

**NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION SITE PLAN REVIEW**

**RE:** 208, 212, 216 CROWN STREET. Site Plan Review for a conversion with adaptive reuse of 216 Crown Street to a residential and new construction of residential and commercial use on the existing 208 and 212 parcels in the Central Business (BD) District.  
(Owner/Applicant: 210 Crown Street LLC., RVRM Enterprises LLC.; Agent: Attorney Ben Trachten of Trachten Law Firm LLC.)

**REPORT:** 1592-02

**ACTION:** Approval with Conditions

**STANDARD CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

1. Pursuant to State Statute, this site plan and soil erosion and sediment control plan approval is valid for a period of five (5) years following the date of decision, until September 22, 2026. Upon petition of the applicant, the Commission may, at its discretion, grant extensions totaling no more than an additional five (5) years to complete all work connected to the original approval.
2. The applicant shall record on the City land records an original copy of this Site Plan Review report (to be provided by the City Plan Department) and shall furnish written evidence to the City Plan Department that the document has been so recorded (showing volume and page number), prior to City Plan signoff for building permits. A digital copy of the recorded report shall be provided to staff (.pdf).
3. Upon approval by the City Plan Commission, provide compiled digital copies of all application materials, including drawing sets and reports, to staff for filing (.pdf files) prior to City Plan signoff for building permits.
4. Comments under **ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL** shall be reviewed with the City Plan Department and resolution reflected on final plans, prior to their circulation for signoff.
5. Signoff on final plans by the Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority; City Engineer; Department of Transportation, Traffic, and Parking; City Plan Department; and Fire Marshal in that order shall be obtained prior to initiation of site work or issuance of building permit.
6. Construction Operations Plan/Site Logistics Plan, including any traffic lane/sidewalk closures, temporary walkways, detours, signage, haul routes to & from site, and construction worker parking plan shall be submitted to the Department of Transportation, Traffic and Parking for review and approval to prior to City Plan signoff on final plans for building permit.
7. A site bond will be required in conformity with Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-3(g). Bond, or other such financial instrument, shall be provided to the City Plan Department, in an amount equal to the estimated cost of implementation of erosion and sediment controls, plus 10 percent, prior to City Plan final sign-off on plans for building permit.
8. The name of an individual responsible for monitoring the soil erosion and sediment control plan on a daily basis during the construction period shall be provided to the City Plan Department, prior to City Plan signoff on final Plans.
9. Any proposed work within City right-of-way will require separate permits.
10. Prior to issuance of Building Permit, street address(es) shall be assigned by the City Engineer.
11. Any sidewalks or curbs on the perimeter of the project deemed to be in damaged condition shall be replaced or repaired in accord with City of New Haven standard details.
12. Any proposed removals of street trees must be coordinated with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Trees prior to sign-off for building permits.
13. Filing (with City Plan) and implementation of a Storm Drainage Maintenance Plan and Inspection Schedule is required.
14. Following completion of construction, any catch basins in the public right-of-way impacted by the project shall be cleaned, prior to issuance of Certificate of Occupancy.
15. As-built site plan shall be filed with City Plan Department, with a copy to the City Engineer, prior to issuance of Certificate of Occupancy. Site Plan shall be submitted in mylar and digital form (.pdf).

**ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

16. The applicant shall merge all associated tax lots for municipal regulation and tax purposes through the Office of the City Tax Assessor.

**Submission: SPR Application Packet including DATA, WORKSHEET, SITE, SESC. NARRATIVE attached. Application fee: \$360.**

- Application for Development Permit. Received August 18, 2021.
- Architectural plan set. 15 Sheets. Received August 18, 2021. Revised September 2, 2021, September 10, 2021.
- Civil Plan Set. 11 Sheets. Received August 18, 2021. Revised September 2, 2021, September 10, 2021, September 17, 2021.
- First Floor Key Plan dated July 2021. 1 sheet. Received August 18, 2021.
- Traffic Impact Study dated July 2021. Received August 18, 2021.
- Stormwater Management Plan dated July 2021. Received August 18, 2021. Revised September 2, 2021, September 10, 2021.
- Geotechnical Engineering Memorandum dated July 16, 2021. Received August 18, 2021
- Photometric and light plan. Received August 18, 2021.
- Lighting cut sheets. Received September 10, 2021.
- Green Grid cut sheets. Received September 2, 2021.
- Reflective Heat Island Drawing dated September 1, 2021. 1 Sheet. Received September 2, 2021.
- Existing Conditions Stormwater Calculation Report dated September 9, 2021. Received September 10, 2021.
- Letter from the New Haven Parking Authority dated September 7, 2021. Received September 16, 2021.

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

**Project:** Adaptive reuse of 216 Crown Street to a residential and new construction of residential and commercial use on the existing 208 and 212 parcels  
**Address:** 208, 212, 216 Crown Street  
**Site Size:** 24,965 sf  
**Building size:** 106,292 sf  
**Zone:** BD  
**Parking:** Existing parking lot on Crown 208 will be demolished. Parking will be provided partially on site and partially leased from nearby parking garage.  
**Owner:** 210 Crown Street, LLC, RVRM Enterprises, LLC. **Phone:**  
**Applicant:** Same as owner **Phone:**  
**Agent:** Benjamin Trachten **Phone: 2038650101**  
**Site Engineer:** Graham Curtis of DTC **Phone: 203-239-4200**

**BACKGROUND**

**Zoning:**

The Site Plan as submitted meets the requirements of the New Haven Zoning Ordinance for the BD zone.

**Site description/existing conditions:**

The project site consists of 3 parcels, approximately 0.58 Acres combined, that are intended to be merged prior to the issuance of building permits. The northern parcel, 216 Crown St., is occupied by a 6- story mixed use

(office/commercial) historic building. On the middle parcel, 212 Crown St., a 2-story commercial building exists, and on the southern parcel, 208 Crown St., there is a paved parking lot.

The project site is bounded by Crown Street to the north, a mixed use 2-story building to the east, a mixed-use building and a hotel to the south and a school building to the west.

**Proposed activities:**

- Conversion of an existing 6-story historic building at 216 Crown Street into residential use, with a total of 34 units, comprised of studios (415 sqft.), 1-bedroom apartments (450-495 sqft.) and 2-bedroom apartments (670-930 sqft.).
- Demolish Existing 2-story building at 212 Crown Street, and paved parking lot at 208 Crown Street
- Construction of a new 7 story residential building, with a total of 72 units comprised of studios (440 - 520 sqft.), 1-bedroom apartments (500-765 sqft.) and 2-bedroom apartments (800 sqft.), including 11 accessible units. The building's open shared spaces include a roof deck (2650 sqft.) with green roof area (500 sqft) and a dog park at the ground floor (1080 sqft.). The new building will be conjoined to the existing historic building.
- Construction of a 16-Space paved parking lot.
- Construction of approximately 1,300 sqft retail space.

**Motor vehicle circulation/parking/traffic:**

16 vehicular parking spaces will be provided on site, including 1 accessible parking space. The parking lot will be accessed by a driveway from Crown Street. Other vehicular parking will be leased from a public parking garage at 232 George Street. The applicant provided a letter from the New Haven Parking Authority confirming availability for 36 monthly parking permits.

**Bicycle parking:**

49 bicycle parking spaces will be provided on site:

- 22 short term bike parking spaces
- 27 long term bike parking spaces

**Trash removal:** Three trash rooms will be located on the ground floor- One will serve the existing building at 216 Crown Street with two loading/unloading spaces. One new trash room will serve the new building and one trash room will be located in the new retail space. The trash will be rolled out by management and collected on the street at a scheduled time from the three trash locations depicted on the plans.

**Signage:** No new signage proposed at this time.

**Sec. 58 Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control:**

**Class A** (minimal impact)

**Class B** (significant impact)

**Class C** (significant public effect, hearing required)

Cubic Yards (cy) of soil to be moved, removed or added: 333

Start Date: Not determined yet  
expected to span 12-16 months.

Completion Date: Not determined yet. Construction is

Once a contractor is chosen, an individual will be named as the individual responsible for monitoring soil erosion and sediment control measures on a daily basis, and that name provided to the City Plan Department prior to signoff of final plans for permits.

This individual is responsible for monitoring the site to assure there is no soil or runoff entering City catch basins or the storm sewer system. Other responsibilities include:

- monitoring soil erosion and sediment control measures on a daily basis;
- assuring there is no dust gravitation off site by controlling dust generated by vehicles and equipment and by soil stockpiles during both the demolition and construction phases;
- determining the appropriate response, should unforeseen erosion or sedimentation problems arise; and
- ensuring that SESC measures are properly installed, maintained and inspected according to the SESC Plan.

Should soil erosion problems develop (either by wind or water) following issuance of permits for site work, the named party is responsible for notifying the City Engineer within twenty-four hours of any such situation with a plan for immediate corrective action.

All SESC measures are required to be designed and constructed in accordance with the latest Standards and Specifications of the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*.

**Note: Because the project is less than 5 acres (“small construction”), the applicant is not required to obtain a General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction from CT DEEP as long as the applicant has adhered to the erosion and sediment control regulations of the municipality in which the construction activity, in this case, the City of New Haven.**

#### **Sec. 60 Stormwater Management Plan: SUBMISSION MEETS REQUIREMENTS**

##### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Soil characteristics of site;
- Location of closest surface water bodies and depth to groundwater;
- DEEP ground and surface water classification of water bodies;
- Identification of water bodies that do not meet DEEP water quality standards;
- Proposed operations and maintenance manual and schedule;
- Location and description of all proposed BMPs;
- Calculations for stormwater runoff rates, suspended solids removal rates, and soil infiltration rates;
- Hydrologic study of pre-development conditions commensurate with conditions.

##### STANDARDS

- Direct channeling of untreated surface water runoff into adjacent ground and surface waters shall be prohibited;
- No net increase in the peak rate or total volume of stormwater runoff from the site, to the maximum extent possible, shall result from the proposed activity;
- Design and planning for the site development shall provide for minimal disturbance of pre-development natural hydrologic conditions, and shall reproduce such conditions after completion of the proposed activity, to the maximum extent feasible;
- Pollutants shall be controlled at their source to the maximum extent feasible in order to contain and minimize contamination;
- Stormwater management systems shall be designed and maintained to manage site runoff in order to reduce surface and groundwater pollution, prevent flooding, and control peak discharges and provide pollution treatment;
- Stormwater management systems shall be designed to collect, retain, and treat the first inch of rain on-site, so as to trap floating material, oil and litter;
- On-site infiltration and on-site storage of stormwater shall be employed to the maximum extent feasible;
- Post-development runoff rates and volumes shall not exceed pre-development rates and volumes for various storm events. Stormwater runoff rates and volumes shall be controlled by infiltration and on-site detention systems designed by a professional engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut except where detaining such flow will affect upstream flow rates under various storm conditions;
- Stormwater treatment systems shall be employed where necessary to ensure that the average annual loadings of total suspended solids (TSS) following the completion of the proposed activity at the site are no greater than such loadings prior to

the proposed activity. Alternately, stormwater treatment systems shall remove 80 percent TSS from the site on an average annual basis; and

Use of available BMPs to minimize or mitigate the volume, rate, and impact of stormwater to ground or surface waters.

**Sec. 60.1 Exterior Lighting: SUBMISSION MEETS REQUIREMENTS**

**REQUIRED SUBMISSION**

Lighting Plan with location of all fixtures, type of fixture and mounting height of lights;

Manufacturer specifications or cut-sheet for each fixture;

Photometrics.

**STANDARDS**

In general, all exterior light sources must be directed downward. The lighting must also be, as much as physically possible, contained within the target area;

*Parking Lot and Security Lighting.* All outdoor light fixtures within a parking lot, vehicular circulation area, or pedestrian area must be of a Full Cutoff or Fully-Shielded type;

*Architectural Lighting.* Lighting for building facades and Indirectly Illuminated Signs is permitted subject to the following: (a) Uplighting does not exceed 900 lumens & (b) Upward aimed light is Fully-Shielded and fully-confined from projecting into the sky, eaves, roofs, or overhangs. The light must be fully confined within the vertical surface of the wall being illuminated;

*Unshielded Lighting.* Floodlighting is discouraged, and if used, must be shown that the type of fixture proposed is not objectionable because it (a) prevents Glare for drivers and pedestrians and light above a horizontal plane, and (b) mitigates light trespass beyond the property line. Unshielded, motion activated lighting will not be triggered off the property on which the fixture is located and must go off within five minutes of activation. Unshielded lighting creating Glare or Light Trespass is required to be re-aimed and/or fitted with a shield device to block the Glare;

*Lighting Curfew.* On all parking fields, including surface lots, parking decks and top levels of parking garages which contain a minimum of four light poles, the lighting must be reduced by at least 50 percent of full operational levels within 30 minutes after the close of business. Because certain minimum lighting levels are recommended for safety and security, parking field lighting does not need to be reduced to less than an average .2 footcandles as measured horizontally at the surface on which the light pole is mounted in accordance with Illuminating Engineer Society (IES) Standards; and

*Height.* Exterior Lighting must not exceed 20 feet in height from the point on the ground directly below the fixture to the highest point on the fixture. Lighting mounted higher than 20 feet may be permitted through the site plan review process, either by Staff or the Commission, as applicable, depending on the site conditions;

*Maximum Light Levels at the Property Line.*

*a. The maximum light level at any point on the property line cannot exceed: .1 footcandles within or adjacent to a property with a residential use or .2 footcandles when adjacent to properties with other uses. Where the adjacent property is a residential use or mixed-use and the first floor is not residential, the maximum light levels at the property line cannot exceed .2 footcandles;*

*b. Color. Because blue light brightens the night sky more than any other color of light, lighting must have a color temperature of no more than 3000 Kelvins. Exterior Lighting that has warmer light spectrums are preferred;*

*c. The Staff or the Commission, as applicable, may determine that certain light fixtures are exempt from these requirements of this Section because they do not adversely affect an adjacent property owner or the night sky or because they are necessary for the functioning of the use.*

**Sec. 60.2 Reflective Heat Impact: SUBMISSION MEETS REQUIREMENTS**

**STANDARDS**

50% of all on-site non-roof hardscape or paved areas will be either:

shaded AND/OR

constructed of a material with a solar reflectance index of at least 29.

TOTAL SF of non-roof hardscape:

3,785 SF

50% of non-roof hardscape:

1,893 SF

Shaded (average)	0 SF
SRI > 29	1,893 SF
Cement	3,785 SF

Parking striping	0 SF
StreetBond coating	0 SF
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED SHADED/HIGH SRI AREA</b>	<b>3,785 SF</b>
<b>% SHADED/HIGH SRI PROPOSED</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Project Timetable:** Construction is expected to span 12-16 months.

**SITE PLAN REVIEW**

Plans have been reviewed by the Site Plan Review team with representatives from the Departments of City Plan, City Engineer, Building, Disabilities Services and Transportation, Traffic and Parking and have been found to meet the requirements of City ordinances, regulations, and standard details.

**SITE PLAN ACTION**

The City Plan Commission approves the submitted Site Plans subject to conditions on Page 1 and 2.

**ADOPTED:** September 22, 2021  
Leslie Radcliffe  
Chair

**ATTEST:**   
Aicha Woods,  
Executive Director, City Plan Department