



*City of Alexandria, Virginia*  
*Department of Planning & Zoning*

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**SPECIAL USE PERMIT CERTIFICATE**

Article XI, Division A, Section 11-510 of the 1992 Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, Virginia requires that you display this Special Use Permit in a conspicuous and publicly accessible place. A copy of the list of conditions associated with the special use permit shall be kept on the premises and made available for examination by the public upon request.

Special Use Permit #2022-00004

Approved by Planning and Zoning: March 1, 2022

Permission is hereby granted to: Cafe 44, Inc.

to use the premises located at: 44 Canal Center Plaza

for the following purpose: see attached report

It is the responsibility of the Special Use Permit holder to adhere to the conditions approved by City Council. The Department of Planning and Zoning will periodically inspect the property to identify compliance with the approved conditions. If any condition is in violation, the permit holder will be cited and issued a ticket. The first violation carries a monetary fine. Continued violations will cause staff to docket the special use permit for review by City Council for possible revocation.

March 1, 2022

*Karl Moritz* (by A. Horowitz)

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Date

Karl Moritz, Director  
Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE: March 1, 2022

TO: Tony LaColla, Land Use Services Division Chief  
Department of Planning and Zoning

FROM: Patrick Silva, Urban Planner  
Department of Planning and Zoning

SUBJECT: Special Use Permit #2022-00004  
Administrative Review for New Use  
Site Use: Restaurant with Outdoor Dining  
Applicant: Cafe 44, Inc.  
Location: 44 Canal Center Plaza  
Zone: CRMU-H/Commercial residential mixed use (high)

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**Request**

Special Use Permit #2022-00004 is a request to operate an approximately 10,000 square foot restaurant, known as Café 44, at 44 Canal Center Plaza. The restaurant will offer dine-in (indoor and outdoor dining) and carry out service during the proposed operational hours of 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday to Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday. The applicant will serve between 150 and 300 customers per day with the business being staffed by 10 employees Monday to Thursday and 15 employees Friday to Sunday. The restaurant will offer on and off premises alcohol sales. An applicant-operated delivery service is not proposed.

**Background**

The subject site is one of four lots of record comprising the TransPotomac Canal Center, a commercial complex consisting of four separate buildings along the waterfront. The applicant had previously operated a cafeteria serving the employees of Coggins International, a tenant in 44 Canal Center Plaza, starting in November 2016. The operation was conditioned to serve just the employees and guests of Coggins International and limits were placed on seats and hours. In September 2017, City Council granted approval for Special Use Permit #2017-00064 to allow the applicant to expand the cafeteria operations to a full-scale restaurant with 52 indoor and 8 outdoor seats that would operate out of a tenant space on the fourth floor of 44 Canal Center. With the expansion of the restaurant space to 10,000 square feet, the applicant submitted this New Use Administrative SUP application to replace its approval under SUP #2017-00064.

**Parking**

Pursuant to Section 8-200(17)(b)(i) of the Zoning Ordinance, the applicant is required to provide a minimum of one parking space per 1,000 square feet of gross floor area occupied by the restaurant use. In addition, pursuant to Section 8-200(17)(c) of the Zoning Ordinance relating to outdoor dining, the area occupied by each outdoor seat over 20 shall be calculated as 15 square feet per seat. With the use occupying 10,000 square feet and including 40 outdoor seats, the

applicant is thus required to provide a minimum of 11 parking spaces. The applicant meets this requirement by providing 55 parking spaces located in 44 Canal Center Plaza's on-site garage.

**Community Outreach**

Public notice was provided through eNews, via the City's website, and by posting a placard on the site. In addition, the Old Town Civic Association, the North Old Town Independent Citizens Association, the West Old Town Citizens Association, and the Old Town North Community Partnership were sent an e-mail with information about the current application. Staff has not received any comments from residents or adjacent businesses regarding the request.

**Staff Action**

Staff supports the applicant's request for a restaurant at this location. The applicant has operated a restaurant at the subject site since September 2017 with no issues or violations. In addition, the request contributes to the requirement that at least 16,087 square feet of floor area be dedicated to non-office uses, as stipulated in SIT84-00001.

In order to mitigate any potential issues resulting from the change of use at the subject site, Staff has included standard Special Use Permit conditions for the operation a restaurant.

Staff hereby approves the Special Use Permit request.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION - DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING:**

Date: March 1, 2022

Action: Approve

Tony LaColla ADH

Tony LaColla, Land Use Services Division Chief

- Attachments: 1) Special Use Permit Conditions  
2) City Department Comments  
3) Statement of Consent

## **CONDITIONS OF SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2022-00004**

The owner is responsible for ensuring that the following conditions are adhered to at all times. Violation of any of the conditions may result in fines and/or referral to public hearing by the Planning Commission and City Council.

1. The Special Use Permit shall be granted to the applicant only or to any corporation in which the applicant has a controlling interest. (P&Z)
2. All patrons must leave the premises one hour after the closing hour. (P&Z)
3. The applicant shall post the hours of operation at the entrance of the business. (P&Z)
4. The maximum number of indoor seats at the restaurant shall comply with the state building code. (P&Z)
5. The number of outdoor seats shall be 40 and shall not encroach into the public right-of-way. (P&Z)
6. The applicant shall conduct employee training sessions on an ongoing basis, including as part of any employee orientation, to discuss all SUP provisions and requirements, and on how to prevent underage sales of alcohol. (P&Z)
7. No food, beverages, or other material shall be stored outside, with the exception of materials specified in other conditions. (P&Z)
8. On and off premises alcohol sales are permitted in compliance with Virginia ABC requirements. (P&Z)
9. Indoor limited, live entertainment may be offered and must comply with the City's noise ordinance. No admission or cover fee shall be charged. All entertainment shall be subordinate to the principal function of the restaurant as an eating establishment. Any advertising of the entertainment shall reflect the subordinate nature of the entertainment by featuring food service as well as the entertainment. (P&Z)
10. All windows shall remain transparent. The placement or construction of items that block the visibility through windows of the interior of the commercial space from the street and sidewalk, including but not limited to walls, window film, storage cabinets, carts, shelving, boxes, coat racks, storage bins, and closets, shall be prohibited. This is not intended to prevent retailers from displaying their goods in display cases that are oriented towards the street frontage. (P&Z)
11. Exterior power washing of the building shall not be completed using any kind of detergents. (T&ES)
12. Chemicals, detergents or cleaners stored outside the building shall be kept in an enclosure with a roof. (P&Z)

13. If used cooking oil is stored outside, the drum shall be kept securely closed with a bung (a secure stopper that seals the drum) when not receiving used oil, it shall be placed on secondary containment, and it shall be kept under cover to prevent rainwater from falling on it. (P&Z)
14. Trash and garbage shall be stored inside or in sealed containers that do not allow odors to escape, invasion by animals, or leaking. No trash or debris shall be allowed to accumulate outside of those containers. Outdoor containers shall be maintained to the satisfaction of the Directors of Planning & Zoning and Transportation & Environmental Services, including replacing damaged lids and repairing/replacing damaged dumpsters. (P&Z)(T&ES)
15. Kitchen equipment, including floor mats, shall not be cleaned outside, nor shall any cooking residue or wash water be washed into the streets, alleys or storm sewers. (P&Z)
16. The applicant shall control cooking odors, smoke and any other air pollution from operations at the site and prevent them from leaving the property or becoming a nuisance to neighboring properties, as determined by the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services. (T&ES)
17. All waste products including but not limited to organic compounds (solvents and cleaners) shall be disposed of in accordance with all local, state and federal ordinances or regulations. (T&ES)
18. Supply deliveries, loading, and unloading activities shall not occur between the hours of 11:00pm and 7:00am. (T&ES)
19. The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking. (T&ES)
20. The applicant shall encourage its employees to use public transportation to travel to and from work. The business shall contact Go Alex at [goalex@alexandriava.gov](mailto:goalex@alexandriava.gov) for information on establishing an employee transportation benefits program. (T&ES)
21. The applicant shall provide information about alternative forms of transportation to access the site, including but not limited to printed and electronic business promotional material, posting on the business website, and other similar methods. Contact Go Alex at [goalex@alexandriava.gov](mailto:goalex@alexandriava.gov) for more information about available resources. (T&ES)
22. Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)
23. The Director of Planning and Zoning shall review the special use permit after it has been operational for one year, and shall docket the matter for consideration by the Planning

Commission and City Council if (a) there have been documented violations of the permit conditions which were not corrected immediately, constitute repeat violations or which create a direct and immediate adverse zoning impact on the surrounding community; (b) the director has received a request from any person to docket the permit for review, as the result of a complaint that rises to the level of a violation of the permit conditions\_or (c) the director has determined that there are problems with the operation of the use and that new or revised conditions are needed. (P&Z)

## CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F - finding

### Transportation & Environmental Services:

- F-1 Storm Water Management and Transportation Planning have no comments.
  
- R-1 The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking. (T&ES)
  
- R-2 The applicant shall encourage its employees to use public transportation to travel to and from work. The business shall contact Go Alex at [goalex@alexandriava.gov](mailto:goalex@alexandriava.gov) for information on establishing an employee transportation benefits program. (T&ES)
  
- R-3 The applicant shall provide information about alternative forms of transportation to access the site, including but not limited to printed and electronic business promotional material, posting on the business website, and other similar methods. Contact Go Alex at [goalex@alexandriava.gov](mailto:goalex@alexandriava.gov) for more information about available resources. (T&ES)
  
- R-4 The applicant shall encourage patrons to park off-street through the provision of information about nearby garages or lots in the business' advertising and website. (T&ES)
  
- R-5 Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often, if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)
  
- R-6 The applicant shall control odors, smoke, and any other air pollutants from operations at the site and prevent them from leaving the property or becoming a nuisance to neighboring properties, as determined by the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services. (T&ES)
  
- R-7 Trash and garbage shall be stored inside or in sealed containers that do not allow odors to escape invasion by animals, or leaking. No trash or debris shall be allowed to accumulate outside of those containers. Outdoor containers shall be maintained to the satisfaction of the Directors of Planning & Zoning and Transportation & Environmental Services, including replacing damaged lids and repairing/replacing damaged dumpsters. (P&Z) (T&ES)
  
- R-8 All waste products including but not limited to organic compounds (solvents and cleaners) shall be disposed of in accordance with all local, state, and federal ordinances or regulations. (T&ES)
  
- R-9 Supply deliveries, loading, and unloading activities shall not occur between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:00 am. (T&ES)

- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). In order to comply with this code requirement, the applicant shall provide a completed Recycling Implementation Plan (RIP) Form within 60 days of SUP approval. Contact the City's Recycling Program Coordinator at (703) 746-4410, or via e-mail at [commercialrecycling@alexandriava.gov](mailto:commercialrecycling@alexandriava.gov), for information about completing this form. (T&ES)
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
- C-3 Section 5-1-42- Collection by Private collectors. (c) Time of collection. Solid waste shall be collected from all premises not serviced by the city at least once each week. No collections may be made between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (6:00 a.m. from May 1, through September 30) if the collection area is less than 500 feet from a residential area. (T&ES)

Code Enforcement:

- C-1 A building permit review shall be required prior to operating a outdoor dining area.

Health Department:

No comments received

Parks and Recreation:

No comments received

Police Department:

No comments received

Fire:

No comments or concerns



STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The undersigned hereby agrees and consents to the attached conditions of this Special Use Permit #2022-00004. The undersigned also hereby agrees to obtain all applicable licenses and permits required for the restaurant at 44 Canal Center Plaza.

  
Applicant - Signature

3/4/2022  
Date

Jula Jane  
Applicant – Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date