CITY OF AUSTIN **Board of Adjustment/Sign Review Board**



Decision Sheet			
n/a_	Monday, September 14, 2015 _ Brooke Bailey _Michael Benaglio _ William Burkhardt _ Eric Goff _ Vincent Harding (Chair) _ Melissa Hawthorne (Vice-Chair) _ Don Leighton-Burwell _ Melissa Neslund _ James Valadez _ Michael Von Ohlen	CASE NUMBER: C15-2015-0071	
APPLIC	CANT: David Cancialosi		
OWNER	R: Claude Benayoun		
ADDRE	SS: 1612 CONGRESS AVE		
25-2-49 setback	NCE REQUESTED: The applicant has rest (D) (Site Development Regulations) to feet (required) to 0 feet (required) feet (required) to 0 feet (required) f	o decrease the street side yard ested) in order to construct a patio Commercial Services – Vertical	
REOUE	D'S DECISION: POSTPONED TO Jul EST; July 13, 2015 POSTPONED TO Septe EST; SEPT 14, 2015 POSTPONED TO OC EST	ember 14, 2015 AT THE APPLICANT'S	
FINDIN	G:		
_	Zoning regulations applicable to the prop	erty do not allow for a reasonable use	

- 2. (a) The hardship for which the variance is requested is unique to the property in that: (b) The hardship is not general to the area in which the property is located because:
- 3. The variance will not alter the character of the area adjacent to the property, will not impair the use of adjacent conforming property, and will not impair the purpose of the regulations of the zoning district in which the property is located because:

Leane Heldenfels **Executive Liaison**

Heldenfels, Leane

From:

John Bodek

Sent:

Monday, September 14, 2015 10:42 AM

To:

david cancialosi; Heldenfels, Leane

Cc: Subject: Claude Benayoun; Ayes Claudes, Paul Strange; Kevin Lewis

Re: 20150910_100022.pdf



Hi, David -

Yes, let's please request postponement. Over the weekend, the zoning committee did review and attempt to accept the language that you sent us on 9/10. However, we would like some additional time to follow up with you. I expect it will be an easy conversation. The primary roadblock was the limited amount of time to respond prior to tonight's BOA meeting.

I won't be able to attend BOA tonight, but Kevin Lewis (BCNA President) will be there.

Leane, can you please confirm what date this case can next be scheduled for?

Thanks, all.

John Bodek

BCNA Zoning Chair

----- Forwarded message -----

From: david cancialosi <

Date: Mon, Sep 14, 2015 at 9:32 AM

Subject: Re: aut 20150910 100022.pdf

To: John Bodek <

Cc: Claude Benayoun <

"Heldenfels, Leane" Strange <sc , Kevin Lewis <

<Leane.Heldenfels@austintexas.gov>

John, do you believe we need to ask for 1 last postponement ahead of time?

Kind Regards, David Cancialosi Permit Partners, LLC 105 W. Riverside Suite 225 Austin, TX 78704 512.593.5368 o 512.213.0261 f www.Permit-Partners.com

From: John Bodek Date: Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 2:23 PM

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



DATE: Monday, July 13, 2015	CASE NUMBER: C15-2015-0071	
Angela Atwood Michael Benaglio William Burkhardt Vincent Harding Melissa Hawthorne	CACL NOIMBLIN GIO 2010 GOT	
Don Leighton-Burwell Melissa Neslund James Valadez Michael Von Ohlen		

APPLICANT: David Cancialosi

OWNER: Claude Benayoun

ADDRESS: 1612 CONGRESS AVE

VARIANCE REQUESTED: The applicant has requested variance(s) from Section 25-2-492 (D) (Site Development Regulations) to decrease the street side yard setback from 10 feet (required) to 0 feet (requested) in order to construct a patio cover structure in an "CS-V-CO-NP", General Commercial Services – Vertical Mixed Use - Conditional Overlay– Neighborhood Plan zoning district. (Bouldin Creek)

BOARD'S DECISION: POSTPONED TO July 13, 2015 AT THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST; July 13, 2015 POSTPONED TO September 14, 2015 AT THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST

FINDING:

- 1. The Zoning regulations applicable to the property do not allow for a reasonable use because:
- 2. (a) The hardship for which the variance is requested is unique to the property in that:
 - (b) The hardship is not general to the area in which the property is located because:

3. The variance will not alter the character of the area adjacent to the property, will not impair the use of adjacent conforming property, and will not impair the purpose of the regulations of the zoning district in which the property is located because:

Leane Heldenfels Executive Liaison

Vincent Harding

Chairman

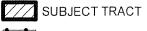
CITY OF AUSTIN Board of Adjustment/Sign Review Board Decision Sheet



DATE: Monday, June 8, 2015	CASE NUMBER: C15-2015-0071
Jeff Jack - Chair Michael Von Ohlen Melissa Whaley Hawthorne - Vice Chair Sallie Burchett Ricardo De Camps Brian King Vincent Harding Will Schnier - Alternate Stuart Hampton - Alternate	ir
APPLICANT: David Cancialosi	
OWNER: Claude Benayoun	
ADDRESS: 1612 CONGRESS AVE	
VARIANCE REQUESTED: The applicant has re 25-2-492 (D) (Site Development Regulations) t setback from 10 feet (required) to 0 feet (requi	o decrease the street side yard ested) in order to construct a patio Commercial Services – Vertical od Plan zoning district. (Bouldin
BOARD'S DECISION: POSTPONED TO July REQUEST	y 13, 2015 AT THE APPLICANT'S
FINDING:	
	uested is unique to the property in that: which the property is located because: area adjacent to the property, will not y, and will not impair the purpose of







PENDING CASE

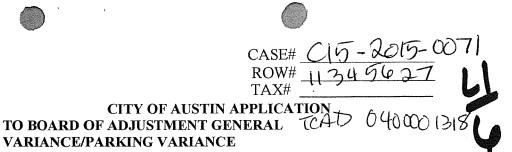
ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: C15-2015-0071

Address: 1612 S CONGRESS AVE



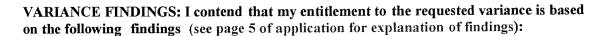
This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.



WARNING: Filing of this appeal stops all affected construction activity.

PLEASE: APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED WITH ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION COMPLETED.
STREET ADDRESS: 1612 South Congress
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Subdivision – LOT 5&6 BLK 22 SWISHER ADDN
Lot(s) 5&6 Block 22 Outlot Division
I/We <u>David Cancialosi</u> on behalf of myself/ourselves as authorized agent for
Claude Benayoun affirm that on February 25, 2015 , hereby
apply for a hearing before the Board of Adjustment for consideration to:
(check appropriate items below and state what portion of the Land Development Code you are seeking a variance from)
➤ ERECTATTACHCOMPLETEREMODELMAINTAIN
Variance from LDC 25-2-492 (D) to erect an open air, cantilevered 661.80 SF patio cover over existing impervious cover to reduce the street side yard setback from 10' to 0'.
in a <u>CS-CO-NP</u> district. (bouldin Creek) (zoning district)

NOTE: 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.



REASONABLE USE:

1. The zoning regulations applicable to the property do not allow for a reasonable use because:

The site has an available patio area that has existing impervious coverage. This area is not shielded from noise or weather and the uncovered patio and exposed exterior facade is suffering from weatherization. The increased density and associated noise, traffic, and use of the area as a whole is contributing to the need for a covered patio. The proposed cantilevered structure will not have any supporting posts and thus not block any line of sight views from intersecting traffic. The cover will offer shade in the summer and warmth in the winter, promoting year round use on a portion of property valued at \$1,000,000+ that is taxed accordingly. The owner requests he be able to utilize a legal portion of this property consistent with several other restaurants in the area.

HARDSHIP:

2. (a) The hardship for which the variance is requested is unique to the property in that:

The site is a corner lot at the corner of West Milton St. and South Congress Avenue that has an existing outdoor corner patio which is currently in use, but who's use is extremely limited due to inconsistent weather patterns and increased surrounding noise. The physical building that this particular restaurant (Enoteca) is housed within is very small and cannot fully utilize the patio portion of the property to the full extent allowed by zoning regulations without a patio cover. Customers are continually wanting to site outside, but desire to avoid the sun or inclement weather.

Regarding parking, the site is fully parked so adding the cantilevered cover will not generate the need for more parking spaces. The same number of seats / tables will be utilized with or without the cover; however, the cover will allow the existing outdoor space to be utilized in a more consistent manner similar to other restaurants with covered patios in the area which are allowed to respond to requests for full time seating on a year round basis. In the immediate area this includes Doc's Motorworks, Guero's Bar and Grill, and Homeslice Pizza.

The existing patio is part of the same legal lot(s) that Travis County has recognized as taxable land since 1935 and specific to the patio since 1977, yet the owner cannot fully develop and use the commercial property to the extent possible due to strict application of the CS zoning side-street setback performance standards.

(b) The hardship is not general to the area in which the property is located because:

There are no known commercial properties in the immediate area with outdoor patios situated on 2 intersecting streets that are not allowed to utilize the space in a reasonable and comfortable manner due to the strict application of the zoning code.



AREA CHARACTER:

3. The variance will not alter the character of the area adjacent to the property, will not impair the use of adjacent conforming property, and will not impair the purpose of the regulations of the zoning district in which the property is located because:



The proposed cover would be cantilevered from the existing 1 story building and has no supports. It would not be blocking anyone's view. This includes pedestrian, bicycle, and automotive traffic. The canopy itself will be stepped down from the edge of the building height, yet high enough to allow considerable head clearance and multiple outdoor fans hung from underneath the cover. The cover will also help dress up the bare concrete wall exposed to West Milton Street. This cover is substantially less intrusive then has been previously proposed to prior BOA commissioners, and certainly less obtrusive with a more thoughtful streetscape design than the hotel being built across the street. Allowing the cantilevered patio cover over the existing concrete does nothing to impair the use of adjacent property, and in fact, allows a better method for capturing and managing run off during rain events. The cover allows the corner patio area to enhance what is now a deteriorating sidewall façade that detracts from the overall area aesthetic. The owner has several neighbors who support this request.

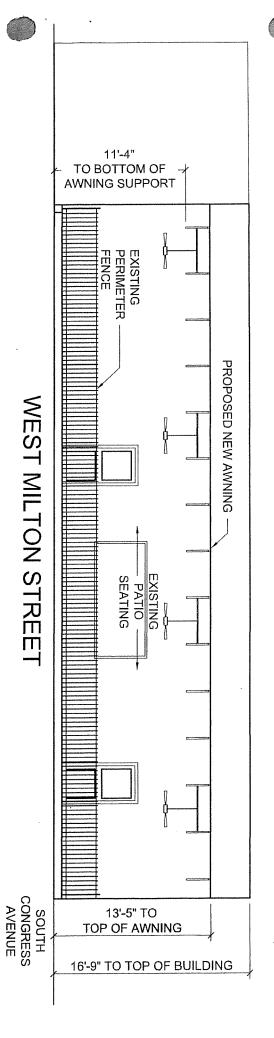
PARKING: (Additional criteria for parking variances only.)

Request for a parking variance requires the Board to make additional findings. The Board may grant a variance to a regulation prescribed Section 479 of Chapter 25-6 with respect to the number of off-street parking spaces or loading facilities required if it makes findings of fact that the following additional circumstances also apply:

1.	Neither present nor anticipated future traffic volumes generated by the use of the site or the uses of sites in the vicinity reasonable require strict or literal interpretation and enforcement of the specific regulation because:

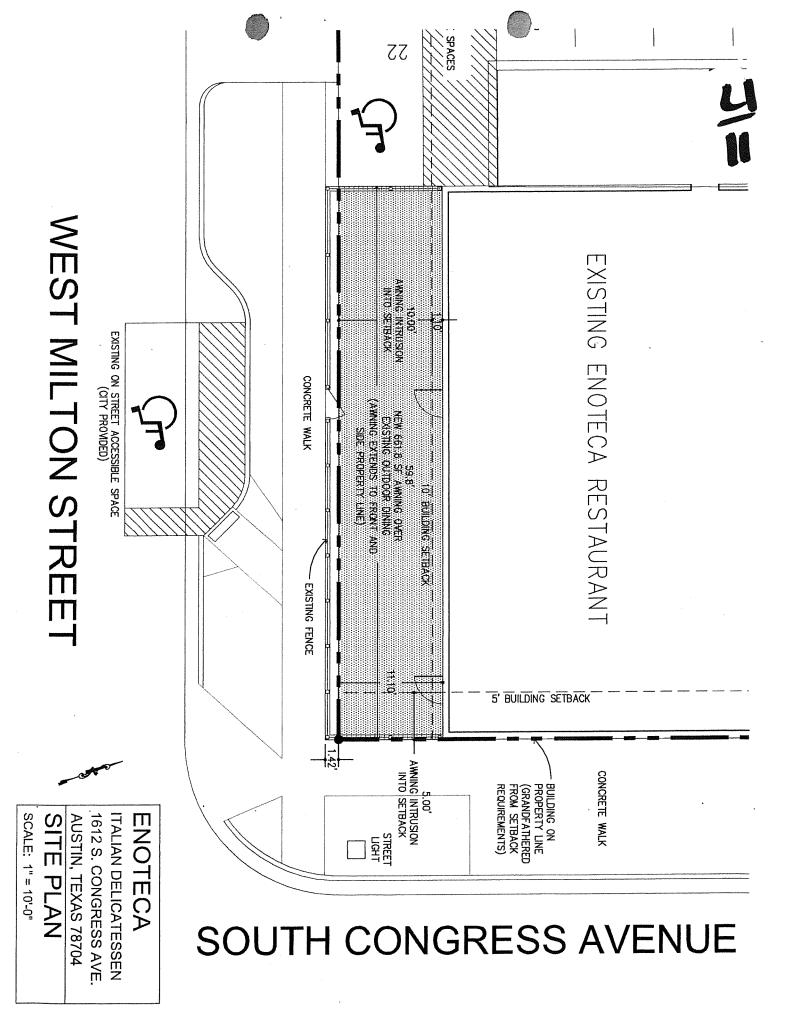
2. The granting of this variance will not result in the parking or loading of vehicles on public streets in such a manner as to interfere with the free flow of traffic of the streets because:
3. The granting of this variance will not create a safety hazard or any other condition inconsistent with the objectives of this Ordinance because:
4. The variance will run with the use or uses to which it pertains and shall not run with the site because:
,
NOTE: The Board cannot grant a variance that would provide the applicant with a special privilege not enjoyed by others similarly situated or potentially similarly situated.
APPLICANT CERTIFICATE - I affirm that my statements contained in the complete
application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Signed Mail Address 105 W. Riverside Suite 225
City, State & Zip Austin, TX 78704
Printed David C. Cancialosi Phone 512-593-5368 Date February 25, 2015
OWNERS CERTIFICATE – I affirm that my statements contained in the complete application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Signed Claude Benayoun Mail Address 1610/1612 Congress avenue
City, State & Zip Austin Texas 78704
Printed Claude Benayoun Date February 25, 2015

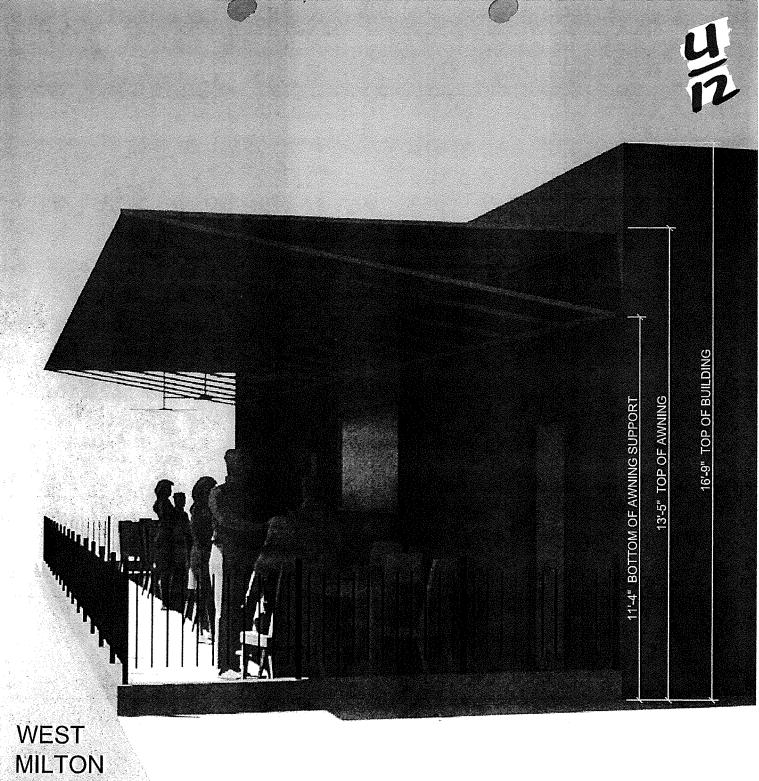




ENOTECA ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704 1612 S. CONGRESS AVE. ITALIAN DELICATESSEN





STREET

SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE

October 9, 2015

Leane Heldenfels
City of Austin
Planning and Development Review Department
PO Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-1088



Dear Ms. Heldenfels,

As the residents and neighbors living nearest to the Enoteca / Vespaio property located at 1612 S. Congress Avenue, we submit the attached letter in full support of the variance requested.

Please see the attached letter, signed by 7 residents and neighbors, living within 300 feet of the property at 1612 S. Congress Avenue.

We believe that the awning and changes to the patio area will upgrade the appearance of the site. Seating customers during inclement weather will not impact parking or traffic beyond that which already exists in our close by area.

Logically there are typically fewer people visiting the S. Congress area shops and restaurants during times of inclement weather, resulting in an overall reduction of parking and issues at these times.

Our parking and traffic issues in this SoCo area are severe and generally underserved by the City of Austin, considering the property investment, growth, visitor & tourist levels and tax value creation in our area. We respectfully request that the City of Austin make significant investments to improve this SoCo area and make our streets safer for residents and visitors alike.

Variances such as this one requested are not causing the problem. A lack of City of Austin active parking enforcement, maintenance of signage, curb painting for noparking (especially for corners and intersections), painted crosswalks and stop lines at existing sidewalk areas and additional sidewalks in the neighborhood, along with an overall improvement of traffic control are some of the major issues in our area. Please place more emphasis on these issues to improve our SoCo area.

We fully support the requested variance. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Jeff Seiden 1705 Eva Street 512-202-6500 Yellow Zone Representative - BCNA



To: City of Austin - BOA

From: Nearby Bouldin Creek Residential Neighbors of Vespaio / Enoteca

Date: September 12, 2015

Subject: Support of Vespaio / Enoteca (1610/1626 S. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78704)

Variance request - Cantilevered Awning Setback

To: City of Austin, BOA and Whom It May Concern:

We the closest nearby residential neighbors to the Vespaio / Enoteca restaurant site, hereby support the variance request that would provide for the installation of a permanently affixed awning over the existing patio area located adjacent to the 1610/1625. Congress Ave - Vespaio / Enoteca restaurant, with such patio situated on the north side of W. Milton Street, and west of S. Congress Avenue.

We see this Awning addition as a visual enhancement to the existing fenced patio area, that could provide for inclement weather use of the patio without increasing the number of tables or seats available in that space, and its design as visually compatible with the porch areas found on the front of Bouldin Creek neighborhood residential homes adjacent to the Vespaio / Enoteca site.

We ask that the BOA consider our support as an important contributing element in its approval of this use and setback variance.

Sincerely,

	Nearby neighbors as signed below.
	Managellatt Seelen Mangellen & Jeff Seiden
	Managellatt Seeden Mangellen & Teff Seiden Signature 1705 Eva Street Austin TX 78704
	Address
	Doel Sarchet Joel Sarchet
	Signature Printed Name
	Signature Printed Name 105 W. Milton St. Austin Tx 78704
	Address
/	Mark Morris
	Signature Printed Name 109 W. Milton St Arytin, 14 78704
	Address
	David & Dob Barke
	Signature Printed Name 1707 EVA ST AUSTFN TX 78704
	Address /
	Phod Wilson
	Signature Printed Name 1702 Gra Str. Austr TX 78704
	102 Eva Str Hustin 18 78704
	Audiess
	Marghrane Maya Kraus S Signature Printed Name
	Signature Printed Name
	Signature Printed Name 1709 EVA St. Austin TX 78704
	Address '



Subject: Support of Vespaio / Enoteca (1610/1612 S. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78704)

Variance request – Cantilevered Awning Setback
To: City of Austin, BOA and Whom It May Concern: 9/12/2015

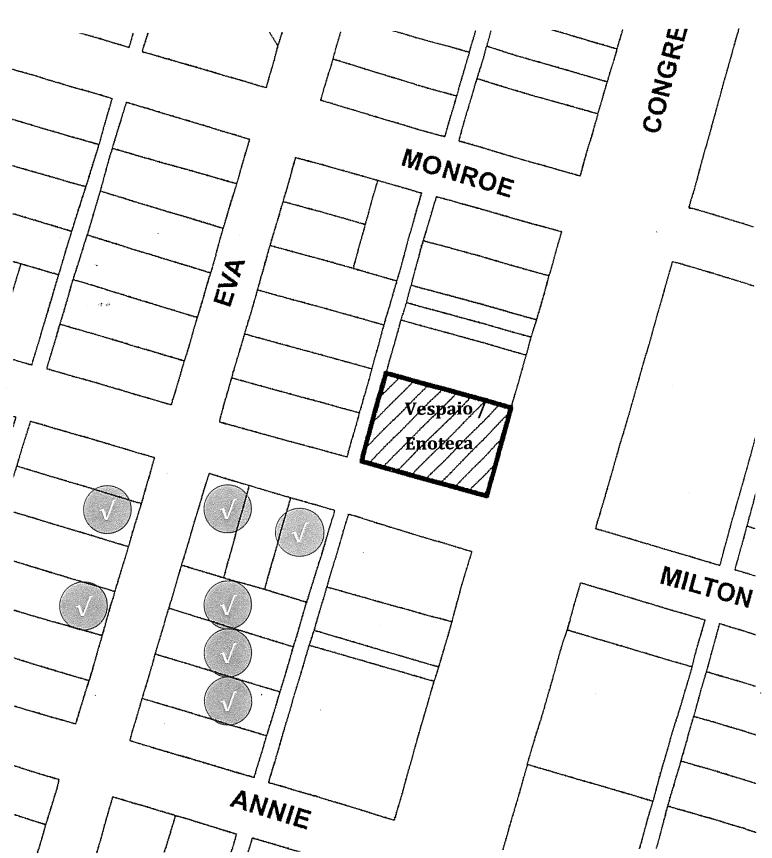
以 15

Nearby neighbors as signed below. (signature page #2)

J. Jandenst	KYMBERLIE LANDGRAF
Signature 1700 EVA ST. AUSTIN TY	Printed Name 48404
Address	7 0109
Signature	Printed Name
Address	
Signature	Printed Name
Address	
Signature	Printed Name
Address	
Signature	Printed Name
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Address	



Nearby residential neighbors supporting Vespaio / Enoteca setback variance for patio awning.





Written comments must be submitted to the contact person listed on the notice before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the name of the board or commission, or Council; the scheduled date of the public hearing; the Case Number; and the contact person listed on the notice. All comments received will become part of the public record for the case.

Case Number: C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress

Contact: Leane Heldenfels, 512-974-2202, leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, June 8th, 2015

Ellen Cabluck
Your Name (please print)
Eller Cablude 9/9/15
Your address(es) affected by this application
Huy (2 Mych 9/9/15
/ Signature / Date
Daytime Telephone: 512-707-1295
Comments: We believe this variance
should not be allowed. The restaurant
already has maximum reasonable use
of the side setback. No hardship is
caused by not obtaining a larger setback
FORTHER DESTROYPULG THE
CHAPM OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

Note: All comments received will become part of the public record of this case

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned by noon the day of the hearing to:

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

Leane Heldenfels P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-1088

Or fax to (512) 974-6305



Or scan and email to leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

	am in favor object
	am in favor object

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, vou are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed application. 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 will be sent.

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 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);

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.



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Case Number: C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress

Contact: Leane Heldenfels, 512-974-2202, leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, June 8th, 2015

Your Name (please print) BRETT WARREN

Your address(es) affected by this application AUSTIN, TX 78704

Daytime Telephone:

Signature Date AUG 10, 2015

Comments: THE ON-STREET PARKING HAS MADE IT HARD FOR US TO GET IN AND OUT OF THE DRIVEWAT, ESPECIALLY ON THE WEEKENDS AND WEEKNIGHTS. THIS HAS BEEN INCONVENIENT AT TIMES.

Note: All comments received will become part of the public record of this case

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

Leane Heldenfels

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-1088

Or fax to (512) 974-6305

Or scan and email to leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov



 am in favor object
 am in favor

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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: http://www.austintexas.gov/devservices



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Contact: Leane Heldenfels, 512-974-2202, leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, June 8th, 2015

Your Name (please print)

Your address(es) affected by this application
404 West Monroe

Questin, TX 78704

Signature

Date
512-1e26-1e780

Comments:

We would not oppose this permit, if the applicant would agree in writing not to seek for enclose this Patro area in the future with walls, or to make if a fully enclosed addition to the existing building. This whenly be a covenant in a form that can be filled in the deed records, and should num with the land. Applicant must post a bond to reinburse BCNA for attament fees if this covenant is ever violated.

Note: All comments received will become part of the public record of this case

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City of Austin-Planning & Development Review Department/ 1st Floor Leane Heldenfels P. O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767-1088 Or fax to (512) 974-6305 Or scan and email to leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

☐ Lam in favor ☐ I object	
☐ I am in favor ☐ I object	

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- 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.

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

Leane Heldenfels

P. O. Box 1088

of the hearing to:

Or scan and email to leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

Austin, TX 78767-1088 Or fax to (512) 974-6305

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For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: http://www.austintexas.gov/devservices.

E S 14 15 GE 180 2 De Colono Note: All comments received will become part of the public record of this case ever MORE board or commission, or Council; the scheduled date of the public hearing; the Written comments must be submitted to the contact person listed on the notice 15 before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the name of the ☐ I am in favor Contact: Leane Heldenfels, 512-974-2202, leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov Case Number; and the contact person listed on the notice. All comments 🕶 I object natrows 4 employees Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, June 8th, 2015 ME Case Number: C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress 3 received will become part of the public record for the case. SPEP TON COUNT Your address(es) affected by this application 30 Daytime Telephone: 51ス、44. 1609 NICKERSON 22 RINS Alizabeth Dans J Sizabetha Joe tables Your Name (please print) Comments:

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 application. 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 will be sent.

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 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.

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.

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

Leane Heldenfels

P. O. Box 1088

of the hearing to:

Or scan and email to leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov

Austin, TX 78767-1088 Or fax to (512) 974-6305

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: http://www.austintexas.gov/devservices.

Note: All comments received will become part of the public record of this case If you use this form to comment, it may be returned by noon the day board or commission, or Council; the scheduled date of the public hearing; the Written comments must be submitted to the contact person listed on the notice before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the name of the X I am in favor Contact: Leane Heldenfels, 512-974-2202, Leane.heldenfels@austintexas.gov 48404 Case Number; and the contact person listed on the notice. All comments 6-8-15 Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment, June 8th, 2015 Case Number: C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress received will become part of the public record for the case. 1607 Newton St. Austin Daytime Telephone: 512 - 560 - 7544 Lengholing Weres Armandina Flores Your address(es) affected by this application Signature Your Name (please print) Comments:

South Congress Improvement Association (SCIA)

Serving SoCo since 2014

June 5, 2015

Leane Heldenfels
City of Austin
Planning & Development Review Department
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-1088

RE: Case Number C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress

Dear Ms. Heldenfels,

The Board of the South Congress Improvement Association (SCIA) would like to register its support of the variance request to construct a patio cover structure for Enoteca located at 1612 South Congress Avenue.

The Board supports the request because Vespaio/Enoteca is a long established, successful restaurant which adds significantly to the vitality of the South Congress District and to Austin. Patios and outdoor dining are encouraged as they help promote a vibrant pedestrian environment. The proposed patio cover structure will provide much needed shade and protection from the elements and we commend Mr. Benayoun for the aesthetically pleasing design. Sub Chapter E – Commercial Design Standards allow awnings to cover sidewalks to the property line. This cover will also go the property line and provide a similar type of relief and enjoyment.

The Board supports the request as it is reasonable in this urban location and is consistent with Austin's goals of providing vibrant, commercial districts where residents can enjoy outdoor dining in a pedestrian friendly environment. Please provide this letter of support to the Board of Adjustment members for their consideration.

Best Regards,

Andrew Moore
Executive Director
South Congress Improvement Association



South Congress Merchants Association



June 5, 2015

Leane Heldenfels
City of Austin
Planning & Development Review Department
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-1088

RE: Case Number C15-2015-0071, 1612 South Congress

Dear Ms. Heldenfels,

The South Congress Merchants Association (SCMA) recently learned of the variance request to construct a patio cover structure for one of our association's members, Enoteca, located at 1612 South Congress Avenue. As both Enoteca and Vespaio are long-standing businesses and positive contributors to both the South Congress shopping district and greater Austin as a whole, the SCMA fully supports the requested variance.

Mr. Benayoun's excellent design for the new awning will allow Enoteca to continue serving customers both during inclement weather and during hot weather when outdoor diners require shade. South Congress merchants welcome such additions to our shopping district's environment, as it promotes business both during inclement weather and otherwise, and encourages commerce. Furthermore, such awnings already have precedent in the City of Austin's Commercial Design Standards, and this variance will not exceed similar design standards granted to other businesses.

In closing, the South Congress Merchants Association fully supports Enoteca's request as a positive and worthwhile effort that will contribute to our vibrant and pedestrian-friendly commercial corridor, and we ask that you provide this letter to the Board of Adjustment as evidence of our support.

Sincerely.

Brandon Hodge President

South Congress Merchants Association

