

1 GARMAN TURNER GORDON LLP
GERALD M. GORDON, ESQ.
2 Nevada Bar No. 229
E-mail: ggordon@gtg.legal
3 TALITHA GRAY KOZLOWSKI, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 9040
4 E-mail: tgray@gtg.legal
MARK M. WEISENMILLER, ESQ.
5 Nevada Bar No. 12128
E-mail: mweisenmiller@gtg.legal
6 650 White Drive, Ste. 100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
7 Telephone 725-777-3000
[Proposed] Attorneys for Debtor
8

9 **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**
10 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

11 In re:
12 HORIZON VILLAGE SQUARE, LLC,
13 Debtor.

Case No.: 11-21034-MKN
Chapter 11

Confirmation Hearing:
Date: April 28, 2015
Time: 9:30 a.m.

14
15 **DEBTOR'S POST-TRIAL BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION OF**
16 **DEBTOR'S AMENDED PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND DENIAL OF**
17 **WELLS FARGO'S STAY RELIEF MOTION**
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT 1

II. LEGAL ARGUMENT 2

 A. Section 4.1.3 of the Plan Does Not Contravene Section 524(e) of the Code. 2

 B. The Plan Satisfies Sections 1129(a)(5) and 1123(a)(7): Management and Insiders..... 5

 1. Debtor’s Disclosures relating to the Post-Effective Date Management Fulfill the Requirements of Section 1129(a)(5)..... 6

 2. Debtor’s Proposed Post-Effective Date Management Is in the Interests of Creditors and Equity Security Holders, as well as Public Policy. 6

 C. The Plan Is Fair and Equitable and “Cramdown” Pursuant to Section 1129(b) Is Appropriate. 12

 1. There Is No Dispute that the Plan Satisfies Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i)..... 12

 2. The Undisputed Evidence Establishes that the Plan Is Fair and Equitable..... 13

 3. Secured Lender’s Contention that the Plan is Not Fair and Equitable Because It Does Not Include New “Wish-List” Provisions Is Untenable. 16

 4. The Removal of Four of the Twenty-Three Loan Covenants Is Fair and Equitable. 18

 D. Stay Relief Is Not Appropriate.....26

III. CONCLUSION..... 27

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

American Trailer and Storage, Inc., 419 B.R. 412, 441 (Bankr. W.D.Mo. 2009)..... 20

Great W. Bank v. Sierra Woods Grp., 953 F.2d 1174, 1178 (9th Cir. 1992) 15

In re Bashas’ Inc., 437 B.R. 874, 925 (Bankr. D. Ariz. 2010)..... 16, 18

In re Beyond.com Corp., 289 B.R. 138 (Bankr. N.D.Cal. 2003)..... 8

In re Coastal Equities, Inc., 33 B.R. 898 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1983) 19

In re D & F Const., Inc., 865 F.2d 673, 675 (5th Cir. 1989) 15

In re Digerati Technologies, Inc., 2014 WL 2203895 at *6 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. May 27, 2014) 9

In re Kellogg Square P’ship, 160 B.R. 343, 368 (Bankr. D. Minn. 1993) 19

In re Kennedy, 158 B.R. 589, 599 (Bankr. D.N.J. 1993).....14

In re EFH Grove Tower Associates, 105 B.R. 310, 313 (Bankr. E.D.N.C. 1989) 14

In re Machne Menachem, Inc., 304 B.R. 140 (Bankr. M.D. Pa. 2003) 8

In re Monarch Beach Venture, Ltd., 166 B.R. 428, 436 (C.D. Cal. 1993) 16

In re Montgomery Court Apartments of Ingham Cnty., Ltd., 141 B.R. 324, 346 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1992) 15

In re P.K. Keating, Co., 168 B.R. 464, 473 (Bankr. D. Mass 1994)..... 19

In re TCI 2 Holdings, LLC, 428 B.R. 117, 168 (Bankr. D.N.J. 2010) 14

In re Tri Growth Center City, Ltd., 136 B.R. 848, 852 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1992) 16

In re Western Real Estate Fund, Inc., 75 B.R. 580 (Bankr. W.D. Okla. 1987) 19

In re WRN 1301, Inc., 2007 WL 1555812 (Bankr. E.D.Tex. May 24, 2007) 8

Statutes

11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(1)..... 2

11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(5)..... 4

11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)(1). 13

11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)(2)(B)..... 14

11 U.S.C. 1123(a)(7)..... 4

1 Horizon Village Square, LLC (“Debtor”), by and through its proposed counsel, the law
2 firm of Garman Turner Gordon, hereby submits its post-trial brief in support of confirmation (the
3 “Brief”) of *Debtor’s Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Ex. 4] (the “Plan”).¹

4 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

5 **I. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT**

6 Secured Lender is the only party-in-interest seeking denial of confirmation of Debtor’s
7 Plan. And all other creditors have voted to accept Debtor’s Plan, which provides for the *full*
8 *payment with interest* of all Allowed Claims within five years of the Effective Date, and
9 preserves the interests of the Equity Security Holders. See Ex. 4 § 4 and Ex. 5. The Plan
10 satisfies Section 1129 and should be confirmed.

11 Prior to the Confirmation Hearing, Debtor and Secured Lender entered into the
12 Stipulation, whereby Secured Lender and Debtor stipulated that:

- 13 • Secured Lender is oversecured and thus does not have a deficiency claim for
14 purposes of confirmation.
- 15 • Secured Lender does not challenge the Plan’s feasibility.
- 16 • Secured Lender does not challenge the Plan’s satisfaction of the “good faith”
17 requirement of Section 1129(a)(3).
- 18 • The Plan’s Secured Interest Rate of 4.25% satisfies the “market rate of interest”
19 requirement of Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i).

20 See Ex. 1 §§ 2.4, 2.5, 2.8, and 2.9.

21 Beyond the consensual resolution of the foregoing material points, Secured Lender’s
22 Objection [ECF No. 409] was limited to the following: (i) the Plan fails to comply with Sections
23 1129(a)(1) and (a)(5); and (ii) the Plan fails to meet the requirements for cramdown under
24 Section 1129(b). In light of the limited objections asserted by Secured Lender and in the interest
25 of brevity, Debtor incorporates herein by this reference its Confirmation Brief [ECF No. 419]
26 and the supporting declaration of Todd Nigro [Ex. 2], which together establish that Debtor has
27

28 ¹ Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings set forth in the Plan.

1 satisfied each of the subsections of Section 1129(a) for which an objection has not been lodged
2 by Secured Lender (i.e., Sections 1129(a)(2)-(a)(4), (a)(6), and (a)(9)-(a)(16). This Brief shall
3 address Secured Lender's three fatally flawed objections and establish that the Plan in fact
4 satisfies Section 1129(a)(1), (a)(5), and (b) and should be confirmed.

5 **II. LEGAL ARGUMENT**

6 **A. Section 4.1.3 of the Plan Does Not Contravene Section 524(e) of the Code.**

7 Section 1129(a)(1) requires that a plan must "[c]omply with the applicable provisions of
8 [the Code]." 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(1). Despite having not objected to identical language
9 contained in Debtor's Initial Plan [Ex. 20], in a desperate attempt to find some basis to object to
10 the Plan, Secured Lender now takes the untenable position that Section 4.1.3 of Debtor's Plan
11 violates Section 524(e) of the Code and therefore the Plan does not satisfy Section 1129(a)(1).
12 See ECF No. 409, at p. 13. Section 4.1.3 of the Plan provides that "[o]n the Effective Date, all
13 pre-Effective Date defaults under the Loan Documents shall be deemed to have been cured and
14 on the Effective Date, *Debtor and/or Reorganized Debtor* shall be current and in good standing
15 under the Loan Documents." Section 524(e) serves to preclude third-party post-Effective Date
16 releases, providing that the "discharge of a debt of the debtor does not affect the liability of any
17 other entity on, or the property of any other entity for such debt." As Section 4.1.3 does not
18 grant a third-party release or injunction, Secured Lender's argument fails and must be overruled.

19 Foremost, the plain language of Section 4.1.3 of the Plan addresses only Debtor and/or
20 Reorganized Debtor and does not create a release of the Guarantors' liability nor does it enjoin
21 Secured Lender from pursuing the Guarantors if Secured Lender is entitled to do so under the
22 guarantees. Rather, Section 4.1.3 serves to ensure that upon the Effective Date, Reorganized
23 Debtor is in good standing with Secured Lender such that immediately upon the Effective Date
24 of the Plan, Secured Lender does not have basis to declare a default against Debtor or
25 Reorganized Debtor and proceed to foreclosure as a result of a pre-petition default.

26 Beyond the fact that the plain language of Section 4.1.3 does not grant a third-party
27 injunction or release, at the Confirmation Hearing, Mr. Nigro testified that he did not believe that
28 Section 4.1.3 of the Plan operated as a third-party injunction.

1 Q. And is it your position that 4.1.3 under the Horizon Plan would return the
2 debtor into good standing such that enforcement of the guarantees would no
longer be viable for Wells Fargo?

3 A. Speaking on behalf of the debtor, it places the debtor in good standing under
4 the loan documents. That's what this says to me.

5 Q. And what I'm asking for is your understanding of what that does to the
6 guarantees.

7 A. *As the debtor, I don't think it addresses the guarantees at all.*

8 Q. I understand, but I'm asking whether the provision itself talks about the
9 guarantees. I'm asking for your understanding of what this provision would do
10 with respect to the enforcement of the guarantees, if anything.

11 A. *Again, as the debtor, I don't think it impacts the guarantees, and the
12 guarantees remain in place as part of the loan documents.*

13 Q. It doesn't impact the guarantees one way or another?

14 A. *The guarantees remain in place as they did in the original loan documents.*

15 Q. Yesterday I think there was some testimony to the effect that you believe once
16 the debtor in Nigro HQ is in good standing, the loan is in good standing. There's
17 no way to enforce the guarantees at that point unless there is a default after the
18 effective date. Do you recall that?

19 A. I don't recall saying that there's no way to enforce the guarantees. I'm not
20 sure what my exact answer was but –

21 Q. Well, whatever your answer was yesterday for Nigro HQ, it would be a
22 similar position with respect to this provision in this case?

23 A. Generally, yes.

24 Transcript, pp. 15:8-17.2 (emphasis added).

25 At the Nigro HQ hearing, Mr. Nigro similarly affirmed that the identical provision in the
26 Nigro HQ plan did not provide a release of the Guarantees.

27 Q. So your contention is that the plan does not enjoin an action on those
28 guarantees, right.

A. Right.

Q. Is it your contention that the plan somehow precludes, that that issue is
decided as part of the plan?

A. On the bank's ability to pursue the guarantees?

Q. Correct.

A. No, I don't believe that this decides that.

1 Q. Let me make sure I understand the answer. I may have turned myself around
2 with my questioning, so let me make sure I understand. We talked about the fact
3 that third-party injunctions – okay – third-party injunction [sic] not intended
4 under the plan. Does the plan otherwise – in your view, does it otherwise
5 preclude enforcement of the guarantees in any way?

6 A. I don't believe so. I don't believe it deals with the guarantees.

7 See Nigro HQ Transcript, p. 48, ll. 4-20.

8 Upon further questioning, Mr. Nigro also testified as follows:

9 Q. And I believe you also testified that it's your understanding that the plan does
10 not enjoin any lawsuit against the guarantors. Is that correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Id., p. 79, ll. 6-9.

13 Finally, in addition to the fact that Secured Lender's argument is contradicted by both the
14 plain language of Section 4.1.3 and the testimony of Mr. Nigro, this Court has previously
15 confirmed a plan containing nearly identical language. Specifically, Section 4.1.3 of the
16 *Amended Plan of Reorganization* filed by Beltway One Development Group, LLC is nearly
17 **identical** to Section 4.1.3 of Debtor's Plan with the sole exception that the term "Loan
18 Documents" in Debtor's Plan is defined as the "Wells Fargo Loan Documents" in the Beltway
19 plan in order to differentiate between BB&T and Wells Fargo's loan documents in the Beltway
20 case.² As this Court is well-aware, Secured Lender was also one of the secured lenders in the
21 Beltway Case and was represented by the same counsel, the law firm of Bryan Cave LLP. The
22 Beltway plan, containing nearly the exact same language as Section 4.1.3 of the Plan, was
23 confirmed over Wells Fargo's objection. See Beltway Case, Case No. 11-21026-mkn, at ECF
24 Nos. 98 and 321. Thus, Secured Lender's objection that the Plan violates Section 1129(a)(1)
25 fails and should be overruled.

26 ...

27 ² Section 4.1.3 in Debtor's Plan provides: "[o]n the Effective Date, all pre-Effective Date defaults under the Loan
28 Documents shall be deemed to have been cured and on the Effective Date, Debtor and/or Reorganized Debtor shall
be current and in good standing under the Loan Documents." Section 4.1.3 in the Beltway plan provides "[o]n the
Effective Date, all pre-Effective Date defaults under the Wells Fargo Loan Documents shall be deemed to have been
cured and on the Effective Date, Debtor and/or Reorganized Debtor shall be current and in good standing under the
Wells Fargo Loan Documents." Ex. 4 § 4.1.3 and ECF No. 98 in the Beltway Case, Case No. 11-21026-mkn, §
4.1.3.

1 **B. The Plan Satisfies Sections 1129(a)(5) and 1123(a)(7): Management and Insiders.**

2 Secured Lender asserts that the “Plan fails to satisfy the adequate disclosure of the
3 ‘identities and affiliations’ of post confirmation management and such management is not in the
4 best interest of creditors or consistent with public policy” and therefore does not satisfy the
5 requirements of Sections 1123(a)(7) and 1129(a)(5). See Objection, ECF No. 409, at pp. 10-12.

6 Section 1129(a)(5)³ and Section 1123(a)(7)⁴ set forth the plan requirements relating to the
7 management of a reorganized debtor that, when taken together, require this Court to find that: (i)
8 Debtor, as proponent of the Plan, has disclosed (a) the identity and affiliations of the proposed
9 post-Effective Date management of Reorganized Debtor; and (b) the nature of the compensation
10 of the proposed post-Effective Date management; and (ii) the appointment of the proposed post-
11 Effective Date management of Reorganized Debtor is consistent with (a) Debtor’s creditors and
12 equity security holders’ interests; and (b) public policy.

13 As a preliminary matter, it should be noted that such arguments are raised for the first
14 time by Secured Lender with respect to the current Plan notwithstanding the fact that Nigro
15 Development was the proposed post-Effective Date manager under the Initial Plan [Exs. 11 and
16 20] and Secured Lender raised no issue at that time. See Ex. 20 § 5.5; ECF Nos. 105 and 195.
17 Additionally, in confirming the Beltway Plan, this Court found substantially similar disclosures
18 and management (as Nigro Development is also the manager of Beltway One Management
19 Group, LLC) to satisfy the requirements of Section 1129(a)(5) and 1123(a)(7). See ECF No. 320
20 in the Beltway case, at p. 18 and ECF No. 321 in the Beltway case.

21 Irrespective of the fact that Secured Lender has conjured up these new objections, such
22 arguments are without merit as the Plan not only meets the management disclosure requirements,

23 _____
24 ³ Section 1129(a)(5) provides that a plan of reorganization may be confirmed only if “the proponent of the plan has
25 disclosed the identify and affiliations of any individual proposed to serve, after confirmation of the plan, as a
26 director, officer or voting trustee of the debtor[,] . . . the appointment to, or continuance in, such office of such
27 individual, is consistent with the interest of creditors and equity security holders and with public policy[, and] the
28 proponent of the plan has disclosed the identity of any insider that will be employed or retained by the reorganized
debtor, and the nature of any compensation for such insider.” See 11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(5).

⁴ Section 1123(a)(7) provides that a plan must “contain only provisions that are consistent with the interests of
creditors and equity security holders and with public policy with respect to the manner of selection of any officer,
director, or trustee under the plan and any successor to such officer, director, or trustee[.]” 11 U.S.C. 1123(a)(7).

1 but also proposes management that is both absolutely in the best interest of Debtor's Creditors
2 and Equity Security Holders alike (as required under the Code) and consistent with public policy.

3 **1. Debtor's Disclosures Relating to the Post-Effective Date Management Fulfill**
4 **the Requirements of Section 1129(a)(5).**

5 Throughout the course of this Chapter 11 Case, and specifically in connection with
6 confirmation of the Plan, Debtor has made repeated detailed disclosures that fulfill the
7 requirements of Section 1129(a)(5) as follows:

8 • Section 5.5 of the Plan provides that "[f]rom and after the Effective Date,
9 Reorganized Debtor will continue to be managed by Debtor's pre-petition managers,
10 which management may subsequently be modified to the extent provided by Reorganized
11 Debtor's articles of organization, by-laws, and operating agreement (as amended,
12 supplemented, or modified)." See Ex. 4 § 5.5.

13 • In its Disclosure Statement, Debtor identified Nigro Development, LLC ("Nigro
14 Development"), which is managed by Todd Nigro and Michael Nigro, as Debtor's pre-
15 petition manager. See Ex. 8, at p. 19, ll. 19.

16 • The Nigro Declaration provides exhaustive detail as to the identity of Nigro
17 Development and its affiliation with Debtor, among other entities. See Ex. 2 ¶¶ 2, 10-14.

18 • The Nigro Declaration also discloses the fact that Nigro Development receives no
19 compensation for its services rendered as manager of Debtor, but that its affiliate, Nigro
20 Management LLC dba Nigro Properties ("Nigro Management") to whom the property
21 management services have been delegated by Nigro Development, receives monthly
22 compensation in the sum of \$500. See id. ¶¶ 20-24. Such amount is consistent with the
23 Property Management expense set forth in the Debtor's Budget approved by this Court in
24 connection with the *Stipulation Authorizing Use of Cash Collateral and Granting*
25 *Adequate Protection* [Ex. 21] and furthermore the Property Management expense set
26 forth in the Projections [Ex. 13].

27 Based on the foregoing, Debtor has amply satisfied Section 1129(a)(5)'s requirement to
28 disclose the identity, affiliations, and compensation of the proposed post-Effective Date
management of Reorganized Debtor.

29 **2. Debtor's Proposed Post-Effective Date Management Is in the Interests of**
30 **Creditors and Equity Security Holders, as well as Public Policy.**

31 Maintaining Nigro Development as its post-Effective Date manager, without a doubt,
32 meets the requirements of Sections 1129(a)(5) and 1123(a)(7).
33 ...

1 a. The appointment of Nigro Development is consistent with the interests of
2 Creditors and Equity Security Holders.

3 Secured Lender creates a substantial amount of noise relating to the retention of Nigro
4 Development as Debtor's post-Effective Date manager despite being unable to point to any
5 credible evidence of mismanagement prior to or during the Chapter 11 Case. The continuance of
6 Nigro Development as manager of Reorganized Debtor is consistent with the interests of
7 Debtor's Creditors and Equity Security Holders alike, as Nigro Development, and its principals,
8 possess extensive knowledge and experience developing, constructing, and managing a wide-
9 array of real estate projects in Nevada, as well as the unique experience in the conception,
10 development, and management of Debtor and its property specifically. See Ex. 2 ¶¶ 10-24.
11 Specifically, Nigro Development is co-owned and managed by Todd Nigro and Michael Nigro.
12 See id. ¶ 12. For their entire adult lives, the Nigro brothers have developed, constructed, and
13 managed a wide-array of real estate projects in Nevada, in which they handle all aspects of
14 development, including financial, design, construction, and management, with integrity and
15 professionalism. See id. Prior to founding Nigro Development, and its affiliates, Todd Nigro
16 served as the Chief Financial Officer and Michael Nigro served as the Director of Construction
17 for Nigro Associates, a commercial and residential development company founded by their
18 father, Edward Nigro, in 1979. See id. ¶ 14. Nigro Development, together with its affiliates,
19 specialized in developing, constructing, and managing commercial real estate primarily in the
20 Las Vegas market, including residential developments, high rise, "flex" and industrial projects,
21 retail building, hospital projects, master planned business parks, professional office complexes,
22 and medical centers. See id. ¶ 15.

23 Thus, Nigro Development brings to Debtor knowledge regarding: (i) all facets of
24 construction and development of real estate in the Las Vegas area; (ii) the Las Vegas residential
25 and commercial real estate industries; (iii) property valuations in the Las Vegas area real estate
26 market; (iii) the financing obtained for Nigro Development's prior and existing projects; (iv)
27 property management and leasing; and (v) successful management strategies within the unique
28 Las Vegas area market. See id. ¶ 18. In addition, as natives and lifelong businessmen in Las

1 Vegas, the Nigro brothers' strong relationships with local government, the Las Vegas business
2 community, other real estate developers, brokers, investors, and lending institutions provide
3 incomparable value to Debtor. See id.

4 Additionally, Nigro Development, as one of Debtor's founding members, has acted in the
5 capacity as Debtor's manager since its inception. See Ex. 2 ¶ 12. As testament to the benefit
6 Debtor has received under Nigro Development's management, Debtor generated sufficient
7 revenue to make each and every monthly payment due under the Secured Note prior to its
8 maturity date despite the global economic recession that, by 2009, had severely affected the Las
9 Vegas economy and decimated the local real estate market. See id. ¶ 19. Furthermore, since the
10 commencement of the Chapter 11 Case, Debtor has generated sufficient revenue to tender
11 monthly adequate protection payments to Secured Lender in-excess-of its monthly payment
12 obligations under the Secured Note, which exceeded \$800,000, as well as accumulated a
13 substantial sum of cash (exceeding \$1.8 Million), thereby putting Debtor in an even better cash
14 position (after payment of Plan obligations) than it was pre-petition. See id. Such cash will
15 ensure that Debtor has the needed flexibility to complete tenant improvements and property
16 maintenance and repairs to protect the value of the Real Property. See id. ¶¶ 19 and 61.

17 Thus, contrary to Secured Lender's unfounded and unsubstantiated assertions, the
18 continuance of Nigro Development as Debtor's post-Effective Date manager satisfies the
19 standards of Sections 1129(a)(5) and 1123(a)(7).

20 b. The appointment of Nigro Development is consistent with public policy.

21 Secured Lender further argues that proposed management is not consistent with public
22 policy. See Objection, at p. 12. However, such argument is entirely inconsistent with applicable
23 law. As cited by Secured Lender, *Digerati Technologies, Inc.* clearly articulates an instructive
24 distillation of the scant authority that relates to the issue at hand. See 2014 WL 2203895, *6
25 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. May 27, 2014) (citing In re Beyond.com Corp., 289 B.R. 138 (Bankr.
26 N.D.Cal. 2003); In re Machne Menachem, Inc., 304 B.R. 140 (Bankr. M.D. Pa. 2003); In re
27 WRN 1301, Inc., 2007 WL 1555812 (Bankr. E.D.Tex. May 24, 2007)). The *Digerati* court
28 established that in assessing whether the appointment of an individual to serve as a director or

1 officer of a reorganized debtor is “consistent with public policy,” the following non-exhaustive
2 list of factors, giving appropriate weight to each of them based on the particular circumstances of
3 the case, should be considered: (i) Does the proposed plan, if confirmed, keep the debtor in
4 existence as an ongoing company or is the debtor extinguished?; (ii) Is the debtor a publicly-held
5 or a privately-held company?; (iii) Does continued service of the individual perpetuate
6 incompetence, lack of direction, inexperience, or affiliations with groups inimical to the best
7 interests of debtor?; (iv) Does the continued service of the individual provide adequate protection
8 of all creditors and equity security owners?; (v) Does the retention of the individual violate state
9 law in any respect?; (vi) Is the individual a “disinterested person”?; (vii) Is the individual capable
10 and competent to serve in the proposed capacity assigned to him?; (viii) Are the salaries and
11 benefits that the individual will receive reasonable based upon the size of the debtor’s operations,
12 the complexity of these operations, and the revenues to be generated?; and (ix) Are new
13 independent outside directors being appointed under the proposed plan? See In re Digerati
14 Technologies, Inc., 2014 WL 2203895 at *6.

15 As applied to this Chapter 11 Case, the current Plan, if confirmed, provides for the
16 continued operation of the Horizon Village Square Shopping Center. See Ex. 2 ¶ 4. Debtor is a
17 privately-held company who’s Equity Security Holders determined at the time of its inception
18 that Nigro Development should be vested with the management authority of Debtor, and further
19 have determined that Nigro Development should remain with such authority as Debtor emerges
20 from bankruptcy. Secured Lender has never objected to Nigro Development and Nigro
21 Management’s corporate and property management services nor sought the appointment of a
22 trustee. In fact, Secured Lender even stipulated to the cash collateral budget that provided for the
23 4% property management fee to be paid to Nigro Management throughout the Chapter 11 Case.
24 See Ex. 21, at Ex. 1.

25 Nigro Development is both capable and competent and its continued service *does not*
26 perpetuate incompetence, lack of direction, inexperience, or affiliations with groups inimical to
27 Debtor’s best interest. Nigro Development’s continued service does not violate the law. Finally,
28 Nigro Development has demonstrated a conservative management approach, one that prevented

1 Debtor from ever missing a monthly payment to Secured Lender pre-petition, permitted Debtor
2 to make all of its Adequate Protection Payments throughout the Chapter 11 Case (exceeding
3 \$800,000), effectuating an 88.9% occupancy as of the Confirmation Hearing, and Nigro
4 Development's involvement has fostered Debtor's ongoing ability to meet its obligations under
5 the Plan, which provides payment in full to all of Debtor's Creditors and permits the retention of
6 the Equity Security Holders' interests. Thus, Debtor's proposed management more than
7 adequately protects all of Debtor's Creditors and Equity Security Holders.

8 Unable to dispute any of the foregoing, Secured Lender, through the testimony of its
9 representative, Kevin Haley, instead contends that Debtor is mismanaged because Nigro
10 Development owns 42.97% of Debtor and, as the manager, is able to determine when
11 distributions will be made. See Ex. 3 ¶¶ 24-26. Foremost, in nearly every single asset real estate
12 entity, one or more of the equity holders also manages the entity and thus is able to determine if
13 and when distributions are made. Under Mr. Haley's analysis, in every single asset case, the
14 debtor would have to transfer management to a third-party instead of the owners in order to
15 satisfy Section 1129(a) (5). This is an absurd and legally unsupportable proposition.

16 Additionally, the undisputed evidence establishes that Nigro Development has been an
17 exceptional manager in a very difficult market obtaining an occupancy of 88.9%, never missing a
18 pre-petition monthly payment to Secured Lender, and making all of its Adequate Protection
19 Payments during the Chapter 11 Case. See Ex. 2 ¶ 61. Beyond the lack of any evidence of
20 mismanagement, Secured Lender's unfounded conspiratorial theory that after the Confirmation
21 Hearing, Nigro Development is going to cause Debtor to distribute all of Debtor's cash to the
22 members to the detriment of Secured Lender is belied by the fact that on the Petition Date,
23 Debtor held more than \$1 Million. See id. ¶ 77 ("As evident by the fact that Debtor was holding
24 over \$1 Million on the Petition Date and that Beltway One Development Group, LLC was
25 holding approximately \$1.3 Million on the Petition Date and is holding approximately \$1.6
26 Million today, we are very conservative in our analysis and only make distributions.") and ¶ 78
27 ("Our conservative approach to distributions is further evidenced by the fact that after the
28 Secured Loan was originated, other than distributions to reimburse Debtor's members for the

1 taxes incurred as a result of Debtor's positive revenue, Debtor has not tendered distribution to
2 Debtor's members.").

3 Secured Lender also tries to contend that Debtor has failed to pursue viable Avoidance
4 Actions and therefore, has mismanaged Debtor. See Objection, p. 11. However, despite
5 undertaking significant written discovery and deposing Mr. Nigro twice, Secured Lender cannot
6 articulate any potentially viable Avoidance Actions. While Mr. Suzuki did inquire at the
7 Confirmation Hearing about a disclosed \$30,000 retainer that was paid to Morris Peterson
8 prepetition in anticipation that Secured Lender might sue the Guarantors, no testimony was
9 elicited that would even suggest that the payment of the retainer was avoidable. See Transcript,
10 pp. 19:11-20:18. Further, Debtor's Operating Agreement requires Debtor to indemnify the
11 Guarantors in the event of even a threatened litigation. See Ex. 35 § 3.6. Specifically, Section
12 3.6 of the Operating Agreement provides in pertinent part that "[t]he Company **shall indemnify**
13 **and hold harmless** the Managers, and each director, officer, shareholder, manager, member,
14 employee, or agent thereof, from and against any loss, expense, damage or injury suffered or
15 sustained by it or any of them by reason of any acts, omissions, or alleged acts or
16 omissions...arising out of its or any of their activities on behalf of the Company or in furtherance
17 if the interest of the Company, including but not limited to, any judgment, award, settlement,
18 **reasonable attorney's fees**, and other costs or expenses incurred in connection with the defense
19 of any action **or threatened** action, proceeding, or claim..." Id. (emphasis added). Based on the
20 foregoing, Mr. Nigro testified that he believes the provision of the retainer to Morris Peterson in
21 anticipation that Secured Lender may sue the Guarantors was in the ordinary course for Debtor.
22 See Transcript, p. 20, ll. 2-10. Mr. Nigro also testified that Secured Lender has, in fact,
23 threatened to sue the Guarantors as recently as the last thirty days preceding the Confirmation
24 Hearing. See id., p. 45, ll. 6-12.

25 Beyond Secured Lender's inability to point to any viable Avoidance Actions that Debtor
26 is not pursuing that could result in a material benefit to Debtor and therefore reaches the level of
27 mismanagement, the undisputed evidence establishes that Debtor "reviewed with Debtor's
28 counsel the payments tendered during the applicable preference periods and, based on the advice

1 of Debtor's counsel, have determined that the payments were in the ordinary course of business
 2 and were not on account of an antecedent debt." Ex. 2 ¶ 49. Further, Mr. Nigro testified that "all
 3 pre-Petition Date creditors will be paid in full; as such, as explained by Debtor's counsel, no
 4 legal basis exists to pursue certain of the pre-petition Avoidance Actions." Id. Even were there
 5 to exist viable Avoidance Actions, the Plan expressly retains all Avoidance Actions for pursuit
 6 by the Reorganized Debtor and therefore preserves such causes of action to the extent that they
 7 exist. See Ex. 4 § 5.1 and Sch. 1.1.45.

8 Weighing the *Digerati* factors as applied to the circumstances here, it is apparent that the
 9 continued service of Nigro Development is consistent with the best interest of Debtor's Creditors
 10 and Equity Security Holders, as well as public policy. Thus, the Plan amply satisfies Section
 11 1129(a)(5) and Section 1123(a)(7) and should be confirmed.

12 **C. The Plan Is Fair and Equitable and "Cramdown" Pursuant to Section 1129(b) Is**
 13 **Appropriate.**

14 Section 1129(b) provides that if a proposed plan meets all the requirements in Section
 15 1129(a), except for class acceptance pursuant to Section 1129(a)(8), then the plan may still be
 16 confirmed "if the plan does not discriminate unfairly, and is fair and equitable, with respect to
 17 each class of claims or interests that is impaired under, and has not accepted, the plan." 11
 18 U.S.C. § 1129(b)(1). Class 1 is the only Impaired Class that did not vote to accept the Plan. As
 19 Class 4 is impaired and voted to accept the Plan, Class 1 may be "crammed down" pursuant to
 20 Section 1129(b).

21 **1. There Is No Dispute that the Plan Satisfies Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i).**

22 The Code specifies that with respect to a class of secured claims, a plan is "fair and
 23 equitable" if the plan provides, among other relief:

24 (i) (I) that the holders of such claims retain the liens securing such
 25 claims, whether the property subject to such liens is retained by the debtor or
 transferred to another entity, to the extent of the allowed amount of such claims; and

26 (II) that each holder of a claim of such class receive on account of
 27 such claim deferred cash payments totaling at least the allowed amount of such
 28 claim, of a value, as of the effective date of the plan, of at least the value of such
 holder's interest in the estate's interest in such property.

1 11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)(2)(B).

2 Secured Lender concedes that the Plan satisfies Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i). However,
3 again desperately seeking to find some basis to object to the Plan, Secured Lender contends that
4 irrespective of the Plan's satisfaction of Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i), the Plan is nonetheless unfair
5 and inequitable because it removes certain loan covenants and does not rewrite the Secured Note
6 to add Secured Lender's wish-list of restrictions that did not exist in the original Secured Note.
7 See Objection, pp. 8-10. Such argument lacks any merit and must be overruled.

8 **2. The Undisputed Evidence Establishes that the Plan Is Fair and Equitable.**

9 Among other factors, the following undisputed facts support a determination that the
10 Plan's treatment of the Secured Lender Claim is fair and equitable: (i) Debtor timely tendered
11 every monthly payment due under the Secured Note prior to the February 13, 2011 maturity date;
12 (ii) the Chapter 11 Case was solely filed because Secured Lender refused to extend the maturity
13 date of the Secured Loan despite being oversecured and despite Debtor's history of timely
14 payments; (iii) Debtor began making monthly Adequate Protection Payments of \$18,500
15 immediately after the Petition Date; (iv) Debtor continued making the \$18,500 Adequate
16 Protection Payments throughout the Chapter 11 Case, which payments exceed \$800,000 as of the
17 filing of this declaration; (v) the Secured Lender Claim will be fully repaid within five years; (vi)
18 the 4.25% Secured Interest Rate is over 2.45% greater than the floating interest rate set forth in
19 the Secured Note, which has not exceeded 1.8% since the Petition Date; (vii) Secured Lender
20 will receive a principal reduction payment of \$585,000 within one month of the Effective Date;
21 and (viii) Debtor will have over \$1.8M as of the Effective Date, as well as revenues that exceed
22 its expenses, and thus, Secured Lender has a very low risk of non-payment. See Ex. 2 ¶ 61.
23 Notably, similar terms and circumstances were found to satisfy the fair and equitable test in the
24 Beltway Case.

25 Furthermore, the undeniable feasibility of Debtor's Plan further counters against Secured
26 Lender's alleged shifting of the risk. When in 2014 Debtor received an LOI for a potential sale
27 of the Real Property that could produce sufficient funds to repay the Secured Lender Claim
28

1 (minus default interest)⁵ and produce a return for equity, Debtor promptly approached Secured
2 Lender and inquired about a payoff excluding default interest. See Ex. 2, p. 15, n. 6. Secured
3 Lender refused to engage in any discussion that would not pay Secured Lender its principal,
4 interest, and *post-petition* default interest (which Debtor understands Secured Lender calculates
5 at over \$1 Million). See id. Thus, once the Plan is confirmed and the Secured Lender Claim is
6 liquidated, Debtor will be poised to proceed expeditiously with a sale in order to repay the
7 Secured Lender Claim. Irrespective of the timing of such sale, Secured Lender is clearly
8 adequately protected by the value of the Real Property and therefore, its “shifting of risk”
9 argument is not meritorious.

10 Beyond the foregoing undisputed facts, the applicable case law supports a determination
11 that Debtor’s Plan is fair and equitable. First, most of the cases that find an impermissible
12 shifting of the risk, involve negative amortization plans or similar treatment. Here, the Plan
13 provides for an initial payment to Secured Lender of \$585,000, fully amortized monthly
14 payments to Secured Lender, and full repayment of the Secured Lender Claim within five years.
15 Thus, the Plan does not violate the “fair and equitable” test of Section 1129(b) as it does not
16 impermissibly shift the risk to Secured Lender. To determine whether the proposed arrangement
17 imposes impermissible risk shifting upon a secured creditor, “a court will consider: (i) the
18 debtors’ demonstration of feasibility; (ii) the protections and risks to the secured creditor, and
19 (iii) the general reasonableness of the proposals in light of the circumstances.” In re TCI 2
20 Holdings, LLC, 428 B.R. 117, 168 (Bankr. D.N.J. 2010) (citing In re Kennedy, 158 B.R. 589,
21 599 (Bankr. D.N.J. 1993); In re EFH Grove Tower Associates, 105 B.R. 310, 313 (Bankr.
22 E.D.N.C. 1989)). Similarly, the court in *Montgomery* held that the following factors should be
23 considered when determining whether a plan unduly shifts the risk of reorganization upon a
24 secured creditor: “(1) whether the statutory mandates of § 1129(b)(2)(A) or (B) have been met;
25 (2) whether for a secured class, the valuation process has been fair; (3) whether the primary risk
26 of reorganization remains with the equity interests of the reorganized debtor; (4) whether any

27 _____
28 ⁵ For the avoidance of doubt, Debtor disputes any contention that Secured Lender is entitled to any post-petition
default interest.

1 secured loan restructure, including default provisions and other covenants, is reasonable when
2 compared to the parties' previous understandings and practices; (5) whether the length of time
3 until proposed repayment is reasonable; (6) whether, for an unsecured class, the percentage or
4 formula for proposed payment demonstrates a good faith effort to repay those obligations; and
5 (7) whether other particular inequities exist, including special prejudice to a dissenting class
6 arising from its particular circumstances." See In re Montgomery Court Apartments of Ingham
7 Cnty., Ltd., 141 B.R. 324, 346 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1992).

8 Here, the Plan does not violate the "fair and equitable" test as: (i) the Plan meets the
9 technical requirements of Section 1129(b)(2)(A) and (B); (ii) Secured Lender is fully secured;
10 (iii) as discussed more fully below, the Plan's elimination of four of twenty-four loan covenants
11 is reasonable compared to previous understandings and practice of Debtor and Secured Lender;
12 (iv) the length of time until repayment (5 years) is reasonable; (v) there is no dispute as to the
13 feasibility of the Plan; (vi) Secured Lender retains its fully secured liens under the Plan; and (vii)
14 based upon the foregoing, the Plan is reasonable in light of the circumstances.

15 Further, the authority cited by Secured Lender is either so distinguishable that it is
16 rendered wholly-inapplicable or does not actually support Secured Lender's position. See
17 Objection, at p. 7. First, *In re D & F Const., Inc.*, upon which Secured Lender relies, involved a
18 fifteen year negative amortization plan. See In re D & F Const., Inc., 865 F.2d 673, 675 (5th Cir.
19 1989).⁶ Notably, the court stated that "[w]e do not hold there can never be an occasion when
20 negative amortization would be fair and equitable. We do say this plan is not fair and equitable."
21 Id. However, here, Debtor's Plan is not a negative amortization plan. As such, *D & F Const.* is
22 not helpful to the Court in analyzing the Plan.

23 Second, in *In re Tri Growth Center City, Ltd.*, the court stated "[a]lthough not per se
24 objectionable, careful scrutiny must be given to a debtor's plan which proposes to convert a fully
25 matured short term loan into permanent financing" where the debtor proposed extending a three
26

27 ⁶ Secured Lender notably fails to cite to *Great W. Bank v. Sierra Woods Grp.*, 953 F.2d 1174, 1178 (9th Cir. 1992),
28 which determined that negative amortization is not *per se* impermissible, and fairness of a plan that includes
negative amortization must be considered on a case-by-case basis.

1 year loan over seven years, more than double the original loan term. See In re Tri Growth Center
2 City, Ltd., 136 B.R. 848, 852 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1992). The court then explained that the debtor
3 had failed to submit expert testimony as to whether such seven-year term was reasonable based
4 on market conditions. See id.

5 Third, *In re Monarch Beach Venture, Ltd.*, 166 B.R. 428, 436 (C.D. Cal. 1993), which
6 was decided in 1993 and is cited by Secured Lender, has been openly criticized by the courts in
7 *In re Bashas' Inc.*, 437 B.R. 874, 928 (Bankr. D. Ariz. 2010) and *In re Linda Vista Cinemas,*
8 *L.L.C.*, 442 B.R. 724 (Bankr. D. Ariz. 2010) because *Monarch* interpreted the “implicit” fairness
9 test to graft the absolute priority requirement onto repayment of secured creditors, which
10 everyone knows only applies to *unsecured* creditors. Thus, the authority cited by Secured
11 Lender fails in any way to actually support the propositions asserted by Secured Lender or aid
12 this Court with its decision.

13 **3. Secured Lender’s Contention that the Plan is Not Fair and Equitable**
14 **Because It Does Not Include New “Wish-List” Provisions Is Untenable.**

15 Secured Lender complains that the Plan is not fair and equitable because it allows Debtor
16 to continue to control and manage its cash as provided for under the existing Loan Documents.
17 In essence, Secured Lender believes that Debtor should be penalized because it sought Chapter
18 11 protection and will be successfully reorganized. Such proposition is not only inconsistent
19 with the principles of the Code relating to the effect of Plan confirmation, but results in the
20 egregious levy of a penalty on Debtor simply because Debtor has been successful and
21 meaningfully increased its cash position.

22 By way of his declaration, Mr. Haley stated “I believe that the Debtor should, at a
23 minimum, be prohibited from making any distributions to equity, until Wells Fargo is paid in
24 full, and should be required (i) to pay all excess cash on hand to Wells Fargo on the Effective
25 Date, after making reasonable reserves or to deposit all excess cash on hand into a debt service
26 escrow to be used only to pay Wells Fargo’s secured claim, and (ii) to escrow reasonable
27 amounts each month as further reserves for the payment of real property taxes, insurance, and
28 maintenance expenses.” Ex. 3 ¶ 23. However, there is absolutely nothing in Debtor’s existing

1 Loan Documents that would require all excess cash to be paid over to Secured Lender or the
2 establishment of tax, insurance, and maintenance expense reserves. See Ex. 25 (Loan
3 Agreement) and Ex. 26 (Secured Note). Similarly, no evidence was submitted to even suggest
4 that Debtor has ever failed to timely pay its taxes, insurance, or to maintain the Real Property.

5 Secured Lender's contention that without a debt service escrow, cash sweep, or tax,
6 insurance, and expense reserve escrows the Plan is unfair and inequitable fails. The existing
7 Loan Documents do not impose any such restrictions, the Plan indisputably meets the
8 requirements of Section 1129(b)(2)(A), and there is simply no factual or legal basis for Secured
9 Lender's to impose penalizing provisions solely because Debtor sought Chapter 11 protection,
10 particularly where Debtor is making a sizable down payment of \$585,000 immediately after the
11 Effective Date and has paid over \$800,000 in Adequate Protections to Secured Lender.

12 Further, Secured Lender's exaggerated concern over Debtor's use of the cash must be
13 tempered with reality. Secured Lender will receive a pay down of \$585,000 within one month of
14 the Effective Date. Further, Mr. Nigro has testified that he and his brother, in their capacities as
15 managers of Nigro Development, will make determinations as to the use of the cash, including
16 decisions relating to equity distributions, based on "ensuring the viability and success of
17 Debtor." See Ex. 2 ¶ 77. "This includes ensuring that there are sufficient funds to pay any
18 tenant improvements (which can exceed hundreds of thousands of dollars), as well as repairs and
19 maintenance . . . [w]e additionally consider what cash reserves will place Debtor in the best
20 position to facilitate a financing or a sale." See id. "[W]e are very conservative in our analysis
21 and only make distributions where we are entirely confident that such distribution will not harm
22 the viability of the project and/or the ability to refinance or sell the project." See id. ¶ 77.
23 Absolutely no contrary evidence was presented.

24 Moreover, the Court cannot lose sight of the fact that the Guarantees provided by Mr.
25 Nigro, his wife, his brother, and his brother's ex-wife in favor of Secured Lender all remain in
26 place during the Plan term and in the event of a post-Effective Date default, Secured Lender
27 would have the ability to sue the guarantors. See Transcript, p. 49, ll. 4-14. It is therefore, at
28 best, illogical to suggest that the indirect managers, who are also two of the Guarantors, would

1 cause Debtor to utilize its cash in a manner that would increase the likelihood of a default under
2 the Plan that would result in not only foreclosure proceedings, but also litigation against the
3 Guarantors in their individual capacities.

4 Thus, Secured Lender's desire to commandeer the plan process and to rewrite the Loan
5 Documents to impose brand new restrictions on Debtor is factually and legal unsupportable and
6 certainly does not render the Plan unfair and inequitable.

7 **4. The Removal of Four of the Twenty-Four Loan Covenants Is Fair and**
8 **Equitable, Particularly Given the Financial Reporting Requirements.**

9 The Plan provides for the removal of four financial covenants that could render
10 Reorganized Debtor in default under the Amended and Restated Note immediately after the
11 Effective Date if they were to remain. See Ex. 4 § 4.1.1(h); Ex. 2 ¶¶ 74-85. Secured Lender
12 contends that such removal violates Section 1129(b)'s fair and equitable test. Most significantly,
13 this Court previously rejected this exact same argument made by Wells Fargo in the Beltway
14 case. Section 4.1.1(h) of the Beltway plan provided nearly identical language to Section 4.1.1(h)
15 of Debtor's Plan with the only difference being the specific reference to Section 5.13 in the
16 Beltway plan verses the reference to Section 7.13 in Debtor's Plan. See ECF No. 201 in the
17 Beltway Case; Ex. 4 § 4.1.1(h). In the Beltway case, Wells Fargo argued that the "Plan proposes
18 to gut all financial covenants in the loan document, which are standard protections provided to
19 all lenders in commercial transaction" and therefore, the Beltway plan is unfair and inequitable.
20 See ECF No. 233 in the Beltway Case, at pp. 14-15. The Court rejected Wells Fargo's argument
21 holding "[t]he elimination of financial covenants is not per se unfair or inequitable, and is not
22 unfair or inequitable in these circumstances. See In re Bashas' Inc., 437 B.R. 874, 925 (Bankr.
23 D. Ariz. 2010) ('Likewise of concern to the Banks is that the Plan strips them of their contractual
24 'covenants.' However, nothing in the Chapter 11 statutes proscribes this. Under § 1123, the
25 modification of secured 'rights' is expressly allowed. § 1123(b)(5).')." See ECF No. 320 in the
26 Beltway Case, at pp. 14:23-15:2.

27 Further, in considering confirmation of Debtor's Initial Plan, which included identical
28

1 language regarding the removal of certain financial covenants,⁷ this Court took into
2 consideration the removal of the financial covenants when it determined that 4.25% was the
3 appropriate interest rate for the Secured Lender Claim, which rate Secured Lender has stipulated
4 satisfies Section 1129(b)(2)(A). See Ex. 1 § 2.4; Ex. 11, p. 22. On this basis alone, Secured
5 Lender's argument fails.

6 To support its broad assertion, Secured Lender again cites *P.K. Keating, Co.* See
7 Opposition, at p. 10 (citing In re P.K. Keating, Co., 168 B.R. 464, 473 (Bankr. D. Mass 1994)).
8 However, in *P.K. Keating, Co.*, pursuant to a loan agreement, the debtor was prohibited from
9 redeeming capital stock without the secured creditor's prior permission. See id. Under the
10 debtor's plan, the non-redemption clause was to be eliminated, which would have allowed the
11 debtor to pay out \$5.5 million to shareholders while more than \$20 million remained due to the
12 secured creditor. See id. The court ruled solely on the modification of the stock redemption
13 provision, noting that it "express[ed] no opinion" regarding amendment of loan agreement
14 covenants regarding "net worth, earnings and capital expenditures," explaining, "[t]he covenants
15 to be included in the loan documents of a cramdown need not precisely track the covenants in the
16 parties' existing loan agreement." In re P.K. Keating, Co., 168 B.R. 464, 473 (Bankr. D. Mass
17 1994) (citing In re Western Real Estate Fund, Inc., 75 B.R. 580 (Bankr. W.D. Okla. 1987); In re
18 Coastal Equities, Inc., 33 B.R. 898 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1983)).

19 Additional authority again cited by Secured Lender, *In re Kellogg Square P'ship*, 160
20 B.R. 343, 368 (Bankr. D. Minn. 1993), has been distinguished by the court in *In re TCI 2*
21 *Holdings, LLC*, 428 B.R. 117, 167 (Bankr. D.N.J. 2010), stating that "[t]he pronouncements of
22 the *Kellogg_Square* court must be understood in the context of the circumstances of that case."
23 See id. The court acknowledged that the original credit agreement in *Kellogg* governing the
24 relationship between the debtor and the creditor that was being crammed down was entered into
25 sixteen years prior to the debtor's reorganization during which time significant changes in

26 _____
27 ⁷ See Initial Plan, Ex. 20, ECF No. 142 § 4.1.1(h) (providing "Financial Covenants. On and after the Effective Date,
28 all financial covenants, expressly including debt coverage ratio requirements, set forth in the Loan Documents shall
be of no force and effect, including but not limited to the financial covenants set forth in Section 7.13 of the Secured
Loan Agreement.").

1 industry standards for covenants had developed. See id. The *Kellogg* court noted that “[s]ince
2 1977, changes in the economy, business practices, and law have created or materially increased
3 risks that were not previously anticipated by the parties, were not covered under the parties’ pre-
4 petition contract or perhaps were not even in existence then.” See id. (quoting *Kellogg*, 160
5 B.R. at 369.). It was only in that context that the *Kellogg* court determined that the proposed
6 credit agreement must “shelter” the creditor from the risks of a debtor’s proposal. See id.

7 More recent authority has established that the proper inquiry to determine whether
8 modification of loans documents is appropriate requires consideration of: (i) whether the
9 proposed terms and covenants unduly harm the secured creditor with respect to its collateral
10 position; and (ii) whether the inclusion of terms and conditions from the pre-bankruptcy loan
11 documents would unduly impair the debtor’s ability to reorganize. See American Trailer and
12 Storage, Inc., 419 B.R. 412, 441 (Bankr. W.D.Mo. 2009). Contrary to Secured Lender’s
13 portrayal of Debtor’s “gutting” the loan covenants, as set forth in the Nigro Declaration [Ex. 2],
14 Debtor has proposed the removal of only the following loan covenants: (i) the Lease Covenant;
15 (ii) the Cross Default Covenant; (iii) the Loan-To-Value Covenant; and (iv) the Material Adverse
16 Change Covenant. See Ex. 2 ¶¶ 62-73. In each instance, the retention of these covenants would
17 place Reorganized Debtor at great risk of Secured Lender calling an immediate default upon the
18 Effective Date, particularly where Secured Lender has repeatedly expressed its desire to obtain a
19 default and foreclose on the Real Property irrespective of Debtor’s timely compliance with its
20 monthly payment obligations. See id.

21 By way of example, if the Loan-to-Value Covenant is not stricken, Debtor could arguably
22 be placed in default immediately after the Effective Date. The Loan-to-Value Covenant allows
23 Secured Lender, *in its sole discretion*, to obtain an appraisal and to call a default if the balance of
24 the Allowed Secured Claim exceeds 80% of the appraiser’s stabilized value. See Ex. 25 § 7.13.
25 There is no mechanism for Debtor to challenge the validity of the valuation or to obtain its own
26 valuation. See id. It is certainly possible, if not likely, that if Secured Lender could find at least
27 one appraiser to value the Real Property at a value that would place Debtor in default on the
28 Effective Date. Therefore, the retention of the Loan-To-Value Covenant, which could

1 conceivably be triggered immediately after the Effective Date, unduly impairs Debtor's ability to
2 reorganize.

3 Similarly, as Mr. Nigro testified "[w]ith regard to the Lease Covenant, as a result of the
4 post-recession economic leasing market in Las Vegas, eleven of Debtor's leases are less than the
5 \$2.33 per square foot rate set forth in the Lease Covenant. As Debtor did not obtain Secured
6 Lender's approval of these leases, if this provision is not stricken from the Loan Agreement,
7 upon the Effective Date, Debtor would be in default." Ex. 2 ¶ 63. No contrary evidence was
8 presented. Moreover, the fact that Debtor has increased its cash position by over \$800,000 after
9 paying all Adequate Protection Payments during the Chapter 11 Case through its rental revenues
10 demonstrates that the Lease Covenant is not necessary to protecting Secured Lender's interest in
11 the Real Property.

12 As set forth in detail in the Nigro Declaration, each of the stricken financial covenants
13 materially impairs Debtor's ability to reorganize. See Ex. 2 ¶¶ 62-73. Further, in many
14 instances, the covenants involve highly subjective determinations of compliance. In light of
15 Secured Lender's desire to find a default, highly subjective determinations of compliance with
16 the four stricken covenants would likely require future, and perhaps multiple instances of,
17 judicial intervention. Thus, consistent with *American Trailer and Storage* and *Bashas*, the
18 removal of these four financial covenants is fair, equitable, and appropriate.

19 Additionally, in its fair and equitable analysis with regard to the Initial Plan (and the
20 Beltway Plan), this Court did not accept any of the arguments that Secured Lender seeks to re-
21 litigate here. Instead, the only open "fair and equitable" issue with regard to the Initial Plan was
22 the appropriate interest rate, which has been resolved by the Stipulation. See Exs. 4 and 11.

23 Finally, as Debtor is retaining the majority of the loan covenants set forth in the Loan
24 Agreement, the Plan's removal of those loan covenants that would likely cause an immediate
25 default post-Effective Date does not alter that fact that the Plan is fair and equitable. As set forth
26 in the Nigro Declaration, the following "Affirmative Covenants" will remain and be enforceable
27 post-Effective Date: (i) Section 6.1 titled Access to Books and Records; (ii) Section 6.2 titled
28 Business Continuity; (iii) Section 6.3 titled Compliance with Other Agreements; (iv) Section 6.4

1 titled Estoppel Certificates; (v) Section 6.5 titled Insurance; (vi) Section 6.6 titled Maintain
2 Properties; (vii) Section 6.7 titled Non-Default Certificate From Borrower; (viii) Section 6.8
3 titled Notice of Default and Other Notices; (ix) Section 6.9 titled Permeant Financing; and (x)
4 Section 6.10 titled Bank's Costs. See Ex. 2 ¶ 70; Ex. 25 § 6.

5 In addition to the Affirmative Convents, the following Negative Covenants are being
6 retained and will be enforceable post-Effective Date: (i) Section 7.1 titled Change in Fiscal Year;
7 (ii) Section 7.2 titled Change in Control; (iii) Section 7.3 titled Encumbrances; (iv) Section 7.5
8 titled Guarantees; (v) Section 7.6 titled Investments; (vi) Section 7.8 titled Defaults on Other
9 Contacts or Obligations; (vii) Section 7.9 titled Government Intervention; (viii) Section 7.10
10 titled Judgment Entered; (ix) Section 7.11 titled Payment of Other Debt; (xii) Section 7.12 titled
11 Retire or Repurchase of Capital Stock. See Ex. 2 ¶ 71; Ex. 25 § 7.

12 Beyond the foregoing affirmative and negative covenants that will be retained and
13 effective post-Effective Date, Sections 8.1 through 8.5 of the Loan Agreement will remain
14 enforceable. Sections 8.1 through 8.5 of the Loan Agreement require not only Debtor, but also
15 the Guarantors to provide periodic financial reporting, including financial statements and tax
16 returns to Secured Lender. See Ex. 2 ¶ 72; Ex. 25 § 8. Thus, the removal of the four loan
17 covenants that could cause an immediate default after the Effective Date is fair and equitable,
18 particularly where all of the foregoing covenants remain and will be enforceable post-Effective
19 Date.

20 As such, Wells Fargo's Objection should be overruled and the Court should determine
21 that the Plan meets Section 1129(b)'s fair and equitable test.

22 **D. Stay Relief Is Not Appropriate.**

23 This Court previously considered confirmation of the Initial Plan [Ex. 20] and on
24 November 13, 2014, the Court entered its Memorandum Decision [Ex. 11] on the Initial Plan
25 wherein it determined that: (i) the value of Debtor's Real Property is \$10,845,000, which is less
26 than Secured Lender's asserted claim, thereby resulting in Secured Lender having a secured and
27 an unsecured claim; (ii) the appropriate interest rate under Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i) for the
28 secured portion of Secured Lender's claim is 4.25% per annum; (iii) the appropriate interest rate

1 under Section 1129(b)(2)(B)(i) for the unsecured portion of Secured Lender's Claim is not less
2 than 5.00%; and (iv) the Initial Plan's failure to provide the foregoing interest rates and to
3 separately classify the Secured Lender's deficiency claim did not satisfy the requirements of
4 Sections 1122 and 1129(b) and on that basis, denied confirmation of the Initial Plan. No other
5 basis for denial of confirmation was articulated in the Memorandum Decision.

6 On December 24, 2015, Debtor filed *Debtor's Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Ex. 7]
7 to correct the deficiencies cited in the Memorandum Decision by: (i) providing that the Secured
8 Lender Claim is \$10,845,000, which is the value determined by the Bankruptcy Court; (ii)
9 providing interest on the Secured Lender Claim at the rate of 4.25% per annum; (iii) increasing
10 the interest rate on the General Unsecured Claims and Secured Lender's deficiency claim to
11 5.5% per annum; (iv) and separately classifying Secured Lender's secured and deficiency claims.
12 The remaining provisions of the Initial Plan were not altered. (i) the Secured Interest Rate of
13 4.25% satisfies the "market rate of interest" requirement of Section 1129(b)(2)(A)(i); (ii) the
14 value of the Real Property, consistent with the Court's determination, is *at least* \$10,845,000;
15 (iii) Wells Fargo is an oversecured creditor without a deficiency claim; (iv) feasibility of the
16 Plan, pursuant to Section 1129(a)(11), will not be challenged by Secured Lender; and (v) good
17 faith of the Plan, pursuant to Section 1129(a)(3), will not be challenged by Secured Lender. The
18 Stipulation also required Debtor to file a revised plan incorporating these stipulations.

19 On April 15, 2015, in accordance with the Stipulation, Debtor filed the Plan [Ex. 4],
20 which made the following revisions: (i) treated the Secured Lender Claim as fully secured (i.e.,
21 removed the deficiency claim); and (ii) changed the previously contemplated deficiency claim
22 payment to a principal reduction payment for the Secured Lender Claim. Thus, of the issues
23 identified by the Court as the basis for denying confirmation of Debtor's Initial Plan, each has
24 been resolved through either the Stipulation or the Plan amendments.

25 While Secured Lender has sought to take another bite at the apple by conjuring up
26 additional basis to object to confirmation of the Plan, many of which have already been rejected
27 by this Court in this case or the Beltway case, the reality is that Debtor cured all of the prior
28 defects and the Plan should be confirmed. On the evidentiary record, there is no basis to grant

1 stay relief as Debtor is certainly able to effectuate a plan that repays all of its creditors in full and
2 preserves Debtor’s equity interests.

3 **III. CONCLUSION**

4 WHEREFORE, Debtor respectfully requests that Secured Lender’s objections to
5 confirmation of Debtor’s Plan be overruled and that the Plan be confirmed. Debtor also seeks
6 such other and further relief as is just and proper.

7 DATED this 5th day of June, 2015.

8 GARMAN TURNER GORDON

9 By: /s/ Talitha Gray Kozlowski
10 GERALD M. GORDON, ESQ.
11 TALITHA GRAY KOZLOWSKI, ESQ.
12 650 White Drive, Ste. 100
13 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
14 *Proposed Attorneys for Debtor*

15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28