

To:

Mr. Jeff Jack, Chair and

Members of the Board of Adjustment

From: John M. McDonald, Development Services Manager

Planning and Development Review Department

Date: November 8, 2012

Re:

October 29, 2012 BOA Interpretation

The City of Austin Residential Review section is in receipt of the Board of Adjustment's (BOA) interpretation and findings from the interpretation appeal for the proposed duplex residential use at 1917 David Street. Residential Review's intent is to implement and apply the BOA's interpretation to all future applications for duplex residential use.

In part, the Board has directed Residential Review to prepare a memorandum describing this interpretation and make it available to reviewers, applicants and the public.

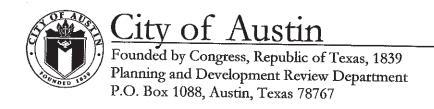
In order to properly and completely comply with this directive, the Residential Review section is hereby respectfully requesting the Board to further define and/or clarify the following terms and phrases contained in the interpretation:

- 1.) Utility Room there are no definitions of a utility room in the Land Development Code.
- 2.) Common Living Area there are no definitions of a common living area in the Land Development Code.

Staff would like clarification on D and E of the motion sheet rendered on October 29, 2012. D appears to be redundant as it relates to E. Neither one are clear enough for implementation.

Staff would request that reference to Section 25-2-555(D) deleted and make the interpretation specific to a Duplex Residential Use. This would insure the interpretation's life if 25-2-55(D) is deleted or eliminated in any future code amendments.

Staff would like to point out an unintended consequence. If applicants were to design a room that which meets A but not B to comply with the interpretation, and later utilized the space as a bedroom, this would create an unsafe situation and possible liability on the City of Austin's behalf.



In addition, staff would like to point out plans sealed by a registered professional architect or certified professional building designer are exempt from residential building code review under our currently adopted residential application. Items A and B of the October 29<sup>th</sup> motion sheet were not reviewed; therefore, no staff interpretation was made. The <u>zoning code</u> has regulations on duplexes for six bedrooms and six bedrooms were labeled on the approved plans.

Respectfully,

John M. McDonald, Development Services Manager Planning and Development Review Department

cc: Greg Guernsey, AICP, Director, PDRD
Donald Birkner, Assistant Director, PDRD
Kathy Haught, Division Manager, PDRD
Susan Walker, Planner Senior, PDRD
Cindy Crosby, Attorney Senior, Law Department
Brent Lloyd, Attorney Senior, Law Department

# Mike McHone Real Estate

RECEIVED NOV 0 7 2012

**CITY OF AUSTIN** 

Chairman Jeff Jack Board of Adjustments City of Austin P. O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767

November 6, 2012

0126

Request for Reconsideration of Case C15-2012-0216, 1917 David Street

Dear Chairman Jack,

On behalf of my client, Michael Said, owner of 1917 David Street, I am requesting a reconsideration of the Board's action at the Special Called meeting of the Board of Adjustments on October 29, 2012, concerning an interpretation of the City's Land Development Code section 25-2-3 (5).

As the justification for seeking an appeal of the Building Official's administrative decision as to the interpretation of 25-2-3 (5), the appellant filed a request for an interpretation by the BOA stating the decision made on the project 2011-106377 PR was incorrect. The appellant also stated that the appeal was of the interpretation made by the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

The Board of Adjustment erred in hearing this matter because:

- 1) The Watershed Protection and Development Review Department no longer exists. The correct City Department is the Planning and Development Review Department.
- 2) The "administrative decision" to be appealed is made by the issuance of a Building Permit (BP), not the Plan Review (PR) number.
- 3) The PR number the appellant has appealed is project 2011-016377 PR. This project was withdrawn along with the associated building permit. (Highlighted in yellow on the attached printout from the City of Austin's Information Center.) The current and actual plan is 2012-079335PR and 2012-084972 BP. (This is shown highlighted in blue, see exhibit 1.)
  - 4) A side by side comparison of the two plans shows substantial differences between the two. (Exhibit 2)

Since the appeal was filed on a project that does not exist, it should be considered "improperly filed" and the decision of the Board of Adjustments should be void. Because the time for a timely appeal has now passed, the Board should not now allow a refiling of an appeal of the currently approved Building Permit.

The authority of the Board of Adjustments to rule on this matter is set forth in my letter to Karen M. Kennard, city attorney. (Exhibit 3)

The Board of Adjustments erred in denying the timely filed request for a postponement. A postponement would have allowed the affected party the ability to receive the advice of his consultant, who is the most knowledgeable member of his team concerning the Codes of the City of Austin and the procedures of the Board of Adjustments.

It appears that the Board of Adjustments or some of its members had decided this case prior to the hearing of the case. The attached "decision" was prepared in advance of the hearing and multiple copies were passed out to members. (exhibit 4)

The "decision" may be in conflict with portions of the adopted State of Texas licensing act for licensed architects. This act designates architects as the profession that designs buildings and designates the function of the space. This "decision" would require unlicensed City staff to act as architects. (exhibit 5)

The "decision" will have an effect on the building of duplexes throughout the City of Austin. Duplexes are typically a method of building more affordable housing. This "decision" should be reconsidered due to its likely effect on housing affordability, which is a major goal of the current Comprehensive Plan.

The "decision" is flawed in its language. For example: "A" leaves out that a bathroom is not considered a bedroom. Therefore, a bathroom of more than 70 sq ft would be counted as a bedroom.

The consequences of the "decision" on existing duplexes are unclear. The Board of Adjustments should reconsider its decision and allow the Planning Commission's efforts to define a "bedroom" to go forward. Consider the situation of an existing 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex built prior to this "decision" that applies for a remodel permit to upgrade a bathroom. During the plan review by the City staff, it will now be determined that the media room and office/study and master bath are all "bedrooms". This duplex now has 6 bedrooms.

Because of the reasons cited above, I urge the Board of Adjustments to reconsider the decision of October 29, 2012 in case C15-2012-0216 and to deny the appeal especially in light of the fact that it was filed on a withdrawn project.

Sincerely,

Michael R. McHone

R. Melono



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Issued Permit Report	#.	Permit/Case	Reference File Name	Description	Sub Type	Work Type	Project Name	Status	Related Folders
REGISTERED USERS	ı	<u>2010-</u> 032973 PR		DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD.Partially- demolish existing 4-plex. Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs)	R- 435 Renovations/Remode	Remodel	1917 DAVID ST BLDG B	Rejected	<u>Yes</u>
New Registration Update Registration				change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non-complying					
My Permits/Cases				duplex use.  DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS					
My Licenses				CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD 4-21-2010. Partially-demolish existing					ĺ
Request / Cancel / View Inspections	2	<u>2010-</u> . <u>032979 BP</u>		4-plex. Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non-	R- 435 Renovations/Remodel	Remodel	1917 DAVID ST BLDG B	Pending Permit	<u>Yes</u>
My Escrow Accounts		2006		complying duplex use. Tie The 3-Exst Gas Meters					
Reports	3	<u>2006-</u> 027947 PP	06019085	To 1-Gas Meter Only To Exst 4-Plex	Commercial	Remodel	1917 David St	Final	No
Login				***Application is WITHDRAWN PER JMM					
HELP				and the applicant no longer wishes to convert the land use on the site to two-family					
Web Help		2010	2010 000067	residential.*** DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS					
FEEDBACK	4	2010- 009267 PR	2010-009267 PR	CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD Partially- demolish existing 4-plex.	R- 434 Addition & Alterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST, UNIT A	Withdrawn	Yes
Contact Us				Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non-complying duplex use. (UNIT A)					
	5	<u>2010-</u> <u>032960 BP</u>		***Application is WITHDRAWN PER JMM and the applicant no longer wishes to convert the land use on the site to two-family residential. *** DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD 4-21-2010. Partially-demolish existing 4-plex. Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non- complying duplex use. (UNIT A)	R- 434 Addition & Alterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST, UNIT A	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
	6	<u>2010-</u> 032960 EP		***Application is WITHDRAWN PER JIMM and the applicant no longer wishes to convert the land use on the site to two-family residential. *** DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD 4-21-2010. Partially-demolish existing 4-plex. Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non-complying duplex use. (UNIT A)	R- 434 Addition & Alterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST, UNIT A	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
	7	2010- 032960 MP	: : : : : : : : : : : : :	***Application is WITHDRAWN PER JMM and the applicant no longer wishes to convert the land use on the site to two-family residential.*** DO NOT SSUE PERMITS CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD 4-21-2010. Partially-demolish existing Lular Remodel to form	R- 434 Addition & Alterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST, UNIT A	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>

			duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non- complying duplex use. (UNIT A)	•				
8	2010- 032960 PI	2	***Application is WITHDRAWN PER JMM and the applicant no longer wishes to convert the land use on the site to two-family residential.*** DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS CONTACT JOHN MCDONALD 4-21-2010 Partially-demolish existing 4-ptex. Remodel to form duplex (detached 2 separate bldgs) change of use from existing non-permitted 4 plex back to a legal, non-complying duplex use. (UNIT A)	R- 434 Addition & Alterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST, UNIT A	Withdrawn	Yes
9	<u>2010-</u> 088824 PF	3	**Partial demo to remove rear walls (south & east walls)** Addition/remodel to existing illegal four plex use to return to duplex use.	R- 434 Addition & Afterations	Addition and Remodel	1917 DAVID ST	Expired	No
10	2011- 083345 PR	2011-083345 PR	Demotish tri-plex and additional detached unit (illegally converted per code enforcement). Structure originally permitted as a duplex in 1947 with an unspecified addition in 1982.	R- 646 Demolition Two Family Bldgs	Demolition	1917 DAVID ST	Approved	<u>Yes</u>
11	<u>2012-</u> 001658 BF		new duplex - (2) 2 story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking), each unit has space on highest floor that is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
12	2012- 001658 DS		new duplex - (2) 2 story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking), each unit has space on highest floor that is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	Res. Driveway & Sidewalk	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
13	2012- 001658 EP		new duplex - (2) 2 story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking), each unit has space on highest floor that is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	R- 103 Two Family Bidgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
14	2012- 001658 MP		new duplex - (2) 2 story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking). each unit has space on highest floor that is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	<u>Yes</u>
15	2012- 001658 PP		new duplex - (2) 2 story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking), each unit has space on highest floor that is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	R- 103 Two Family Bidgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	Yes
16	<u>2012-</u> <u>000038</u> <u>BA</u>	C15-2012- 0044	various interpretations	Interpretation	Residential	1917 DAVID ST	Approved	No
17	<u>2012-</u> 061992 PR	2012-061992 PR	Re-permitting expired demolition permits. Demolish tri-plex and additional detached unit (illegally converted per code enforcement). Structure originally permitted as a duplex in 1947 with an unspecified addition in 1982.	R- 646 Demolition Two Family Bldgs	Demolition	1917 DAVID ST	Approved	<u>Yes</u>
18	2010- 088793 PR	2010-088793 PR	Demolish detached rear unit.	R- 649 Demolition All Other Bldgs Res	Demolition	1917 DAVID ST	Expired	No
19	2011- 106377 PR	2011-106377 PR	applicants agent's request, IMM 4-30-2012*** new duplex - (2) two story 3/3s with covered porches an alley access (parking), each unit has space on the highest floor which is exemptable under 25.2 subchapter f	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Withdrawn	Yes
20	<u>2012-</u> 062012 BP	2012-062012 BP	Re-permitting expired demolition permit. Demolish front residence (tri-plex- illegally converted per code enforcement). Structure	R- 646 Demolition Two Family Bldgs	Demolition	1917 DAVID ST	Active	Yes

# Exmber 1

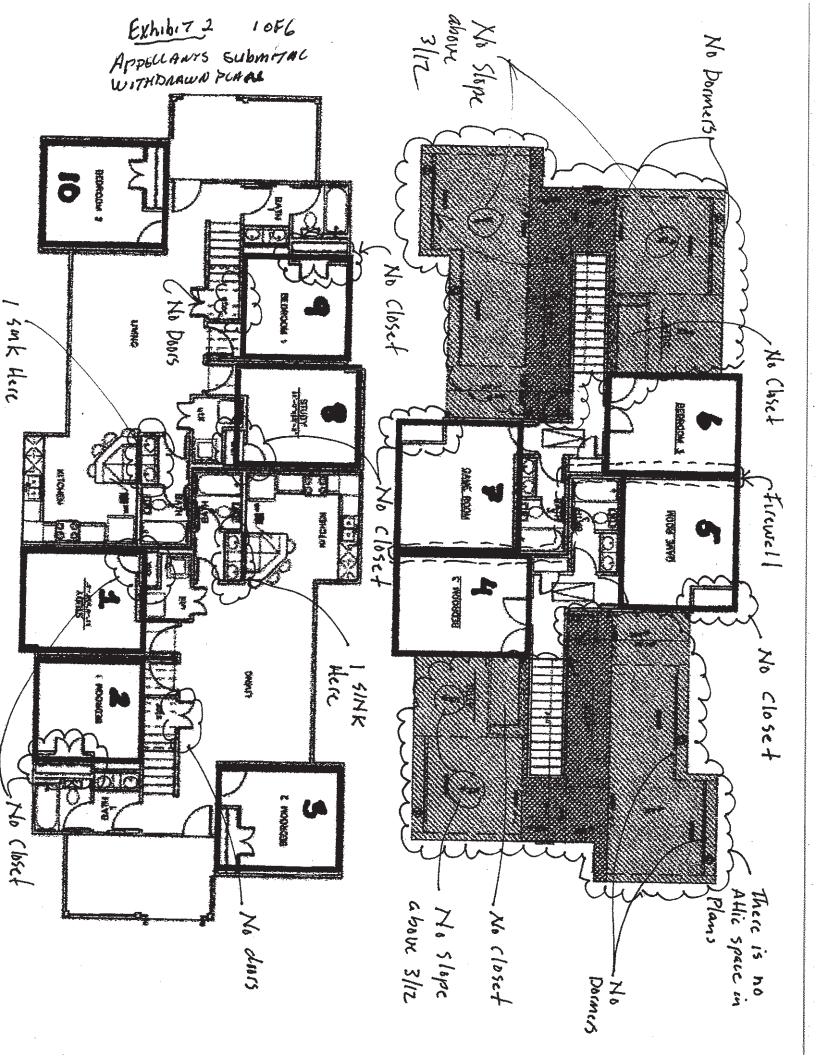
				originally permitted as a duplex in 1947 with an unspecified addition in 1982.					
	21	<u>2012-</u> 062013 BP	2012-062013 BP	Re-permitting expired demolition permit. Demolish additional detached unit.	R- 649 Demolition All Other Bldgs Res	Demolition	1917 DAVID ST	Active	Yes
1	22	<u>2012-</u> 079335 PR	2012-079335 PR	New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Approved	Yes
	23	<u>2012-</u> 084972 BP	2012-084972 BP	New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Active	Yes
	24	2012- 084972 DS		New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.			1917 DAVID ST	Pending	<u>Yes</u>
	25	<u>2012-</u> 084972 EP		New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Pending Permit	<u>Yes</u>
	26	2012- 084972 <u>MP</u>		New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Pending Permit	<u>Yes</u>
	27	<u>2012-</u> 084972 PP		New two story Duplex with 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, attached covered porches. No parking structures included.	R- 103 Two Family Bldgs	New	1917 DAVID ST	Pending Pennit	Yes
	28	<u>2012-</u> 000129 <u>BA</u>	C15-2012- 0126		Interpretation	Residential	1917 DAVID ST	Hearing Scheduled	No
	29	<u>2012-</u> 108970 EX	2012-108970 EX	EXCAVATION. REPLACE SERVICE. ONE 20FT X 2FT AND ONE 6FT X 6FT STREET CUT, ONE OPEN CUT BEHIND CURB. WORK BEING DONE AT 1917 DAVID ST.	Franchise		TGS - DAVID ST 1917 REPLACE SERVICE	Active	No

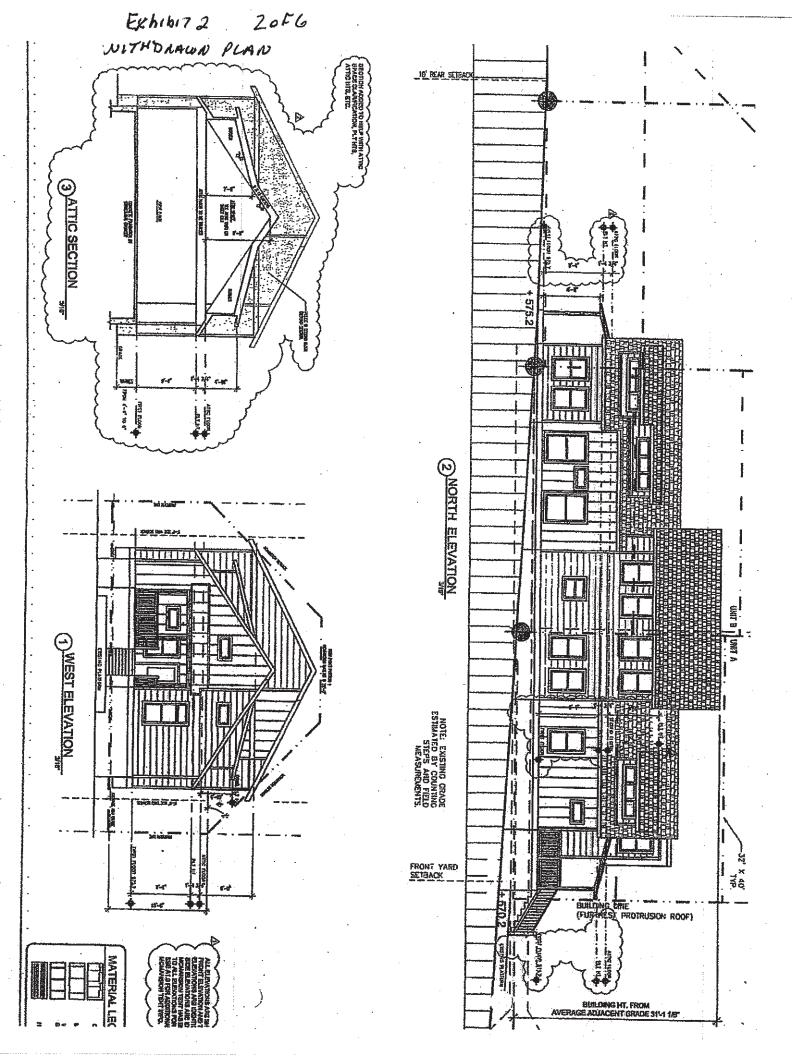


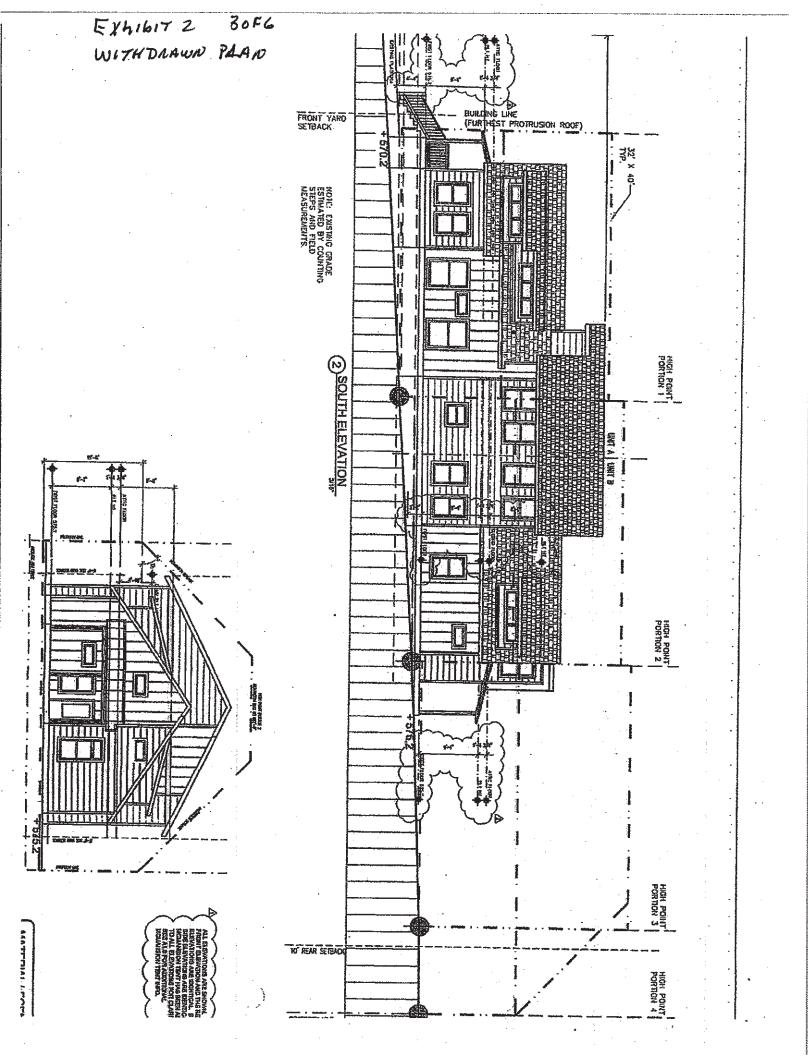
Austin City Connection - The Official Web site of the City of Austin

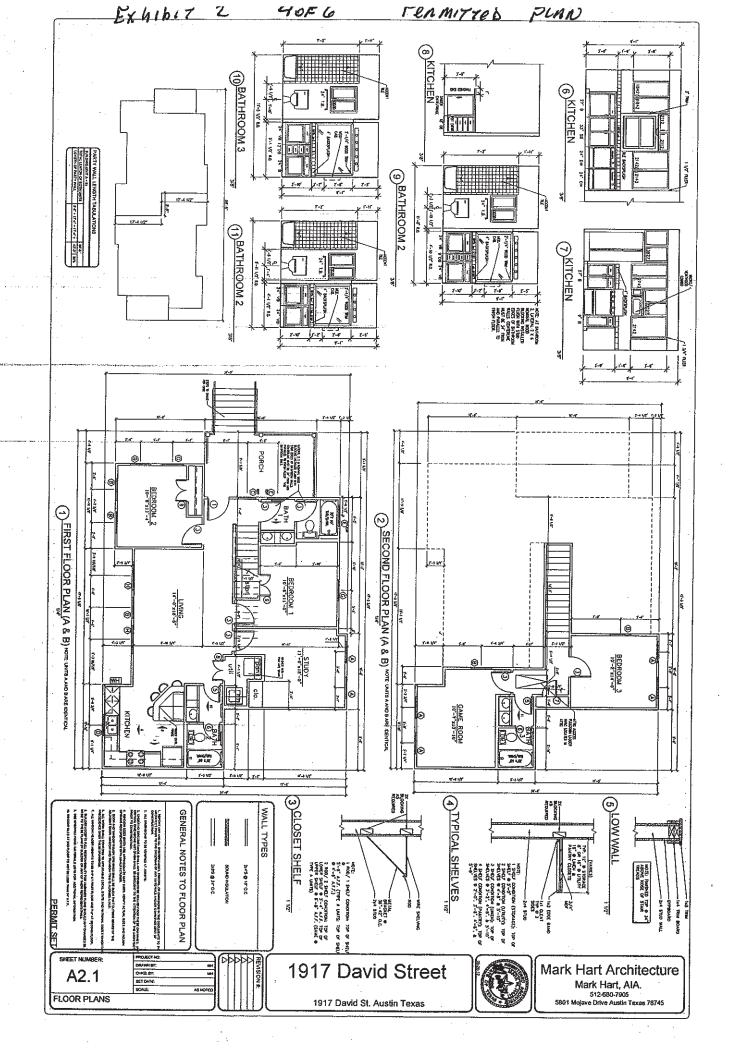
For permit questions/issues: Send email or (512) 974-6370.

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# Mike McHone Real Estate

Karen M. Kennard City Attorney City of Austin P.O. Box 1088 Austin, Texas 78767

October 25, 2012

Re: Board of Adjustments Case C15-2012-0126

Dear Ms. Kennard;

I am requesting a legal opinion as to the jurisdiction of the Board of Adjustments in the above referenced case.

The Authority of the Board of Adjustments is set forth in 2-1-111 of the City Code. Subsection (F) (2) authorizes the Board of Adjustments to "hear and decide an appeal of an administrative action under chapter 25-2 Zoning of the Land Development Code. This case does not involve "zoning" as defined in 25-2 and it is therefore inappropriate for the Board of Adjustments to hear this item.

The reasons for this are as follows:

- 1) The appellant's whole appeal is based upon its claim that this permitted duplex has exceeded the allowed number of "bedrooms". The appellant in its application for appeal quotes a definition of "bedroom" which is stated in the adopted Building and Technical Codes of the City of Austin.
  - Interpretation of the Building, Fire and Technical Code is addressed under the City's Code 2-1-121, Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals (c) "The Board shall hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions, or determinations made by building officials relating to the application and interpretations of the Building and Fire Code. A similar claim was considered earlier this month by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals in which they ruled in favor to the decision by the City Professional Staff to issue a Building Permit for this property.
- 2) Additionally, the definitions of terms used in the Land Development Code are set forth in Chapter 25-1-21 Definitions not in 25-2 Zoning. Since there is no definition of "bedroom" in this section of the Land Development Code, it is a matter that would need legislative action beyond the scope of the zoning responsibilities of the Board of Adjustments.
- 3) The Board of Adjustments is a judicial body not a legislative body. The City's legislative board or commission is the Planning Commission as stated in 2-1-165. This Commission is established and governed by the City Charter, Article X (Planning). The relevant section is paragraph 4 (2) (b)... "for the purpose of this article and subsection, "land development regulation" includes zoning, subdivision, building and construction, environmental, and other police powers regulations controlling, regulating, or affecting the use or development of land."

Chapter 25-11 of the Land Development Code governs the issuance of Building Permits not Chapter 25-2.

It is my understanding that the Planning Commission has directed city staff to investigate the possibility of developing a definition of "bedroom".

Until there is a legislative change there are no grounds for an appeal based on the label of "bedroom".

The appellant's bedroom claim is based upon the definition in the International Maintenance Code definition of the minimum requirement for a room to be a "bedroom". A room meeting these requirements may be a bedroom; however, a room meeting these requirements is not necessarily a "bedroom". The designation of rooms has long been a determination required of the licensed design professional (the architect, a State Licensed Profession). Modern Homes have become a complex of multifunctional rooms with a variety of uses and labels including but not limited to (bedroom, library, study, den, family room, media room, bar, game room, great room, etc.). A responsible architect would not design any room that did not have two means of egress.

The appellant made similar claims earlier this month before the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals. The Board ruled in favor of the Professional City Staffs decision to issue the Building Permit for the construction of a duplex at 1917 David which has 3 bedrooms per dwelling unit and complies with the Code requirements of the City of Austin.

This attempt to put one Commission against another is not in the best interest of the City. Additionally, I believe the Board of Adjustments has no jurisdiction in this matter and the hearing should not be allowed.

Sincerely!

Mike McHone, Consultant for the Owner Michael Said

Exhibit 4

# **Board of Adjustment Motion Sheet -** October 29, 2011 Board of Adjustment Meeting Case No. C15-2012-0126, Nuria Zaragoza ("Appellant"), 1917 David Street, Austin Texas

### **Board member's Motion**

"I move to reverse the Director's determination and approval of the building permit application for the property at 1917 David Street, Austin, Texas, finding the Director's interpretation of "bedroom" under the limitations on the number of bedrooms allowed in the Land Development Code subsection 25-2-555(D) should be substituted with the following interpretation. Staff should prepare a memo describing this interpretation and make it available to reviewers and the public."

## Text of Interpretation:

- (1) A room shown on the floor plan of a residential project, though not designated as a bedroom on the plan, is a "bedroom" for the purposes of determining the number bedrooms allowed under sections 25-2-555(D) of the Land Development Code if:
  - (A) the room has a minimum of 70 square feet in area and is not a kitchen, utility room, common living area or common circulation space (halls or stairs);
  - (B) the room has the minimum exit area for fire egress by means of windows or doors as required by the International Residential Code as adopted by the City of Austin;
  - (C) the room is configured so that it is or is capable of being a private space separated from all other areas of the building by a permanent door or doors; and
  - (D) the room has access to bathrooms only through shared common living or circulation areas also accessible from the designated bedrooms on the floor plans and no designated bedrooms shown on the plans has direct access to any of the bathrooms except through common living area or common circulation space.
- (E) the room has access to multiple bathrooms through common living areas or common circulation spaces and all these bathrooms contain full bath fixtures including a tub or shower, toilet and multiple lavatories.
- (2) This interpretation supersedes any conflicting interpretation previously issued by staff for the subject permit.

## **Findings**

After the conclusion of the Board's deliberations, the Board finds:

- (1) The Appellant has standing to appeal the Director's decision.
- There is reasonable doubt or difference of interpretation as to the determination of what constitutes a "Bedroom" with regard to the limitations set forth in section 25-2-555(D) of the Land Development Code, and written and oral testimony has been presented to support the Board's interpretation and reversal of the Director's decision; and
- (3) The resulting interpretation approved by the Board will not grant a special privilege to one property inconsistent with other properties or use similarly situated; and
- (4) When use provisions are being appealed, granting the appeal would clearly permit a use in character with the uses enumerated for the various districts and with the objective of the district in question.

## **Mike Mchone**

From:

Mike Mchone [mchone1234@sbcglobal.net]

Sent:

Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:39 PM

To:

'Mike Mchone'

Subject:

FW: Texas Occupations Code

**Attachments:** 

20121106\_150904.pdf

From: Allen Hill [mailto:ahill@hdchlaw.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:33 PM
To: Mike Mchone; Michael Said; Mark Hart

Subject: Texas Occupations Code

## Hi Mike

The relevant sections previously mentioned are:

Section 1051.001(7) that defines the "Practice of Architecture" to include "......planning for functional relationships AND INTENDED USES ...."

Section 1051.001(7)(B) which further defines practice of architecture to include "preparing, or supervising and controlling the preparation of, the architectural plans and specifications..."

If you wonder what the "architectural plans and specifications" might be, see

Section 1051.0016, that says these plans include (1)(A) floor plans and details: (A) depicting the design of: (i) internal and external walls and floors......(ii) internal spaces of a building

In Section 1051.0016(c) is a list of activities that may be performed by either an engineer or an architect, and include

1051.0016(c)(3) consulting with regard to, investigating, and analyzing the design ...... of a building ....." and finally,

1051.0016(c)(4) says that an engineer or an architect can act in "providing expert opinion and testimony with respect to issues within the responsibility of the engineer or architect."

Thanks Allen

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H. Allen Hill, Jr.
Hill, Ducloux, Carnes & de la Garza
An Association of Individual Law Practices
400 W. 15th Street, Suite 808
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 474-7054

## Mike Mchone

From:

Allen Hill [ahill@hdchlaw.com]

Sent: To: Tuesday, November 06, 2012 3:40 PM Mike Mchone; Michael Said; Mark Hart

Subject:

More from Texas Occupations Code

### Section 1051.701

"(a) A person may not engage in the practice of architecture, or offer or attempt to engage in the practice of architecture, as defined in Section 1051.001(7)(A(B) or (C) unless the person is registere as an architect under this chapter."

## Section1051.801 Criminal Penalty

- "(a) A person, whether actind independently or on behalf of the person's firm, commits an offense if, in violation of this chapter, the person: (1) engages in the practice of architecture, or offers or attempts to engage in the practice of architecture; (2) prepares architectural plans or specifications for and observes or supervises the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a building for another person....."
- (b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$250 and not more than \$1,000. Each day of the violation is a separate offense.
- (c) In an action brought under this section, the board may be represented by a district or county attorney or by other counsel as necessary.

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H. Allen Hill, Jr.
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(512) 474-7054
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ahill@hdchlaw.com

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCA...

### OCCUPATIONS CODE

TITLE 6. REGULATION OF ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE, LAND SURVEYING, AND RELATED PRACTICES

SUBTITLE B. REGULATION OF ARCHITECTURE AND RELATED PRACTICES

CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS

AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS; PROVISIONS

AFFECTING ONLY ARCHITECTS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS; BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

## SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1051.001. DEFINITIONS. In this subtitle:

- (1) "Architect" means a person registered under this chapter to engage in the practice of architecture.
  - (2) "Board" means the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners.
  - (3) "Interior design" means the:
- (A) identification, research, or development of a creative solution to a problem relating to the function or quality of an interior environment;
- (B) performance of a service relating to an interior space, including programming, design analysis, space planning of non-load-bearing interior construction, and application of aesthetic principles, by using specialized knowledge of interior construction, building codes, equipment, materials, or furnishings; or
- (C) preparation of an interior design plan, specification, or related document about the design of a non-load-bearing interior space.
- (4) "Interior designer" means a person registered under this subtitle to practice interior design.
- (5) "Landscape architect" means a person registered under this subtitle to practice landscape architecture.
  - (6) "Landscape architecture":
- (A) means the art and science of landscape analysis, landscape planning, and landscape design;
- (B) includes the performance of professional services such as consultation, investigation, research, the preparation of general development and detailed site design plans, the preparation of studies, the preparation of specifications, and responsible supervision related to the development of landscape areas for:

4087

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCA...

- (i) the planning, preservation, enhancement, and arrangement of land forms, natural systems, features, and plantings, including ground and water forms;
- (ii) the planning and design of vegetation, circulation, walks, and other landscape features to fulfill aesthetic and functional requirements;
- (iii) the formulation of graphic and written criteria to govern the planning and design of landscape construction development programs, including:
- (a) the preparation, review, and analysis of master and site plans for landscape use and development;
- (b) the analysis of environmental and physical considerations related to land use;
- (c) the preparation of drawings, construction documents, and specifications; and
  - (d) construction observation;
- (iv) design coordination and review of technical submissions,
   plans, and construction documents prepared by persons working under the
   direction of the landscape architect;
- (v) the preparation of feasibility studies, statements of probable construction costs, and reports and site selection for landscape development and preservation;
- (vi) the integration, site analysis, and determination of the location of buildings, structures, and circulation and environmental systems;
  - (vii) the analysis and design of:
    - (a) site landscape grading and drainage;
    - (b) systems for landscape erosion and sediment control;
    - (c) pedestrian walkway systems;
- (viii) the planning and placement of uninhabitable landscape structures, plants, landscape lighting, and hard surface areas;
- (ix) the collaboration of landscape architects with other professionals in the design of roads, bridges, and structures regarding the functional, environmental, and aesthetic requirements of the areas in which they are to be placed; and
- (x) field observation of landscape site construction, revegetation, and maintenance; and
  - (C) does not include:

and

- (i) traffic, roadway, or pavement engineering;
- (ii) the design of utilities;

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCA...

- (iii) the engineering or study of hydrologic management of stormwater systems or floodplains;
  - (iv) the making of final plats; or
- (v) a service or function within the practice of architecture, engineering, or public surveying as defined by this chapter or Chapter 1001 or 1071.
- (7) "Practice of architecture" means a service or creative work applying the art and science of developing design concepts, planning for functional relationships and intended uses, and establishing the form, appearance, aesthetics, and construction details for the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a building or environs intended for human use or occupancy, the proper application of which requires education, training, and experience in those matters. The term includes:
- (A) establishing and documenting the form, aesthetics, materials, and construction technology for a building, group of buildings, or environs intended to be constructed or altered;
- (B) preparing, or supervising and controlling the preparation of, the architectural plans and specifications that include all integrated building systems and construction details, unless otherwise permitted under Section 1051.606(a)(4);
- (C) observing the construction, modification, or alteration of work to evaluate conformance with architectural plans and specifications described in Paragraph (B) for any building, group of buildings, or environs requiring an architect;
- (D) programming for construction projects, including identification of economic, legal, and natural constraints and determination of the scope and spatial relationship of functional elements;
- (E) recommending and overseeing appropriate construction project delivery systems;
- (F) consulting, investigating, and analyzing the design, form, aesthetics, materials, and construction technology used for the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a building or environs and providing expert opinion and testimony as necessary;
- (G) research to expand the knowledge base of the profession of architecture, including publishing or presenting findings in professional forums; and
- (H) teaching, administering, and developing pedagogical theory in academic settings offering architectural education.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1421, Sec. 1, eff. June 1, 2003. Amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 331, Sec. 1.04, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCA...

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 208, Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2005.

Sec. 1051.0015. PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT. The purpose of Section 1051.701(a) is to:

- (1) safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare; and
- (2) protect the public against the irresponsible practice of architecture.

Added by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1276, Sec. 14A.051, eff. Sept. 1, 2003. Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1360, Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

Sec. 1051.0016. PRACTICES OF ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING. (a) In this chapter, "architectural plans and specifications" include:

- (1) floor plans and details:
  - (A) depicting the design of:
- (i) internal and external walls and floors, including simple foundations;
  - (ii) internal spaces of a building; and
- (iii) vertical circulation systems, including accessibility ramps, stair systems, elevators, and escalators; and
- (B) implementing programming, regulatory, and accessibility requirements for a building;
- (2) general cross-sections and detailed wall sections depicting building components from a hypothetical cut line through a building to include the building's mechanical, electrical, plumbing, or structural systems;
  - (3) reflected ceiling plans and details depicting:
- (A) the design of the location, materials, and connections of the ceiling to the structure; and
- (B) the integration of the ceiling with electrical, mechanical, lighting, sprinkler, and other building systems;
- (4) finish plans or schedules depicting surface materials on the interior and exterior of the building;
- (5) interior and exterior elevations depicting the design of materials, locations, and relationships of components and surfaces;
- (6) partition, door, window, lighting, hardware, and fixture schedules;
- (7) manufacturer or fabricator drawings that are integrated into the construction documents; and
  - (8) specifications describing the nature, quality, and execution of

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1051. TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS; GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ARCHITECTS, LANDSCA...
materials for construction of the elements of the building depicted in the
plans prepared by the architect.

- (b) The preparation of architectural plans and specifications for the following tasks is within the scope of practice of both engineering and architecture:
- (1) site plans depicting the location and orientation of a building on the site based on:
- (A) a determination of the relationship of the intended use with the environment, topography, vegetation, climate, and geographic aspects; and
- (B) the legal aspects of site development, including setback requirements, zoning and other legal restrictions, and surface drainage;
- (2) the depiction of the building systems, including structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, in:
  - (A) plan views;
- (B) cross-sections depicting building components from a hypothetical cut line through a building; and
- (C) the design of details of components and assemblies, including any part of a building exposed to water infiltration or fire-spread considerations;
- (3) life safety plans and sheets, including accessibility ramps and related code analyses; and
- (4) roof plans and details depicting the design of roof system materials, components, drainage, slopes, and directions and location of roof accessories and equipment not involving structural engineering calculations.
- (c) The following activities may be performed by either an engineer or an architect:
  - (1) programming for construction projects, including:
- (A) identification of economic, legal, and natural constraints; and
  - (B) determination of the scope of functional elements;
- (2) recommending and overseeing appropriate construction project delivery systems;
- (3) consulting with regard to, investigating, and analyzing the design, form, materials, and construction technology used for the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a building or its environment; and
- (4) providing expert opinion and testimony with respect to issues within the responsibility of the engineer or architect.
- Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1157, Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2011.
  - Sec. 1051.002. EFFECT ON MUNICIPALITY. This subtitle does not:

# CITY OF AUSTIN Board of Adjustment/Sign Review Board Decision Sheet

DATE: I	Monday, October 29, 2012	CASE NUMBER: C15-2012-0126
Y	Jeff Jack	
Y	Michael Von Ohlen	
Y	Nora Salinas	
Y	Bryan King	
N	Fred McGhee	
Y	Stuart Hampton - Melissa Hawthor	ne absent
Y	Sallie Burchett	
APPLIC	SANT: Nuria Zaragoza	

OWNER: Michael Said

**ADDRESS: 1917 DAVID ST** 

VARIANCE REQUESTED: The appellant (Nuria Zaragosa) has filed an appeal, requesting an interpretation of whether the Planning and Development Department Director's determination to approve the proposed duplex residential use at 1917 David Street complies with the following code sections:

- 1.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation is with ten (10) bedrooms, the project exceeds the Land Development Code (LDC) limitations placed on duplexes outlined on 25-2-555D
- 2.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation is with 10 bedrooms, the project is required eight (8) parking spaces.
- 3.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation is with ten (10) bedrooms, the project needs to comply with the landscaping requirements.
- 4.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation of the actual use is Group Residential as defined in the LDC 25-2-3(5).

BOARD'S DECISION: Motion to reverse the Director's determination and approval of the building permit application for the property at 1917 David Street, Austin Texas, finding the Director's Interpretation of "bedroom" under the limitations on the number of bedrooms allowed in the Land Development Code subsection 25-2-555(D) should be substituted with the following interpretation. Staff should prepare a memo describing this interpretation and make it available to reviewers and the public, vote 6-1 (Board member Fred McGhee nay)

# **Text of Interpretation:**

1. A room shown on the floor plan of a residential project, though not designated as a bedroom on the plan, is a "bedroom" for the purposes of

determining the number bedrooms allowed under sections 25-2-555(D) of the Land Development Code if:

- (A) The room has a minimum of 70 square feet in area and is not a kitchen, utility room, common living area or common circulation space (halls or stairs);
- (B) The room has the minimum exit area for fire egress by means of windows or doors as required by the International Residential Code as adopted by the City of Austin;
- (C) The room is configured so that it is or is capable of being a private space separated from all other areas of the building by a permanent door or doors; and
- (D) The room has access to bathrooms only through shared common living or circulation area also accessible from the designed bedrooms on the floor plans and no designed bedrooms shown on the plans has direct access to any the bathrooms except through common living area or common circulation space;
- (E) The room has access to multiple bathrooms through common living areas or common circulation spaces and all these bathrooms contain full bath fixtures including a tub or shower, toilet and multiple lavatories.
- 2. This interpretation supersedes any conflicting interpretation previously issued by staff for the subject permit.

FINDINGS: After the conclusion of the Board's deliberations, the Board finds:

- 1. The Appellant has standing to appeal the Director's decision.
- 2. There is no reasonable doubt or difference of interpretation as to the determination of what constitutes a "Bedroom" with regard to the limitations set forth in section 25-2-555(D) of the Land Development Code, and written and oral testimony has been presented to support the Board's interpretation and reversal of the Director's decision; and
- 3. The resulting interpretation approved by the Board will not grant a special privilege to one property inconsistent with other properties or use similarly situated; and
- 4. When use provisions are being appealed, granting the appeal would clearly permit a use in character with the uses enumerated for the various districts and with the objective of the district in question.

Susan Walker

**Executive Liaison** 

Jeff Jack Chairman

# Board of Adjustment Motion Sheet - October 29, 2011 Board of Adjustment Meeting Case No. C15-2012-0126, Nuria Zaragoza ("Appellant"), 1917 David Street, Austin Texas

### **Board member's Motion**

"I move to reverse the Director's determination and approval of the building permit application for the property at 1917 David Street, Austin, Texas, finding the Director's interpretation of "bedroom" under the limitations on the number of bedrooms allowed in the Land Development Code subsection 25-2-555(D) should be substituted with the following interpretation. Staff should prepare a memo describing this interpretation and make it available to reviewers and the public."

## Text of Interpretation:

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  - (E) the room has access to multiple bathrooms through common living areas or common circulation spaces and all these bathrooms contain full bath fixtures including a tub or shower, toilet and multiple lavatories.
- (2) This interpretation supersedes any conflicting interpretation previously issued by staff for the subject permit.

## **Findings**

After the conclusion of the Board's deliberations, the Board finds:

- (1) The Appellant has standing to appeal the Director's decision.
- (2) There is reasonable doubt or difference of interpretation as to the determination of what constitutes a "Bedroom" with regard to the limitations set forth in section 25-2-555(D) of the Land Development Code, and written and oral testimony has been presented to support the Board's interpretation and reversal of the Director's decision; and
- (3) The resulting interpretation approved by the Board will not grant a special privilege to one property inconsistent with other properties or use similarly situated; and
- (4) When use provisions are being appealed, granting the appeal would clearly permit a use in character with the uses enumerated for the various districts and with the objective of the district in question.

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

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City of Austin-Planning & Development Review Department/ 1st Floor

Austin, TX 78767-1088

Susan Walker P. O. Box 1088 If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

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Comments:\_\_ Your address(es) affected by this application Your Name (please print) Case Number; and the contact person listed on the notice. Daytime Telephone: Contact: Susan Walker, 512-974-2202 Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, October 29th, 2012 Case Number: C15-2012-0126 - 1917 David Street COX MY 305 W 22 るころの DYDVARA ξ easur 512 507 336 "office ngnature XI am in favor same roma O object Date Ded Tom Derzit

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Case Number: C15-2012-0126 - 1917 David Street

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to: rtment/ 1st Floor	BEDRooms	10/22/12 Date	I am in favor lobject	9th, 2012

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Case Number: C15-2012-0126 – 1917 David Street Contact: Susan Walker, 512-974-2202 Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, October 29th, 2012

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Case Number: C15-2012-0126 - 1917 David Street

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Your Name (please print)
NIRAV V. OATEZ Stamin favor
Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, October 29th, 2012
Contact: Susan Walker, 512-974-2202

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| Case Number: C15-2012-0126 – 1917 David Street | Contact: Susan Walker, 512-974-2202

Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, October 29th, 2012

Your Name (please print)

I lam in favor

Your address(es) affected by this application

Wattun Signature

10.24.12 Date

Daytime Telephone: 475.530.7382

Comments: DAVID ST. 15 AFRENDY PACKED W/ CARS.

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If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin-Planning & Development Review Department/ 1st Floor
Susan Walker

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-1088

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed un interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person with standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.

An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the haard or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice); or
- appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing;
   and:
- property or proposed development;
- is the record owner of property within 500 feel of the subject proporty or proposed development; or
- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 10 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: www.ci.austin.tx.us/development.

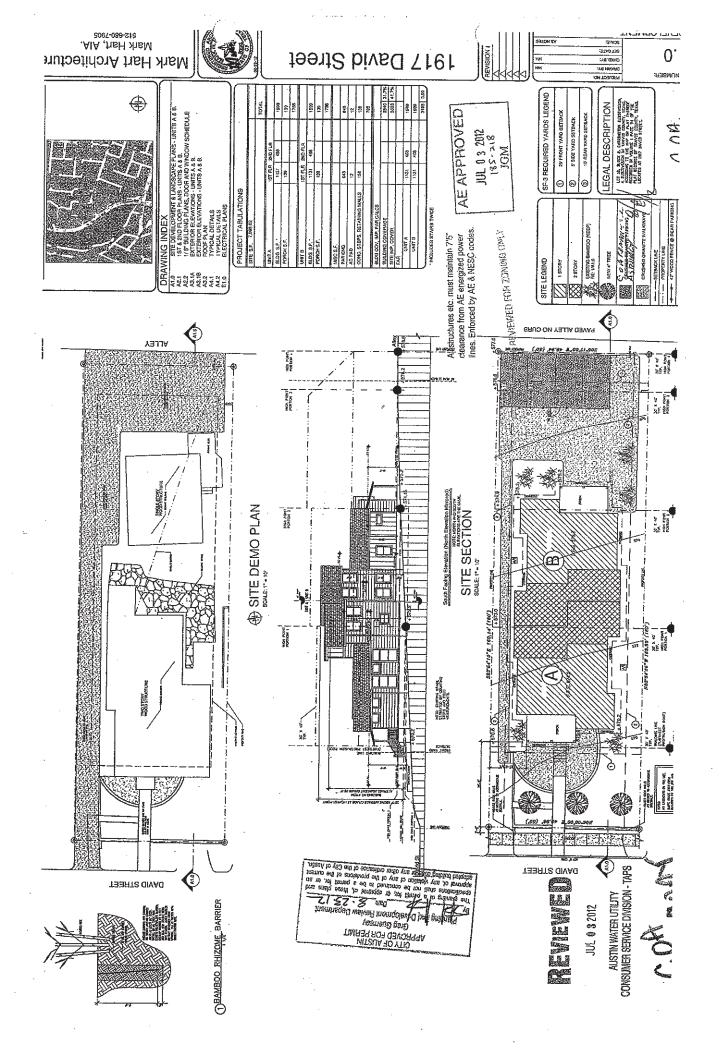
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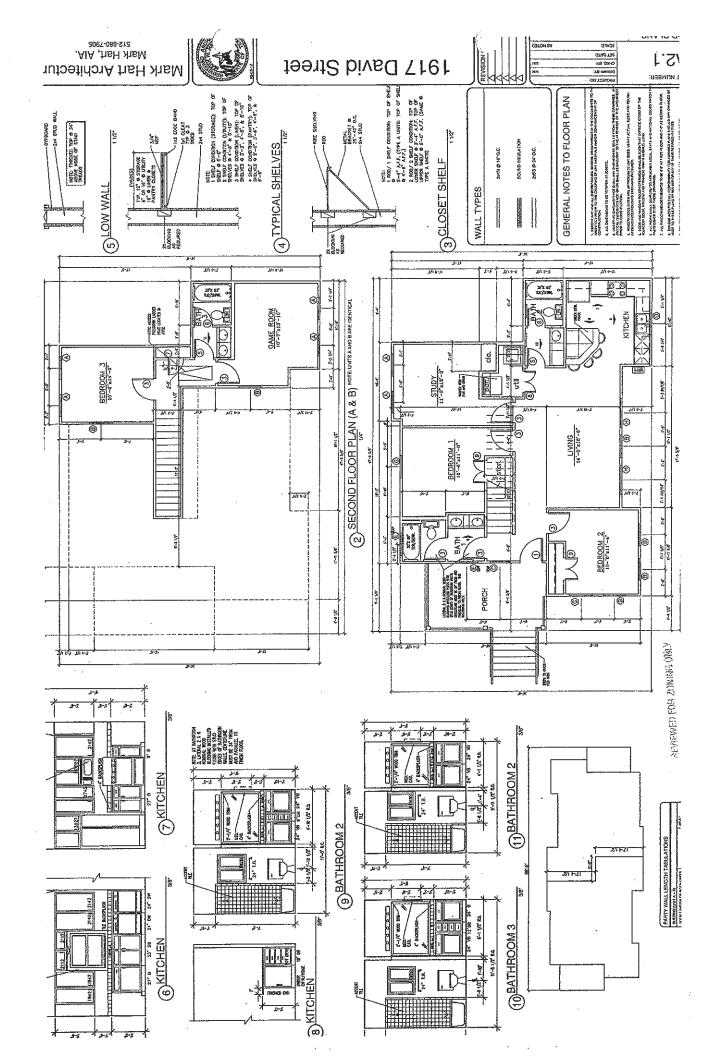
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If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin-Planning & Development Review Department/1st Floor

Susan Walker
P. O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-1088







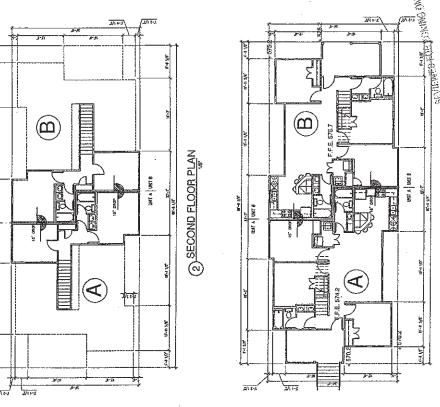
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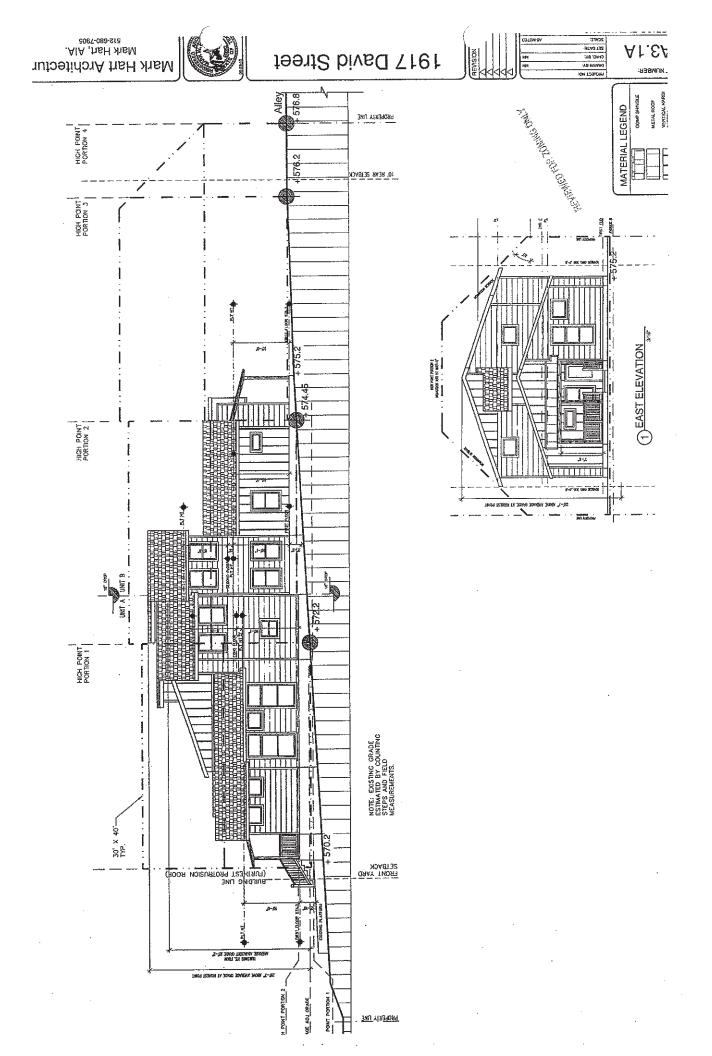
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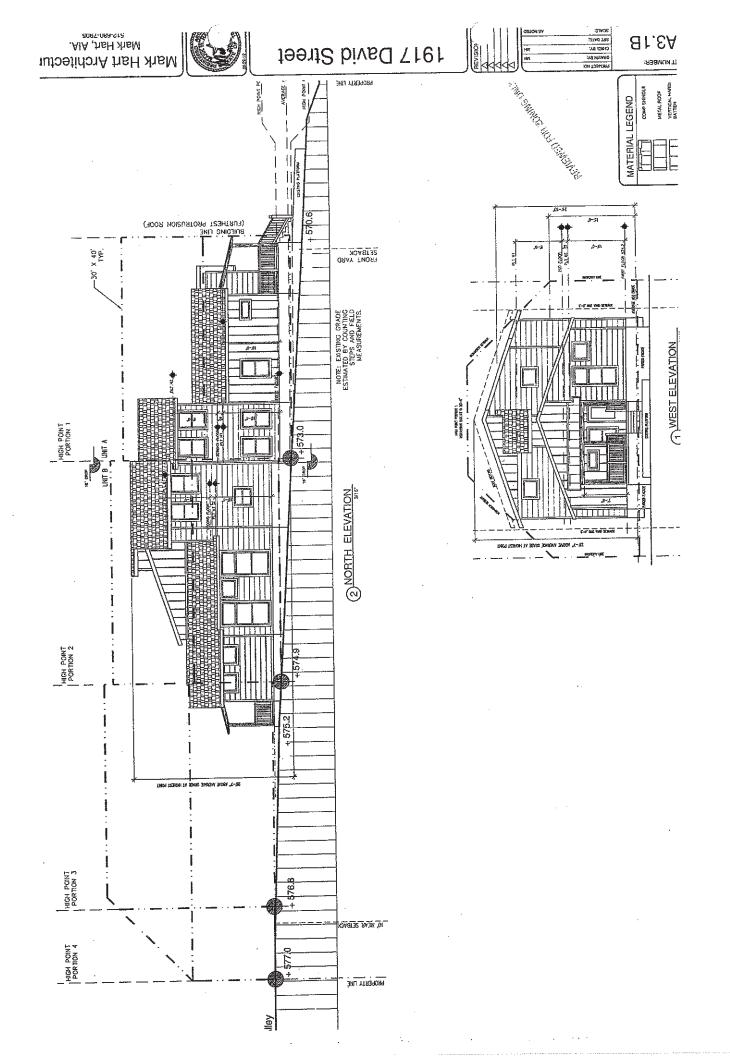
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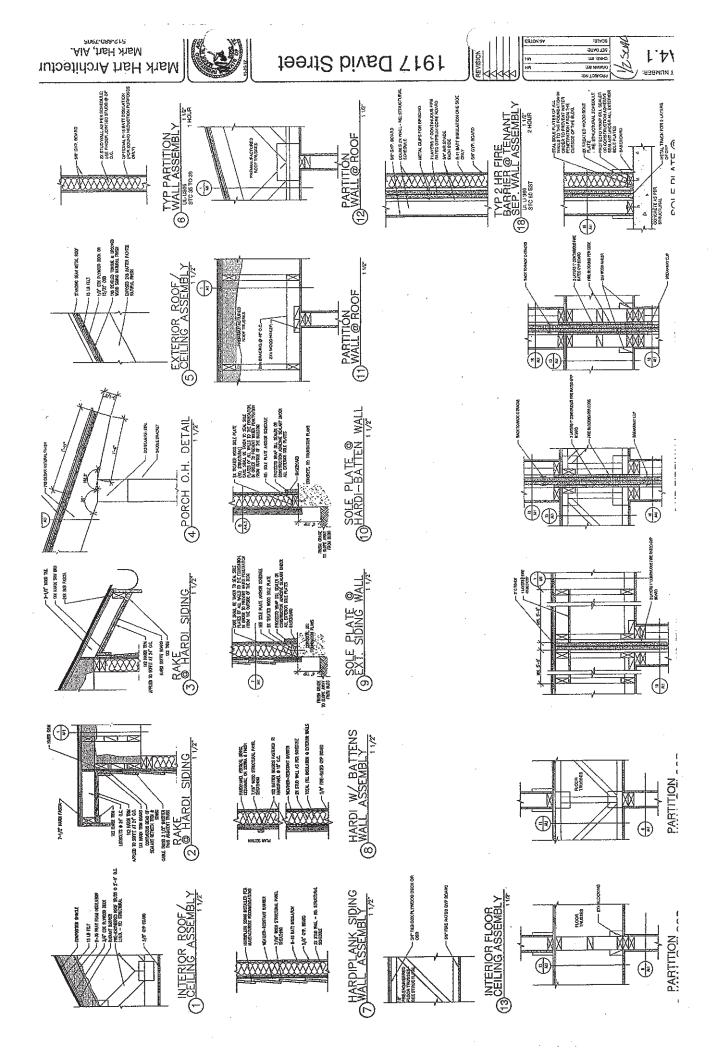
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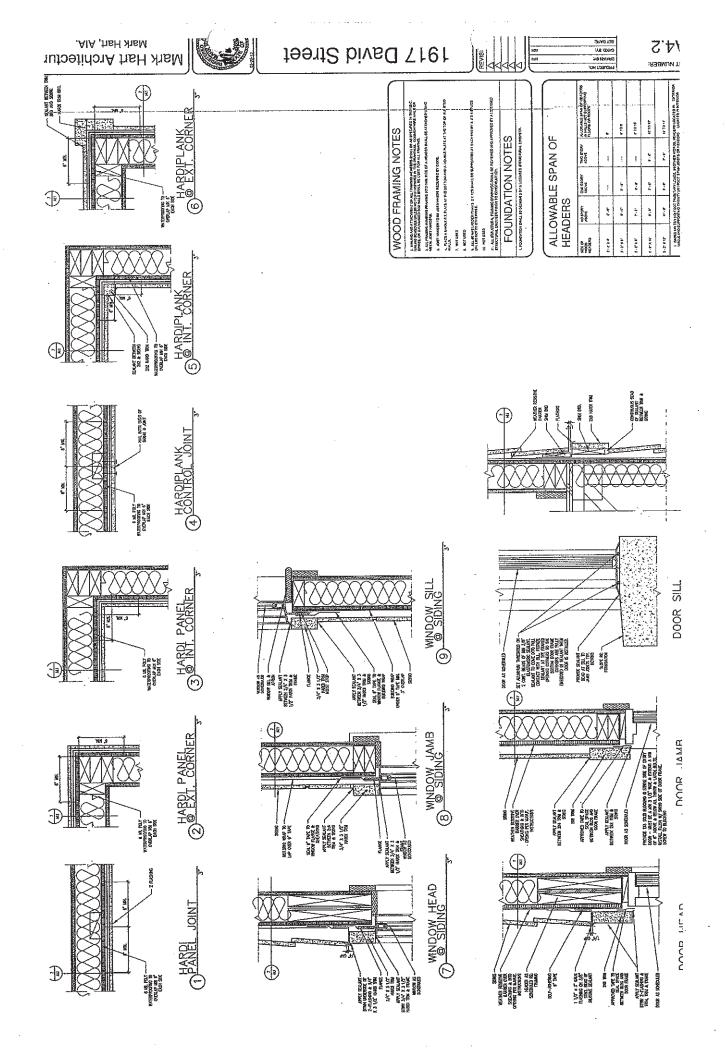
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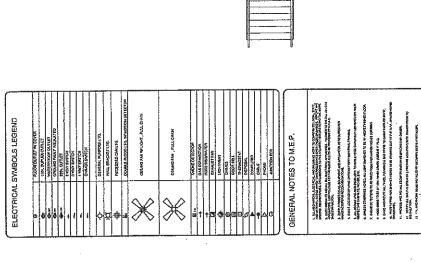


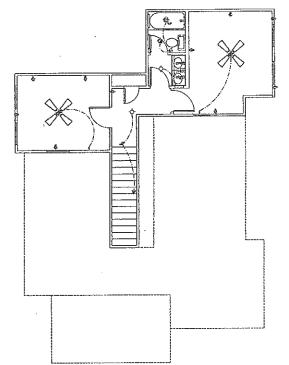
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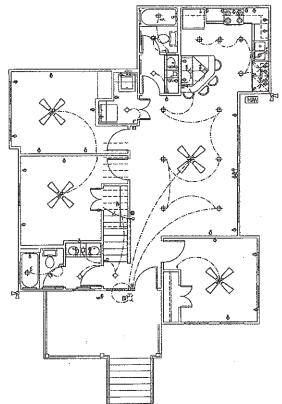








2 SECOND FLOOR PLAN







To:

Mr. Jeff Jack, Chair and

Members of the Board of Adjustment

From:

John McDonald, Development Services Manager, Residential Review

Planning and Development Review Department

Date:

October 22, 2012

Re:

An Administrative Appeal Request

Case No. C15-2012-0126

Property Address: 1917 David Street

Ms. Nuria Zaragosa (the "Appellant") has filed an administrative appeal (Attachment "A"), requesting an interpretation of whether the Planning and Development Review Department Director's approval of a duplex residential use complies with the following sections of the Land Development Code (LDC):

- The appellant contends the correct interpretation of the application is ten (10) bedrooms, the project exceeds the Land Development Code (LDC) limitations placed on duplexes outlined on 25-2-555D (see Attachment "B").
- 2.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation is 10 bedrooms (not 6 bedrooms), the project is then required to provide eight (8), off street parking spaces.
- 3.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation is ten (10) bedrooms, and therefore the project must comply with landscaping requirements (see Attachment "C").
- 4.) The appellant feels the correct interpretation of the actual use is Group Residential as defined in the LDC 25-2-3(5) (see Attachment "D").

For brevity and uniformity staff will respond to each of the four above items in sequential order, then address the findings.

The proposed design labels six bedrooms within the duplex structure which
meets the limitation on bedrooms under Section 25-2-555(D). Staff does
not assume a room, labeled as other rooms - such as a study, library, game
room, kitchen or a bathroom - is a bedroom.

The square footage of living area proposed for this duplex residential structure is 3,198 with a lot size of 7,999 square feet.

- 2) The proposed design labels six bedrooms within the duplex structure which meets the limitation on bedrooms under Section 25-2-555(D). The Department approved the plans as shown, proposing six (6) bedrooms. Parking spaces required are three (3). The approved plans propose four (4) parking spaces (see Attachment "C").
- 3) The proposed design labels six bedrooms within the duplex structure which meets the limitation on bedrooms under Section 25-2-555(D). Therefore, landscaping requirements are not required (LDC 25-2-981) (see attachment "C").
- 4) The project is designed and labeled as a duplex residential use and as designed does not exceed the limitation of six bedrooms. If the building is used as a group residential use without following the City regulations, then the Code Compliance Department may be contacted to enforce our Codes. City staff presumes that plans submitted to the City are an accurate reflection of the land use proposal, and does not assume a building will be used in an illegal manner once the building is completed and a certificate of occupancy is issued.

#### **FINDINGS**

Staff does not believe there is reasonable doubt or difference of interpretation as to the specific intent of the regulations, because the number of bedrooms and proposed living area for this application for a building permit meet the regulations of 25-2-555(D), proposed parking meets all requirements; and landscaping requirements do not apply to the proposed design/use.

Staff believes the use provisions clearly permit the proposed use because the site is being developed with a duplex residential use. All site development regulations for a duplex residential use in a SF-3-NP zoning district have been met and the site complies with the residential design and compatibility (McMansion) standards.

The interpretation will not grant a special privilege to one property inconsistent with other properties or uses similarly situated; in that, the proposed design meets all regulations for a duplex residential use and similar designs have been approved throughout the City of Austin's permitting jurisdiction.

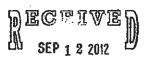
cc: Greg Guernsey, Director, PDRD
Brent Lloyd, Law Department
Donald Birkner, Assistant Director, PDRD
Kathy Haught, Division Manager, PDRD
John McDonald, Development Services Manager, PDRD
Daniel Word, Principal Planner, PDRD
Susan Walker, Planner Senior, PDRD

## Attachment "A"

### **Administrative Appeal**

# CITY OF AUSTIN APPLICATION TO BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT INTERPRETATIONS PART I: APPLICANT'S STATEMENT (Please type)

STREE	ET ADDRESS:_	1917 David	Street, A	ustin Texas 78	705	
LEGAI	L DESCRIPTIO	N: Subdivisi	on -			
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that on	11th					
Day of Board o		<u>ıber,</u> 2012	her	eby apply for a	n interpretation hearing befo	re the
Adjustr	ment.					
Waters	hed Protection a	nd Develops	nent Revi	w Department	interpretation is:	
Re: 201	1-106377PR					
1)	The project do 555 D.	es not excee	d the LDC	limitations p	laced on duplexes outlined or	a 25-2-
2)	The project cor	nplies with 2	:5-6-655 A	Apendix A.		
3)	The project cor	nplies with 2	5-2-981,	Subchapter C,	Article 9.	
4)	The proposed p	roject is con	rpatib <del>le</del> w	ith SF-3 use.		



#### I feel the correct interpretation is:

- 1) With 10 bedrooms, the project exceeds the LDC limitations placed on duplexes outlined on 25-2-555 D.
- 2) With 10 bedrooms, the project is required 8 parking spaces per 25-6-655 Apendix A. With 4 parking spaces, the project does not meet the requirements.
- With the 10 bedrooms, the project needs to comply with the landscaping requirements outlined in 25-2-981. It does not.
- 4) The project is not compatible with SF-3 use. It is clearly designed for group residential use as defined in the LDC 25-2-3 (5)

<u>NOTE:</u> The board must determine the existence of, sufficiency of and weight of evidence supporting the findings described below. Therefore, you must complete each of the applicable findings statements as part of your application. Failure to do so may result in your application being rejected as incomplete. Please attach any additional support documents.

- 1. There is a reasonable doubt of difference of interpretation as to the specific intent of the regulations or map in that:
  - 1) The project has 10 bedrooms, thus exceeds the number of bedrooms allowed under LDC 25-2-555 D
    - (D) This subsection applies to a duplex residential use.
  - (1) On a lot with a lot area of less than 10,000 square feet, a duplex structure may not exceed 4,000 square feet of gross floor area or contain more than six bedrooms.

The limit was placed in 2003 as a remedy for the "super duplex", and its devastating effects on neighborhoods. It was passed by Council with these words:

The Council finds that the regulations in this ordinance are necessary to ensure that a duplex residential use is not established unless it is compatible with other nearby land uses. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety

Although some of the bedrooms are not accurately labeled, this structure has a total of 10 bedrooms.

The ten bedrooms will be served by 6 full bathrooms, with a total of 12 lavatory sinks.

The vast majority of projects are unaffected by bedroom counts. There are some instances, however, when the number of bedrooms needs to be calculated. This is the case with 25-2-555. If the City is going to regulate based on bedrooms counts, it is unreasonable for reviewers to refuse the authority to make that determination. At this point, reviewers simply read what is written on a plan. The process is based on the "honor system". Real Estate professionals, appraisers, habitually determine what is a bedroom and what is not a bedroom. Any of them would report that this project exceeds six bedrooms.

A room designated on the floor plan of a residential duplex project should be considered a "bedroom" for the purposes of determining the number of bedrooms allowed under section 25-2-555(0) of the Land Development Code if:

- (A) the room is a minimum of 70 square feet in area and is not a kitchen, bathroom, garage, utility room, or common circulation space (halls or stairs),
- (B) the room is configured so that it is or is capable of being a private space separated from all other areas of the building by a permanent door or doors,

To reiterate, the vast majority of projects would be unaffected by a bedroom definition. For those projects where the number of bedrooms trigger a regulation, common sense design variations

would ensure reasonable use, while preventing bad actors from exploiting the land Development Code and the neighborhoods that have to live with their projects.

For example, on this project the game rooms are fully enclosed private spaces. A game room, truly intended to be a game room, would likely meet all the above mentioned criteria except that of privacy.

2) With 10 bedrooms, the project required 8 parking spaces per 25-6-655 Apendix A. With 4 parking spaces, the project does not meet the requirements.

Apendix A states that a duplex with more than 6 bedrooms must provide one parking space per bedroom. As this project is in the urban core, it would be reduced by 20% to 8 parking spaces. Although it is apparent that the parking plan for this project includes the decomposed parking area surrounding the legal parking spaces, they would not be legal parking spaces as they would significantly increase impervious cover beyond the allowable 45%.

- 3) With the 10 bedrooms, the project needs to comply with the landscaping requirements outlined in 25-2-981. It does not.
- 4) The project is not compatible with SF-3 use. It is clearly designed for group residential use as defined in the LDC 25-2-3 (5)

Group Residential use is the use of a site for occupancy by a group of more than six persons who are not a family, on a weekly or longer basis. This use includes fraternity and sorority houses, dormitories, residence halls, and boarding houses.

It is apparent in the plans that the intended use for this structure is group residential. It is unfathomable that there be 12 lavatory sinks for 6 residents, or almost 1300 sq. ft. of habitable storage space. This space will store humans, and many more than six.

It is not reasonable to approve a permit that will establish a structure intended for an illegal use.

This property owner has run an illegal four-plex on the site since he purchased the property in 2006. Although it has had an open Code Compliance Case since the purchase, it has continued to be rented and inhabited.

would change	or for this lot to be developed in the manner in which this permit seeks to develop it require MF-4 zoning. If that is the intention, the property owner should seek a zon. Otherwise, this property should be developed with the same regulations as SF-3 ties, with a structure intended to house a MAXIMUM of 6 unrelated persons.
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