CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL



Agenda Item C April 27, 2009

SUBJECT: Approval of request from Ruchi LLC (dba Mirchi Indian Cuisine) to transfer ownership of 2008 Class C licensed business, with dance-entertainment permit, located at 43317 Grand River, Novi, MI 48375, Oakland County, from Taste of Bangkok Cuisine, Inc. to Ruchi LLC.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Clerk's Office DB/m.C.

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Ruchi LLC will operate as Mirchi Indian Cuisine. This location previously housed Taste of Bangkok Cuisine. The restaurant changed names and menus when it converted from Taste of Bangkok Cuisine to Mirchi Indian Cuisine. The owners are requesting to transfer the Class C Liquor License from Taste of Bangkok to Ruchi LLC (DBA Mirchi Indian Cuisine). The applicants purchased the restaurant equipment from the previous tenants in the middle of December 2008 and reopened the restaurant as Mirchi Indian Cuisine at the end of December. The previous tenants/liquor license owners are not associated in any way with Ruchi LLC or Mirchi Indian Cuisine.

According the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC), the Taste of Bangkok liquor license owners incurred Minor in Possession of alcohol violations at the establishment under their ownership of the license. Ruchi LLC and the applicants are now responsible for addressing and clearing up the previous violations. Additionally, the MLCC advised that the liquor license applicants were present during a February 2009 hearing. During the hearing, the MLCC learned the applicants were unlawfully operating Mirchi Indian Cuisine under the old Taste of Bangkok liquor license. As a result, the Administrative Judge placed the liquor license in escrow in April of 2009. The applicants are currently in the process of rectifying the license and completing the licensing requirements established by the MLCC to operate the restaurant under the requested liquor license.

Provided that Ruchi LLC satisfies the MLCC licensing requirements, the subsequent liquor investigation conducted by the Novi Police Department finds no reason to deny the applicants' request for a liquor license at the Mirchi Indian Cuisine. The Fire Department has no objection to approval to the request, pending compliance with the required City and/or State regulations. The Building Division has no objection to approval. Per the Planning Division, the use is permitted in this zoning district, subject to site plan review.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of request from Ruchi LLC (dba Mirchi Indian Cuisine) to transfer . ownership of 2008 Class C licensed business, with dance-entertainment permit, located at 43317 Grand River, Novi, MI 48375, Oakland County, from Taste of Bangkok Cuisine, Inc. to Ruchi LLC.

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