1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 **BEFORE THE HEARING EXAMINER FOR THE CITY OF SUMNER** 9 Emily Terrell, Hearing Examiner 10 11 **RE:** Sumner Public Library 12 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS **Conditional Use Permit OF LAW, AND DECISION** 13 CUP-2024-0007 14 15 16 **OVERVIEW** 17 The Pierce County Library District (Applicant) is proposing to relocate the Sumner Public Library. The Applicant will construct a new 17,500sf library building with 18 associated site development on a 1.7-acre site located at 15216 Main Street E. The 19 Applicant has requested a conditional use permit and a development agreement. The development agreement was addressed in a separate recommendation to and decision by 20 the Sumner City Council. The conditional use permit is approved subject to conditions. 21 **ORAL TESTIMONY** 22 A computer-generated transcript of the November 20, 2024 hearing has been prepared 23 to provide an overview of the hearing testimony. The transcript is provided for informational purposes only as Appendix A. 24 Conditional Use p. 1

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Findings, Conclusions and Decision

1	EXHIBITS
	Exhibits A-L on page 33 of the Staff Report were admitted into the record during the
November 20, 2024 hearing. The Director's Decision on the Modification and its associated attachments (Site Plans, Traffic S	November 20, 2024 hearing. The Director's Decision on the East Main Street Modification and its associated attachments (Site Plans, Traffic Study, Modification
	Request Narrative and Elevations) were admitted as Ex. M. After the hearing, the
5	Ex. N Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (November 26, 2024)
6	Ex. O Dunn Comment (November 19, 2024)Ex. P Dunn Comment (December 10, 2024) and Staff Response (December 18,
7	2024) Ex. Q Revised Lighting Plan (December 12, 2024)
8	FINDINGS OF FACT
9	Procedural:
10	1. <u>Applicant</u> . Pierce County Library District, 3005 112 th Street E, Tacoma, WA
11	98446.
12	2. <u>Hearing</u> . The Hearing Examiner conducted a hybrid in person and virtual
13	hearing on the application on November 20, 2024.
14	Substantive:
15	3. <u>Site/Proposal Description</u> . The Pierce County Library District (Applicant) is
16	proposing to relocate the Sumner Public Library. The Applicant will construct a new 17,500sf library building with associated site development on a site located at 15216
17	Main Street E. The site is made up of three parcels totaling approximately 1.7 acres. The parcels will be consolidated into one lot for the new Sumner Public Library building.
18	Site development will include the East Main Street frontage and on-site parking on the
19	south side of the site, lighting, landscaping and stormwater management.
20	The site has previously included residential and commercial uses. The site is relatively flat and does include some contaminated soil. The Library District is currently working
21	with the Department of Ecology to receive a No Further Action related to the site clean-
22	up. There are no critical areas or shorelines on or near the project site.
23	The project occurs over three parcels all fronting on East Main Street. All parcels are located in Sumner's East Main Street Design Strategy area. The East Main Street area
24	includes requirements for wider sidewalks and uses cross access connections instead of
25	individual driveways for vehicular access. The project shows site access through
	Conditional Use p. 2 Findings, Conclusions and Decision

and 153rd Avenue Court E. In the event that an easement is not obtained, the Library would be able to gain access off Main Street through a modified Main Street access approval authorized by SMC 18.43.140.

The City of Sumner provides water, sewer and storm services to the site with PSE providing power.

Subsequent site plan approval, including any design that features access from East Main Street instead of from 153rd Avenue Court East, is associated with building permit approval and is an administrative decision by staff.

4. <u>Modification from Main Street Access Standards.</u> The Applicant has requested a deviation from the access management design standards pursuant to SMC 18.43.140. Specifically, SMC 18.43.090.A designates the location of cross-access corridors. SMC 18.43.100 requires the Applicant to obtain an easement from the adjacent property owner to create a cross-access corridor that takes access off of 153rd Avenue Court East instead of directly from East Main Street. SMC 18.43.140 allows the development services director, in consultation with the public works director and after a recommendation from the design commission, to approve modifications to the requirements for cross-access connections. The development services director has approved direct access off of East Main Street in the event the Applicant is unable to obtain the cross-access corridor easement (Ex. E). No other design modifications for any applicable development standards are requested.

- 14 5. Characteristics of the Area. The site is located primarily in the General Commercial zone with a section at the south end of the site within the Low Density 15 Residential 8,500 zone. To the north is Main Street. Property to the north is zoned 16 General Commercial and currently includes a variety of restaurants, retail and multifamily uses. Property adjacent to the northeastern portion of the site is also zoned 17 General Commercial and currently includes professional offices and personal services uses. Property to the southeastern portion of the site is a low-density residential zone 18 developed with single-family housing. To the south is Low Density Residential zoned property developed with a single-family home. Adjacent to the northwest portion of the 19 site is land zoned General Commercial and is the site of a funeral home. The southwest 20 portion of the property abuts Low-Density zoned single-family residential development.
- 6. <u>Adverse Impacts.</u> As mitigated and conditioned, there are no significant adverse impacts associated with the project. A SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non-Significant Impact was issued November 26, 2024 (Ex. N). There was one comment to the SEPA and no appeals were filed. The SEPA contained 14 mitigation measures. Specific areas of potential impact are discussed below.

p. 3

A. <u>Adequate Fire Protection</u>. Adequate provisions for fire services and design have been provided. No impacts from fire are anticipated. Fire service is

Conditional Use

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provided by East Pierce Fire and Rescue. The new building will be permitted to comply with all applicable fire safety design codes and equipment requirements.

B. <u>Screening and Compatibility</u>. As conditioned and mitigated, the project will be compatible with surrounding uses. A SEPA mitigation measure requires the project to comply with the noise regulations of SMC 8.14. The proposed landscaping provides greenery throughout the site and buffers where adjacent to residential uses. The proposed Library project exceeds the buffer requirements for commercial and residential properties by including an 8' fence in conjunction with 10' of dense landscaping. A SEPA mitigation measure requires the Applicant to construct an 8' solid fence around the perimeter of the parking lot in all areas adjacent to residential lots. A further SEPA Mitigation Measure restricts the Applicant to benches or other outdoor seating designed to deter persons from sleeping on them. The project will also be mitigated to require it to meet all design regulation within the Sumner Municipal Code. As such, no adverse impacts with respect to compatibility with neighboring uses is anticipated.

C. <u>Pedestrian Safety</u>. As designed, the project will provide for pedestrian safety. The East Main Street design guidelines provide for a wide pedestrian sidewalk adjacent to E. Main Street. The project will also provide a large, open pedestrian open space between the building and the parking area (Ex. C). There is also a pedestrian sidewalk along the western boundary of the parking lot to minimize vehicle/pedestrian interactions. The nearby intersection at Main Street and Valley Avenue has a signalized crosswalk. There are sidewalks along both sides of all major roadways leading to the High School, shopping and residential areas.

D. <u>Historical and Cultural Resources</u>. As mitigated, the project will ensure preservation of historical and cultural resources. A SEPA mitigation measure will require the applicant to contact the City, the Washington Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in the event of an inadvertent discovery of human skeletal remains or artifacts of possible historic, cultural or archeological value. In the event of an inadvertent discovery, all work will stop and the site will be secured and protected from further disturbance until the State provides notice to proceed.

E. <u>Environmental Remediation</u>. The Department of Ecology notes the project is located on a known contaminated site (DOE Cleanup Site ID 15208, Facility Site ID 75944). The site is currently enrolled in the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP No. SW1778). Cleanup is ongoing (Ex. L). The Department of Ecology recommends contamination be cleaned up prior to the construction of the project. Ecology noted cleanup will be considered complete when the department issues a no further action opinion letter. A SEPA Mitigation Measure will require environmental remediation to be completed, consistent with any approved

Conditional Use

Department of Ecology clean up plan and schedule, concurrent with or consecutive to the project's development for the entire site sufficient to obtain a No Further Action (NFA) determination. No certificates of occupancy will be issued by the City prior to issuance of the NFA determination.

F. Traffic. Adequate provisions for traffic impact have been assessed. As mitigated and conditioned, no impact from traffic is anticipated. The Applicant provided a Traffic Impact Analysis prepared by Fehr and Peers (Ex. J). Access to the site will be taken from 153rd Avenue Court through an existing business access easement. This access via a side road will avoid the necessity of creating another driveway onto the arterial. The library use is expected to generate 144 PM Peak Hour Trips. A public comment from John Dunn (Ex. P) asked if there was a speed reduction plan. However, the traffic analysis of the level of service at nearby intersections and roadway segments found the project did not have enough impact to warrant any traffic mitigation. A SEPA Mitigation Measure will require the project to include full frontage improvements to Main Street as necessary to bring the roadway up to current standards. This includes removing unused driveway approaches and installing sidewalks, street trees in planters or approved tree grates and replacing street lighting to meet current standards. Conditions of approval will require the Applicant to follow the recommendations of the Traffic Report (Ex. J) including:

- Working with adjacent properties to implement pavement marking along the access easement to reinforce the aisles as a two-way path that connects the library to 153rd Avenue Court E. The purpose of this condition is to help motorists parking adjacent to the easement aisle to keep the path clear so as to not impede continuous access to the library patrons and emergency vehicles.
- Providing wayfinding signage to guide visitors to the Library from 153rd Avenue Court and to the pick-up and drop-off areas.
- Providing curb or pavement markers to indicate parking time restrictions, loading/unloading zones and direction of traffic flow within the parking lot.
- Providing a high visibility, mid-block pedestrian crossing on E. Main Street at the site location.

G. <u>Noise Impacts</u>. John Dunn expressed concerns about noise impacts on his property. The proposed access easement between 153rd Avenue Court East and the Library site runs adjacent to his property (Ex. O). He is concerned about noise from vehicles using the access easement. Though the project will have an 8-foot fence around the project perimeter on the Applicant's property, there will be no perimeter fencing along the access easement. Indeed, there cannot be perimeter

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fencing along the easement since there are existing parking spaces for the current commercial use on that parcel located to the south of the easement and directly adjacent to Mr. Dunn's property (Ex. C). A fence along the easement would bisect the adjacent property and cut it off from its existing parking. The project will be mitigated to ensure it complies with the City's existing noise standards. For excessive noise from vehicles using the parking lot after hours, the remedy is to contact the police.

7. <u>Performance Standards</u>. The project conforms to the special performance standards in the commercial zone and in the low-density residential district as follows.

A. <u>Commercial District Performance Standards</u>. SMC 18.16.080 provides an extensive list of performance standards for properties located in the commercial districts. The northern portion of the project site where the building will be located is located within the General Commercial zone. Specific performance standards applicable to this development are analyzed below.

- i. <u>Exterior Mechanical Devices</u>. Mechanical devices are screened to avoid noise impacts that might disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of neighborhood residents. A SEPA mitigation measure requires all future above ground and rooftop equipment must comply with the City's noise ordinance SMC Chapter 8.14.
- ii. <u>Required Open Space and Landscaping</u>. Landscaping is required along blank building facades and property boundaries. Landscaping must also be compliant with the Sumner design and development guidelines. The staff report (Ex. A) stated the Applicant provided a landscaping plan compliant with SMC 18.16.080 (Ex. D). Perimeter landscaping will surround the project on all sides. There will also be a large public open space at the rear of the building adjacent to the parking lot that contains curvilinear landscaping as part of an active open space.
- iii. <u>Outdoor Lighting</u>. All new exterior lighting is proposed to be low scale in size and includes glare shields. This reduces off-site lighting impacts while still providing for a well-lit and safe park space and site. A SEPA Mitigation Measure requires a photometric plan showing no light spill onto neighboring residential properties. The Applicant provided a compliant lighting plan (Ex. Q).
 - iv. <u>Commercially Zoned Properties Adjacent to Residential Properties</u>. The Applicant is required to provide a 10-foot landscaped yard setback and 6-foot masonry wall or wood fence along any property line that abuts residential zones. The project exceeds this standard by providing 10-foot-wide perimeter landscaping and an 8-foot perimeter fence.

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1	v. <u>Trash Receptacles</u> . The project will provide a trash enclosure north of the building at least 75 feet away from any residentially zoned property boundary.
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3	vi. <u>Parking and Pedestrian Walkways</u> . The East Main Street design guidelines provide for a wide pedestrian sidewalk adjacent to E. Main
4	Street. The proposed parking and pedestrian facilities conform to the City's design and development guidelines. The project will also provide
5 6	a large, open pedestrian open space between the building and the parking area (Ex. C). There is also a pedestrian sidewalk along the western
7	boundary of the parking lot to minimize vehicle/pedestrian interactions.
8	vii. <u>Fences</u> . The Applicant proposes to construct an 8-foot-tall solid perimeter fence on the west, south and east perimeters.
9	viii. East Main Street Requirements. The proposed building will be set back
10	from the street by 15 feet. The intervening space will be used for landscaping and pedestrian spaces.
11	ix. Design and Development Guidelines. The project has been designed to
12	ix. <u>Design and Development Guidelines</u> . The project has been designed to meet the design and development guidelines through building location,
13	landscaping, parking located behind the building, large window banks, building and roofline modulation and articulation, utility location, trash
14	enclosure location and pedestrian space.
15	B. Low-Density Residential District Performance Standards. SMC
16	18.12.080 provides an extensive list of performance standards for properties located in the Low-Density Residential districts. The southern portion of the
17	project site where the parking will be located is located within the Low-Density Residential zone. Specific performance standards applicable to this development
18	are analyzed below.
19	i. <u>Exterior Mechanical Devices</u> . As noted above in Finding of Fact No. 7Ai, a SEPA mitigation measure requires all future above ground and rooftop
20	equipment must comply with the City's noise ordinance SMC Chapter
21	8.14.
22	ii. <u>Required Landscaping</u> . The project includes landscaping and walkways/plazas along its frontage. The project is otherwise compatible
23	with surrounding uses and meets or exceeds landscaping and screening
24	requirements as noted in Finding of Fact No. 6B.
25	iii. <u>Outdoor Storage and Parking of Vehicles</u> . The parking on site will be located within paved parking areas with an 8-foot solid fence and perimeter landscaping.
	Conditional Use p. 7 Findings, Conclusions and Decision

iv. Fences. The Applicant proposes to construct an 8-foot-tall solid perimeter fence on the west, south and east perimeters including adjacent to all residential areas. **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW Procedural:** 1. Authority of Hearing Examiner. Conditional use permits are Type V decisions requiring a public hearing and decision by the hearing examiner (SMC 18.56.030.I and SMC 18.56.020.F). Substantive: 2. Zoning Designation. General Commercial and Low Density Residential Review Criteria. The criteria for a conditional use permit are governed by 3. SMC 18.48.050. The site spans two zones, each with their own performance standards. Performance standards governing the general commercial zone are delineated by SMC 18.16.080 and for the low-density residential zone by SMC 18.12.080. Relevant review criteria are quoted below in italics and applied through corresponding conclusions of law. **SMC 18.48.050:** The director or hearing examiner shall be guided by the following criteria in granting an administrative or conditional use permit: A. The proposed use will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity of the proposed use or in the district in which the subject property is situated; The criterion is met. The project as mitigated and conditioned is not 4. anticipated to have any adverse impacts and will not be injurious to the public or detrimental to the public welfare in that adequate fire services will be provided, the project will be adequately screened and will be compatible with surrounding uses, pedestrian safety is ensured and historical and cultural resources will be preserved as described in Finding of Fact No. 5. **SMC 18.48.050.B:** *The proposed use shall meet or exceed the performance standards* that are required in the district it will occupy; 5. The criterion is satisfied. The proposal meets the performance standards of the underlying general commercial and low-density residential zones as described in Finding of Fact No. 7. However, as noted in Finding of Fact No. 6B, conditions of approval ensure compatibility with surrounding uses through screening, vegetation, and Conditional Use p. 8 Findings, Conclusions and Decision

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aesthetics through the application of design standards. The project will also be conditioned to comply with the noise regulations of SMC 8.14.

SMC 18.48.050.C: The proposed development shall be compatible generally with the surrounding land uses in terms of traffic and pedestrian circulation, building and site design;

6. As mitigated and conditioned, the criterion is satisfied. The proposal would not create a noticeable impact on vehicular traffic or pedestrian circulation outside of temporary construction impacts. The proposed development is generally compatible with surrounding land uses in terms of building and site design and with pedestrian circulation as determined in Findings of Fact No. 6B, 6C and 7.

SMC 18.48.050.D: The proposed use shall be in keeping with the goals and policies of the Sumner comprehensive plan;

7. This criterion is met. The project is in keeping with the goals and policies of the City of Sumner Comprehensive Plan as described in Section 5 on pages 4-6 of the Staff Report (Ex. A), adopted herein as if set forth if full.

SMC 18.48.050.E: All measures have been taken to minimize the possible adverse impacts which the proposed use may have on the area in which it is located.

8. This criterion is met. Adequate fire services will be provided as described in Finding of Fact No. 6A. The project is compatible with surrounding uses (See Finding of Fact No. 6B). The project proponent will employ best management practices during construction to further avoid or reduce temporary environmental impacts. Consultation with Sumner Comprehensive Plan policies include several goals under the environment element that promotes protection and enhancement (See Ex. A, page 4-6). All historical and cultural resources will be protected in the event of an inadvertent discovery (See Finding of Fact No. 6D). Environmental remediation will occur in compliance with Department of Ecology No Further Action requirements (See Finding of Fact No. 6E).

SMC 18.16.080: *The following special requirements and performance standards shall apply to properties located in the commercial districts:*

A. Exterior Mechanical Devices. Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened from surrounding properties and streets and shall be so operated that they do not disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of neighboring residents. Apparatus needed for the operation of active or passive solar energy systems need not be screened pursuant to this subsection.

B. Required Open Space and Landscaping. For each development in the NC, IC and GC districts a landscape plan shall be prepared in accordance with chapter 18.41 SMC to

Conditional Use

address landscaping of yards and screening of parking, and shall be submitted for approval by the development services director. Landscaping shall be provided along blank building facades and property boundaries. Landscaping shall be provided in accordance with the city of Sumner design and development guidelines. Whenever landscaping is required by this title and/or conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this title, such landscaping shall be permanently maintained in a neat and orderly manner. In no event shall such landscape areas be used for the storage of materials or parking of automobiles.

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D. Outdoor Lighting. Outdoor lighting and aerial-mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. The lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground-mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise, except governmental flags.

E. Commercially Zoned Properties Adjacent to Residential Properties. Whenever commercially zoned or mixed-use development abuts any residential district, there shall be:

1. A 10-foot landscaped yard setback and six-foot masonry wall or wood fence established and maintained along the property line that abuts the residential zones, except that fences and walls located within the required front or street side yard shall not exceed a height of three feet.

G. Trash Receptacles. Trash receptacles enclosed within gated, solid walls or fences shall be provided for each property in commercial use. The receptacle shall be set back a minimum of 15 feet from any residentially zoned property boundary and shall be maintained in a neat and sanitary condition.

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J. Parking areas and pedestrian walkways shall conform to the city of Sumner design and development guidelines.

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M. Fences – Intent. The intent of this section is to establish minimum requirements and standards for fences in order to promote safety, provide screening, and to protect the aesthetic assets of the community. Fences constructed in commercial zones shall comply with the standards set forth herein:

Conditional Use

1 ... 2 3. No fence shall exceed a total height of six feet above existing or finished grade in a commercial zone unless the site qualifies for an exception in subsection (M)(8) of 3 this section. 4 4. Fences utilized to enclose drainage detention ponds or other drainage facilities in 5 any zone shall meet the requirements of the King County Washington Surface Water Design Manual, as well as any other applicable regulations of this section and the 6 Sumner Municipal Code. Chain link fences used to enclose drainage detention ponds or other drainage facilities shall be green or black coated or painted. 7 8 ... 9 8. Exceptions to the fencing standards set forth in this subsection may be granted through a city permit, provided the following criteria are met: 10 a. The applicant has demonstrated a need for additional safety and security 11 measures to protect the site; and 12 b. Reasonable alternatives which result in reduced or no deviation from the 13 code have been considered and the applicant demonstrates that the alternatives are not reasonably feasible; and 14 c. The adjustment to the standards is the minimum necessary to accommodate 15 security fencing; and 16 d. The exception will not create harmful impacts to public ways, adjacent 17 properties or the safety of the general public; and 18 e. The proposed fencing complies with the standards listed in subsections (M)(9) and (M)(10) of this section; and 19 20 f. The applicant has provided sufficient documentation to describe the proposal, such as a cross-section and elevation of the fencing types proposed, 21 and a site plan with the fence location and setbacks; and 22 g. For barbed wire fencing or electrified fencing, the owner shall agree in 23 writing to a "hold harmless" agreement indemnifying the city against any claims related to injury from the proposed fencing. 24 9. Fencing Exceptions Standards – All Commercial Zones. 25 Conditional Use Findings, Conclusions and Decision p. 11

a. Public facilities, minor and major utility facilities, and wireless 1 communication facilities may construct fences in accordance to the standards set forth for such facilities. 2 b. Fences located around potentially dangerous facilities or equipment on 3 the interior of a site where there is a demonstrated need to provide added 4 security and public safety may exceed the height requirements set forth in this section to a maximum height of eight feet. Examples of a demonstrated need 5 include sites utilizing draining facilities with steep slopes, water tanks, heavy or dangerous machinery or equipment, hazardous substances, hazardous 6 waste, etc. 7 8 P. For properties located within the area defined as East Main Street in SMC 18.43.020, the setback may be increased to 15 feet when the area between the sidewalk and the 9 building: 10 1. Is utilized as usable pedestrian space such as a plaza, outdoor seating, or public art (fountain, etc.); or 11 12 2. Is used for outdoor displays of merchandise or when the displays are an intrinsic part of the nature of the business or it provides a pedestrian amenity. Examples 13 include, but are not limited to, the display of motorized vehicles that are offered for sale, nurseries, outdoor monuments, etc. Additional landscaping may be required 14 that is a minimum five feet wide as measured from the front property line and running parallel to the street for the entire frontage of the property, except for driveways, 15 and meets the city of Sumner design and development guidelines. 16 *O.* All development is subject to applicable Sumner design and development guidelines. 17 These criteria are met. The project as conditioned and mitigated meets all 9. 18 relevant performance standards for the general commercial district as described in Finding of Fact No. 7A. SMC 18.16.080.M requires perimeter fencing around 19 commercial developments. The design guidelines specify the use of 6-foot fences (SMC 20 18.16.080.M.2) unless the project qualifies for an exemption under SMC 18.16.080.M.8 and is compliant with the standards in SMC 18.16.080.M.9. Staff note the Applicant has 21 demonstrated a need for additional safety on the site because the use will be adjacent to residential uses (SMC 18.16.080.M.8). The proposed 8-foot fence is compliant with 22 SMC 18.16.080.M.9.b. 23 **SMC 18.12.080:** The following special performance standards shall apply to properties 24 located in the LDR district: 25 A. Exterior Mechanical Devices. Air conditioners, heating, cooling, ventilating equipment, swimming pool pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be Conditional Use p. 12 Findings, Conclusions and Decision

screened from surrounding properties and streets and shall be so operated that they do not disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring residents. Apparatus needed for the operation of solar energy systems need not be screened pursuant to this section.

B. Required Landscaping. Required front and street side yards shall be landscaped except for necessary walks, drives and fences.

C. Outdoor Storage and Parking of Vehicles. Storage or parking of any motor vehicle or vehicle accessory such as camper shells, boats, trailers, motorbikes or other wheeled accessory or conveyance shall not be allowed except as follows:

1. Storage of such vehicles and vehicle accessories is permitted within the paved areas and driveways located in the front and street side yard; and rear and interior side yards; provided, that such vehicles and accessories are screened from neighboring properties and public rights-of-way by a six-foot-high solid fence or landscaped screen. For purposes of this subsection "storage" means the keeping of such vehicles and accessories on any portion of any parcel of property for a period of 120 continuous hours.

J. Fences – Intent. The intent of this subsection is to establish minimum requirements and standards for fences in order to provide screening and to protect the aesthetic assets of the community. Fences, except as regulated under subsection (J)(8) of this section, constructed within residential zones shall not exceed a maximum height above the adjacent grade as set forth herein:

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4. No fence shall exceed a total height of six feet above existing or finished grade in a residential zone, unless exceptions of subsection (J)(8) of this section apply.

5. Fences utilized to enclose drainage detention ponds or other drainage facilities shall meet the requirements of the King County Washington Surface Water Design Manual, as well as any other applicable regulations of this section and the Sumner Municipal Code. Chain link fences used to enclose drainage detention ponds or other drainage facilities shall be green or black coated or painted.

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8. Exceptions to the standards set forth in this subsection are listed as follows: public facilities, minor and major utility facilities, schools, and wireless communication facilities may have fences higher than the required six-foot maximum for safety and security reasons, and are not subject to the requirements of this subsection. Such

Conditional Use

facilities needing added public safety and security shall construct fences in accordance to the standards set forth for such facilities.

10. These criteria are met. The project as conditioned and mitigated meets all relevant performance standards for the low-density residential district as described in Finding of Fact No. 7N. SMC 18.12.080.J defines the standards for perimeter fencing in the low-density residential zone. The design guidelines specify the use of 6-foot fences (SMC 18.12.080.J.4) unless the project qualifies for an exemption under SMC 18.12.080.J.8. Staff note the Applicant has demonstrated a need for additional safety on the site because the use will be adjacent to residential uses and because it is a public facility (SMC 18.12.080.J.8). Staff note, the use of a solid 8-foot fence will provide the best buffer available between the parking and adjacent residential uses.

DECISION

Based upon the application and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the requested conditional use permit is approved, subject to the following conditions:

- The project shall comply with the 14 SEPA Mitigation Measures from the November 26, 2024 SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non-Significant Impact.
- 2. The Applicant shall work with adjacent properties to implement pavement marking along the access easement to reinforce the aisles as a two-way path that connects the library to 153rd Avenue Court E. The purpose of this condition is to help motorists parking adjacent to the easement aisle to keep the path clear so as to not impede continuous access to the library patrons and emergency vehicles.
- 3. The Applicant shall provide wayfinding signage to guide visitors to the Library from 153rd Avenue Court and to the pick-up and drop-off areas.
- 4. The Applicant shall provide curb or pavement markers to indicate parking time restrictions, loading/unloading zones and direction of traffic flow within the parking lot.
- 5. The Applicant shall provide a high-visibility, mid-block pedestrian crossing on E. Main Street at the site location.

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Dated this 21st day of January 2025.

Emily Terrell

Emily Terrell City of Sumner Hearing Examiner

Conditional Use

Findings, Conclusions and Decision

1	Appeal Right and Valuation Notices
2	Appeals of this decision may be filed with the City Council subject to SMC 18.56.180.
3	Affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes notwithstanding any program of revaluation.
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	Conditional Use p. 15 Findings, Conclusions and Decision