

**CASE NO.:** C8-2013-0159.0A

Z.A.P. DATE: May 20, 2014

**SUBDIVISION NAME:** Resubdivision of Lot 5, Block X, Highland Park West

AREA: 0.399 acres

**LOTS**: 2

**APPLICANT:** Grayland, LLC

**AGENT:** Lisa Gray

ADDRESS OF SUBDIVISION: 5109 Crestway Drive

GRIDS: H-28

**COUNTY:** Travis

WATERSHED: Taylor Slough North

JURISDICTION: Full Purpose

**EXISTING ZONING: SF-3** 

PROPOSED LAND USE: Single Family Residence

**SIDEWALKS**: Sidewalks will be provided along Crestway Drive and Balcones Drive.

**DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:** The request is for approval of a resubdivision namely, Resubdivision of Lot 5, Block X, Highland Park West. The proposed resubdivision consists of 2 lots on 0.399 acres.

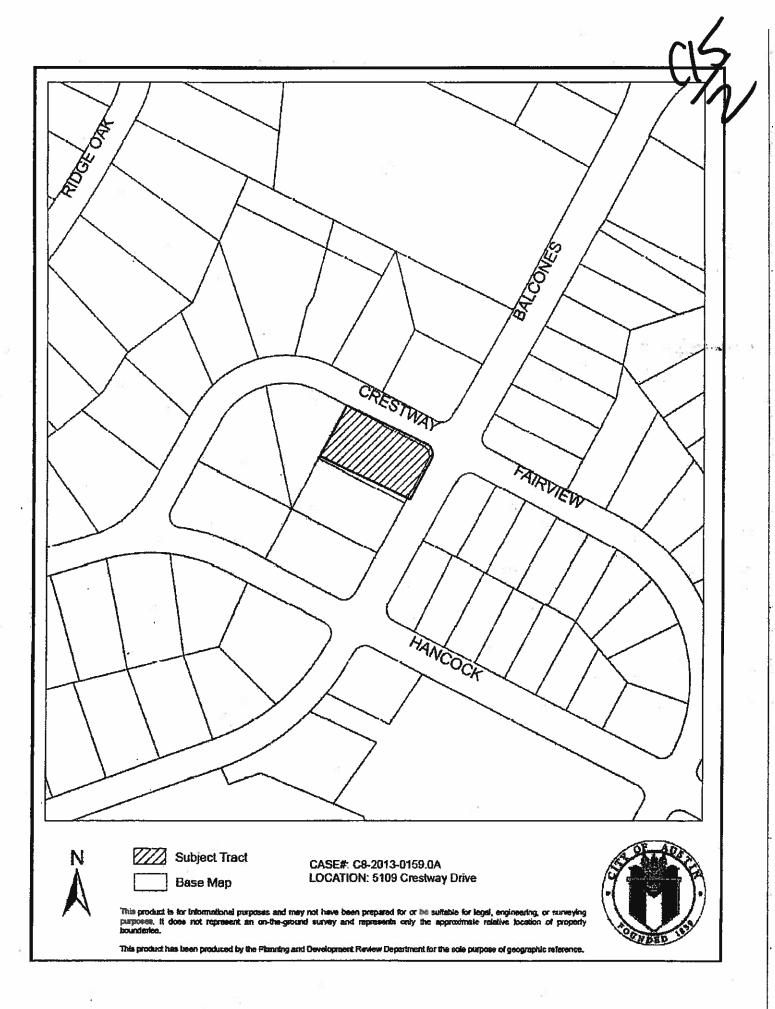
**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of the resubdivision. This plat meets all applicable City of Austin Land Development and State Local Government requirements.

# **ZONING & PLATTING COMMISSION ACTION:**

CASE MANAGER: Sylvia Limon

**PHONE:** 512-974-2767

E-mail: Sylvia.limon@austintexas.gov



Cl/3

RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 5 BLOCK X HIGHLAND PARK WEST	Lati	Lot	····		
SCALE: 1° = 50°	BLOCK W		LOT 22 HIGHLAND PARK W24T Volume 4 Page 259		
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PAGE 1 of 2	ARTANAM WALLS TREES	MECT, NECOUNDS AND	OF APPLICATION OF ANY COLUMN VALVAGE		

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## Limon, Sylvia

From:

tasconstruction -

Sent:

Wednesday, May 14, 2014 8:01 AM

To: Cc: Limon, Sylvia Tonianne

Subject:

Subdivision of 5109 Crestway

## Sylvia

I am writing to say that I am opposed to the subdivision of the lot located at the subject property address. I am a Highland Park resident, have been since 2005 and also served on the board for 6 1/2 years. I resigned as Vice President 3 years ago but still remain involved with building, zoning and planting issues in an effort to provide support to the neighborhood. I am also a restoration builder and in large part am against the tear down of homes; particular ones of historical architectural significance like the Roland Rossener home recently torn down on Balcones.

We are currently in the process of hiring an attorney to prevent a builder who plans to build a duplex on the corner of Balcones and Hancock. This lot does not allow for duplexes in the neighborhood deed restrictions. We expect to be able rely on these deed restrictions to enforce violations when the city can not bez of their limitations. I can tell you in the nearly 9 years I have been an active part of Highland Park we have actually been successful twice in using the deed restrictions to prevent building violations. There was a builder attempting to build a duplex on Highland Terrace West on a non duplex platted lot per our deed restrictions and a dozen or more neighbors got together and had an attny send a letter putting them on notice of deed restriction violation. The builder sold the lot after he tore the original home down to David Weekley who built a SFD. Another builder was 90 % complete with a duplex, again on a non duplex lot per deed restrictions and an attny letter was sent and he actually converted it to a SFD. The point is, we do rely on and enforce these deed restrictions. I understand the city is in the process of reviewing whether they could and should enforce deed restrictions and i believe they absolutely should. The process of putting a prospective buyer on notice of deed restrictions should happen during the buyers option period when they do their due diligence of other things such as opening title and checking for easements, encroachments, survey issues, inspections. This is something that should be implemented by TREC and enforced before the buyer buys the property with the intent to make an investment that violates deed restrictions. With the way that it is now not informing the buyer of potential restrictions puts them in a liable situation and is simple not right. The City is leaving this up to individual tax paying property owners to fight civilly when a policy should be put in place to prevent independent litigation and financial hardship.

With regard to the subdivision of Crestway, I am simply against it as it violates the only strong hold we have if the city can't and back us up, the deed restrictions.

I am happy to discuss this further or provide additional information.

Tonianne Soster 3203 Sunny Lane Highland Park Balcones West

Seat from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

# PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

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.

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.

Commission is required to approve the subdivision by State law if no variances are required, and if it meets all requirements. A board or commission's decision on a subdivision may only be appealed if it involves an environmental variance. A variance 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. A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 14 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

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 board 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:
- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development;
- is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property 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.

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Sylvia Limon P. O. Box 1088

City of Austin - Planning & Development Review Dept./4" Fl

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

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

scheduled date of the public hearing; the Case Number; and the contact person comments should include the name of the board or commission, or Council; the Comments: Daytime Telephone: 512-323-05-44 listed on the notice. contact person listed on the notice) before or at a public hearing. Your Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the 5107 Your Name (please print) Your address(es) affected bythis application Public Hearing: Zoning and Platting Commission, May 20, 2014 Contact: Sylvia Limon, 512-974-2767 or Elsa Garza, 512-974-2308 Case Number: C8-2013-0159.0A Crestway Drive, thistin Wooller Signature X 7873 ☐ I am in favor ☐ I object 5-12-2014 Date

CLY

Nancy Woolley 5107 Crestway Austin, TX 78731 512-323-0544 May 9, 2014

Comments Concerning the Proposed Subdivision of 5109 Crestway Drive, Austin, TX 78731

### **Legal Concerns:**

Paul Yadro, a Planner Senior with the Planning and Development Review Dept., OSS/Residential Review Division, told me in a phone conversation in April, 2014, that the city legal department is looking into whether plat restrictions in place for the Highland Park West area will actually be enforced by the City of Austin and not just civilly due to their age and how they were written at the time. (Plat Book 4, Page 299, filed Nov. 1, 1949) This has come up because of proposed development at 3400 Hancock which is in block X, lot 1 of Highland Park West. 5109 Crestway Drive is in the same block, lot 5. I am on lot 4. It would seem prudent to wait for the city legal department to decide what action the city needs to take (if any) before proceeding with the approval for subdivision of this lot.

Even if the city itself is not bound legally to uphold the plat restrictions, they could, of course, be upheld as a civil matter.

### Plat Restriction concerns:

### Setback line:

The Plat Restrictions for Highland Park West state that, "No dwelling shall be located or erected on any lot nearer than is shown by the set back line shown on this plat..."

The setback lines shown on the proposed subdivision along Crestway Drive and along Balcones Drive are different than shown on the original plat.

City staff noticed this and commented on the Update1 Master Report:

DE5 Please provide a copy of the existing plat to this reviewer.

Update #1: Existing plat shows dashed lines around the perimeter that the proposed plat does not. Do you plan to show those lined? This will need to be coordinated with the case manager.

### Percentage of Property used for improvements:

The Plat Restrictions state, "...one dwelling which shall not exceed two stories in height and which shall not cover exceeding twenty (20) percent of the lot or lots area acquired for the erection of said dwelling..."

If the setback lines from both Crestway and Balcones are maintained as drawn on the original plat, the eastern lot "5B" would have a very small area to build on if only 20% of the lot could be covered by a dwelling. It might even prove to be impossible to build within these restrictions.

### CodeNEXT:

The character of the Highland Park West neighborhood is comprised of single family homes, many built mid-century, some by prominent architects of the day. The lots are large and with many historic trees. Small rental homes, multi-unit condos, and zero lot-line McMansions are not typical of the area or desired. The Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association (HPWBANA) is involved in the process of giving input to the city about the neighborhood character.

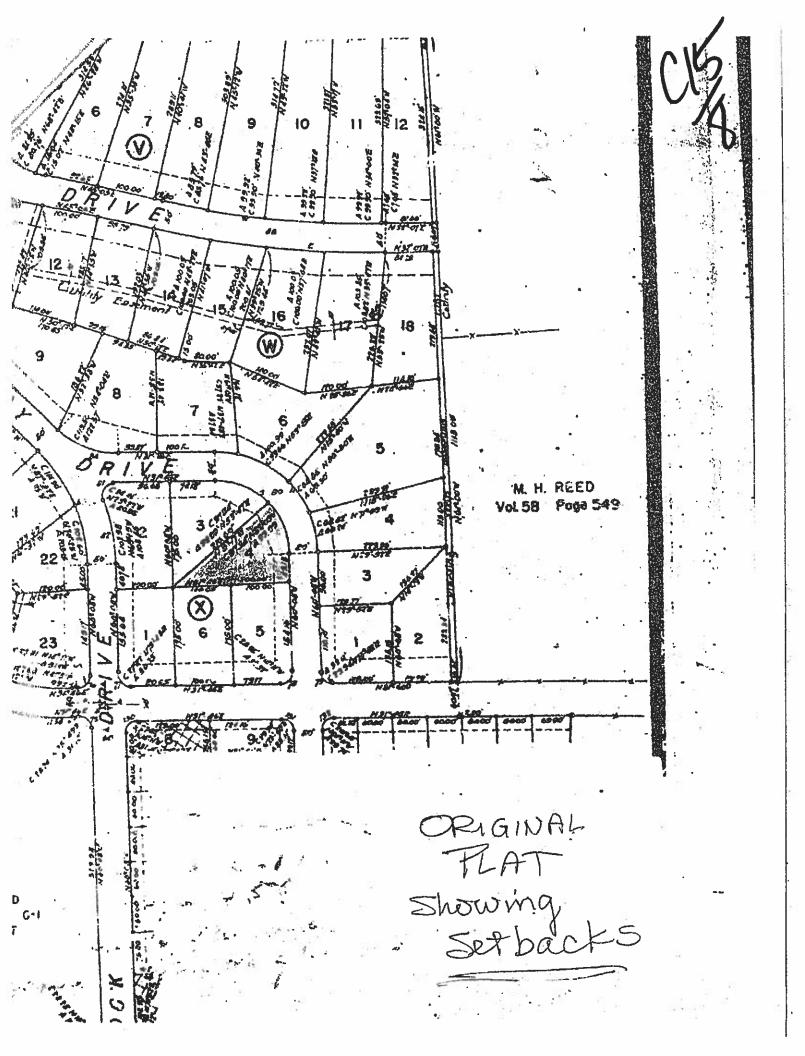
### Traffic concerns:

CISX

The corner of Hancock and Balcones is a heavily travelled intersection. There are times, especially during rush hour(s) in morning and afternoon when it is very difficult to exit the block where I live without circling around to the light at Hancock. Even then I have to wait the entire light cycle to make a left hand turn because there is a steady stream of traffic turning north onto Balcones. This area has recently seen the construction of 4 condo units just to the south of the intersection (this lot was zoned differently than the rest of the area) and there is a proposal to build a two unit condo at 3400 Hancock. If the lot at 5109 Crestway is subdivided and an additional house is built there, that will bring the total of new families in the area to eight. Averaging two cars per family, that means 12 additional cars just in a one block area added to the already growing congestion.

Of additional concern is a City of Austin proposal to turn Park Crest from 2222 running to the light at Hancock and Balcones into a two lane street with a turn lane in the middle and bike lanes on the sides. This would further compound the difficulty of entering or exiting this block to go anywhere.

Mancy Woolley



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