

Town of Paradise Valley

6401 E Lincoln Dr Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Minutes - Draft

Board of Adjustment

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 5:30 PM Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chambliss called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Attorney Andrew M. Miller Community Development Director Eva Cutro Planner George Burton

2. ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Chairperson Rick Chambliss

Boardmember Jon Newman

Boardmember Catherine Kauffman Boardmember Eric Leibsohn Boardmember Quinn Williams

Absent 2 - Boardmember Emily Kile

Boardmember Hope Ozer

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Boardmember Leibsohn, seconded by Boardmember Newman, to convene into executive session. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairperson Chambliss, Boardmember Kauffman, Boardmember Leibsohn, Boardmember Newman, and Boardmember Williams

Absent: 2 - Boardmember Kile and Boardmember Ozer

6. ACTION ITEMS

None

4. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 17-119 Appeal for relief from the ruling of the Town Zoning Administrator regarding the application by TMS Ventures, LLC for Hillside Building Committee Review for the Property located at 5507 E. San Miguel Ave (Assessor's Parcel Number: 172-47-078D).Case No. BA-16-7.

Please reference the attached "Transcript of Proceedings - 4/12/2017."

6. ACTION ITEMS

None

7. CONSENT AGENDA

None

8. STAFF REPORTS

It was noted there is one item is scheduled for the next meeting.

9. PUBLIC BODY REPORTS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:49 p.m. by Boardmember Williams, seconded by Boardmember Newman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairperson Chambliss, Boardmember Kauffman, Boardmember Leibsohn, Boardmember Newman, and Boardmember Williams

Absent: 2- Boardmember Kile and Boardmember Ozer

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TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

PUBLIC MEETING

Held at:

Paradise Valley Town Hall 6401 East Lincoln Drive Paradise Valley, Arizona

> April 12, 2017 5:30 p.m.

Taken By:
Charlotte Lacey, RPR
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50859

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                       APPEARANCES
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    Board Members:
    Richard Chambliss, Chairman
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    Catherine Kauffman
     Jon Newman
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    Quinn Williams
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    Eric Leibsohn
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    Also Present:
     Susan D. Goodwin, Esq., Special Counsel
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     George Burton, Planner
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     Eva Cutro, Community Development Director
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Page 3 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Welcome, everyone. 2 Good evening. 3 We're going to begin the board of adjustment meeting for April 12th. 5 And so we'll have a roll call, and then I'm going to say a couple of words to everyone so you can -- I 6 can kind of give you the heads up on how we're going to proceed and hopefully give everybody an opportunity to say 8 9 what they want to say with some limitations. So, George, first let's have a roll call. 10 MR. BURTON: Board Member Kauffman. 11 12 MS. KAUFFMAN: Here. 13 MR. BURTON: Board Member Leibsohn. 14 MR. LEIBSOHN: Here. 15 MR. BURTON: Board Member Newman. MR. NEWMAN: Here. 16 MR. BURTON: Board Member Williams. 17 18 MR. WILLIAMS: Here. 19 MR. BURTON: Board Member Ozer. 20 Board Member Kyle. And Chair Chambliss. 21 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Present. 23 MR. BURTON: We have a forum. 24 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Thank you. 25 Folks, my name is Richard Chambliss. I'm

- 1 the chairman of the board of adjustment.
- We're here to consider an appeal from a
- 3 zoning administrator correspondence. We have -- I've been
- 4 on the board for about five years now. This is the first
- 5 time that I've been on the board that we've had an appeal
- 6 from a zoning administrator's decision and/or
- 7 communication. So we're a little rusty on how we should
- 8 proceed.
- 9 What I want to do is welcome everybody here.
- 10 You know, we're all citizens, and we look for your input.
- 11 There is this piece of paper you can fill out if you want
- 12 to speak to the board. If you want to just register a
- 13 position, you can do so, and indicate on here whether you
- 14 want to speak or not.
- 15 I have several forms that have been handed
- 16 to me.
- 17 I don't know if we're out of forms, George,
- or we have some more. So we'll put those out.
- 19 I have two forms that I've received where I
- 20 do not -- where the individual has not stated whether they
- 21 want to speak or not. And so that's a Gerry Keim and a
- 22 Martha Cozzi. So either of you two need to make a
- 23 decision; do you want to speak, not speak? And I'll let
- 24 you make that decision shortly.
- 25 Because this is the -- for me, a little bit

- 1 foreign territory, haven't done it before, we're going to
- 2 do something called executive session where the board will
- 3 adjourn. We'll go to the back room. We'll talk a little
- 4 bit about this proceeding to make sure that I can conduct
- 5 it as fairly as possible for all of the interested folks.
- 6 So we're not back there making back-door
- 7 deals. We're back there getting a little information
- 8 about how this should proceed in a way that's fair to
- 9 everyone here. I expect we'll be there for 20 minutes or
- 10 so.
- 11 We'll come back, and then we'll begin with
- 12 the appeal.
- 13 My inclination, which might be subject to
- 14 being revised after we're through with our executive
- 15 session, is to have a staff report on the appeal, to have
- 16 the appellant present his position, have the aggrieved --
- 17 have the applicant present his position, and then seek
- 18 input from those members of the public that also want to
- 19 address the board. And hopefully what we'll do, through
- 20 that presentation, is focus the citizens that want to
- 21 speak on the issues that are really before the board this
- 22 evening that we need to consider.
- We've received a volume of material from a
- 24 number of you. It's clear that there's a great interest
- 25 in this. And some of the information that I've received

- 1 and looked at is -- is having to do with matters that are
- 2 really not before the board this evening. And so what I'm
- 3 hoping to do, after executive session, is try to frame it
- 4 for everybody what it is we really need to be presented
- 5 this evening.
- 6 And that's not to diminish anybody's
- 7 concerns, comments about the building site or variances or
- 8 a whole lot of other issues that will ultimately have to
- 9 be looked at through this process. But they really aren't
- 10 going to be material to this evening's consideration.
- 11 So if anybody is offended if I cut them
- 12 short -- because I will say to them, "I don't" -- "With
- 13 all due respect, that's not the matter before the board
- 14 here."
- 15 That's what I'm trying to give you a heads
- 16 up about. You know, there's a lot of people that are
- 17 going to want to speak. They've got a point of view. And
- 18 I don't want to diminish the point of view, but to some
- 19 extent, that's not matters that the board needs to hear.
- 20 And we're likely to be here for a while this
- 21 evening, so I'd like to proceed as efficiently as
- 22 possible.
- So for the next 20 minutes or so, we're
- 24 going to take a break, go back, have an executive session,
- 25 come back, and we'll begin the public presentation.

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1	AUDIENCE MEMBER: May I ask one question?
2	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Certainly.
3	AUDIENCE MEMBER: All these people here, and
4	you're going to adjourn for 20 minutes or so. We're going
5	to be keep all these people waiting. Why didn't you do
6	that before?
7	(Applause)
8	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: You know, that's a
9	great question, sir. But if you understood the process
10	that we have to go through, we cannot have a meeting
11	before we call order because of the public meeting law.
12	We can't meet behind closed doors to have a discussion
13	about matters that we're going to decide until the meeting
14	has begun.
15	And the purpose of me trying to give you the
16	heads up is so that you're not confused, nor are you
17	drawing negative inferences from the fact that we're
18	trying to do this the right way.
19	I want to I want to let you all have your
20	chance to speak. But this is not a popularity contest.
21	And applause or comments are really not helping the board
22	make any decision. We're here as a quasi-judicial body to
23	take information about the appeal that is relevant and
24	germane to the matters that we have to decide.
25	I understand that the temperatures run

Page 8 pretty high on this and that folks have got a very -- some 1 2 people have a very, very adamant point of view. 3 appreciate that. And I do not mean to disrespect them. But as I said earlier, a number of the comments we've 5 already received are important and germane to other matters but not the ones that we need to consider this 6 afternoon -- or this evening. So I'm going to adjourn the board to an 8 executive session. We'll get back to it just as quickly 9 as we can so we can continue with this meeting. 10 Hope I've addressed your comments, sir. 11 12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Excuse me, sir. Can you 13 perhaps tell us what you can consider when you come back from your executive session? 14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Let me -- I'll address 15 that in one second, please. 16 We need a motion to go into executive 17 session also. 18 (An off-the-record discussion ensued.) 19 20 MS. GOODWIN: I was advising the chair that we -- that a motion is needed to go into executive 21 22 session. 23 (An off-the-record discussion ensued.) 24 MS. GOODWIN: I was advising the board that

a motion is required, by the open meeting law, to go into

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Page 9 executive session. And in that motion, if you would 1 2 please state the item that you're going into executive 3 session on, namely the appeal from the applicant of the zoning administrator's decision in the TMS application 5 matter. 6 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Before that 7 motion -- I request, before that motion be made -- there was a question from the audience about what matters are we 8 9 going to consider after we're through with the executive session. And it's the matters that are set forth on the 10 agenda, which is the appeal as referenced in the agenda. 11 12 So at this point, if there's a motion to 13 adjourn to executive session to consider the appeal of the zoning administrator's November 29th, 2016, letter. 14 Is there a motion? 15 MR. NEWMAN: So moved. 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Second? 17 18 MR. WILLIAMS: Second. 19 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any discussion on that 20 motion? All in favor. 21 22 (Ayes) 23 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any opposed? 24 We're going to executive session. We'll do it as quickly as possible, and we'll be back here as soon 25

Page 10 1 as we can. 2 (Executive session held, not reported.) 3 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Good afternoon, folks. Let me have a moment to go through these speaker forms so 5 I can organize --6 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: We can't hear you. 7 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Good evening. I'm going to -- I've got some additional speaker forms in 8 9 front of me. I'm going to go through them in the next minute or so and try and organize them, and then we'll 10 proceed forward with the public process. 11 (An off-the-record discussion ensued.) 12 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay, folks. Let's get I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to 14 get the speaker forms in order. 15 So we will proceed, first, with having a 16 staff report on the appeal. I -- I would then like to 17 18 have the appellant proceed with their position. And I'm not holding strict time limits, but 19 20 I'm hoping that can take something on the order of 20 minutes or so. 21 22 If the applicant is here and wants to speak, the applicant can, or anyone else in favor of the 23 24 applicant's position. 25 And we kind of have the double negative

- 1 here. Where we are at this point is appeal of the zoning
- 2 administrator's November letter. So to the extent I've
- 3 received speaker forms that says they are in favor of the
- 4 agenda item, this is the appeal of the zoning
- 5 administrator's decision. And if you are opposed, then
- 6 you are on the side of the owner/applicant.
- When we're through with the owner/applicant
- 8 or his representative speaker, I want to give the
- 9 appellant the last opportunity to speak.
- 10 And I've got a whole bunch of forms in front
- 11 of me. For those of you have who are concerned citizens
- 12 who want to address the board, I will be calling your
- 13 names out here. And then hopefully confine your comments
- 14 to three minutes.
- 15 And let me remind you that the issue that's
- 16 before the board this evening is not whether this house
- 17 gets built. It's not whether a variance gets granted.
- 18 Not having to do with a whole lot of things pertaining to
- 19 the structure, the lot, or other matters.
- 20 The -- the thing that's before the board to
- 21 consider is when the zoning administrator's November 29th
- 22 letter said that this application can proceed at risk, is
- 23 that a decision that was a proper decision for the zoning
- 24 administrator to make or was that a decision that was not
- 25 a proper decision for the zoning administrator to make.

- 1 All of the issues that pertain to the actual
- 2 building of the structure, the variances, the potential
- 3 for safety and things of that nature are all matters that
- 4 are going to be considered at some point in time if this
- 5 application proceeds, but those are not matters that are
- 6 before the board this evening. And so to the extent you
- 7 have a burning desire to tell the board about those, we've
- 8 got a limited amount of time, and I'd ask you to really
- 9 direct your comments specifically to the zoning
- 10 administrator's decision; was it right or was it wrong
- 11 and, if so, why? And that really is not directly related
- 12 to the issues pertaining to the actual building of the
- 13 structure or things of that nature.
- I just got a couple more applications. Give
- 15 me one more second.
- 16 All right. Let's proceed with the public
- 17 hearing on the appeal of item 17-119.
- 18 And first, what I would like is to have the
- 19 staff give us a report with respect to this appeal.
- 20 MR. BURTON: Good evening, Chair, board
- 21 members, members of public.
- 22 The application tonight is for an appeal
- 23 that was filed by the Law Offices of Francis Slavin on
- 24 behalf of three PV residences and the City of Camelback
- 25 Mountain Corporation. The applicant is appealing the town

- 1 zoning administrator's decision to allow TMS Ventures
- 2 Hillside application to proceed at risk during the pending
- 3 litigation regarding access to the property.
- 4 This is a city map is showing the location
- 5 of the subject property, 5507 East Sammy Hill Avenue, and
- 6 an aerial photo of the site.
- 7 Just a little bit of background. The board
- 8 reviewed a variance application for this property back on
- 9 March 2nd of 2016. The request was to allow a driveway
- 10 pad to exceed the limited length. The board, at that
- 11 time, continued the application to May; however, on
- 12 March 30th, the applicant withdrew the variance request.
- 13 I believe that to be the design modifications to bring
- 14 that driveway into compliance with code.
- 15 Since then, TMS has submitted application
- 16 for Hillside review. And the Hillside process consists of
- 17 two reviews; a conceptual review and formal review. And
- 18 the Hillside Committee's basically the code compliance
- 19 committee that reviews the plan of the property for both
- 20 compliance.
- 21 TMS believes it has legal access to the
- 22 property; however, the legal status of that access is
- 23 subject to pending litigation.
- On September 8th of 2016, the Hillside
- 25 Committee performed a concept review. Then, on

- 1 September 20th, 2016, Mr. Slavin sent at letter stating
- 2 that the Hillside Building Committee lacked legal
- 3 authority to process the formal application pending
- 4 litigation. Then, on November 29th, the community
- 5 development director issued a letter stating that the
- 6 Hillside application would be processed at risk during the
- 7 pending litigation.
- 8 And December of 2016 the appeal was filed.
- 9 And then most recently, in February, TMS submitted a
- 10 formal Hillside application; however, appeal does suspend
- 11 further decision-making, therefore, the town has not
- 12 provided a response until the board has ruled on that
- 13 appeal.
- 14 Again, the applicant is appealing the town
- 15 zoning administrator's decision to allow the TMS Ventures'
- 16 Hillside application to proceed at risk during the pending
- 17 litigation regarding access to the property.
- 18 And with every case that's presented to the
- 19 board, staff does make a recommendation, and staff is
- 20 recommending denial of the appeal, to affirm the zoning
- 21 administrator's decision to allow TMS to continue the
- 22 process, the Hillside Building Committee application, at
- 23 risk, in accordance with the November 29th letter.
- 24 That denial is based upon several reasons.
- 25 First is that the zoning administrator did not make any

- 1 order, requirement, or decision regarding application of
- 2 the zoning ordinance. The zoning administrator notified
- 3 TMS that if it sought to continue with its Hillside
- 4 Building Committee review process, it would do so at its
- 5 own risk. And the zoning administrator did not make any
- 6 decision as it -- to any requirements that may or may not
- 7 apply to the property.
- 8 Also, the town will require final
- 9 determination of the pending litigation before issuing any
- 10 building permit or other permits. And then consistent
- 11 with this position, staff will recommend that any
- 12 determination of the Hillside Building Committee be
- 13 subject to stipulation referencing the outcome of that
- 14 litigation.
- 15 Lastly, the applicant is making subdivision
- 16 code arguments in the appeal, and the board does not have
- 17 jurisdiction regarding the subdivision issues.
- 18 And that concludes my presentation.
- 19 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, George.
- 20 Any questions to George on the staff
- 21 presentation?
- 22 George, I guess I'm thinking in terms of
- 23 this zoning administrator's characterization of the
- 24 at-risk processing of this application. Do we have
- 25 anything in -- in our town code that addresses

Page 16 specifically proceeding at risk with a application? 1 MR. BURTON: Not that I'm aware of. I'd 2 3 have to refer to Eva, if she knows anything that I'm not aware of. 5 MS. CUTRO: Chairman -- Chairman, board members, there is nothing in the code that explains at 6 risk or not at risk. 8 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I see. Thank you. 9 Any questions based on my question? 10 Okay. Let's proceed with the representative for the appellant. And if you would come before us and 11 12 give us your name and address, sir. 13 MR. SLAVIN: Thank you, Chairman Chambliss, board members. 14 I am Francis Slavin. I'm appearing on 15 behalf of appellants --16 17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Microphone. MR. SLAVIN: Hello. Okay. All right. 18 19 So anyway, I'm appearing on behalf of the 20 owners of lot 22, 23, and 24 of Stone Canyon East subdivision. 21 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Let me stop you one second, sir, because your microphone wasn't working when I 23 24 heard you say your name and address.

MR. SLAVIN: Okay.

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- 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: There are court
- 2 reporters here, so if you would repeat your name and
- 3 address, please.
- 4 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. I am Frances Slavin, and
- 5 my address is 2198 East Camelback Road. I am a town
- 6 resident for more than 20 years.
- 7 And I am appearing this evening, together
- 8 with Attorney Heather Dukes, with our law firm, and making
- 9 this presentation on behalf of the three appellants --
- 10 three of the four appellants; Theresa and Joe Zachariah,
- 11 who own lot 22; Terry and David Appel, lot 23; and Al and
- 12 Ingrid Harrison, who own lot 24, all in the Stone Canyon
- 13 East.
- 14 And -- and we've put, on the screen, the
- 15 location of the three parcels of the owners that we
- 16 represent.
- 17 I have a request at the outset of this
- 18 hearing. I'm here -- one of the reasons, as a lawyer, I'm
- 19 here, is that perhaps I have to make a record in the event
- 20 we would want to appeal this decision, Mr. Chairman. So
- 21 there may be some more legalisms in this presentation than
- 22 we might otherwise be accustomed to.
- I would like to ask, at this time, if
- 24 there's any member of this board who would wish to recuse
- 25 himself or herself because of some interest with regard to

Page 18 1 the applicant TMS Ventures. 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Appreciate the request. 3 Is there any board member here that either believes they should recuse themselves and/or wants to 5 make a record with respect to the whether or not they should recuse themself? 6 MS. KAUFFMAN: My name is Catherine Kauffman. I have known Marcella Scali since 1997. 8 9 I have no financial interest in this property, and I can tell you that I have no bias one way 10 or the other regarding this property. 11 12 MR. SLAVIN: Mr. Chairman, if I may, may I 13 address Member Kauffman? 14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Certainly. MR. SLAVIN: Okay. 15 Heather, would you mind, please. 16 And -- and I don't -- I don't mean to make 17 an -- an issue, necessarily, on this, but I am charged 18 with the responsibility of making a record for my client. 19 20 And what I have put on the screen is a copy of a Facebook. Is that right, Heather? I think they call 21 22 this Facebook. I don't know. 23 But basically, this is -- appears to be a post to your Facebook, which I think is still maybe on 24 your Facebook, that says, "Happy birthday, my dear friend. 25

- 1 Make it a fabulous day." And you're addressing this to
- 2 Marcella Scali.
- It seems to me that you are a close, dear
- 4 friend of Mrs. Scali, who is married to Mr. Scali, the
- 5 applicant. Is that true?
- 6 MS. KAUFFMAN: That is incorrect. I can
- 7 tell you I have never socialized with the Scalis ever.
- 8 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And -- and Mr. Slavin,
- 9 I appreciate the effort to make a record. You've heard
- 10 Board Member Kauffman state she has no pecuniary interest.
- 11 She acknowledges that she has some sort of friendship with
- 12 Ms. Scali. She's also stated that she does not believe
- 13 that that relationship will interfere with her ability to
- 14 be fair and impartial in considering this matter. And
- 15 with that statement, I don't believe that it's proper for
- 16 further examination of her on that issue.
- 17 MR. SLAVIN: I'm fine with that,
- 18 Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a record.
- 19 And appreciate your comments, Ms. Kauffman.
- 20 Okay. So --
- 21 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, let me make
- 22 sure there's no other board member that wants to address
- 23 the issue of any potential recusal.
- 24 Any other board member?
- Okay. Please proceed.

- 1 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. Thank you.
- 2 The other thing I wanted to also address, if
- 3 I may, up front -- and -- and I understand, from the
- 4 comments being made, that -- that the board has considered
- 5 the -- the letter issued on September [sic] 29, 2016, as a
- 6 decision by the zoning administrator to be considered here
- 7 this evening?
- 8 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I don't believe that
- 9 there has been any determination made by the board that
- 10 the letter of the zoning administrator constitutes a
- 11 decision. I believe that's one of the issues that has to
- 12 be addressed in this appeal.
- MR. SLAVIN: Okay.
- 14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: So I think you should
- 15 proceed forward on the basis that there's two matters the
- 16 board needs to hear. One is the argument, the legal
- 17 issue, as to whether or not that November 29th, 2016,
- 18 letter constitutes a decision and then, secondly, whether
- 19 that decision, if it was, is a proper decision and should
- 20 be upheld or not.
- 21 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. Thank you for your
- 22 clarification, sir.
- Okay. This proposed roadway leading to the
- 24 TMS property is the subject matter of a pending lawsuit
- 25 which has -- was filed in April of 2016 by TMS Ventures,

- 1 the owner of the property. It was filed against the
- 2 Zachariahs, the Appels, and the Harrisons for the purpose
- 3 of establishing legal access through, over, across
- 4 appellants' properties to extend a private road from the
- 5 cul-de-sac on East San Miquel Avenue, up the mountainside,
- 6 to this parcel.
- 7 The state statutes, as well as the town
- 8 zoning board, has established the defined rules of the
- 9 zoning administrator of a municipality, as well as a
- 10 municipal board of adjustment. And under our state
- 11 statutes and the town code, the zoning administrator is
- 12 charged with interpreting and enforcing the town's zoning
- 13 ordinance. The zoning administrator is the only person
- 14 contemplated by state law, as well as the town zoning
- 15 ordinance, of issuing an interpretation or an enforcement
- 16 of the zoning ordinance.
- 17 So the question is, was -- is this an
- 18 interpretation, or is it an enforcement letter? And if
- 19 it's undertaken by the zoning administrator, then it
- 20 should be the proper subject of this appeal.
- 21 I'm referring to Statutes A.R.S. -- standing
- 22 for Arizona Revised Statutes -- Section 9-462.05(C) and
- 23 Town Code 2-5-3.C.1.
- Now, appeals to the board of adjustment may
- 25 be taken by persons who are aggrieved by the decision of

- 1 the zoning administrator.
- 2 Clearly, in this case, we have three owners
- 3 whose properties will be severely impacted by the proposed
- 4 roadway for the TMS property. They are aggrieved by a
- 5 decision made by the zoning administrator of the town.
- 6 Under 9-462.06(C), it states as follows. "A
- 7 board of adjustment shall" -- doesn't say "may"; it says
- 8 "shall" -- "hear and decide appeals from the decisions of
- 9 the zoning administrator."
- 10 And as Chairman Chambliss has already
- 11 pointed out, you are a quasi-judicial body, so you have
- 12 the opportunity to conduct an evidentiary hearing, which
- 13 we're doing here. You have the right to administer oaths
- 14 and take sworn testimony from witnesses and to perform a
- 15 de novo review.
- 16 For those of you who are not lawyers, it
- means that you're not bound by what the zoning
- 18 administrator decided or didn't decide. You have the
- 19 right to decide it on your own. So you're free to decide
- 20 it however you wish to decide it as far as the facts are
- 21 concerned, as well as the law that might apply in this
- 22 situation.
- 23 And the board is allowed -- you're allowed
- 24 to reverse, affirm, modify, in whole or in part, the
- 25 order, the requirement, or decision of the zoning

- 1 administrator appealed from and make the order requirement
- 2 or decision of determination as necessary.
- 3 Again, citation, for the record,
- 4 Mr. Chairman, to A.R.S. Section 9-462.06(G)(3).
- What we have here is a November 29,
- 6 2006 [sic] -- I'll call it a decision -- by the town
- 7 zoning administrator which allows TMS Ventures to proceed
- 8 with a Hillside Building Committee application at risk.
- 9 At risk. Despite TMS having no proof of legal access to
- 10 its property.
- 11 And I'll get into that a little bit more as
- 12 what the ordinance states about the type of proof that an
- 13 applicant must furnish to the town.
- 14 Having received no final judgment in its
- 15 pending lawsuit against our clients -- keep in mind, TMS
- 16 is the one who initiated the lawsuit -- and having
- 17 additional application requirements which depend upon a
- 18 final judgment in the lawsuit -- depending on that
- 19 judgment, there could be a requirement for a subdivision
- 20 plat for a conditional use permit for a roadway or for
- 21 several variances involved.
- 22 So, again, I'm pointing this out to you so
- 23 you understand the potential seriousness of the so-called
- 24 November 29, 2016, letter.
- 25 By allowing TMS to proceed with its Hillside

- 1 review and to obtain a decision from the Hillside Building
- 2 Committee, the zoning administrator's decision, by
- 3 definition, has to interpret. It has to -- has to be
- 4 interpreting the zoning ordinance, and she has to be
- 5 enforcing the zoning ordinance.
- 6 You've also heard her say it. There's
- 7 nothing -- there's nothing in the zoning ordinance that
- 8 addressed at risk.
- 9 So what is -- what is really happening here?
- 10 Do we have an administrative official of the city
- 11 legislating, adding something to an ordinance that's not
- there, putting in an as-is provision that's not there?
- 13 I submit to you the zoning administrator
- 14 does not have that authority. Only the mayor and the
- 15 council have that authority to add an as -- an at-risk
- 16 provision to the ordinance.
- 17 We're asking you to decide one issue other
- 18 than the decision issue. Okay? We're asking you to
- 19 decide one and only one issue; whether the zoning
- 20 administrator erred by issuing the November 29, 2016,
- 21 decision allowing TMS to obtain an at-risk decision from
- 22 the Hillside Building Committee before Maricopa County
- 23 Superior Court has made a decision whether or not TMS
- 24 enjoys legal access through lots 22, 23, and 24. That's
- 25 what we're -- that's the essence of our appeal.

- 1 The zoning administrator's decision was
- 2 erroneous for at least three reasons. First, as I had
- 3 mentioned, there's no provision that allows at-risk
- 4 processing or approvals which would render that decision
- 5 ultra vires, which means it went beyond the scope of the
- 6 ordinance and went beyond the scope of the zoning
- 7 administrator's authority.
- 8 TMS has not satisfied -- and I'll point this
- 9 out to you -- has not satisfied certain application
- 10 requirements in Sections 2205 and 2206, notwithstanding
- 11 the at-risk aspects about the litigation.
- 12 Notwithstanding. And the -- and the zoning ordinance
- 13 requires the TMS property to meet the definition of a
- 14 lot -- a lot -- by having adequate frontage upon a public
- 15 or private street.
- 16 Third, after receiving a copy of the
- 17 Maricopa County Superior Court judge's order denying TMS's
- 18 motion for summary judgment -- for those of you who are
- 19 not familiar with that term, it means that you can cut
- 20 short the hearing process -- the trial process because
- 21 there's no dispute -- genuine dispute as to a material
- 22 fact and you don't have to go to the jury or go through --
- 23 to a judge decision as a trier of fact.
- 24 But that failed. And there were various
- 25 access theorys that were argued in that motion. So the

- 1 town has no authority, absent that decision, to allow TMS
- 2 to continue processing the Hillside Building Committee
- 3 application until final judgment is entered in the
- 4 lawsuit.
- 5 Cities and towns do not have inherent zoning
- 6 authority in the state of Arizona. It comes by the way
- 7 enabling legislation making statutes. And the zoning
- 8 administrator is limited to enforcing the zoning ordinance
- 9 as adopted by the mayor and the town counsel.
- 10 Notably, the zoning administrator has no
- 11 authority to allow a Hillside application to be processed
- 12 and decided at risk when the applicant has failed to
- 13 satisfy application requirements. And no one has
- 14 submitted, to the town -- TMS's counsel and -- and the
- 15 town attorney and the zoning administrator have not
- 16 provided any reference to an at-risk provision in the
- 17 zoning ordinance. And there's a reason why. It was
- 18 admitted here already. So the zoning decision exceeds the
- 19 authority.
- 20 Okay. Let's look -- let's look at the
- 21 definition of "lot" in the Hillside Section 2203 of the
- 22 zoning ordinance. It defines lot.
- The question here, is this 3.44-acre parcel
- 24 a lot?
- 25 "A parcel of land occupied or intended for

- 1 occupancy by one main building, together with any
- 2 accessory buildings, including the open spaces" -- we lost
- 3 that -- "required in the Hillside regulations and having
- 4 adequate frontage on the public or private street."
- Now, that is in the Hillside Building
- 6 regulations. Okay? I'm reading from 2205 -- 2203 --
- 7 excuse me. And 2204, 05, 06, you'll find the Hillside
- 8 building relations there.
- 9 Let's go to the definition -- the overall
- 10 definition of a lot.
- 11 Heather, we're getting some -- my -- okay.
- 12 My screen's off. That's okay. I'm okay.
- Here's the definition of "lot" generally, in
- 14 the zoning ordinance, right at the front end, where you
- 15 see all of the definitions. "A parcel of land occupied or
- 16 intended for occupation by one main building together" --
- 17 sounds familiar -- "together with any accessory buildings,
- 18 including the open spaces required by this ordinance, and
- 19 having, either, A, adequate frontage upon a public street
- 20 or, B, adequate and recorded access to a public street by
- 21 a private road as defined by this ordinance."
- I will go back, and I would ask you to
- 23 triple underline the words "recorded access." It's got to
- 24 be recorded access. An owner -- when the owner comes in
- 25 and makes an application, the owner must provide proof of

- 1 access, and it has to be recorded access.
- Now, if TMS were fortunate enough to obtain
- 3 an order from the court, judgment granting access, that
- 4 can be recorded, and that can establish access. But
- 5 there's no established access.
- Now, this is what is in the zoning
- 7 ordinance. So why are we talking about at risk? Because
- 8 there's a lawsuit that's been filed by the applicant to
- 9 determine whether or not the applicant has a lot. That's
- 10 what's at issue in the superior court.
- 11 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, could you
- 12 help me understand why the consideration of whether this
- is a lot or not, how that ties in to the zoning
- 14 administrator's November 29th letter? I'm losing a little
- 15 bit of context in understanding the argument you're making
- 16 now and how that connects to what I think this board has
- 17 to decide, which is the zoning administrator's decision.
- 18 Can you help me out there?
- 19 MR. SLAVIN: I can. Okay. Let's -- let's
- 20 first start with the definition of lot.
- Definition of lot -- and, in this case,
- 22 there's no public street because there was an old 1960
- 23 roadway easement that was granted to Maricopa County for a
- 24 public road that Maricopa County and the town never picked
- up on, and it's been conceded by everyone that there's no

- 1 public road here.
- 2 So now we're focused on the private road.
- 3 And this ordinance says "adequate and -- and recorded
- 4 access."
- Now, the lawsuit is all about whether or not
- 6 there is access to this property. Okay? If there's no
- 7 access, Mr. Chairman, it doesn't meet the definition of a
- 8 lot. And in order to be able to make an application --
- 9 and I'll show you the application and the checklist where
- 10 it talks about lot. Throughout the Hillside regulations,
- 11 it talks about lot over and over again. And there's even
- 12 a checklist that refers to the lot as well.
- So in order for a person to have standing at
- 14 all to obtain a permit from the town, you've got to
- 15 establish that -- the applicant must establish that it has
- 16 a legal lot. Without a legal lot, no permit.
- 17 So if we're down in court and the judge is
- 18 being asked to decide whether or not -- this is basically
- 19 a legal lot, meaning am I going to grant or not grant
- 20 legal judgment for legal access? That's before the court.
- 21 Unless and until that is decided, there's no -- nothing to
- 22 proceed forward in processing this application. There's
- 23 no authority, in the zoning ordinance, to allow the town
- 24 staff to process an application which doesn't meet the
- 25 definition of lot.

Page 30 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I understand your 2 argument. Thank you. 3 MR. SLAVIN: Thank you. Okay. I need to grab my bottle of water. 5 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: You're at 19 minutes, but who's counting? 6 If there's any question that any of the 8 board members have --9 MR. SLAVIN: Please. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- in the course of 10 11 the --12 MR. SLAVIN: Please. 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- presentation --14 MR. SLAVIN: Yeah. Please. 15 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- then please let's address it while the subject matter is ripe. 16 MR. SLAVIN: Right. Certainly. 17 18 MR. LEIBSOHN: Since you're bringing up the 19 subject at risk and you're asserting the zoning 20 administrator does not have the authority to make that interpretation, but I believe -- correct me if I'm 21 22 wrong -- you did state the mayor and city council does have that authority. Where is that stated? 23 24 MR. SLAVIN: And I might have confused you 25 by my comments, Member Leibsohn.

Page 31 In order for there to be at-risk processing, 1 2 the mayor and the council must adopt an ordinance or an 3 amendment to the zoning ordinance that allows there to be at-risk processing of applications. That's my point. 5 So that has not been done. So for instance, if -- if the mayor and council were to go forward and 6 amend the ordinance that allowed it, then that would be something else. But that's not there right now. 8 9 Am I -- I'm okay with that? No? 10 MR. LEIBSOHN: Thank you. Can I ask one more? 11 12 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Sure. 13 MR. LEIBSOHN: And is there a reason lot 25 does not belong to this as your client? Is there a reason 14 lot 25's not part of this? 15 MR. SLAVIN: My understanding is that the 16 owner of lot 25 has reached an agreement with the 17 applicant that he's willing to be bound by however the 18 lawsuit turns out, one way or the other. So we're not 19 20 representing lot 25. However, I would submit to you that the biggest impact -- and we'll show you a slide that 21 22 illustrates this. But the -- by large -- by far and away, the largest impact is on the owners of lot 22 and 23, 23 24 which are the Zachariahs and the Appels.

CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Further question?

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Page 32 1 Please proceed. 2 MR. SLAVIN: Thank you. 3 Okay. So I'm going to quickly proceed through these, Heather. 5 We know there's concept plan here. We know there is -- and that has -- you have to make submittals. 6 The applicant must make a complete application submittal. Okay? And also, with regard to formal Hillside Committee 8 approval or meetings, the applicant shall submit all 9 materials outlined in Section 2206. 10 And I read you the definition already of lot 11 in 2206. 12 13 Then, when you look at the concept plan review meeting, under 2206, if you look at part B, it 14 talks about seven copies of the preliminary site plan, so 15 on and so forth, along with topographic information for a 16 lot. Says "lot." 2206. 17 18 Going down to subpart D, "Must submit a recent aerial photo of the site, with topography, comma, 19 lot lines." Uses the word "lot" there. 20 Again, this is the Hillside review. Okay? 21 22 Then, the formal Hillside Committee review meeting, the following plans and materials shall be 23 24 required. And then it goes on to use the word "lot" for

detailed site plan, topo information for a lot. A

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Page 33 detailed grading plan and drainage plan for topo 1 information for the entire lot. 2. 3 We're talking about the study model. Heather, is that up there? 5 MS. DUKES: Yes. MR. SLAVIN: I don't see it on my screen. 6 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: It's in front of us. 8 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. My screen went blank. 9 Some gremlin is -- oh. Here it is. Okay. All right. 10 Oh. There it went off again. MS. DUKES: Can you see it up here? 11 12 MR. SLAVIN: But I don't have a microphone. MS. DUKES: Oh. 13 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. So this is what slide, 14 15 Heather? 13. Okay. And this refers to a study model, which 16 shows -- showing the relationship with proposed 17 improvements to the contours of the lot. And then it goes 18 19 on to -- under K, to talk, again, about an accurate 20 oblique view architecture rendering submitted showing the 21 lot. 22 Now, let's move on to the checklist. I mentioned there was a checklist that the staff has 23 24 developed under the Hillside Building ordinance. 25 If anything, we're getting a refresher

- 1 course, Mr. Chairman, on the -- on the Hillside Building
- 2 Committee process.
- Okay. Now, this is a -- this is a form the
- 4 staff has developed based upon the Hillside regulations.
- 5 And it's required to be filled out by the applicant as
- 6 part of its submittal to determine, among other things,
- 7 that there that be a complete submittal made by the
- 8 applicant. This talks about the area of the lot in two
- 9 different places. And at the bottom here, it talks about
- 10 percentage -- percentage of lots steeper than natural
- 11 grade.
- My -- my screen keeps going on and off, so
- 13 I'll try to do it the best I can. Okay.
- 14 Then, as part of its September 16, 2017,
- 15 application, TMS left the town's checklist blank where it
- 16 called for depiction of, first of all, water. Let's talk
- 17 about water for a minute. Water is significant. Adequate
- 18 water pressure to meet the fire safety standards.
- 19 We have a house that's at 1,800 feet
- 20 elevation.
- 21 It's -- you're required to submit how you're
- 22 going to furnish water to the home, not only for use of
- 23 the occupants but for firefighting purposes. That was not
- 24 checked. That's an important item.
- 25 At the bottom it talks about half street or

- 1 right-of-way improvements, yes or no. That was not
- 2 checked.
- 3 So we have an applicant submitting, and he
- 4 hasn't checked all of these areas. And -- and it would be
- 5 up to the staff, if I understand the way it works here,
- 6 the staff looks at the plan, and they look at the
- 7 checklist to see if -- if it's in compliance. That wasn't
- 8 done here.
- 9 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, if I could
- 10 ask you, is it -- is it your position that if a
- 11 application was incomplete, that that -- that the zoning
- 12 administrator should not have proceeded forward because
- 13 the application was incomplete --
- MR. SLAVIN: Exactly.
- 15 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- is part of -- is
- 16 part of your contention that the zoning administrator
- 17 either exceeded her authority or otherwise was rebellious
- 18 because the application itself was incomplete?
- 19 MR. SLAVIN: Among others, yes. That's the
- 20 point we're making. The application was incomplete.
- 21 And -- and of course, when it comes to the
- 22 streets, without having a judgment entered by the superior
- 23 court, there's no way to provide that.
- Now, how did this application come this far?
- 25 The process started in mid-2013. This is before the

- 1 lawsuit was filed, remember, in April of 2016, and the
- 2 recent order entered by the court a year later,
- 3 March 31st. How did we get this far in this process?
- Well, there was a September 4, 2013, letter
- 5 issued by the town attorney. And it was based upon some
- 6 exchange that the town attorney had with TMS's attorney.
- 7 And -- and he finally issues a letter, and it says here,
- 8 "After reviewing the cases cited in your letter" -- and
- 9 this is, again, to Doug Jorden, whom you all know -- "the
- 10 cases cited in your letter, the town attorney's office
- 11 agrees, there is legal access to the Scali property by
- 12 way -- by way of necessity."
- 13 It doesn't say "there appears to be." It
- 14 says "there is." There is -- and so, it appears to me --
- 15 then -- then it goes on to say the exact location of it.
- 16 So does the town attorney don the court's
- 17 robe, in September of 2013, and make this decision?
- 18 Because on the strength of that, the application was
- 19 accepted to go forward.
- 20 On July 20th, 2016, Mr. Jorden writes a
- 21 letter, a follow-up letter, and he's attempting to enforce
- 22 the town attorney's implied way of necessity determination
- 23 as of the September 4, 2013, letter. Says, "As you
- 24 recall, by letter dated September 4, 2013, parens,
- 25 enclosed, the town agreed that there is a legal access to

- 1 the property by the way of an implied way of necessity.
- 2 Now, it's interesting that this letter was issued three
- 3 months after TMS had filed their lawsuit asking the court
- 4 to determine that there was legal access. And one of the
- 5 legal theories was implied way of necessity. Now, why is
- 6 TMS coming around and saying, hey, back in 2013, you ruled
- 7 this way? Kind of some befuddling circumstances.
- 8 The letter closes as follows -- now, the
- 9 lawyer by the name of Mr. Lopez, who represented the
- 10 appellants in -- in writing the letter to the town --
- 11 says, in his July 15, 2016, letter, "Mr. Lopez requested
- 12 the town abstain from taking any action on TMS's Hillside
- 13 submittal until the pending litigation is concluded."
- 14 Seems like a reasonable position.
- 15 "However, this request is inappropriate
- 16 because it would needlessly delay Hillside review based
- 17 upon lack of access when the town has already determined
- 18 that legal access exists."
- 19 So starting to get a flavor here. Is there
- 20 some connection now to the at-risk determination? That
- 21 somehow this has been moved along and then all of a sudden
- 22 we're going to say it's not being done at risk instead of
- 23 staying with what will the judge decide?
- So we send a letter, on behalf of the
- 25 appellants, to the town, and we notified the town attorney

- 1 that the town would have no authority to confirm legal
- 2 access by an implied way of necessity theory. We state,
- 3 at page 4 -- again, this is -- we're trying to, if you
- 4 will, right the ship. Okay? We're trying to right the
- 5 ship so we can see that we've got a level playing field
- 6 here. Let's get the ship righted.
- 7 Neither the town attorney nor the town staff
- 8 had any legal authority to make a determination that the
- 9 parcel enjoys legal access by this common law doctrine.
- 10 And those of you who are not lawyers, common
- 11 law means it's not a statute passed by the legislature.
- 12 It is law developed by appellate court decisions published
- 13 by Arizona judges. Only a court has that authority. The
- 14 town attorney and the applicant's attorney attempted to
- 15 usurp the court's authority by exchanging written
- 16 correspondence with one another and our clients, finding
- 17 the TMS property to have legal access by implied way of
- 18 necessity. That's what happened. We're just calling it
- 19 out in this letter.
- 20 "After sending" -- excuse me -- I'm sorry.
- 21 That's not -- we're done with that. Okay.
- 22 "Since then, Judge Warner" -- and Randall
- 23 Warner is in the complex division of the superior court
- 24 civil decision. And I believe he heads up the complex
- 25 division.

- 1 We asked this letter -- we asked this to be
- 2 assigned to the complex division because it's got some
- 3 issues that need to be decided by a judge of his caliber.
- 4 Okay.
- 5 Okay. So Judge Warner has denied the TMS
- 6 motion for summary judgment on the issue of the implied
- 7 way of necessity.
- Now, contrast that. The town has been
- 9 proceeding, so far, on the -- that the town attorney ruled
- 10 that there's an implied way of necessity providing access.
- 11 Here we have a duly sworn superior court judge of Maricopa
- 12 County deciding, after he's looked at a lot more of the
- 13 facts and heavy briefing -- I can tell you it was heavy
- 14 briefing, heavy statements of fact -- he concluded this
- 15 case has to go to trial. So if he concludes that, then
- 16 how, possibly, could there be any movement of this case
- 17 forward based upon a September 2013 letter where the town
- 18 attorney has decided that this property has access by an
- 19 implied way of necessity?
- 20 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, let me make
- 21 sure I understand the argument. When I'm looking at the
- 22 matters that have been presented before us, isn't the
- 23 zoning administrator's letter -- I think also signed by
- 24 the town attorney -- simply saying you can proceed
- 25 forward, applicant, with this application. If the court

- determines there's no legal access, you've just wasted a
- 2 bunch of money and a bunch of time. And I'm missing the
- 3 connection between how I'm reading that letter and your
- 4 most -- presentation last couple of minutes of saying that
- 5 the town attorney has made some sort of legally binding
- 6 decision on access when that's the matter that's precisely
- 7 before the court -- the superior court.
- 8 Isn't that what the at risk is for the
- 9 applicant?
- 10 MR. SLAVIN: Mr. Chairman, board members,
- 11 I'm not saying that he made a legally binding decision.
- 12 I'm saying just the reverse. That's not legally binding.
- 13 He doesn't wear a black robe. But he made that -- he's
- 14 issued the letter that enabled TMS to proceed. Who knows
- 15 why.
- 16 But let me address -- because that's further
- 17 on my -- my outline. But let me address that for you
- 18 precisely, because that's a really important question,
- 19 I'll concede.
- 20 Let's suppose that this application were
- 21 allowed to proceed to the Hillside Building Committee and
- 22 the Hillside Building Committee were to decide, after
- 23 going through everything else, that it was going to
- 24 approve it but make it subject to conditions, like getting
- 25 the superior court judgment, so on and so forth. I

- 1 guarantee you -- and I've been litigating for 40 years.
- 2 Okay? And I just ended up litigating a case last week.
- 3 And I can assure you that TMS will take that decision to
- 4 the superior court and tell the judge, "Look, Judge. Here
- 5 are the people who are charged with administering this
- 6 ordinance. They're the ones that have the expertise.
- 7 Look what happened here. Surely -- surely you should
- 8 grant my client's application request for legal access."
- 9 That will happen. I guarantee you. And I would be
- 10 willing to put a thousand dollars bill on it here in a
- 11 wager. If that were to go forward, that's going to
- 12 happen. I've seen it multiple times.
- 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I would then have a
- 14 pecuniary interest, I assure you.
- 15 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. You would. I withdraw
- 16 that. I'm sorry. You didn't hear me say that. Okay. So
- 17 anyway -- so essentially -- and so that -- well, let's --
- 18 let's -- let's get around to that, Heather. I think we
- 19 can kind of move forward a little bit.
- 20 The -- one of the things that -- let me see
- 21 where we are here.
- 22 Okay. Let's go to slide 22. Are you there?
- 23 Slide 22.
- And that is, there is a letter that, again,
- 25 has been submitted by Mr. Jorden, who's a very fine

- 1 attorney, and he and I practiced law together at one time.
- 2 So I don't disregard his abilities as a good lawyer.
- 3 Mr. Jorden's claim that TMS' lot was created
- 4 in 1970 was erroneous for this reason. And he stated it
- 5 throughout his letter.
- 6 TMS property could not have become a legal
- 7 lot in 1970 because, as we've already discussed, a legal
- 8 lot requires there to be legal access. So it could not
- 9 have become a legal lot in 1970 because there had been no
- 10 determination -- there was no recorded document -- as the
- 11 definition requires, no recorded document that established
- 12 legal access. So it could not have become a legal lot in
- 13 1970. Not even close.
- 14 And, again, here is -- and this -- this
- 15 letter was sent to you before the court's decision on
- 16 March 31st, a week later, which determined the court was
- 17 going to deny the application for a summary judgment.
- 18 So the determination by the court that
- 19 the -- that the lot -- so there's been no determination by
- 20 a court that the lot enjoys legal access. There's no
- 21 common law dedication by acceptance. That was decided by
- 22 the court -- although part of that had to go with usage --
- 23 prior usage, and so that still is up in the air. But as
- 24 far as the common law identification, by reference to the
- 25 1960 document, the court decided that issue. The court

- 1 decided there was no private easement by the 1960 roadway
- 2 easement. There was -- it determined that that was not a
- 3 private access. And there was no implied way of
- 4 necessity, as a matter of law, because questions of fact
- 5 exist that have to go to trial.
- So -- okay. The staff, in its report,
- 7 Mr. Chairman -- and I've already referred to part of this.
- 8 The staff, in its report, states that my clients would not
- 9 be prejudiced if -- if the application was allowed to
- 10 proceed at risk. Okay.
- 11 My clients are expending at lot of money on
- 12 attorneys' fees and on consultants' fees. They're
- 13 spending a lot of their time involved in this, and that's
- 14 a financial prejudice to them. I've already talked to you
- 15 about the prejudice that could occur to the court
- 16 proceedings if the Hillside Building Committee were
- 17 allowed to go forward without there being establishing
- 18 legal access.
- 19 Number three -- and there would be a severe
- 20 prejudice for the owners of lots 22 and 23 because if the
- 21 roadway were established in the location being claimed by
- 22 TMS, it would cause the lot, as well as the structure on
- 23 those lots, to be nonconforming. Legal nonconforming
- 24 uses.
- 25 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, let me stop

- 1 you for a second. If we could roll back to the screen
- 2 just for a brief second there. I completely understand
- 3 the financial prejudice of, A, you and others to be before
- 4 us and -- and present this -- this information.
- 5 The second item you address is prejudice in
- 6 court proceedings, and that sounds to me like it's a
- 7 potential perspective prejudice if the applicant
- 8 manipulates some potential decision by the town to try to
- 9 persuade the superior court judge that that is relevant
- 10 information for the superior court judge. I'm seeing that
- 11 as a prospective prejudice. Are you with me?
- MR. SLAVIN: Well, let me -- let me be more
- 13 clear. The applicant doesn't have to go back to the town
- 14 and do anything. The applicant will take the decision, a
- 15 written decision from the Hillside Building Committee, and
- 16 it will be submitted directly by TMS in the litigation.
- 17 They don't have to come back to the town.
- 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Maybe I misspoke. I
- 19 understood you saying you're anticipating that if the
- 20 board of adjustment upholds the zoning administrator's
- 21 decision to proceed at risk, then the application's going
- 22 to be processed. Then there's going to be something from
- 23 the Hillside Committee that is speaking to the
- 24 application. And your argument about prejudice in court
- 25 proceedings is that TMZ [sic] is going to take whatever

Page 45 the Hillside Building Committee does, at some point down 1 the road, and use the Hillside Building Committee's 2 report, statement, whatever as evidence in the superior 3 court proceeding going -- excuse me -- going to the issue 5 of whether there's legal access or not to the property. MR. SLAVIN: Yes. 6 7 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Am I understanding that 8 correctly? 9 MR. SLAVIN: That is correct. You've got that exactly, Mr. Chairman. 10 11 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. 12 MR. SLAVIN: And, again, I -- I'm not going 13 to make any wagers here, 'cause I understand --CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Can't do that. 14 MR. SLAVIN: I don't want to be in trouble 15 16 with you, but --17 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. I just want to make sure I understand point number --18 19 MR. SLAVIN: Yes. 20 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- 2. Point number 3, I think, if I understand 21 22 what you're saying there is what may happen in the future may impact prejudice to the -- your clients, the lot 23 owners of 22, 23, 24. 24

Doesn't that require, though, that the

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- 1 superior court judge has decided there's a legal right of
- 2 access? If the superior court judge decides there's no
- 3 legal right of access, this application cannot proceed
- 4 forward, regardless of our decision. If the superior
- 5 court judge decides there is legal access, then this
- 6 application can proceed forward and whatever else needs to
- 7 be done to make it in compliance.
- 8 I'm trying to --
- 9 MR. SLAVIN: I understand.
- 10 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I'm trying to connect
- 11 what you're --
- 12 MR. SLAVIN: I understand.
- 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- identifying as the
- 14 second and third items for the board's consideration this
- 15 evening. And I'm really seeing those as things that are
- 16 sort of speculation on down the road.
- 17 MR. SLAVIN: Well, first of all, the -- the
- 18 prejudice in the court proceedings then would, in turn,
- 19 relate to the third -- the third point. And I wasn't very
- 20 clear on that, I admit. Okay.
- 21 So you allow this to go at risk during the
- 22 period of time when there is a court proceeding whether or
- 23 not there's legal access. Okay? And before the trial on
- 24 that issue of legal access, the matter gets processed, and
- 25 the Hillside Building Committee blesses it and -- but says

Page 47 this all depends on the court determining you have legal 1 If you have legal access, we're approving this. 2 3 What I'm saying to you, that -- is simply my experience is -- and it's -- I don't -- it's not 4 5 speculative. If that were to happen, I'll send it to you so we can -- we can prove the point. But I can tell you 6 that there is significant prejudice to my clients that could occur -- that could occur if you were to allow this 8 9 to go forward on an at-risk basis. The prejudice would not be there if you were to decide that the zoning 10 administrator did not have the authority to allow this 11 case to go forward on an at-risk basis. But it has to be 12 13 held until the litigation is completed. Then, and then only, depending upon the outcome, may the application go 14 forward. That is the simplest way to do it. There's 15 no -- there's no departure from the regulations and the 16 ordinances as they're written. There's no need for anyone 17 from the -- from the town to determine that there's legal 18 access and so on and so forth. It all gets decided in a 19 20 regular, sensical matter and manner. 21 So by -- by putting this on hold and saying, 22 wait a minute. There's no at-risk provision anywhere in 23 our ordinance. We can't allow that, because there's no

provision on it. So there'd be no provision to allow it

to go forward on an at-risk basis. Then, if it goes

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- 1 forward -- then if -- it can't go forward. The lawsuit is
- 2 done -- and by the way, the plaintiff is -- is the one in
- 3 charge of pushing the lawsuit. Okay? And we have a
- 4 counter-lawsuit, but it's up to the plaintiff, TMS, to
- 5 push that as rapidly as it can. And it tried to do -- do
- 6 that already with the motion for summary judgment.
- 7 So they've taken the initiative to be in
- 8 court. Please don't give them some advantage in that case
- 9 by allowing this matter to go forward until the sole issue
- 10 of legal access has been decided by a court in Maricopa
- 11 County. That makes a lot of sense here. It's -- I think
- 12 it's difficult to argue the other position. It makes a
- 13 whole lot of sense. Doesn't it?
- 14 And then the town is not -- the other thing
- is everybody's -- somebody can have his or her
- 16 interpretation what that person means. You know, we can
- 17 probably ask all five of you, and you may have a
- 18 different -- if -- in a room separately, you could give us
- 19 your own idea of what at risk means. And maybe the people
- 20 behind me, the same thing. What does it really mean?
- 21 Well, without there being an ordinance
- 22 definition, no one really knows. Does that then enable
- 23 TMS to claim, listen, we a went ahead on the basis of at
- 24 risk. You knew we were spending lots of money. But you
- 25 went ahead and approved it anyway. Now we're not going to

Page 49 allow you to undo that improvement. You are equitably 1 estopped from doing that. And that's law in the state of 2 3 Arizona after this estoppel. Whether or not it applies here, what I'm telling you, this is -- this is a slippery 4 5 slope that the town is proceeding down. And it doesn't have to go there. All it has to do -- and TMS gave them 6 the perfect opening. All right? TMS said we're filing a lawsuit. And the town should go great. We'll just wait 8 9 and see what happens to that lawsuit. But no. Somehow the town has to then still become involved to allow a 10 process to go forward that's never been considered or 11 12 conceived by the mayor and council. So I think that's 13 where the error is coming in. 14 I would -- if I may --15 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I would remind you 16 your --17 MR. SLAVIN: I -- I --18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- 20 minutes is now 19 50. We don't want to cut you off --20 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. 21 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: -- if it's important, 22 but if you could please get to your conclusion, tell us whatever you need to tell us that's important. 23 24 MR. SLAVIN: Can you -- can you put up the one that shows where this would go, Heather, for me. 25

Page 50 the Hill -- if the -- I just want to show potential 2 prejudice. 3 There we go. Okay. This is a -- this is a slide that we had 5 prepared. And the -- TMS is seeking a -- an access that's 50 feet in width. And TMS plans to use the existing 6 driveway on the Zachariahs' property and to then go forward up the hill with lots of heavy equipment and lots 8 9 of jackhammering and all that fun stuff. But what it really does is it -- it has a incredible impact -- will 10 have an incredible impact on these two homes. So if you 11 12 see -- if there's no other aspect of prejudice here, the 13 aspect is this. Let's let the process take its normal TMS gave you an opening to do it. They gave you 14 an opportunity to do it. Let it -- let it make its way 15 through the court. If the court decides that there is 16 access, then maybe the appellants will have to live with 17 that. Right? 18 But unless and until, this is what really is 19 20 at issue for these two lot owners. And you can see how close that 50 feet is to their residences right now. They 21 22 are about 50 feet from the town property line. This

Poherta Fhlers Court Penorting and Legal Videography

from the right-of-way for the private road.

roadway would make them 25 feet away from the -- on the --

So, Mr. Chairman, you have been extremely

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- 1 fair, and I apologize for all the time we took. I thought
- 2 it was important to make a good record. And -- okay.
- 3 She's Edgar Bergen. I'm Charlie McCarthy.
- 4 Just so you know. So anyway.
- 5 Thank you, Heather.
- We have one other person to mention. We --
- 7 we have hired Copper State Engineering. Copper State
- 8 Engineering has determined that there is a shorter access
- 9 that would disturb less Hillside and would be less steep
- 10 in terms of making its way up to the TMS property. I
- 11 would like you to allow David Deatherage to spend three or
- 12 four minutes talking about that as well.
- 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Before we do that,
- 14 Mr. Slavin -- and thank you for your presentation -- I'm
- 15 not sure how that alternative access issue bears on what's
- 16 before the board here, which is whether or not the zoning
- 17 administrator had the authority to make the decision that
- 18 she made.
- MR. SLAVIN: Okay.
- 20 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I don't think we're
- 21 here at some sort of variance hearing where we're going to
- 22 be exploring are there less obtrusive ways, better ways to
- 23 get access, assuming we're going forward. So tell me why
- 24 it is that it would be significant to the issue that's
- 25 before the board that we consider or hear testimony about

- 1 potential other access.
- 2 MR. SLAVIN: I think you've boxed me in with
- 3 that.
- 4 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Good. It only took me
- 5 54 minutes, I think.
- 6 MR. SLAVIN: Well, Edgar Bergen just told me
- 7 to sit. Well, I think perhaps I'm Mortimer Snerd more
- 8 than Charlie McCarthy.
- 9 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I'm making some of
- 10 those references. I get it.
- MR. SLAVIN: Okay. Thank you.
- 12 Anyway, one of the issues in the court
- 13 proceeding regarding access, and -- and there's a private
- 14 way of condemnation count that TMS has -- has set forth in
- 15 this complaint. So the question is what is the most
- 16 appropriate road to get to this property? And that will
- 17 be decided in the lawsuit itself. So in terms -- in terms
- 18 of legal access and what that means, this would show that
- 19 there's a possibility that the court would not find that
- 20 this is the appropriate location for that -- for the legal
- 21 access to the TMS lot.
- 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And I appreciate that
- 23 information, and I can see that that would be very
- 24 significant for the evidence for the superior court judge
- 25 to decide or to hear. But I don't know that we need to

Page 53 hear that this after -- this evening. 2 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: On the other hand, I'm 3 doing my best not to interfere with your ability to tell 5 the board whatever it is you think the board needs to 6 hear. MR. SLAVIN: Mr. Chambliss and board 8 members, I respect your judgments on that, so I will take 9 my seat. 10 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. MR. SLAVIN: Thank you very much. 11 12 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: All right. 13 MR. SLAVIN: By the way, thank you for giving us the opportunity, because I know this was 14 scheduled earlier, but you granted us an extension so we 15 could get our trial under way. We sincerely appreciate 16 that courtesy. Thank you very much. 17 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Not a problem. 19 All right. That 20 minutes took just a 20 little bit longer. But I think where we are now is I'd like to hear from the applicant or the applicant's 21 22 representative. 23 (An off-the-record discussion ensued.) 24 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Has Mr. Slavin left the 25 room yet?

Page 54 MR. SLAVIN: No. I'm just --1 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, would you 3 come back for one second. I want to -- I want to do one thing here. 5 MR. SLAVIN: Get over here. Okay. Yes. 6 7 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: You and I had a 8 wonderful dialogue. 9 But I should have made sure, is there any member of the board that wants to ask any question of 10 Mr. Slavin before he takes a seat? 11 12 MR. WILLIAMS: No. 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: All right. Thank you, 14 sir. 15 MR. SLAVIN: Thank you. MR. JORDEN: Chair of the board, my name is 16 Doug Jorden. My address is 6122 East Courts Mountain 17 Road, Paradise Valley. 18 I am going to be much briefer because I 19 20 think that the staff got it right on the -- right on the money in terms of the decision that they made. And I look 21 forward to taking Slavin's \$1,000 from him, because --22 23 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. 24 MR. JORDEN: -- you know, it -- it borders on -- on crazy to think that, given the letter from the --25

- 1 from the town that's the subject of this appeal, that
- 2 it's -- that it's -- if you don't have access, then the
- 3 process that you have gone through with the board -- with
- 4 the Hillside Committee is meaningless, there's no way --
- 5 and I -- I'm sitting here to tell you there's no way that
- 6 we would or could try and leverage or estoppel that. We
- 7 understand what the at-risk letter means. It says that
- 8 you're proceeding on your own nickel. And if it doesn't
- 9 turn out well for you in court, this may be a total waste
- 10 of -- of your effort and time. So to suggest that somehow
- 11 we would try and slip something into the court or use some
- 12 kind of estoppel theory, I'm here to tell you that that is
- 13 not true.
- 14 Okay. I'm not going to spend much time on
- 15 this first hearing, because, Chairman, you've already done
- 16 a very good job of telling everybody what this is not
- 17 about. It's not what the house looks like. It's not
- 18 about the Hillside code, variances, whatnot.
- 19 Heather?
- 20 You know, it was a little bit hard to kind
- 21 of follow the -- the request that Mr. Slavin made. In his
- 22 first letter December 29th, the -- it was very clear that
- 23 what he was purporting to appeal was a decision to waive
- 24 enforcement of the town zoning ordinance and subdivision
- 25 ordinance regarding our application. And these are two

- 1 quotes from his letter. And one of those is actually in
- 2 the staff report.
- 3 "Can't proceed at risk without complying
- 4 with the following town code and ordinance requirements."
- 5 And then, in the letter, there was a list of seven or
- 6 eight different things that were supposedly problematic,
- 7 from subdivision, code divisions, the need for a CEP for a
- 8 private road, to a list of variances and whatnot. Then we
- 9 filed our response, and --
- Heather, the next one.
- 11 -- in Mr. Slavin's March 29th letter, that
- 12 had shifted dramatically. And instead of saying that the
- 13 decision that was being appealed was a decision to waive
- 14 enforcement of all of these things, the -- the shift of
- 15 the last letter, it makes it clear that they are not
- 16 talking about the subdivision plat requirements, the
- 17 conditional use, the variance requirements, and even
- 18 asserts that the board doesn't have jurisdiction.
- 19 Frankly, we agree with that. And that had
- 20 been our position all along.
- 21 But what Mr. Slavin does focus on in his
- 22 last letter, and was the subject of his presentation, was
- 23 the notion that this is not a lot and there's not any
- 24 access.
- 25 So the Hillside Building Committee, its

Page 57 charge, under the town zoning ordinance, is to review that 1 particular lot as to whether it complies with the Hillside 2 3 code requirements. The Hillside Committee review is very much a code compliance. In other words, here's the 5 requirement. If you meet the requirement, check. Move on to the next one. So it's not a subjective judgment about 6 whether there should be a house here. But it's a code compliance review. 8 9 And a couple of experts from the staff report with which we completely agree. One, access is 10 typically reviewed as part of the building permit process. 11 And there is nothing in the Hillside ordinance that talks 12 about the Hillside Building Committee is to consider 13 whether there was access. 14 The second quote from the staff report, I 15 think pretty clearly summarizes what they're about. They 16 examine land disturbance and other matters regulated by 17 the Hillside code within the boundaries of the subject 18 That is the charge of the Hillside code, to look at 19 20 what's going on within the boundaries of that lot. Not to consider access. 21 22 And --CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Jorden --23 24 MR. JORDEN: -- you know, there's --

CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Jorden, let me --

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- 1 let me interrupt you for a second. There's two issues
- 2 that are rolling around in my head. And -- and one of
- 3 them is, is I understand argument number one, I will call
- 4 it, is that we don't have the jurisdiction; it's not
- 5 properly before the board of adjustment to consider this
- 6 appeal because the November 29th letter from the zoning
- 7 administrator is not a decision regarding zoning, and,
- 8 therefore, that's not before us.
- 9 I've listened to Mr. Slavin's presentation.
- 10 And seems to me that if the zoning administrator's letter
- 11 is not a decision about zoning, it -- it certainly seems
- 12 to be about enforcement. Would you agree with me that the
- 13 zoning administrator's letter has to do with a enforcement
- 14 of -- of code, or interpretation, then there is a right to
- 15 appeal and we have jurisdiction to consider that?
- 16 MR. JORDEN: Mr. Chairman, no, I don't
- 17 agree. And here's why. The Hillside Committee, their
- 18 charge is to deal with land disturbance and other things
- 19 within that lot. Their charge is not to deal with access.
- 20 And, in fact, the letter from the zoning administrator --
- 21 and we set this forth in our written materials, and I
- 22 didn't want to -- to repeat some of that stuff here. But
- 23 it was simply a statement that we are not going to make a
- 24 decision until later on as opposed to a decision that
- 25 we're not going to require access or any of these other

- 1 things. So I don't think that there is any decision that
- 2 is properly in front of the board right now.
- Beyond that -- and what this really focuses
- 4 on is even, Mr. Chair, if you assume that there is a
- 5 decision, an enforcement decision or whatnot, that the
- 6 types of things that are being complained of, the notion
- 7 of there being no access or this not being a lot, are not
- 8 within the purview of the Hillside Building Committee.
- 9 And I'll get into that in just a second here.
- 10 I think the last point on this screen is
- 11 something that is important. And the -- the case law out
- 12 there is substantial and consistent that zoning ordinance
- 13 are in derogation of property rights, and they're to be
- 14 construed in favor of a property owner. In case after
- 15 case after case, it says that.
- 16 So if Mr. Slavin had said, well, there's
- 17 nothing in the ordinance that authorizes the at risk, I
- 18 would take just the opposite position. In the absence of
- 19 something in the ordinance that's saying that this is
- 20 allowed or not or allowed, you have to construe the zoning
- 21 ordinance, or this Hillside code, in favor of the property
- 22 owner and to allow them to proceed.
- 23 Again, we understand that if the litigation
- 24 turns out poorly, we're -- we're -- we lose if there's no
- 25 access to the property.

- 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Jorden, I might be
- 2 slowing you down. But I'm looking back to my notes on
- 3 what Mr. Slavin said. And I wrote that if the zoning
- 4 administrator is interpreting or enforcing the zoning
- 5 decision -- and I think I may fall on the side of the camp
- 6 that it may not have been enforcement of the zoning
- 7 decision, but it certainly seem seems to me that the
- 8 letter may be interpreting zoning.
- 9 And, again, I'm stuck on the jurisdictional
- 10 issue, because obviously, if we decide we don't have
- 11 jurisdiction, we're done. But it seems to me that we do
- 12 to the extent that the zoning administrator was doing an
- 13 interpretation. And could you address that, please.
- 14 MR. JORDEN: The -- the interpretation, if
- 15 you will, that the zoning administrator made was to not
- 16 make an interpretation. They -- they simply deferred --
- 17 she simply deferred, until later on, whether or not any of
- 18 the subdivision codes or conditional use permit or
- 19 anything was going to apply.
- 20 Again, this is -- the process that we're
- 21 talking about, the Hillside code process, is not issuance
- 22 of building permits. And the first point on the screen
- 23 here, access is typically reviewed as part of the building
- 24 permit process.
- Okay. This is not the type of thing that

- 1 the Hillside Committee is authorized to hear in terms of
- 2 whether there is legal access here.
- I hope I answered your question. If not,
- 4 I'll try again.
- 5 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: No, we're through on
- 6 that discussion. Thank you.
- 7 MR. JORDEN: Okay. The -- the other point
- 8 that Mr. Slavin --
- 9 Go to the next slide if you would, please.
- 10 The other point that Mr. Slavin spent a lot
- 11 of time on was the definition of lot. And this definition
- 12 that he relied upon was not put into the zoning ordinance
- 13 until 1999. This lot -- this lot was created long before
- 14 1999. 1970 at the very latest, and maybe earlier. And
- 15 there was actually a letter from town manager Kevin Burg
- 16 and Andrew miller to Mr. Lopez, the prior attorney, which
- 17 is included in our materials in Exhibit 16, that says, no,
- 18 this definition of lot doesn't -- has no relevance here
- 19 this is a lot up there. Whether or not it has access or
- 20 not is a different issue, but it is a lot.
- 21 So Mr. Slavin is essentially trying to
- 22 bootstrap his position on access based upon an ordinance
- 23 that was adopted years -- you know, 29 years that the --
- 24 that the -- at least, after this lot was established in
- 25 1970 or before.

Page 62 1 Heather. 2 So, again, we don't think that there was a decision on an interpretation or whatnot that was made. I 3 think the letter was very clear that that decision was 5 deferred. Nothing in the Hillside regulations gives the Hillside Committee right to review access. And if you go 6 7 under the premise that zoning ordnances are to be construed in favor of the property owner, I -- I think 8 that it's clear to us that staff's position is correct. 9 10 I'm happy to answer any other questions that 11 you may have. Thank you. 12 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Jorden, I think I 13 have one. I've been asking a lot more than anybody else. But -- and I'm going to ask a question that the audience 14 may want to applaud. Please don't. 15 But the question is while the applicant may 16 have property rights, don't the folks that are right next 17 to the applicant who have property that might be affected 18 also have property rights? 19

MR. JORDEN: Absolutely. They absolutely

21 have property rights, Mr. Chairman. But that's something

that will be decided when it goes in front of the Hillside

23 Committee. Okay? That's not something that's in front of

24 this board today. There's no question that they have

25 property rights just like Terry Scali does.

Page 63 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: But I'm just following 1 2 your argument about how the lack of specificity in the zoning ordinance may -- should be interpreted in favor of 3 the property owner because of the property rights. And 5 I'm thinking that that argument would also apply to the adjoining property owner. Is that a fair statement? 6 7 MR. JORDEN: In terms of our ability to proceed forward with this application in front of the 8 9 Hillside Committee, which is a very limited scope, I think that's the -- the property right that we're talking about 10 in terms of our ability to proceed forward at risk. We 11 12 understand that if -- if litigation goes badly, we're in a world of hurt. But I think the focus would be on our --13 our right to proceed forward with that application in 14 front of the Hillside Committee. 15 Thank you. 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I've asked a bunch of questions. 17 Board Member Leibsohn. 18 MR. LEIBSOHN: I'm not sure if you can 19 20 answer this. But I'd like a clarification of the pending status of where we are in the Hillside Committee review. 21 22 I understand there's a conceptual part and a formal part. Is the conceptual part and now we are ready to enter the 23 24 formal? Has there been a formal submittal for that portion? 25

- 1 MR. JORDEN: Mr. Chair, Mr. Leibsohn, you
- 2 are correct. So the conceptual meeting, that was held in
- 3 September of 2016. The formal application was submitted
- 4 in February of this year. But because of this pending
- 5 appeal, staff has not done anything in terms of responding
- 6 substantively; you need this, you need that, because the
- 7 effect of this appeal was to put everything on hold. But
- 8 the formal application has been filed.
- 9 MR. LEIBSOHN: So in other words, there's
- 10 been no further communications or discussions regarding
- 11 the formal review process with the applicant; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 MR. JORDEN: That is correct because of
- 14 Mr. Slavin's appeal, because he is correct that under
- 15 state law, once that appeal has been filed to this board,
- 16 that puts everything on hold, if you will, until you make
- 17 a decision.
- 18 So we would have very much liked to have
- 19 kept those discussions with the staff. But staff said no,
- 20 we can't do anything on this until such time as you -- the
- 21 board makes a decision.
- 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any other questions of
- 23 Mr. Jorden?
- 24 Board Member Kauffman.
- MS. KAUFFMAN: Yes. What is the benefit for

- 1 you guys going to the Hillside Building Committee prior to
- 2 getting this court settlement?
- 3 MR. JORDEN: The -- the benefit is simply
- 4 that this is going to be a long process. Mr. Scali has
- 5 been at this for, I think, three years, maybe four years,
- 6 since he bought this property. We know that this is not
- 7 going to be a single meeting, likely or -- by the time we
- 8 get feedback from staff and whatnot. Right now we are
- 9 frozen. We can't even talk to staff. They won't talk to
- 10 us and give us any formal feedback. So we -- we want to
- 11 keep moving forward. Mr. Scali wants to build his home on
- 12 the lot. And we don't want to be sitting in abeyance for,
- 13 you know, another 6 months, 12 months, whatever the case
- 14 may be, fully recognizing that we're at risk. We
- 15 understand that. We get that.
- 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any further questions?
- 17 Board Member Williams.
- 18 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.
- 19 Mr. Jorden, what I've got trouble with is
- 20 this at-risk review. There doesn't seem to be any
- 21 statutory authority for it, and you said there was nothing
- 22 to prevent it. But doesn't it create a precedent, when
- 23 you're dealing with future applicants who would be in a
- 24 similar, situation that would be willing to say, well,
- 25 they -- you gave it -- board of adjustment approved it in

- 1 that case, so I should have the same rights and get a
- 2 at-risk review? And that seems to put the whole process
- 3 for the zoning in -- in a cocked hat, as far as I'm
- 4 concerned.
- 5 MR. JORDEN: You know, if you go back to the
- 6 notion that the zoning ordinance or -- you know, you're
- 7 supposed to take an individual's property rights into
- 8 account. I think that's a partial answer to your
- 9 question. But I don't think this is the only issue here.
- 10 People are allowed to proceed at risk, maybe not in front
- 11 of the Hillside Committee, but I think it's not uncommon,
- 12 if, you know, you want to proceed in submitting your plans
- or construction plans or whatnot, having a risk, I don't
- 14 think that's all that uncommon.
- 15 Frankly, this is such an odd circumstance
- 16 here where we have this dispute about the -- the access.
- 17 I understand your theoretical point. I think, as a
- 18 practical point, the chances of this coming up again are
- 19 pretty darn slim.
- 20 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Follow-up questions?
- 21 Board Member Leibsohn.
- MR. LEIBSOHN: Yes.
- 23 What -- regarding the pending litigation,
- 24 what is the anticipated time frame for this case to be
- 25 resolved?

- 1 MR. JORDEN: Mr. Chair, Mr. Leibsohn, I am
- 2 not directly involved in the litigation. I am not
- 3 representing Mr. Scali in the litigation. As was
- 4 indicated, the -- the judge decided a summary judgment
- 5 motion just recently, within the last couple of weeks, as
- 6 Mr. Slavin pointed out. My best guess is anywhere from 6
- 7 to 12 months. But I'm -- that's just a guess on my part,
- 8 because I am not directly involved in the litigation. My
- 9 understanding is this is going to be a bench trial, which
- 10 means it's going to be tried to the judge as opposed to a
- 11 jury. So that will move things along a little bit
- 12 quicker. But that's just a guess, sir.
- 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And, Mr. Jorden, if
- 14 there's a bench trial and there's a decision by the trial
- 15 court judge, whoever doesn't like that decision can appeal
- 16 to the court of appeals. And so in terms of getting
- 17 what's called a final judgment, you know, from the trial
- 18 court process through the appellate court process,
- 19 probably looking at two and a half years from now.
- 20 MR. JORDEN: That could be. And -- and you
- 21 know, the issue -- let's say the -- that we won, if you
- 22 will. You know, I think the issue of posting a
- 23 supersedeas bond or whatnot would maybe come into play on
- 24 that also.
- But, yeah, if it goes to appeal, it's --

Page 68 it's a ways away. There's no question about that. 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you. 3 Any further questions of Mr. Jorden? Thank you, sir. 5 MR. JORDEN: Thank you. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Is there anyone else 6 7 from your team, Mr. Jorden, that needs to address the board at this point, or should we ask for input from the 8 public, which is primarily opposed to this? 9 MR. JORDEN: Nothing further from us --10 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. 11 12 MR. JORDEN: -- Mr. Chairman. 13 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I have about ten of these things that have been filled out for folks wanting 14 to address the board. And so I'm going to call some of 15 these names forward. And if I mispronounce your name, 16 please forgive me. 17 And I've seen a number of these filled out. 18 19 And there's one person that's conceded their time. So the 20 first person I'm going to ask to come to the podium is David Selden. 21 22 Good afternoon, sir. 23 MR. SELDEN: Good afternoon -- or good 24 evening. 25 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Good evening.

- 1 MR. SELDEN: I have a handout. If I might
- 2 approach the -- the Chair or somebody could distribute it.
- 3 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I'm sure someone can
- 4 get those things to us. Why don't you get them to George.
- 5 George can circulate them for us.
- 6 MR. SELDEN: Chair, Members of the board, My
- 7 name is David Selden. I'm a resident of Paradise Valley
- 8 at 5501 East Solano Drive.
- 9 I'm an attorney. I did title insurance work
- 10 back in the 1980s, and studying up on this project
- 11 reminded me why I had stopped doing title insurance work
- 12 back in the 1980s.
- But I have spend a fair amount of time going
- 14 through relevant documents. And I've put together -- the
- 15 first document for you is a chronology of some of the
- 16 important events to understand this issue. And there's an
- 17 important issue here that the staff has not considered and
- 18 I suspect the town, as a whole, has not considered and
- 19 this board has not considered and perhaps, you know,
- 20 ultimately it's a policy decision that the town council
- 21 should review. And I suspect perhaps even the applicant
- 22 may not have considered it, because there's a defect in
- 23 the title insurance policy for the property, which I will
- 24 explain in a moment. So I'm not placing any blame on
- 25 anyone for not dealing with this issue, but it is an

- 1 important issue that the town is going to have to come to
- 2 grips with.
- To put this in perspective, certainly in
- 4 Paradise Valley, we value certain common values. And we
- 5 often hear people speak of this, one of which is we are a
- 6 town of limited government. We are a town that respects
- 7 private property rights. And we are also a town that
- 8 cherishes our natural environment, particularly our
- 9 mountain views, and Camelback being among those. It's on
- 10 the new street signs we've posted. It's on the town's new
- 11 logo. It's -- it permeates the essence of what Paradise
- 12 Valley is, and it's enshrined in the -- even in the
- 13 Hillside ordinance.
- 14 So let's go back to the history of what has
- 15 happened in this property, how we're in the position that
- 16 we are. The first operative fact, as in the chronology,
- 17 is that on February 27, 1959, before this town was even
- 18 incorporated, the Stone Canyon subdivision was platted.
- 19 And, Heather, page 3 has the Stone Canyon
- 20 plat. The -- and as shown on the Stone Canyon plat, the
- 21 property at issue, TMS, is just to the south of the land
- 22 here, is actually outside the boundaries of the Stone
- 23 Canyon plat. However, the alleged route of access being
- 24 sought is within the Stone Canyon plat, as shown on this,
- 25 through lots 22, 23, 24, and 25.

- 1 Then, going back to the chronology, four
- 2 days later, on March 3rd, 1959, four days after this
- 3 subdivision was platted, we have a document recorded by
- 4 the developers called the declaration of restrictions.
- 5 And that would be the last three pages of this handout to
- 6 you. And you see it there. Obviously it's too small to
- 7 read on your screen.
- But this is a recorded document. In 1959,
- 9 they called it a declaration of restrictions. Today, most
- 10 people would call it covenants, conditions, and
- 11 restrictions, or CC&Rs.
- 12 And this, as the document states, are
- 13 legally binding restrictions that run with the land.
- 14 These embody private property rights of the residents of
- 15 the Stone Canyon community.
- 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Selden.
- MR. SELDEN: Yes.
- 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Let me ask you --
- 19 again, I'm -- I'm focused on two issues that I think are
- 20 before the board. Do we have authority to -- to hear this
- 21 appeal? Because the letter from the zoning administrator
- 22 is an interpretation or enforcement of the zoning
- 23 ordinance. And if we do have jurisdiction to hear the
- 24 appeal, why should we uphold or why should we not uphold.
- 25 And if you could focus me on either of those two issues, I

- 1 would appreciate it.
- 2 MR. SELDEN: I will do that.
- And, yes, Mr. Chairman, the board does have
- 4 the authority to consider the appeal. And one of the
- 5 reasons to consider the appeal and send this back to the
- 6 staff is that the staff has missed the fact that the
- 7 proposed access in the application violates five different
- 8 provisions of the CC&Rs for this community. And this is a
- 9 town that -- in fact, the mayor, to his credit, has an
- 10 advisory committee to interact with all the communities
- 11 within Paradise Valley that have community committees that
- 12 administer CC&Rs.
- 13 That has not happened in this case with this
- 14 application. And it is a complete backward process to
- 15 have an application come before the town when it hasn't
- 16 even come before the neighborhood committee that has
- 17 jurisdiction to enforce the property rights of the 25 lot
- 18 owners in that community. And it would be a horrible
- 19 precedent for this town, for this board, for this staff to
- 20 be considering applications when it -- before those
- 21 applications or -- and those applicants have even gone
- 22 before the neighborhood committees who enforce the CC&Rs.
- 23 This is going forward at risk. Who's at risk here? Sure,
- 24 the applicant is at risk. The homeowners whose property
- 25 would be taken are at risk. But the neighborhood is at

- 1 risk as well, and the town is at risk. What sense does it
- 2 make for a board of adjustment to authorize a town staff
- 3 to consider applicants when they haven't even gone before
- 4 the neighborhood committee. And who knows whether the
- 5 committee is going to approve it or not. So the town has
- 6 spent all this money, all this staff time, engineering
- 7 reports, lawyers, inside counsel, outside counsel, and
- 8 they didn't even go to the neighborhood committee. They
- 9 don't have the permissions to even do what they propose to
- 10 do until they go through that process. They're putting
- 11 the cart before the horse.
- 12 The -- and to return to the chronology just
- 13 briefly, I think the important point here is that this was
- 14 all done. It's recorded. It's part of the county list of
- 15 property records.
- 16 50 years later, TMS purchases this property.
- 17 And the title insurance policy for TMS -- it's an owners
- 18 policy -- guarantees access to the property. But the
- 19 title report, or at least the schedule of the exceptions,
- 20 do not note the 50-year-old CC&Rs. It's not an exception
- 21 to schedule B in the TMS title insurance policy. That,
- 22 frankly, is a simple thing. So we now have a title
- 23 insurance policy that supposedly insures the applicant's
- 24 access to a property without noting that he can't build
- 25 that roadway or driveway without approval of the

- 1 neighborhood committee and without getting multiple
- 2 variances to the CC&Rs that that neighborhood committee
- 3 probably doesn't even have legal authority to grant
- 4 because the CC&Rs run with the land.
- We've got a huge problem here. The simple
- 6 solution, by the way, we'd love to join hands with TMS and
- 7 perhaps make a claim on this title insurance policy. The
- 8 policy gives him the legal authority to pay the 725 grand
- 9 and, boom, we're done. This problem is solved. We solve
- 10 the problem for him. We solve the problem for the town.
- 11 We solve the problem for the neighborhood. And we all go
- 12 happily ever after being able to look at Camelback
- 13 Mountain as the icon that it is.
- 14 And then -- I'll be real quick,
- 15 Mr. Chairman.
- 16 The second page of this lists the five
- 17 different violations of the CC&Rs that this project would
- 18 entail. The first is -- and I've referenced each of these
- 19 by paragraph numbers and the copy of the CC&Rs that you
- 20 have in front of you. I've color-coded, in yellow
- 21 highlighting, the operative language. So you can take a
- 22 look at the summary sheet, see the paragraph numbers, read
- 23 the yellow highlighting, and it will guide you through
- 24 this. So I'll be real quick.
- The first thing is in two different places,

- 1 these CC&Rs, paragraph 1 and paragraph 6, it states that
- 2 property within Stone Canyon East must be used exclusively
- 3 for single-family residential purposes. Putting a roadway
- 4 or driveway through Stone Canyon East to reach property
- 5 outside Stone Canyon East, not subject to any restriction,
- 6 is certainly antithetical to the concept that this was a
- 7 neighborhood that the developers set up to be
- 8 single-family houses ending in cul-de-sacs.
- 9 The second item --
- 10 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Selden.
- 11 Mr. Selden, I -- I understand some of your positions,
- 12 and -- and I appreciate them. What I'm having difficulty
- 13 to is connecting potential violations of CC&Rs to the
- 14 matter that's before the board this evening. And if you
- 15 could help me understand that connection, then -- 'cause
- 16 right now I understand the argument about the CC&Rs, but I
- 17 don't see how that bears on what's before the board here
- 18 this evening.
- 19 MR. SELDEN: This board should direct the
- 20 staff -- should grant the appeal, have the staff go back
- 21 to the drawing boards to think and consider the CC&Rs. As
- 22 a policy matter and as a legal matter, this board and the
- 23 staff and the town ought not to be processing applications
- that are subject to the jurisdiction of the CC&R without
- 25 having that process completed so the neighborhood can work

- 1 its jurisdiction over this. Otherwise -- if we have
- 2 people in this town coming straight to the staff and then
- 3 going straight to the board and bypassing the CC&Rs,
- 4 what -- what's the purpose? It's -- that's certainly --
- 5 certainly a very flawed process. And that's something
- 6 that needs to be rethought, and, frankly, legal advise
- 7 ought to be given to that. It would also be helpful for
- 8 the two absent board members, to be able to have the
- 9 opportunity for them to know that. I'm certainly not to
- 10 faulting them for -- for not being here.
- 11 But it creates all kinds of risks for the
- 12 town, including the fact, by the way, that these CC&Rs
- 13 give every single lot owner, within Stone Canyon East, the
- 14 legal authority to go to court to stop any violation. So
- 15 this is going to be a mess if this appeal is not granted.
- 16 Send it back to the staff, and let's figure out how we can
- 17 resolve this matter, because otherwise, when the town says
- 18 it's -- that this application will proceed at risk, it's
- 19 at risk for all kinds of parties. And it makes sense to
- 20 really take this back to square one and try and resolve
- 21 this issue. And I think, frankly, the title company would
- 22 be the best solution for it.
- I won't belabor the point with respect to
- 24 the -- I won't belabor the point but will briefly mention
- 25 this application calls for a cantilevered driveway to be

- 1 constructed within Stone Canyon. Not on the TMS property.
- 2 Within the Stone Canyon property. That's a structure.
- 3 The CC&Rs prohibit that kind of a structure.
- 4 The CC&Rs also require that whatever
- 5 structures are allowed -- even if a cantilever driveway
- 6 were a permitted structure, it would have to be submitted
- 7 to the committee. And the Stone Canyon East has a
- 8 committee to enforce the CC&Rs and to consider
- 9 applications. And there has been no application for this
- 10 project. So this board would be bypassing -- an approval
- 11 would be bypassing the neighborhood committee.
- 12 There is also a provision that requires
- 13 approval of the committee for removal of native
- 14 vegetation. And this project would require widespread
- 15 removal of native vegetation within the Stone Canyon
- 16 community.
- 17 The Stone Canyon CC&Rs also prohibit the
- 18 conveyance of any portion of a lot less than a full lot
- 19 other than to a neighboring Stone Canyon lot owner. Okay?
- 20 So maybe, for some reason, they do a little lot swap or
- 21 something. Every property has to be at least an acre.
- 22 But the easement that is alleged in this
- 23 case is, in fact, a conveyance. So this would be
- implementing a conveyance or recognizing a conveyance
- 25 that's prohibited.

- 1 So all of those are reasons that this
- 2 application should not proceed. The appeal should be
- 3 granted. There are significant legal issues that have not
- 4 been considered.
- 5 And when Mr. Jorden, a few moments ago,
- 6 spoke about all how these ordnances should be construed in
- 7 favor of the property owner, in this case, we've got 25
- 8 property owners. This affects much more than the -- than
- 9 the applicant. And the town, as a matter of policy and as
- 10 a matter of legal process, should not put -- should not
- 11 disregard the CC&Rs of the communities. You know, Colonia
- 12 Miramonte is a -- certainly a well-recognized, beautiful
- 13 community. I saw several of the residents here today.
- 14 They probably don't want to have to look across the valley
- 15 at this project.
- 16 But would the town do this to Colonia
- 17 Miramonte and decide, oh, gee, let's process the
- 18 application for somebody to build a three-story house in
- 19 there. And I haven't seen their CC&Rs, but I'm sure
- 20 that's not allowed.
- 21 But there's all kinds of procedures where
- 22 this town -- and the mayor's committee certainly reflects
- 23 that she'd be working hand in hand with the community
- 24 groups and committees for those communities that have
- 25 CC&Rs. And in this case, the town should -- and the board

- 1 and its town staff should require that the applicant come
- 2 to the Stone Canyon East committee. Let's see its
- 3 proposals. We'll consider them and then determine how
- 4 that impacts upon this. Because otherwise, we may be
- 5 wasting lots of time, lots of taxpayers' money reviewing
- 6 application that can't even be approved or does not be
- 7 approved by the CC&Rs of the affected community.
- 8 And the title insurance policy in here in
- 9 essence guaranteed the applicant access to property
- 10 without even seeing, noting, or considering that the route
- of access went through a property that's subject to
- 12 50-year-old CC&Rs.
- 13 So there's a lot more to be considered. And
- 14 I appreciate the -- the Chair's indulgence, because it's
- 15 important new information that really makes us have to go
- 16 back to square one and not proceed with this application
- 17 and therefore approve the appeal.
- 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, Mr. Selden.
- Any questions to my left?
- 20 Board Member Leibsohn.
- 21 MR. LEIBSOHN: I have two questions if I
- 22 can.
- First one, you made the statement that the
- 24 board -- you're making a proposal to uphold the appeal and
- 25 to refer back to staff. What -- what staff are you

Page 80 1 referring to? 2 MR. SELDEN: The town staff. 3 MR. LEIBSOHN: What -- I mean, specifically, what -- who does that consist of? 5 MR. SELDEN: Well, the normal people that --MR. LEIBSOHN: The town staff is the zoning 6 7 administrator. 8 MR. SELDEN: Right. The zoning 9 administrator. Whoever the applicant would come to. 10 And I'll have to admit I'm not a expert on how the Town of Paradise Valley has organized its staff. 11 12 But -- but, in this case, the staff has made a 13 recommendation to say that this application should go forward. And conspicuously absent from that 14 recommendation is any consideration of the CC&Rs. 15 staff should consider that. And if -- if the board is not 16 going to deny this outright, at least let the staff 17 consider the impact of this on the CC&Rs. I would, 18 frankly, hope the staff would get some guidance from the 19 20 elected officials here in terms of how does this town, as a matter of policy, want applicants and staff to deal with 21 22 people who come for building projects when they haven't even gone to the neighborhood associations. 23 24 MR. LEIBSOHN: That brings me to my second 25 question, if I can.

- 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Sure.
- 2 MR. LEIBSOHN: So obviously it's a
- 3 requirement to post notification of -- of these Hillside
- 4 Committee meetings and so forth. So can you inform me of
- 5 the participation of the Stone Canyon residents at the
- 6 Hillside Committee review and were not -- were these items
- 7 brought up at that review or -- or any other neighborhood
- 8 input available at that -- at that hearing?
- 9 MR. SELDEN: There was certainly -- quite a
- 10 few Stone Canyon residents were present at the Hillside
- 11 review. I believe a number of them spoke in opposition to
- 12 it. I was out of town. I don't know exactly how many.
- 13 But, yes -- and there's quite a few of them here tonight.
- 14 I don't know how many are still here.
- 15 MR. LEIBSOHN: So -- so the specific items
- 16 about the CC&Rs, was that -- was that discussed at the
- 17 Hillside review committee?
- 18 MR. SELDEN: That was not. Not to my
- 19 knowledge. This is something, frankly -- and I'll have to
- 20 acknowledge, a lot of this work, we weren't aware of this
- 21 ourselves. Although the CC&Rs are part of the title
- 22 report, you know, for our property. But it's not
- 23 something that the neighborhood had really focused on
- 24 until it was given further thought and further examination
- 25 and further study.

Page 82 1 MR. LEIBSOHN: Thanks. 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Further questions? 3 MR. LEIBSOHN: I'm good. Thank you. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Questions to my right? 5 Board Member Kauffman. MS. KAUFFMAN: I have to believe that 6 7 there's a hierarchy of property documents. And while I respect your CC&Rs, I would think that the lawsuit in the 8 9 superior court would take precedent over whether or not this roadway goes in through Stone Canyon or not. And 10 what you stipulate -- first -- no cantilevers or whatever. 11 12 That point is secondary -- maybe even fourth -- after the 13 superior court, then you have the Hillside Committee. Then you have the building, and then I would think it 14 would come to -- and I could be wrong -- the CC&Rs. So I 15 just want to make sure that I'm correct on this hierarchy 16 17 of governance. 18 MR. SELDEN: With all due respect, no. 19 The -- the neighborhood, the Stone Canyon association, is 20 not a party to the lawsuit. At least not yet. But even if the court were to grant a right-of-way, that doesn't 21 22 supercede the CC&Rs. In fact -- and the CC&Rs were recorded before the easement. It was recorded before the 23 24 property was severed that created the landlocked parcel. So the CC&Rs came first. 25

- In fact, the really peculiar thing here is
- 2 the 1960 easement did not even reference the 1959 CC&Rs of
- 3 the subdivision plat. So there's all kinds of screwy
- 4 things with respect to the way in which the -- the title
- 5 recordation was done on some of these.
- 6 But even if the court were to grant a --
- 7 say, okay, there's a right of access up through -- between
- 8 lots 22, 25, et cetera, that -- even if that granted a
- 9 right of access, that doesn't control the CC&Rs and the
- 10 rights -- the property rights of the Stone Canyon East
- 11 community. And if the committee -- and I certainly
- 12 wouldn't prejudge what the committee might do. I'm not a
- 13 member of the committee. But if the committee determines
- 14 that, no, even though there's a right of access, you can't
- 15 build that driveway there because that's cantilevered.
- 16 Our -- our regulations don't allow it. Our CC&Rs don't
- 17 allow it. They run with the land is a mandatory thing.
- 18 Or the determination could be that the CC&Rs
- 19 don't permit it because that's using lots within our
- 20 residential neighborhood as a throughway to reach property
- 21 outside the community that are -- that's not restricted at
- 22 all. And -- and that would contravening the whole purpose
- of the CC&Rs, which is to make this a quiet, you know,
- 24 single-family residential community with every street
- 25 ending in a cul-de-sac. And that's the way these lots

- 1 were sold.
- 2 And then -- and we're falling back, in the
- 3 1960s, when this was done, there was a proposal, at one
- 4 point, to put a tramway up to the top of Camelback
- 5 Mountain. The TMS property could have been the tramway
- 6 station under the theory that they're coming from to say
- 7 that they can build a roadway through the Stone Canyon
- 8 East community. And if the CC&R is saying no restaurants,
- 9 no stores, no this -- you know, to allow a property
- 10 outside Stone Canyon to use Stone Canyon as a
- 11 throughway -- it could be a new trailhead, and we'd have
- 12 another Echo Canyon situation in the neighborhood if that
- 13 were to be the interpretation.
- So no, even -- regardless of what happens in
- 15 the lawsuit, the issue of the CC&Rs and the property
- 16 rights of the neighborhood will have to be determined.
- 17 And those are, at any point, not being determined in any
- 18 court, because there's been no applicant -- no application
- 19 that -- the -- Stone Canyon community hasn't taken any
- 20 action because no applicant has asked, hey, we claim some
- 21 kind of a -- an easement property right, implied or
- 22 otherwise, through this community that is governed by any
- 23 CC&R. And here's what we intend to do. Community, please
- 24 act upon this.
- 25 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Further questions?

Page 85 1 MS. KAUFFMAN: No. 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, Mr. Selden. 3 MR. SELDEN: Thank you. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I have a number of 5 names here. And I don't know if you all, who have listened to the presentations now, intend to speak 6 further. So I'll call you out. If you want to come forward, please do so. And if you say not necessary, 8 9 we'll note that as well. 10 And if I mispronounce your name, again, forgive me. 11 Patrick McMullen. Is he still here? 12 13 Mr. McMullen, do you wish to address the board? 14 15 MR. McMULLEN: Yes, sir. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Please come forward. 16 MR. McMULLEN: Good evening, Mr. Chairman. 17 My name is Patrick McMullen. I live at 1601 West Windrose 18 Drive, Phoenix, Moon Valley. I'm president of the Phoenix 19 20 Mountain Preservation Council, which is why I'm here. I was asked by the Save Camelback Mountain. 21 22 PMPC was created in 1975 with the focus of protecting the preserves following Barry Goldwater's 23 24 precedent about protecting Camelback Mountain. That's why 25 I'm here today.

- 1 And I'll be done shortly, but -- because I
- 2 just want to -- the point I want to make, I filled out my
- 3 form incorrectly. I said that I oppose, when actually,
- 4 I'm not in opposition. So I put in another one, so you
- 5 might see my name twice. The one that it's supposed to
- 6 say is that we support the appeal, and we would like to
- 7 see the -- the board of adjustment here just shelve this
- 8 decision at this point and wait till the court of appeal
- 9 is done and wait till Maricopa County does their job and
- 10 then pick it up.
- 11 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, sir.
- 12 And the form I have in front of me says that
- 13 you are in favor of upholding. I think you got it right.
- 14 MR. McMULLEN: I don't know which one --
- 15 what it is. Anyway, the -- there's an appeal with it, and
- 16 just -- just don't move forward on this. The court will
- 17 decide, and then you go from there.
- 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Can you hold for
- 19 one second.
- 20 Anyone have any questions for Mr. McMullen?
- 21 Thank you, sir.
- 22 MR. McMULLEN: Oh. And I sent you a letter
- 23 too.
- 24 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: We've got a lot of
- 25 letters.

Page 87 MR. McMULLEN: Thank you, sir. 1 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Giselle Alexander. 3 Good evening. MS. ALEXANDER: Good evening. I am Giselle 4 5 Alexander. You pronounced it right. I am a Paradise Valley resident. I live down the street at 6017 North 6 7 Invergordon. 8 Like so many before me, I, too, am an 9 attorney, and I'm here supporting the appeal. I'm concerned about the potential precedent that this sets, as 10 well as the lack of authority for an at-risk decision. 11 would like the board to wait until the court case has 12 13 resolved between the other residents at Paradise Valley before putting all of us at risk. 14 I understand that someone has accepted the 15 at-risk decision, but, as an attorney, I can tell you 16 everyone accepts at risk until it doesn't go their way. 17 And then it becomes someone else's fault, and in our case, 18 19 potentially the town. 20 That's all I have to say. 21 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you. 22 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you. 23 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Excuse me one second. Let's make sure there's no questions for you. 24 25 Any questions from the board members?

- 1 MS. KAUFFMAN: I just have one
- 2 clarification.
- 3 Excuse me. Most of the cases that come --
- 4 sorry -- before the board of adjustment do not set
- 5 precedent. One case is solely looked at individually.
- 6 And so I want to ask the attorney if this case is
- 7 different than our normal board of adjustment cases
- 8 brought before us.
- 9 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And for point of
- 10 clarification, for our attorney -- Susan Goodwin, by the
- 11 way, who is our special counsel for this evening. I
- 12 believe what Board Member Kauffman is referring to is
- 13 typically we hear variances. And what we've been advised
- 14 with respect to variances is that they are specific to
- 15 that application only, and the decision has no precedent
- or value for any other applicant. I believe
- 17 Ms. Kauffman's asking whether our decision here, with
- 18 respect to the appeal of the zoning administrator
- 19 decision, does that have any precedent or impact over any
- 20 other.
- 21 MS. GOODWIN: I think that if you decide
- 22 deny the appeal, which would have the effect of permitting
- 23 the application to go forward at risk, that that could set
- 24 precedent because you've -- the zoning administrator has
- interpreted the code in a certain way. And I don't know

Page 89 how you change that interpretation from case to case. 1 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: So it may -- it may 3 have precedential impact, whatever decision we make this evening one way or the other. 5 MS. GOODWIN: It may. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you. 6 Any further questions for counsel? Does anyone any questions of Ms. Alexander? 8 9 Thank you, ma'am. 10 Ashley Wallace. Is Ashley Wallace still here, and does she 11 12 want to say anything? 13 I don't see anybody coming forward to the I'll note, for the record, that Ms. Wallace is in 14 favor of upholding the appeal. 15 16 David Appel. MR. APPEL: I respectfully cede my time to 17 18 Mr. Slavin if necessary. 19 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. We can hear you 20 from the way back. I think what you said is you ceded your time to Mr. Selden, who's already presented to the 21 22 floor. 23 MR. APPEL: If necessary. 24 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Thank you. 25 This may be the same. Terry Appel.

- 1 MS. APPEL: I ceded my time to Buzz Slavin.
- 2 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay.
- 3 Okay. I'm -- okay. And I understand that
- 4 you also, like Mr. Appel, your ceded your time to
- 5 Mr. Slavin. You are in favor of upholding the appeal,
- 6 correct?
- 7 MS. APPEL: Yes.
- 8 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. I have a Linda
- 9 Miller. And it says don't address and might address. So
- 10 I don't know if Ms. Miller is still here, whether she
- 11 wants to make a presentation.
- I don't see Ms. Miller. And she's checked
- 13 both boxes, so I'm not sure which matter she -- where she
- 14 is on that.
- I have a speaker form from a Tom Husband.
- 16 And it doesn't indicate which way Mr. Husband is leaning.
- 17 So Mr. Husband.
- 18 MR. HUSBAND: My name is Tom Husband, and
- 19 I've had the good fortune to live at 5520 East San Miguel
- 20 in Paradise Valley. And I'm here representing the Save
- 21 Camelback Mountain organization, which was recently formed
- 22 to oppose the development up on Camelback Mountain. And
- 23 we basically are a grassroots organization. And we are
- 24 here about Camelback Mountain and saving it for future
- 25 generations. And to date, our organization has 1,834

Page 91 signatures supporting a petition opposing this 1 2 development. Let's see. Is Ms. Sellers here? Yes. 3 Okay. Allow me to introduce Jennifer 5 Sellers, our lawyer who will be representing us going forward. And let me know, and I'll get her contact 6 information to you. 8 Our organization agrees with the arguments 9 put forth by the three neighbors and their lawyer, Buzz Slavin, and we request that the board of adjustment uphold 10 this appeal and not permit the application for 11 TMS Ventures, LLC, to go forward unless and until the 12 13 legal right of access is established with finality and all legal issues regarding access to the property are 14 resolved. We thank you for supporting the private 15 property rights of existing residents and supporting a 16 process that does not waste taxpayer money by having town 17 employees and volunteers spending time and resources on 18 evaluating and processing an application that does not 19 even have a legal right of access. 20 21 My I answer any questions? 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Are there any 23 questions? 24 No questions. Thank you, sir. 25 MR. HUSBAND: Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I don't have any other
- 2 speaker forms that have been filled out that are in favor
- 3 of upholding the appeal.
- 4 I'm going to next ask for public input on
- 5 those that are opposed to the appeal. But before I ask
- 6 that, is there any other member of the public that wants
- 7 to address the board in favor of upholding the appeal?
- 8 And if not, we'll move to the next segment here.
- 9 No one else is coming forward. I will note,
- 10 for the record, that I have 83 forms that have been filled
- 11 out that are in favor of upholding the appeal and they did
- 12 not wish to speak.
- 13 And I have two more forms that have just
- 14 been presented to me.
- 15 I have two additional forms from -- one from
- 16 Cherie Cobb and one from Arlyn Cobb. Both of you are in
- 17 favor of upholding the appeal. Neither of you have
- 18 indicated whether you want to address the board. So if
- 19 either of the Cobbs are here and they want to address the
- 20 board, please come forward.
- 21 So let's make that 85 that have given
- 22 speaker input saying they are opposed to they -- they're
- 23 in favor of upholding the appeal.
- I've got three forms that have been filled
- 25 out for folks that may want to come forward and speak in

Page 93 favor of the applicant. J. David Deatherage. 2 Is Mr. Deatherage here? 3 MR. DEATHERAGE: I filled it out wrong. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Excuse me? 5 MR. DEATHERAGE: I filled out the form wrong. I'm in favor of. 6 7 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Upholding the appeal? MR. DEATHERAGE: Upholding the appeal. 8 9 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. I will note 10 that. Patrick McMullen, I think we just had him 11 12 speak. And this one I'm going to have trouble with. 13 Liz Clendenin. I don't know if Liz is here. I got Liz 14 right, but the last name, I don't know. 15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Clendenin. 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: She has filled out her 17 form saying that she's opposed to the appeal. I don't 18 know if she filled out her form correctly. I have three 19 20 other forms that have been filled out. They do not want to address the board, but they are in favor of opposing 21 22 the appeal. And there is there was a hand that was raised 23 there, so yes, ma'am. 24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Liz just left, but she's in favor of opposing. 25

Page 94 1 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Could you stand up, 2 please. I couldn't hear you. 3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Liz just left, but she's in favor. 4 5 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: She's in favor of upholding the appeal? 6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. 8 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Maybe we need to make the form more clear. 9 10 (Applause) CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: When we started out, I 11 12 said that we would give one more opportunity for the -for the appellant to speak, and Mr. Slavin was speaking on 13 behalf of the appellant. If he wants to address the board 14 for a short presentation, that would be -- you're welcome 15 16 to come to the podium. 17 MR. SLAVIN: Thank you. And I will be brief. 18 I wanted to address one of the comments that 19 20 my colleague at the bar, Mr. Jorden, stated. And that is that this lot was created prior to 1999, when the 21 22 definition of lot was added to the Hillside ordinance. 23 There's no proof that this lot was created. A lot resulted -- this -- this parcel this 3.44-acre 24 parcel was originally part of 23 acres that had been 25

- 1 severed from the -- from the Stone Canyon East property.
- 2 It has an elevation -- or it has a slope of 53 percent or
- 3 greater, and it, as so, went up to the ridge of Camelback
- 4 Mountain.
- 5 When a prior owner deeded away, to the City
- 6 of Phoenix Mountain Preservation Club -- deeded away
- 7 everything except 3.44 acres, that's how this parcel was
- 8 created. It was -- it was a remainder left after the
- 9 remaining property was conveyed away. That's just a
- 10 parcel. It's sitting out there as a parcel. It's
- 11 floating out on the -- on the Hillside as a parcel. And
- 12 until -- unless and until an action was taken with regard
- 13 to determining that to be a parcel under the zoning
- 14 ordinance, it's at risk -- any piece of property in the
- 15 state -- in the town that hasn't received permits and
- 16 approvals, are at risk for changes, from time to time, in
- 17 the zoning ordinance. Otherwise the town can never amend
- 18 its zoning ordinance. So we know that the mayor and
- 19 council, from time to time, amend the ordinances.
- 20 And in this case, a parcel of property was
- 21 sitting out there -- and if you want to talk about at
- 22 risk, it was at risk that there could be changes made in
- 23 the future. And so long as there have been no approvals
- 24 granted, there are no, what are called vested rights
- 25 available for that property to claim it was validly

- 1 created. Vested rights came out of a famous case called
- 2 Gulf Leisure Corporation v. Town of Paradise Valley. And
- 3 basically, it holds -- stems from the proposition that
- 4 when substantial funds are expended based on an
- 5 approval -- in that case, a special use permit approval
- 6 for a resort -- and not only in terms of acquiring, but
- 7 also spending it on engineering and design fees, it says
- 8 that you have vested rights.
- 9 This parcel has sat there on that
- 10 mountainside since 1970, when it was the remainder created
- 11 out of the remaining -- that was left over after
- 12 conveyance to the mountainside. It's been sitting there
- 13 for 45 years. It has no vested rights. It has no claim
- 14 at all that it's a validly legal created lot. And
- 15 therefore, the town, mayor, and council had the right to
- 16 make changes to the zoning ordinance that are binding on
- 17 that property.
- 18 So I would submit to you that it's putting
- 19 the rabbit in the hat to say that -- and then pulling it
- 20 out to say that this was a legally created lot sometime in
- 21 1999 or before -- before 1999. There's nothing at all to
- 22 support that. There's no research. There's nothing there
- 23 that -- that would serve that statement. So that having
- 24 been said, again, I respectfully request that you consider
- 25 this to be a decision of the zoning district and that you

- 1 have the authority to -- to grant this appeal, send
- 2 this -- I say send it back. What you basically do -- we
- 3 would hope you would do and implore you to do -- would be
- 4 to deny the decision, reverse the decision. That then
- 5 places everybody back to the status quo ante. It would
- 6 allow the litigation to proceed that TMS initiated, not
- 7 the letter. Let that -- let that wend its way through the
- 8 courts. And, Mr. Chairman, it may take a while for the
- 9 case. But that's the process this applicant chose. That
- 10 was the only process it had available.
- 11 So that being said -- we've also submitted
- 12 to you a proposed form of order for your consideration.
- 13 And if you would see fit to review that and vote on it, we
- 14 would respectfully appreciate that. But that is up to
- 15 you.
- 16 So having said that, there's nothing to
- 17 support at risk. We've all -- we've talked about that.
- 18 We've talked it to death here. So essentially, we request
- 19 your approval of our appeal.
- Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Appreciate it. Don't
- 22 sit down yet.
- 23 Any further questions of Mr. Slavin?
- Board Member Leibsohn.
- MR. LEIBSOHN: Yes. Mr. Slavin, one of the

- 1 arguments that you used in the your presentation was the
- 2 potential -- the decision of this board and how that could
- 3 potentially influence or create prejudice for the court
- 4 one way or the other. And it works both ways, actually.
- 5 So could you maybe expand your thoughts on how that could
- 6 turn out?
- 7 MR. SLAVIN: Well, yes. And -- and, again,
- 8 in all due respect to my colleague at the bar, Mr. Jorden,
- 9 I don't think he makes his way to court very often.
- 10 However, I spend a lot of time in court, and particularly
- 11 on issues like this, or related issues. I -- simply, my
- 12 point being that -- that if a decision -- if this were
- 13 allowed to go forward at risk, which it should not --
- 14 allowed to go forward and the Hillside Building Committee
- 15 were to say, well, it meets all the disturbance criteria,
- 16 even though you're -- you're basically building a house on
- 17 a 53 percent slope, which is pretty steep, and you're
- 18 carving a roadway up a 53 percent slope at a diagonal.
- 19 And if the board -- if the Hillside Building Committee
- 20 would approve that but make it subject to having a legal
- 21 access established through the court, it's been my
- 22 experience, Mr. Leibsohn, that TMS will take that
- 23 approval, take it to the court, and argue that the court
- 24 should give weight to that decision in making its -- its
- 25 decision on whether or not there's legal access because

- 1 there is -- the expertise and experience on these issues
- 2 is at the town, and the court should give that some
- 3 weight. That will happen in this case. So if -- if this
- 4 were to go forward, that, I think, is a very realistic
- 5 happening.
- 6 MR. LEIBSOHN: I mean, would it not work
- 7 both ways?
- 8 MR. SLAVIN: I don't see it working both
- 9 ways.
- In other words, are you suggesting that the
- 11 Hillside Building Committee would deny the application?
- 12 Then -- then we don't have we don't have to -- we don't
- 13 have to go to court.
- 14 MR. LEIBSOHN: Not deny the application, but
- 15 just deny the appeal.
- 16 MR. SLAVIN: I'm not sure I understand
- 17 your --
- 18 MR. LEIBSOHN: So the question before us is
- 19 uphold the appeal to --
- 20 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. I -- I think -- I think
- 21 I may have confused you, sir. And I apologize if I did.
- 22 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Jorden -- or --
- 23 excuse me -- Mr. Slavin, let me take a stab at what I
- think you've said, and Board Member Leibsohn's question.
- 25 And I think, as I understand your prior statements, your

- 1 concern is that if we deny the appeal and if the at-risk
- 2 application is processed through the Hillside Building
- 3 Committee and there is some determination made by the
- 4 Hillside Building Committee favorable to the applicant,
- 5 that the applicant is going to take that favorable
- 6 decision to the superior court and bootstrap the argument
- 7 of legal access by saying the Hillside Building Committee
- 8 said something favorable to the applicant, and that's
- 9 additional evidence that, therefore, the superior court
- 10 judge should consider in favor of the applicant's legal
- 11 access argument.
- 12 Did I get that right?
- MR. SLAVIN: Precisely.
- 14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Does that answer your
- 15 question, Mr. Leibsohn?
- MR. LEIBSOHN: Well enough.
- 17 MS. GOODWIN: I -- I've tried not to say
- 18 anything, but I have to ask Mr. Slavin a question, because
- 19 I believe you're talking about some cause of action based
- 20 on a theory of government estoppel. But isn't one of the
- 21 elements of government estoppel or equitable estoppel
- 22 reasonable reliance on an action of a city or town, or of
- 23 a government? And I can think of at least five different
- 24 ways to be sure that the applicant knew what the at --
- 25 what at risk meant.

Page 101 In other words, I can think of five 1 2 different ways to -- to be sure to preclude the argument 3 of reasonableness. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And before you respond, 5 Mr. Slavin, I think what I'm hearing, from the testimony, is in addition to what Ms. Goodwin has stated, I heard the 6 applicant's counsel say -- say, pretty unequivocally, I say here, on the record, that we will not take any 8 9 decision here and attempt to use it to bootstrap our position in superior court. So if they attempted to do 10 that, wouldn't you have this record to say, to the 11 12 superior court judge, forget about it? 13 MR. SLAVIN: I still think -- again -but -- but -- can I answer her question first? 14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Absolutely. Yes. 15 MR. SLAVIN: First of all, Mr. Chairman and 16 Ms. Goodwin, I'm not making an equitable estoppel 17 argument. I understand equitable estoppel extremely well, 18 because I'm the one who tired and argued the Pingitore v. 19 Town of Cave Creek case. And you're very familiar with 20 that case, I know. Okay. 21 22 So in any event, so I know the nature of equitable estoppel. I'm not arguing that -- that somehow, 23 24 if you were to go forward -- although I think it's

possible -- that because you gave this at risk, that --

25

- 1 that somehow they could reasonably rely. My -- my
- 2 argument is this, simply. When you get down in the pit
- 3 with the other litigators and you're going at this, that I
- 4 believe, and reasonably anticipate, that -- that if the
- 5 board were to deny our appeal and this case would go to
- 6 the Hillside Building Committee and it would be approved
- 7 subject to the court approving, that would be taken by
- 8 TMS, notwithstanding Mr. Jorden's comments -- and he's not
- 9 the litigator on this case, by the way -- but sure. If
- 10 they tried to do that, I would certainly try to bring this
- 11 in. But I don't think that dilutes it that much, because
- 12 the judge is still being asked to say, listen, this is
- 13 what the town did. They have the experience.
- 14 Notwithstanding what their lawyer might have said. Okay?
- 15 They have the experience, and they have the expertise.
- 16 And -- and, actually, there are cases out there when --
- 17 when you appeal a decision, let's say, from -- let's say a
- 18 board of adjustment decision to a special action case.
- 19 There's deference given. There's deference given by
- 20 superior courts to people who are put in the position of
- 21 responsibility because they have the resources and the
- 22 education and the experience to make the types of
- 23 decisions on more regular basis then, let's say, a
- 24 superior court judge does.
- 25 So TMS brings this down, hands it to Judge

- 1 Parker, and I can argue all I want. But that that's still
- 2 going to be there for him to consider. He might not
- 3 recite, in his ruling, that that's what he relied upon.
- 4 What I'm saying, that is potentially prejudicial. I've
- 5 seen it happen. And -- and all I can tell you is that I
- 6 think that's going to be a problem.
- 7 The reason why I address this -- the reason
- 8 I -- again -- well -- the reason I address this, among
- 9 other things, is one of the -- one of the statements made
- 10 by the staff in support of its -- of -- excuse -- me made
- in the zoning administrator's -- in support of the zoning
- 12 administrator's decision, the staff report, is that
- 13 there's no prejudice to the owners of lots 22, 23, and 24.
- 14 If you were to allow this case to proceed on an at-risk
- 15 basis.
- 16 What I'm trying to demonstrate to you, not
- 17 only what Mr. Selden had to say here, but also for the
- 18 other reasons why that's going to be prejudicial. I
- 19 didn't have the opportunity to expand on the legal
- 20 nonconforming use. But these lots would be reduced to
- 21 less than 1 acre, which is the requirement in the Town of
- 22 Paradise Valley, in the setbacks from the street. The new
- 23 street will be reduced, less than 40 feet, to 25 feet, and
- 24 it makes the property legally nonconforming. The only way
- 25 that any of these owners could ever expand those

- 1 properties would be in a direction other than the street,
- 2 and they will forever have legal nonconforming use lots.
- 3 And so when they go to sell them, they're going to be
- 4 substandard lots in the town of Paradise Valley.
- 5 So I think all this --
- 6 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Mr. Slavin, I
- 7 understand. And I think what you're doing is making a
- 8 great argument for the superior court judge as to why he
- 9 shouldn't grant legal access. But I don't know that
- 10 that's -- that's prospective down the road, and I don't
- 11 think that's really the issue that's before the board of
- 12 adjustment this evening. Am I missing something?
- MR. SLAVIN: Well, I would respectfully
- 14 disagree with you only because if -- if you were -- let's
- 15 say -- you're a real estate lawyer?
- 16 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Yes, sir.
- 17 MR. SLAVIN: Okay. And -- I do real estate
- 18 as well, and I have respect for your work.
- 19 Once you get down and you start doing
- 20 litigation and -- and that's a different -- that's a whole
- 21 different world than, ordinarily, someone might otherwise
- 22 anticipate. What I'm suggesting to you is a very real
- 23 problem that I perceive in this lawsuit. And what I'm
- 24 suggesting to you, actually, is this is the reason why --
- 25 one of the reasons why TMS is trying to move this at risk

Page 105 so it can be used in litigation. It's an opportunity to 2 leverage up. And I'm suggesting to you that's real. It's 3 real in my world. CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I understand what 5 you're saying, sir. 6 MR. SLAVIN: Yes. 7 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any further statements, 8 sir? No? 9 Any further questions of Mr. Slavin? 10 Thank you, sir. We are through with the input from public. 11 At this point, I think that we should have discussion and 12 consider a motion. 13 Before anyone makes a motion, any discussion 14 amongst the board? 15 MR. LEIBSOHN: Would it be appropriate to 16 request our attorney to weigh in on her thoughts? 17 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I think it would be 18 19 appropriate to ask the attorney a specific question as 20 opposed to just ask her to talk. So if -- if there is some specific question you'd like her to address, then 21 22 please do so. 23 MR. LEIBSOHN: I'll come back to that. 24 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Any further -any discussion of the issue? 25

Page 106 MR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to just give my 1 2 interpretation of some of the discussion that's here. 3 As being the newest member on the board of adjustment, I was told that cases rarely come to the board 4 5 of adjustment except for variances and, you know, other issues. So this has been -- and I read all of the 6 materials that Mr. Slavin and Mr. Jorden gave us. And -and I guess I find this issue somewhat troubling. As a 8 9 citizen, you want certainty in your zoning code. You want certainty in interpretations. And I can't, in my 10 diligence and so forth, ever find support that we have 11 made at-risk reviews, whether at Hillside or any other 12 13 committee. So I find that somewhat troubling, because, you know, I -- I'm -- as a lawyer, I rely on statutory 14 authority, 'cause the cities don't have an applied zoning 15 power. It's a creature of statute, as Mr. Slavin said. 16 And I think when you have bad facts, as we 17 do here, you tend to make bad decisions. And I -- and I 18 think this decision is -- this committee has spent a lot 19 20 of time on. It's really a hard decision for everybody to make. And I appreciate the staff, the appellant, and the 21 22 applicant for -- for their time. They put a lot of time and thought into it, and it's not an easy decision for 23 24 this board. 25 I'm certainly swayed by the fact that the --

- 1 that the applicant filed this lawsuit, as he had to; he
- 2 had no other option, and that this matter will never get
- 3 finally determined, regardless of how we decide tonight,
- 4 until the that lawsuit is resolved. And I think
- 5 somewhat -- I'm sympathetic that we may be putting the
- 6 cart before the horse, because if the Hillside Committee
- were to review it and then, later, the council amended the
- 8 Hillside code, my guess is the applicant would have to go
- 9 back in again and redo it. And -- or there may be changed
- 10 circumstances on the site. And, therefore, I think it's
- 11 really hard to anticipate two years out, three years out,
- 12 and try to secure a Hillside building -- Hillside
- 13 ordinance committee approval at this point. It seems it's
- 14 just not ripe for a decision until we hear what the
- 15 superior court says.
- 16 So it's for those reasons, I'm -- I'm having
- 17 some problems with the staff's recommendations and I'm
- 18 sympathetic to the -- to the application. So...
- 19 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any further discussion?
- 20 I guess I'll make some observations based on
- 21 the presentation that's been made this evening and the
- 22 staff report.
- It seems to me that we've got a -- a issue
- 24 that we have to decide, first off, which is whether or not
- 25 this matter is properly before the board. Is the

- 1 November 19th -- November 29th -- is the letter from the
- 2 zoning administrator either an enforcement or
- 3 interpretation of the zoning ordinance. And while I'm not
- 4 persuaded that it's an enforcement issue, it certainly
- 5 seems to me that it's an interpretation, and therefore, it
- 6 seems to me that the board has the jurisdiction to
- 7 consider the matter that's before the board.
- I am also troubled, as -- welcome, by the
- 9 way, council -- or board member, to your first meeting
- 10 here. It's usually not three hours long.
- 11 I am -- I echo your concerns that we ought
- 12 to have certainty in how it is we direct the citizens to
- 13 comply with our zoning ordnances and whatever our code
- 14 requires. And I'm troubled by the fact that there doesn't
- 15 seem to be any authority in the code for this platypus of
- 16 an at-risk proceeding.
- 17 And -- and if I take that in -- in
- 18 isolation, then I'm -- I'm more inclined to rule in favor
- 19 of the appeal. And, further, it seems to me that since,
- 20 on a very practical level, this matter isn't going to go
- 21 very far forward until there's been a final legal judgment
- 22 on the -- a final judgment on the access issue, we really
- 23 are letting folks spin their wheels a bit and spend money
- on something that may be completely either redone or
- 25 completely wasteful. That -- that issue is really more of

- 1 sort of an emotional tug and pull as opposed to, you know,
- 2 what are we supposed to look at this evening with respect
- 3 to the two issues before us.
- And my inclination is to say, one, we've got
- 5 proper jurisdiction and, two, no one has presented to us
- 6 any specific authority for the at-risk proceeding, and,
- 7 therefore, I'd be inclined, on that basis, to find in
- 8 favor of the appellant.
- 9 And having made those statements, any
- 10 further discussion by the board? None?
- 11 Special counsel.
- 12 MS. GOODWIN: Just because I think it's
- 13 going to be very important that the record be clear on
- 14 this matter, you -- in your comments, Mr. Chairman, you
- 15 made a distinction between interpretation and enforcement.
- 16 And I would like to read the statute to you and maybe make
- 17 a comment at that.
- 18 It says that the board of adjustment shall
- 19 hear and decide appeals in which it is alleged there is an
- 20 error in an order, requirement, or decision made by the
- 21 zoning administrator in the enforcement of a zoning
- 22 ordinance adopted pursuant to this article.
- So it doesn't -- so the order, requirement,
- 24 or decision would be an enforcement -- would be related to
- 25 enforcement.

Page 110 But I would agree with you that this is a 1 2 decision, and it's a decision in interpretation, if you 3 will, but a decision, and that the board does have proper jurisdiction. 5 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, Counsel. As I understand your comments, then, while you may disagree 6 with my characterization about interpretation, I'm understanding you to say that you believe that the zoning 8 9 administrator's letter is a enforcement decision that this board would have jurisdiction over to consider the appeal. 10 Is that correct? 11 MS. GOODWIN: Not an enforcement decision. 12 13 It's a decision in enforcement of the provisions of the zoning code. And due --14 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And, therefore, this 15 matter is properly before the board to hear? 16 17 MS. GOODWIN: That's what I believe. 18 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Thank you. Any discussion on that comment? 19 20 Any motion to be considered? And we may want counsel to assist us in the 21 22 specific wording of the motion to make sure that that's accurately done. 23 24 Does either -- any board member want to make a motion? 25

- 1 MR. WILLIAMS: I'll make a motion. I'd like
- 2 to make a motion that we grant the appeal to the board of
- 3 adjustment.
- 4 And Ms. Goodwin can put the form of order in
- 5 that needs to be done.
- 6 And then it goes back -- this matter goes
- 7 back to staff, and we base that on the fact that we find
- 8 the decision by the zoning administrator to be without
- 9 substantial authority.
- 10 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Is the motion clear
- 11 enough, Counsel, or do you think that that motion needs to
- 12 be clarified before the board considers it.
- 13 MS. GOODWIN: I thought I heard him say
- 14 that -- that special counsel put this in the form of an
- 15 order. Are you -- I'm a little unclear about what you
- 16 mean.
- 17 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Yeah. I appreciate
- 18 that.
- 19 What I -- what I am wanting to make certain
- 20 of is Board Member Williams has made a motion to affirm
- 21 the appeal for relief, which is our public hearing
- 22 matter 17-119.
- 23 And assuming that motion is seconded and
- 24 granted, he would request that counsel take that motion,
- 25 turn it into an order.

		Page 112
1	3	Is that your motion?
2		MR. WILLIAMS: That was my motion.
3		CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Is is that clear
4	enough for cour	nsel to understand?
5	И	MS. GOODWIN: Yes.
6		CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Is there a second on
7	the motion?	
8	И	MR. NEWMAN: Second. Second that.
9		CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: There's a second,
10	although your m	microphone
11	И	MR. NEWMAN: I second that.
12		CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: There we go.
13	I	Any further discussion on the motion?
14	1	No further discussion.
15	I	All in favor, please say "aye."
16	И	MR. WILLIAMS: Aye.
17	И	MR. NEWMAN: Aye.
18		CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Aye.
19	I	Any opposed?
20	1	No one is opposed.
21	I	Do we need to have a roll call on that,
22	George?	
23	И	MR. BURTON: If I could, I'd prefer to do
24	that.	
25	C	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Okay. Let's let's

Page 113 do it one more time with the motion and have a roll call 2 on our vote. 3 MR. BURTON: Board Member Kauffman. MS. KAUFFMAN: Yes. 5 MR. BURTON: Board Member Kauffman is yes. Board Member Leibsohn. 6 MR. LEIBSOHN: Yes. MR. BURTON: Board Member Leibsohn is yes. 8 9 Board Member Newman. 10 MR. NEWMAN: Yes. 11 MR. BURTON: Board Member Newman is yes. Board Member Williams. 12 13 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. 14 MR. BURTON: Board Member Williams is yes. And Chair Chambliss. 15 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Yes. 16 17 MR. BURTON: Chair Chambliss is yes. 18 The motion passes. 19 CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, everyone, 20 for your time. We've got a couple more matters to take care of. And unless you want to watch us in action, 21 22 you're free to leave. Are there any other action items, Members, 23 that we need to look at? 24 25 MR. BURTON: There are not.

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1	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And the consent agenda,
2	board approval of minutes, but I understand we had a
3	little snafu, so that will be on the next go 'round.
4	MR. BURTON: On the next meeting's agenda,
5	yes.
6	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Any staff report?
7	MR. BURTON: The only staff report is the
8	one agenda item for the actual meeting.
9	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: And just do we want
10	a copy of the filing report?
11	MR. BURTON: That's from you.
12	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Done it.
13	And we've talked about future agenda items.
14	We have one more coming up. And I think we have now
15	completed our agenda.
16	Is there a motion for adjournment?
17	MR. WILLIAMS: So moved.
18	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Second?
19	MR. NEWMAN: Second.
20	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: I don't think we need
21	to have discussion. Let's just go to a vote.
22	Go ahead and roll call this.
23	MR. BURTON: Board Member Kauffman.
24	MS. KAUFFMAN: Yes.
25	MR. BURTON: Board Member Kauffman's a yes.

	Page 115
1	Board Member Leibsohn.
2	MR. LEIBSOHN: Yes.
3	MR. BURTON: Board Member Leibsohn's yes.
4	Board Member Newman.
5	MR. NEWMAN: Yes.
6	MR. BURTON: Board Member Newman's yes.
7	Board Member Williams.
8	MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.
9	MR. BURTON: Board Member Williams is yes.
10	And Chair Chambliss.
11	CHAIRMAN CHAMBLISS: Thank you, everyone,
12	for your time.
13	Yes.
14	It's adjourned.
15	MR. BURTON: Thank you.
16	(The meeting concluded at 8:49 p.m.)
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Page 116
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     STATE OF ARIZONA )
                           SS.
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     COUNTY OF MARICOPA )
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 6
           I, CHARLOTTE LACEY, Certified Reporter No. 50859 for
     the State of Arizona, do hereby certify that the foregoing
 8
 9
     printed pages constitute a full, true, and accurate
     transcript of the proceedings had in the foregoing matter,
10
     all done to the best of my skill and ability.
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12
           WITNESS my hand this 25th day of April, 2017.
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                        CHARLOTTE LACEY, RPR
                        Certificate No. 50859
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