



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

**Agenda Item C
December 19, 2016**

SUBJECT: Approval of liquor license transfer request from OSH II, Inc. (d/b/a O'Sushi Novi), transferring ownership of a 2016 Resort Class C and SDM licensed business issued under MCL 436.1531 (2) with Sunday Sales Permit (PM) from New Ah Wok, LLC to be located at 41563 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Clerk 

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: 

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

O'Sushi Novi will be a family-oriented Korean Japanese restaurant. The location is the former Ah Wok restaurant, and the site is currently under renovation. The sole applicant for the transfer, OSH II, Inc., is managed by Chang Kang, who has over 10 years of experience running two other successful licensed Korean/Japanese restaurants, one in Canton that is no longer operating and the other, still in operation, in Dearborn. Kang has also owned several other businesses, including dry cleaners, candy shops, and coin laundries.

The Police and Fire Departments have no objections to the request. The Building Division has no objections to the request; however, final approval is pending due to interior renovations that are still scheduled to be performed at the property. This request did not require a Special Land Use application because the previous use(s) of the space included the service of alcohol.

The general licensing policy as stated in Chapter 3 of the City Code states, at Section 3-13, that an applicant must demonstrate in particular that the proposed facility:

- (a) Will provide a service, product, or function that is not presently available within the city or that would be unique to the city or to an identifiable area within the city.
- (b) Is of a character that will foster or generate economic development or growth within the city, or an identifiable area of the city, in a manner consistent with the city's policies.
- (c) Represents an added financial investment on the part of a long-term business or resident with recognized ties to the city and the local community.

More specific review criteria are set forth at subsection 3-15(g), and in addition to the general information regarding the applicant and the facility or building at issue, they require a review of the benefits to the community of the proposed use:

(3) **Benefits to community:**

- a. The effects that the issuance of a license would have upon the economic development of the city or the surrounding area.
- b. The effects that the issuance of a license would have on the health, welfare, and safety of the general public.

- c. Whether the applicant has demonstrated a public need or convenience for the issuance of the liquor license for the business facility at the location proposed, taking into consideration the following, together with other factors deemed relevant by the council:
1. The total number of licenses for similar establishments and/or operations in the city, considered both in terms of whether such number of similar establishments is needed and whether there may be a need for other types of establishments that could go unmet if the requested license were granted.
 2. The proximity of the establishment to other licensed liquor establishments, the type of such establishments, whether such other establishments are similar to that proposed, and the anticipated impact of all such determinations.
 3. Whether the proposed location is in an area characterized as developed, redeveloping, or undeveloped, and the anticipated impact of approving the newly proposed establishment in light of such character, taking into consideration the need for any type of additional licensed establishment in the area, and the need the particular type of establishment proposed.
- d. The uniqueness of the proposed facility when contrasted against other existing or proposed facilities, and the compatibility of the proposed facility to surrounding architecture and land use.
- e. The permanence of the establishment in the community, as evidenced by the prior or proposed contributions to the city or community by the applicant or business, and the extent to which the issuance of the license will assist in the further investment of the applicant or business in the city or the community.
- f. The character and extent of investment in improvements to the building, premises, and general area.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of liquor license transfer request from OSH II, Inc. (d/b/a O'Sushi Novi) transferring ownership of a 2016 Resort Class C and SDM licensed business issued under MCL 436.1531 (2) with Sunday Sales Permit (PM) from New Ah Wok, LLC to be located at 41563 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, because the added investment in an existing facility in an area of the community that needs investment is a benefit to the City and because the previous licensed facility at the same location did not adversely affect the surrounding uses.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Gatt				
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt				
Council Member Burke				
Council Member Casey				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Markham				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Wrobel				