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## APPLICATION TO THE PLANNING BOARD

## Special Permit for a Formula Business

#### Applicant:

## Commonwealth Specialty Baking C, LLC DBA Crumbl Cookies

#### **Property Location:**

#### 425 Massachusetts Avenue

#### Cambridge, MA

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Parcel Address(s):

## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

## PLANNING BOARD

CITY HALL ANNEX, 344 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

#### **COVER SHEET**

In accordance with the requirements of the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance, the undersigned hereby petitions the Planning Board for one or more Special Permits for the premises indicated below.

425 Massachusetts Avenue

Base Zoning District(s):	Business B	
Overlay Zoning District(s):	Central Square Overlay District	
Applicant Name:	Commonwealth Specialty Baking C, LLC	
Applicant Address:	1198 E Wild Tree Dr., Draper, UT 84020	
Contact Information:	Joseph Oppedisano, Manager	949-943-7310
	Name j.p.oppendisano@gmai.com Email Address	Telephone #
special permit cannot be	s responsible for seeking all necessary special permi granted if it is not specifically requested in the Appl	ication.
Zoning Section	permit(s) (with reference to zoning section numbers) Requested Special Permit	*
20.304.5.4	Special Permit (Formula Business)	
10.43	Special Permit	
Denote other City of Camb	oridge Board/Commission Review Needed:	
Board of Zoning Appeal		☐ Historical Commission
Denote applicable Commi	ttee Review and Public Outreach:	
Central Square Advisor		Community Meeting(s)
Signature of Applicant	Date	
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE	, MA • PLANNING BOARD • SPECIAL PER	MIT APPLICATION

Project Address: 425 Massachusetts Avenue

Application Date: (18/2023

	Existing	Allowed or Required (max/min)	Proposed	Permitted
Lot Area (sq ft)	38,773	none	No Change	
Lot Width (ft)	Multiple Lots	none	No Change	
Total Gross Floor Area (sq ft)	252,025	252,025	No Change	
Residential Base	249,275	252,025	No Change	
Non-Residential Base	2,800	252,025	No Change	
Inclusionary Housing Bonus	0 •	0	No Change	
Total Floor Area Ratio	6.5	6.5	No Change	
Residential Base	6.4	6.4	No Change	
Non-Residential Base	0.1	0.1	No Change	
Inclusionary Housing Bonus	0 .	0	No Change	
Total Dwelling Units	285	N/A	No Change	
Base Units	N/A	N/A	No Change	
Inclusionary Bonus Units	N/A .	N/A	No Change	
Base Lot Area / Unit (sq ft)	136	N/A	No Change	
Total Lot Area / Unit (sq ft)	136	N/A	No Change	
Building Height(s) (ft)	197 & 70	197 & 70	No Change	
Front Yard Setback (ft)	0 /	none	No Change	
Side Yard Setback (ft)	10 :	none	No Change	
Side Yard Setback (ft)	10	none	No Change	
Rear Yard Setback (ft)	0	none	No Change	
Open Space (% of Lot Area)	12	10	No Change	
Private Open Space	12	10	No Change	
Permeable Open Space	Web.	N/A		
Other Open Space (Specify)	2 <b>1</b> 1			
Off-Street Parking Spaces	134	143 min/214 max	No Change	105571
Long-Term Bicycle Parking	302	301	No Change	
Short-Term Bicycle Parking	40		No Change	
Loading Bays	1	1	No Change	

Use space below and/or attached pages for additional notes:

There are no changes to the existing building with regard to the dimesional requirements. The approved formula business shall occupy an existing space of approximately 1,500 square feet on the first floor of the existing building in conformance with the Application Documents.

Project Address: 425 Massachusetts Avenue

**Application Date:** 

This form is to be completed by the property owner, signed, and submitted with the Special Permit Application:

I hereby authorize the following Applicant: Commonwealth Specialty Baking C, LLC

at the following address: 425 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

to apply for a special permit for: Formula Business in Central Square Overlay District

on premises located at: 425 Massachusetts Avenue

for which the record title stands in the name of: Watermark Central LLC

whose address is: One Broadway, 14th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02142

by a deed duly recorded in the:

Registry of Deeds of County: Middlesex So Book:

Page:

OR Registry District of the Land Court,

Watermark Central LLC

Certificate No.: 265832

Book: 1514

Page: 71

a Delaware limited liability company Bv:

Name:

Signature of Land Owner (If authorized Trustee, Officer or Agent, so identify)

Its: Authorized Signatory

To be completed by Notary Public:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, County of

District of Columbia

The above named Ashley Gray

personally appeared before me,

on the month, day and year

and made oath that the above statement is true.

Notary:

My Commission expires:

JASMIN HALL NOTARY PUBLIC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA My Commission Expires January 1, 2027

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MA • PLANNING BOARD • SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION

Project Address: 425 Massachusetts Avenue

Application Date: 1/18/2023

The Applicant must provide the full fee (by check or money order) with the Special Permit Application. Depending on the nature of the proposed project and the types of Special Permit being sought, the required fee is the larger of the following amounts:

- If the proposed project includes the creation of new or substantially rehabilitated floor area, or a change of use subject to Section 19.20, the fee is ten cents (\$0.10) per square foot of total proposed Gross Floor Area.
- If a Flood Plain Special Permit is being sought as part of the Application, the fee is one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), unless the amount determined above is greater.
- In any case, the minimum fee is one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).

Fee	Calculatio	n
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New or Substantially Rehabilitated	d Gross Floor Area (SF): 1500	× \$0.10 = 150
Flood Plain Special Permit	Enter \$1,000.00 if applicable:	
Other Special Permit	Enter \$150.00 if no other fee is applicable: 150	
TOTAL SPECIAL PERMIT FEE	Enter Larger of the Ab	ove Amounts: 150

#### **PROJECT NARRATIVE AND**

#### **ZONING ANALYSIS**

The applicant, Commonwealth Specialty Baking C, LLC (the "Applicant"), proposes to open a new Crumbl Cookies bakery (the "Proposed Crumbl Cookies Bakery") in Market Central, located at 425 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 (the "Premises"). The Proposed Crumbl Cookies Bakery will be one of the newest locations in the Commonwealth and City of Cambridge. The Premises are located in the Business B Zoning District and the Central Square Overlay District. The building located on the Premises was constructed on or about 2018. The Proposed Crumbl Cookies Bakery will be located in a retail space consisting of approximately 1,500 square feet on the ground floor of the building located on the Premises and will be the first occupant of the retail space. As part of the build-out of the space, the Applicant shall install new counters and equipment for its operational needs and shall utilize the standard color scheme, signage and logos of its franchisor, Crumbl Cookies. There will be no change to the building envelope or footprint of the building on the Premises as part of the build-out for the Proposed Crumbl Cookies Bakery. A copy of the Applicant's proposed floor plan and sign plans have been submitted herewith.

In order to accomplish the above, the Applicant is filing for a Special Permit to authorize the operation of a Formula Business in the City's Business B Zoning District and Central Square Overlay District.

Pursuant to Section 2.0 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance (the "Ordinance"), a "Formula Business" is defined as follows:

Formula Business. An individual Retail or Consumer Service establishment that is required by virtue of a contract, franchise agreement, ownership or other similar legal obligation to conform or substantially conform to a set of common design and operating features that serve to identify the establishment as one of a group of establishments for business, marketing and public relations purposes. Specifically, an establishment shall be considered a Formula Business if it shares at least two (2) of the following three (3) characteristics with ten (10) or more other establishments in Massachusetts or within twenty (20) or more other establishments.

- 1. Trademark, service mark or logo, defined as a word, phrase, symbol, or design or combination thereof that identifies and distinguishes the source of the goods or services from others;
- 2. Standardized building architecture including but not limited to façade design and signage;
- 3. Standardized color scheme used throughout the exterior of the establishment, including color associated with signs and logos.

As the Applicant shares a trademark, logo and standardized color scheme with ten (10) or more other establishments in Massachusetts, the Applicant is seeking a Special Permit to operate a Formula Business in Cambridge's Business B Zoning District and Central Square Overlay District. Elevations and plans depicting the placement of the trademarks, logos and color schemes have been submitted herewith.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIAL PERMIT CRITERIA**

#### Section 10.43

Granting the Special Permit requested would not be a detriment to the public interest, in accordance with Section 10.43 of the Ordinance, because:

- (a) It appears that requirements of this Ordinance cannot or will not be met:
  - The proposed use of the Premises by the Applicant, a franchisee of a national franchise with many locations already within the Commonwealth (and more expected to come) that also shares a trademark, logo and standardized color scheme with ten (10) or more other establishments in Massachusetts, qualifies as a Formula Business and, therefore, cannot comply with the requirements of the Ordinance without the granting of the requested relief.
- (b) Traffic generated or patterns of access or egress would cause congestion, hazard or substantial change in the established neighborhood character:
  - There is no expectation that there will be a change to the traffic patterns generated or patterns of access or egress as a result of the proposed use. The Applicant anticipates a high level of foot traffic for this store in this location and there is a dedicated entry to the store from the sidewalk. There are also metered parking spots along Massachusetts Avenue, municipal parking lots, public parking garages and the Central Square T station all located within 1,000 feet or less from the Premises that will help minimize any disruption to traffic.
- (c) The continued operation of or the development of adjacent uses as permitted in the Ordinance would be adversely affected by the nature of the proposed use:
  - Notwithstanding the fact that the Applicant's business constitutes a Formula Business requiring the requested relief herein, the proposed use as a bakery would otherwise be an allowed use in the Business B Zoning District, is entirely consistent with the surrounding retail environment and will not adversely affect the surrounding businesses.
- (d) Nuisance or hazard would be created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupant of the proposed use or the citizens of the City:

- No nuisance or hazard will be created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupant of the proposed use or the citizens of the City by way of the relief requested.
- (e) For other reasons, the proposed use would impair the integrity of the district or adjoining district, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of this Ordinance:
  - The proposed use as a bakery complies with the allowed uses in the Business B Zoning District and will not impair the integrity of the district or adjoining district or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of this Ordinance.
- (f) The new use or building construction is inconsistent with the Urban Design Objectives set forth in Section 19.30:
  - The proposed use as a bakery is consistent with the Urban Design Objectives set forth in Section 19.30. The proposed use will compliment and enhance other commercial uses in the area.

#### Section 20.304.5.4

A "Formula Business" as defined in Section 20.304.5.4 of the Ordinance may be established in the Central Square Overlay District only after the issuance of a special permit from the Planning Board. In reviewing an application, the Planning Board shall take the following into consideration for the relief requested herein:

- a. The extent to which the design of the proposal reflects, amplifies, and strengthens the established historical character of existing buildings and store fronts in Central Square.
  - As shown on the plans submitted herewith, the proposed use will compliment the character of the façade of the existing building and the proposed signage will not adversely affect the character of Central Square based on feedback from the Central Square Advisory Committee.
- b. The extent to which the particulars of the building or storefront design is varied from the formula or standard design of the chain in order to reflect the unique character and conditions of Central Square generally or the specific location in particular.
  - As shown on the plans submitted herewith, the proposed use will not derogate from the character of the façade of the existing building and the proposed signage will not adversely affect the character of Central Square. The existing building varies from the abutting buildings and its unique character will be preserved and will not be adversely affected by the proposed signage and/or usage.

- c. The extent to which the standard elements of the enterprise as they define it as a Formula Business are modified to respect and provide unique expressions of Central Square history and traditions as well as innovation in physical design and marketing that will distinguish the Central Square location from other locations of the Formula Business.
  - The Applicant will respect the history of Central Square and the proposed use will not alter the character of the façade of the existing building, which will distinguish the Applicants bakery from other franchisees within the Commonwealth.

#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Prior to filing its application, the Applicant has been in contact with and coordinated community outreach efforts with the Community Development Department for the City concerning the relief requested herein.

On January 5, 2022, the Applicant held an in-person Pre-Application Community Meeting at the Premises; on January 6, 2022, the Applicant held a virtual Pre-Application Community Meeting via Zoom. A copy of the flyer mailed by the Applicant providing notice of said meeting to all applicable abutters and parties is attached hereto as Exhibit 1; and attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a copy of all of the addresses to which the flyer was mailed by the Applicant more than ten (10) days prior to said meetings. The Applicant did not receive any opposition to the Proposed Crumbl Cookies Bakery, the proposed signage, and/or the relief requested herein at either of the in-person or virtual Pre-Application Community Meeting; however, one attendee did suggest an alternative color scheme to the signage and so a proposed inverse color scheme for the logo has been provided and submitted with this application.

On July 28, 2022, held a follow-up virtual meeting with the Community Development Department for the City in connection with this matter.

In addition to the foregoing, after filing the Applicant shall timely comply with all other request(s) of the Community Development Department including, but not limited to, posting and maintaining panels on-site, and doing all other things which may reasonably be requested of the Applicant by the Community Development Department and/or the Planning Board prior to the public hearing on the instant application.

# EXHIBIT 1

## City of Cambridge Cookie retail store approval - 425 Mass Ave (Retail Space 1), Cambridge 02139

Please join us on either of the below meetings:

#### **Physical Meeting:**

On Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 3:00-4:00 PM EST at Retail Space 1, 425 Mass Ave, Cambridge 02139.

#### Virtual Meeting:

On Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 between 10:00-11:00 AM EST. Please send an email to the email ID below for a virtual invite.

#### **Meeting Link:**

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-

join/19%3ameeting\_NzVmN2I5MTQtNWM2MS00NjI0LTkxNGltMTZiNTlkYTE0YjE0%40thread.v2/ 0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%225fed94a0-4129-44a0-b507a83a5c9e6dac%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22ebf90aa3-572b-4fb5-a73a-3963e994820d%22%7d

This request is based on proposed planning Board Special Permits and formula business requirements for this location to open a cookie store.

We are a small business and franchisee, dba Crumbl Cookies. The Crumbl Cookies concept is simple -

"Bringing family and friends together over a box of the best cookies in the world"

This will be a store aiming to provide freshly baked cookies every day, with a rotating menu every week with innovative and delectable flavors of cookies.

For questions, please contact us at -

ma.stationlanding@crumbl.com or 781 588 1251

# EXHIBIT 2

91-205

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE RECREATION DEPT.

795 MASSACHUSETTS AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-181

MCAVINNEY, WILLIAM F., TRUSTEE CAROLYN ANNE

**FULLER, TRUSTEE** 12 DOUGLASS ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139 91-107

MAGGINI, ELIO A . JACQUELINE H. MAGGINI TRUSTEE

15 DOUGLASS ST. UNIT 1 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-107

TRIVEDI, AMAL N. NISHA G. TRIVEDI

532 FLMGROVE AVE PROVIDENCE, RI 02906 91-207

WATERMARK CENTRAL LLC, 425 MASSACHUSETTS AVE

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-208

GREENSAIL, LLC C/O MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS

GLOVSKY

ATTN: ALLAN CAGGIANO, ESQ ONE FINANCIAL CENTER BOSTON, MA 02111

91-87

JUSTMASS LLC, C/O LINCOLN PROPERTY CO.

60 SOUTH ST., #1020 BOSTON, MA 02111 91-104

ROTHMAN, GEORGE & ETHEL ROTHMAN, TRS.

OF STU-LIN REALTY TRUST 907 MASS AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-107

CRAIGIE STREET ASSOCIATES LIMITED

850 NEW BARTON RD DOVER, DE 19904

91-192

DOB!A PROPERTIES CORP., 907 MASSACHUSETTS AVE. CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

92-132

MIT 424-456 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE LLC C/O MIT INVESTMENT MGMT CO ONE BROADWAY, 9TH FL, SUITE 200

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

92-103

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

OF THE TREASURER

C/O MIT INVESTMENT MGMT CO ONE BROADWAY, 9TH FL, SUITE 200

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

92-117

SALVATION ARMY OF MASSACHUSETTS INC.

402 MASSACHUSETTS AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-35

LIU, BAOHUA & JINLAN YANG **85 THORNDIKE STREET** CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-61

BSM REAL ESTATE MA LLC,

P.O. BOX 1104

NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

91-70

SEAN CASEY LLC. 41A PLEASANT ST

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-82

AGRIMONY, LLC C/O MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS GLOVSKY PC

ATTN: ALLAN CAGGIANO, ESO. ONE FINANCIAL CENTER BOSTON, MA 02111

91-191

MCDONALDS CORPORATION C/O CHIN VERN

77 PAULSON RD

WABAN, MA 02168-1007

91-195

CAMBRIDGE CITY OF PARKING

CITYHALL

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

91-52

SIDNEYVILLE PROPERTIES, LLC

P.O. BOX 994 LINCOLN, NH 03251

AGRIMONY, LLC C/O MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS

GLOSVY PC

ATTN: ALLAN CAGGIANO, ESQ. ONE FINANCIAL CENTER. BOSTON, MA 02111

ROTHMAN, GEORGE AND STUART J. ROTHMAN, TRS.

STU-LIN FAMILY TRUST 907 MASS AVE

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

SATER REALTY LLC ATTN: NABIL SATER

472 MASS AVE

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

AGRIMONY, LLC C/O MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS

GLOVSKY PC

ATTN: ALLAN CAGGIANO ESQ ONE FINANCIAL CENTER BOSTON, MA 02111

91-194

ESTIA PROPERTIES LLC 27 MYOPIA RD WINCHESTER, MA 01890 91-206

WATERMARK CENTRAL LLC, 425 MASSACHUSETTS AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

OF THE TREASURER

C/O MIT INVESTMENT MGMT CO ONE BROADWAY, 9TH FL SUITE 200

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

92-62

MIT 424-456 MASSACHUSETTS AVE LLC C/O MIT INVESTMENT MGMT CO ONE BROADWAY, 9TH FL. SUITE 200 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

92-69

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

OF THE TREASURER 238 MAIN ST. - SUITE 200 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

92-57

CAMBRIDGE CITY OF FIRE DEPT

491 BROADWAY CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138