

### Solution

In order to fulfil the requirement, of the owner and the City, we have designed a bix storey building with parking on grade. We mish the building to the southwest corner in order to save one large both the ear aid so obtain the maximum parking spaces. As for the monitoring issue to the karaoke morns we solve the problem by creating fairs hasped areas so that all rooms can be monitored from the common areas on both floors.



LOCATION PLAN



SURVEY PLAN

VIA Architecture

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KARAOKE

Richmond B.C

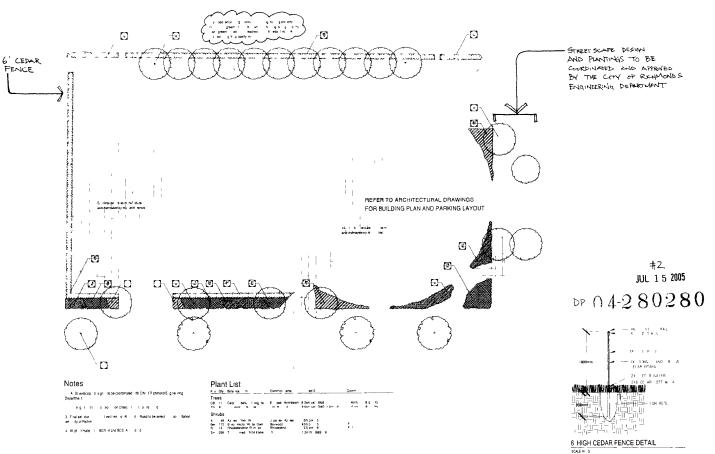
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PHILLIPS FAREYANG SMALLENBER

## VIA Architecture

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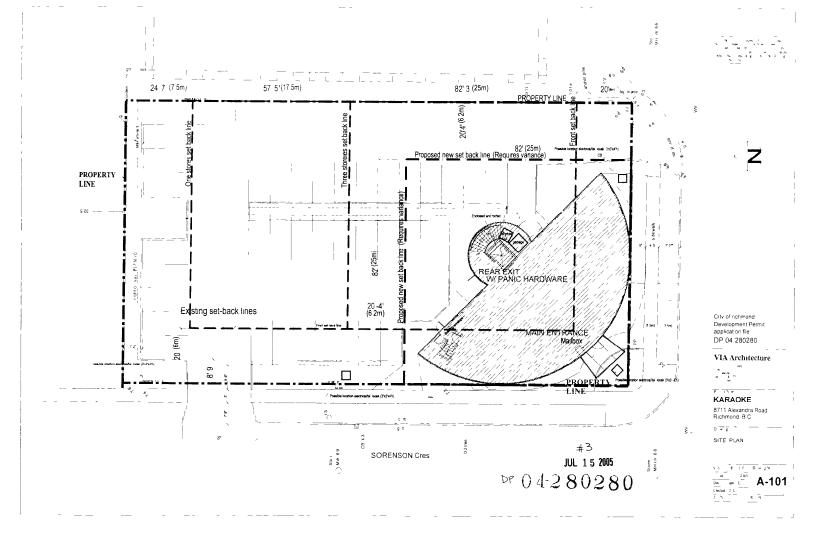
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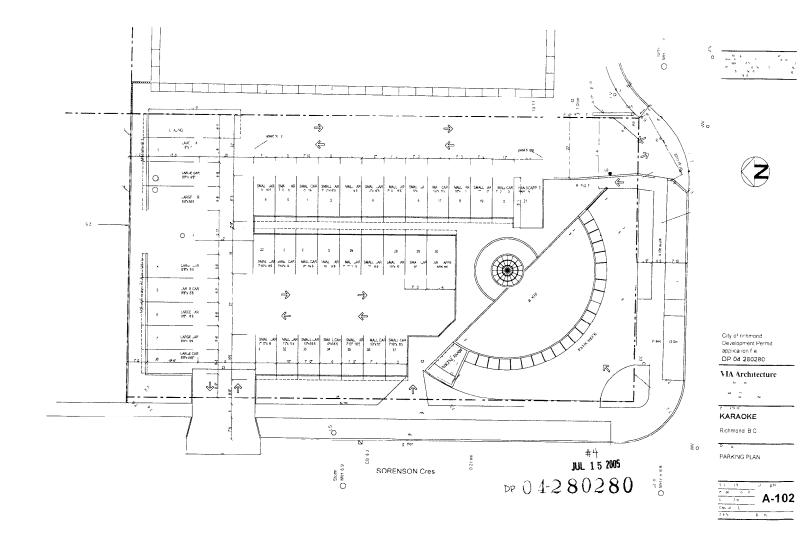
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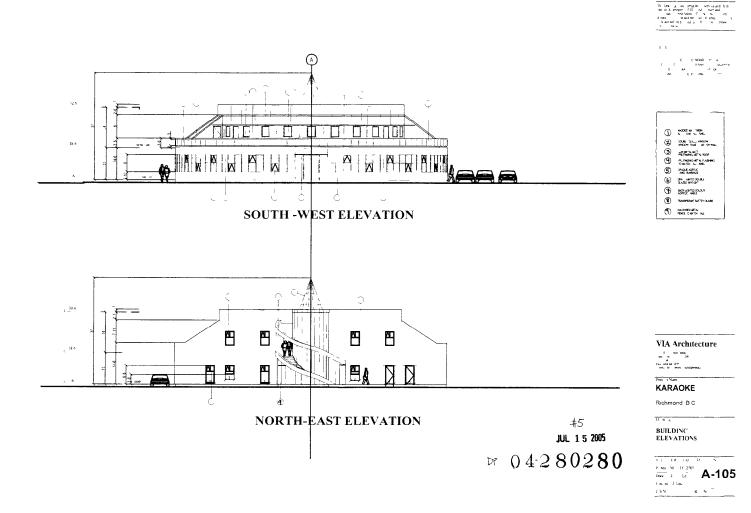
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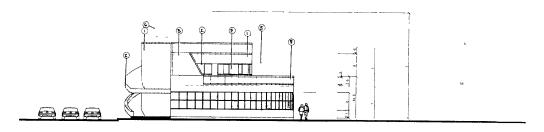
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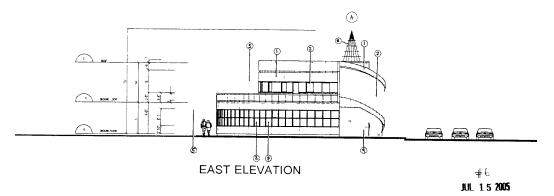






### WEST ELEVATION





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VIA Architecture

KARAOKE

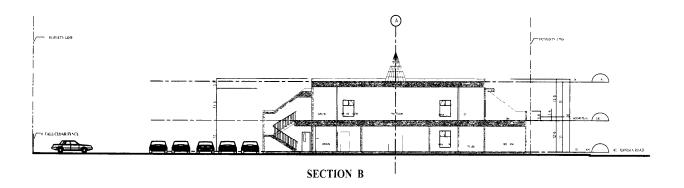
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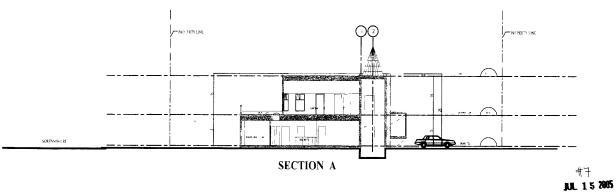
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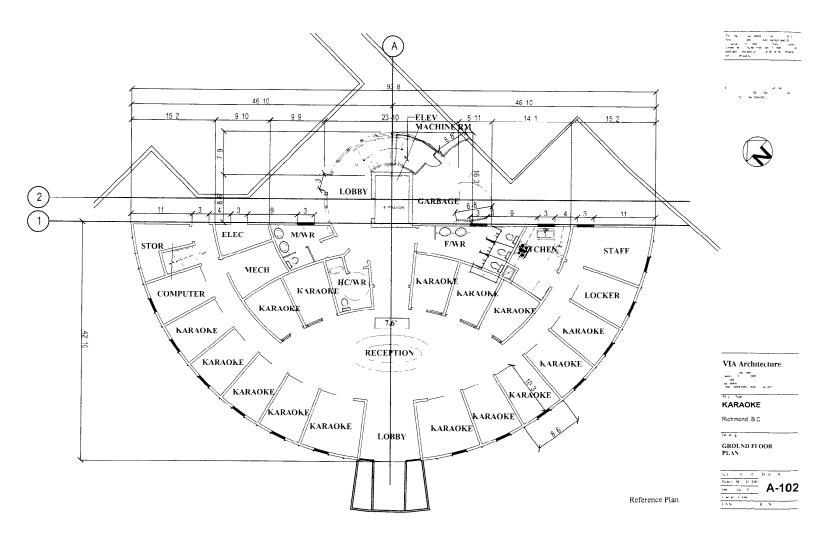
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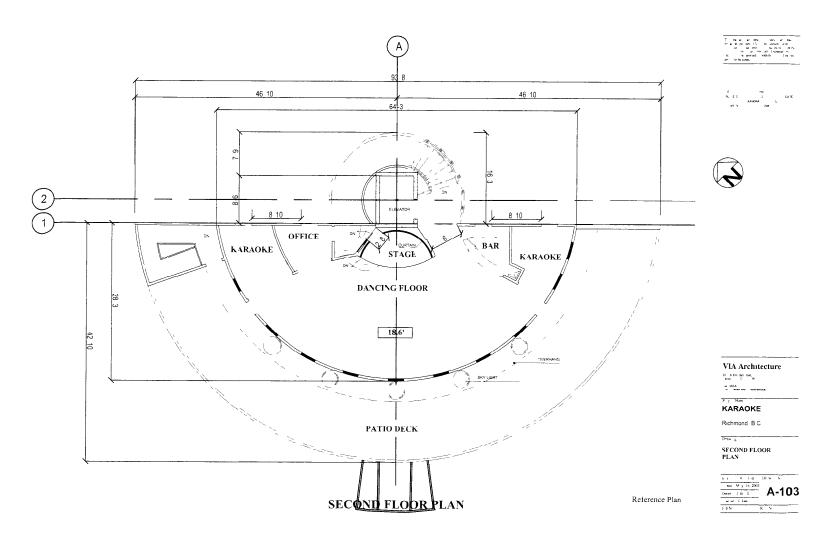
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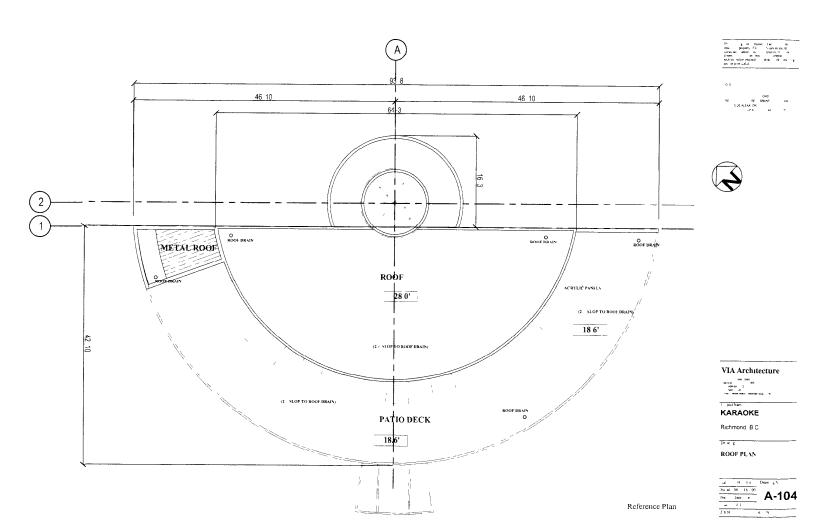
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Reference Plan

VIA Architecture

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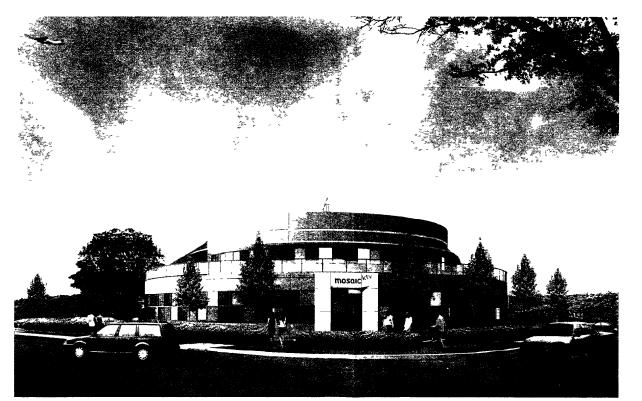
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### PERSPECTIVE

Reference Plan



Reference Plan

# VIA Architecture

KARAOKE

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### PERSPECTIVE