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# PLANNING COMMISSION SITE PLAN CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REVIEW SHEET

**CASE NUMBER:** SPC-2019-0424A **PC DATE**: 8/25/2020

**PROJECT NAME:** 4th Street East

**ADDRESS OF APPLICATION:** 1500 E 4TH ST

**AREA:** 11,980 square foot building on a 28,955 square foot site.

**APPLICANT:** 4<sup>th</sup> Street Studio, LP

905 Congress Ave. (512) 457-8400

Austin, TX 78701

**AGENT**: Drenner Group, PC (Amanda Swor)

200 Lee Barton Drive, Suite 100' (512) 807-2900

Austin, TX 78704

CASE MANAGER: Randall Rouda Phone: (512) 974-3338

Randall.Rouda@austintexas.gov

PROPOSED USE: Indoor Entertainment

**EXISTING ZONING: TOD** 

NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN: East Cesar Chavez

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** The applicant is requesting a conditional use permit for an indoor entertainment use in an existing structure in the Plaza Saltillo TOD. The entire 11,980 square feet of building area would be used for this purpose. An adjacent vacant area/lawn may be used for purposes related to Indoor Entertainment uses permitted by the proposed CUP. No limits to the hours of operation are proposed. No construction will occur with this permit but will be permitted either as a B-plan (construction site plan) or as a site plan exemption.

**SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** The site plan complies with all requirements of the Land Development Code and Plaza Saltillo TOD Regulating Plan. Staff recommends approval of the CUP.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Gross Site Area	11,980 sf (indoor entertainment) / 28,955 sf (gross site area)
Existing Zoning	TOD (TOD Mixed Use Subdistrict)
Watershed	Lady Bird Lake
Watershed Ordinance	Current Code
Traffic Impact Analysis	No
Capitol View Corridor	Not applicable
Proposed Access	4 <sup>th</sup> Street
Proposed Impervious Cover	14,331 sf / 49.5%
<b>Proposed Building Coverage</b>	11,980 sf / 41.4%
Height	1 story
Parking required: 17	Parking proposed: 14 (on site) 3 (Street)

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<b>EXISTING</b>	ZONING	AND I	AND	LISES
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	ZONING	LAND USES
Site	TOD-NP	Indoor Entertainment (proposed)
North	Alley then TOD-NP	Transit – Plaza Saltillo Station
South	E 4 <sup>th</sup> Street then	Mixed Use – Residential and Office
	TOD-NP	
East	TOD-NP	Multi-Family Residential and vacant
West	Onion Street then	Coffee shop and retail commercial.
	TOD-NP	

#### CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REVIEW AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following evaluation is included to provide staff evaluation on each point of the conditional use permit criteria. Section 25-5-145 of the Land Development Code states: "The Commission shall determine whether the proposed development or use of a conditional use site plan complies with the requirements of this section."

#### A conditional use site plan must:

- 1. Comply with the requirements of this title; Staff response: This application complies with the requirements of this title.
- 2. Comply with the objectives and purposes of the zoning district; Staff response: This application complies with the objectives and purposes of the zoning district. The TOD Mixed Use subdistrict of the Plaza Saltillo TOD zoning district allows the highest level of development activity in the TOD with the Indoor Entertainment land use being a Conditional Use within the subdistrict.
- 3. Have building height, bulk, scale, setback, open space, landscaping, drainage, access, traffic circulation, and use that are compatible with the use of an abutting site; Staff response: Yes, there are no SF-5 or more restrictive zoning districts or permitted land uses abutting the site.
- **4.** Provide adequate and convenient off-street parking and loading facilities; Staff response: Adequate parking and loading facilities have been provided on the site and adjacent street.
- 5. Reasonably protect persons and property from erosion, flood, fire, noises, glare, and similar adverse effects; Staff response: The proposed project does not contribute to any of the listed adverse effects excepting noise. The project does not permit amplified sound or music in the outdoor lawn area.

## A Conditional Use Site Plan May Not:

- 1. More adversely affect an adjoining site than would a permitted use; Staff response: The proposed site plan does not appear to more adversely affect an adjoining site than would a permitted use.
- 2. Adversely affect the safety or convenience of vehicular or pedestrian circulation, including reasonably anticipated traffic and uses in the area; Staff response: The Indoor Entertainment land use will be located on an already developed site with adequate parking

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and loading. No parking will be added with this project, however, parking has been recently expanded under a site plan exemption. With that, the proposed use is not anticipated to affect pedestrian or vehicular circulation.

3. Adversely affects an adjacent property or traffic control through the location, lighting, or type of signs; Staff response: The site will comply with all applicable sign regulations in the Land Development Code and/or Plaza Saltillo TOD Regulating Plan.

# **COMMISSION ACTION:**

The Commission may either; approve, approve with conditions or deny the conditional use site plan permit.

To make a determination required for approval under <u>Section 25-5-145</u> (Evaluation of Conditional Use Site Plan), the Land Use Commission may require that a conditional use site plan comply with a condition of approval that includes a requirement for:

- 1) A special yard, open space, buffer, fence, wall, or screen;
- 2) Landscaping or erosion;
- 3) A street improvement or dedication, vehicular ingress and egress, or traffic circulation;
- 4) Signs;
- 5) Characteristics of operation, including hours;
- 6) A development schedule; or
- 7) Other measures that the Land Use Commission determines are required for compatibility with surrounding uses or the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare.

## **SUMMARY COMMENTS ON SITE PLAN:**

**Land Use:** The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for an Indoor Entertainment land use within an existing building. An adjacent lawn area may also be used as an accessory to the Indoor Entertainment use.

The Land Development code defines "Indoor Entertainment" as:

(37) INDOOR ENTERTAINMENT use is a predominantly spectator use conducted within an enclosed building. This use includes meeting halls and dance halls.

The parking requirements for this use will be achieved through 14 on-site spaces, and 3 street spaces. No new parking is proposed with this plan, though some such construction has taken place recently under a site plan exemption.

If approved, either a B-plan (construction site plan) or a site plan exemption will be sought to permit any remaining improvements.

The site plan complies with all requirements of the Land Development Code and Plaza Saltillo TOD Regulating Plan.

# **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:**

Austin Independent School District Austin Lost and Found Pets Austin Neighborhoods Council Barrio Unido Neighborhood Association Bike Austin B-11 4 of 8

Del Valle Community Coalition East Austin Conservancy East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Association East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Plan Contact Team El Concilio Mexican-American Neighborhoods Friends of Austin Neighborhoods Greater East Austin Neighborhood Association Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation Homeless Neighborhood Association Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation Neighbors United for Progress Plaza Saltillo TOD Staff Liaison Planning and Zoning Preservation Austin Red Line Parkway Initiative **SEL Texas** Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group

Tejano Town



Amanda Swor direct dial: (512) 807-2904 aswor@drennergroup.com

August 25, 2020

Planning Commission City of Austin 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, TX 78704 <u>Via Electronic Delivery</u>

Re:

4<sup>th</sup> Street East CUP – Conditional Use Permit application for the 0.665-acre piece of property located at 1500 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas (the "Property")

#### **Dear Commissioners:**

As representatives of the owner of the Property, we respectfully request your approval of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application for  $4^{th}$  Street East project. It sits on 0.665 acres and is located at 1500 East  $4^{th}$  Street on the northeast corner of East  $4^{th}$  Street and Onion Street.

The Property is zoned TOD-NP, Transit Oriented Development – Neighborhood Plan, and is located within the TOD-Mixed Use (TOD-MU) subdistrict of the Plaza Saltillo TOD Regulating Plan area. The Property is located within the East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Planning Area.

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information on the indoor entertainment use associated with this request. This CUP application is to allow the use of the Property as an Indoor Entertainment use for an event venue space. Per the Plaza Saltillo Regulating Plan, Indoor Entertainment is a Conditional Use in the TOD-MU subdistrict. The Property contains a renovated and remodeled mid-century warehouse located in the heart of East Austin. The goal of this change of use request is to preserve an architecturally unique structure that contributes to the history and culture of East Austin. The Indoor Entertainment use allows the structure to serve as a location for public and private events such as farmers markets, craft fairs, art shows, weddings, fundraisers, and banquets, among others. In the past 18 months of operation, the Property has conducted business and has been able to hold these events utilizing Temporary Change of Use permits and has hosted non-profit fundraisers, weddings, art shows, film screenings, film and photo productions, corporate dinners, trade shows and pop-up shops.. With the approval of this conditional use permit these uses will be allowed by right and not require one-off Temporary Change of Use Permits.

B-11 The Property owners have worked with neighboring properties and businesses to safely and efficiently manage crowds, traffic, parking, and sound considerations. Between being located in close proximity to the train station and in a pedestrian and bicycle-oriented area, most attendees utilize alternate forms of transportation to travel to the Property. However, he Property owners have entered into a private shared parking agreement with the project located at The Foundry, 310 Comal Street, to control any overflow parking needs that may arise during event operations of the Property.

Please let me know if you or the Commission require additional information or have any questions. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Very truly yours,

**Amanda Swor** 

**NELSEN** PARTNERS ARCHITECTS & PLANNERS

Nelsen Partners, Inc.

Austin | Scottsdale

905 Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701

nelsenpartners.com

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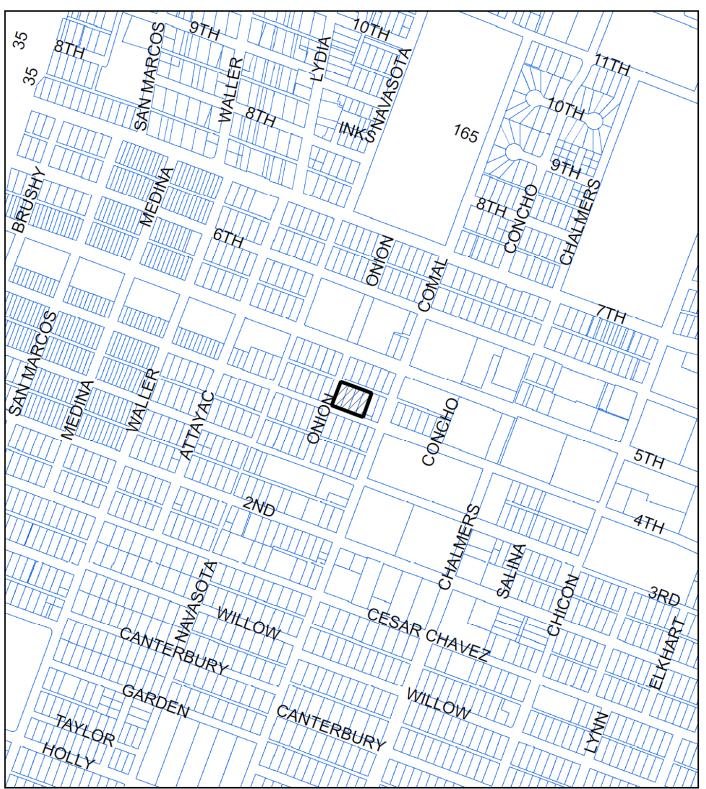
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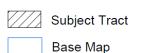
Revisions

Project No. 319059

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CASE#: SPC-2019-0424A LOCATION: 1500 E 4TH ST

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