



City of El Paso – City Plan Commission Staff Report

Case No: PZST14-00010
Application Type: Special Permit
CPC Hearing Date: May 22, 2014
Staff Planner: Andrew Salloum, (915) 212-1613, salloumam@elpasotexas.gov

Location: 1319 N. Oregon Street
Legal Description: Lots 9 and 10, Block 25, Alexander Addition, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas
Acreage: 0.1457 acres
Rep District: 8
Zoning: A-3 (Apartment)
Existing Use: Single-family dwelling
Request: Infill Development - request reduced rear and side yard setbacks
Proposed Use: Expansion of single-family dwelling

Property Owner: Hal Marcus
Applicant: Javier Reyes
Representative: Spectrum Engineering

SURROUNDING ZONING AND LAND USE

North: A-3 (Apartment) / Multi-family dwellings
South: A-3 (Apartment) / Single-family dwelling
East: A-3 (Apartment) / Office and parking lot
West: A-3 (Apartment) / Multi-family dwellings

PLAN EL PASO DESIGNATION: G-2, Traditional Neighborhood (Walkable)

NEAREST PARK: Dunn Park (581 feet)

NEAREST SCHOOL: El Paso High School (3,399 feet)

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

El Paso Central Business Association

NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

Notice of a Public Hearing was mailed to all property owners within 300 feet of the subject property on May 7, 2014. The Planning Division has not received any letters or phone calls in support or opposition of the special permit request.

APPLICATION DESCRIPTION

The applicant is requesting a special permit for infill development and detailed site development plan review. The detailed site development plan shows a new 275 sq. ft. addition to an existing 600 sq. ft. two-story dwelling and connected to the main dwelling by an enclosed walkway. The applicant is requesting the following reductions in yard setback: from the required 10-foot rear yard setback to 0 feet and from the required 4-foot side yard setback to 0 feet. Access to the subject property is proposed from River Avenue.

PLANNING DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Division recommends approval of the requests for special permit and detailed site development plan review for infill development. The development meets the requirements of Sections 20.10.280, Infill Development, 20.04.320, Special Permit, and 20.04.150, Detailed Site Development Plan.

ANALYSIS

20.10.280 Infill Development

The provisions of this section apply to any property designated with an overlay designation to encourage redevelopment and infill development, the specific purposes of which are to: provide a more flexible approach to design and development of infill projects, encourage infill development by simplifying procedures for plan approval, permit the conversion or adaptive reuse of buildings and properties, encourage planning and design flexibility and innovations, create a community environment that is enhanced by a mix of residential, commercial, recreational, open space, employment and institutional uses, and assure community compatibility and an efficient use of land and public services. In order to provide incentives for private investment in these targeted areas, the following standards shall apply:

- A. Location Criteria. An infill development may be designated for any property on which at least two of the following factors are present: the property is wholly or partially located within a designated tax increment financing district, or the property is wholly or partially located within a designated state or federal enterprise zone, or the property is wholly or partially located within an empowerment zone, or the property is wholly or partially located within a designated redevelopment area pursuant to Chapter 20.14 of this title, or the property is located within a designated historic district, or the property is within an older neighborhood of the city. An older neighborhood of the city defined as a legally recorded and developed subdivision for at least thirty years. Where an infill development is able to satisfy only one of the preceding factors, an applicant shall be allowed to make a formal request to city council to waive the two factor requirement prior to the submission of a special use permit application for the property. In all instances where a waiver is requested and authorized by city council, at least one location factor shall be met. For purposes of this section, any property with a historic designation shall be subject to the requirements and review provisions of Chapter 20.20 (Historic Designations) of this title, and shall not be waived by any provision of this section.

This development meets the two location criteria: (1) it is located in a legally recorded subdivision of at least 30 years and (2) it is within a State Enterprise Zone.

- B. Use Regulations. Unless the ordinance designating the infill development provides otherwise, a proposed infill development may be approved for any use permitted in the base-zoning district in which it is located. However, the ordinance designating an infill development overlay may provide a list of principal uses, accessory uses and prohibited uses pursuant to a specific area plan adopted by the city council.

There is no specific plan area adopted by City Council. A single-family dwelling is permitted in the A-3 (Apartment) district.

- C. Setback Provisions. The side, front and rear setback requirements of the base-zoning district on which it is located may be reduced up to one hundred percent for an infill development as approved by city council. Buildings should be designed to relate to and take advantage of any existing site attributes, and shall be a consideration for reduction of the setback requirements.

The applicant is requesting the following reductions in dimensional standards:

Dimension	Required	Proposed
Rear	10'	0'
Side	4'	0'

- E. Design. Unless otherwise approved by city council, any construction permitted pursuant to this section shall be designed to consistently relate to the massing and character of the surrounding properties. Consistency of massing and character shall be determined as shown on the site plan with typical elevations and proposed construction materials, that the proposed construction is compatible with the overall design features and building development of the neighborhood within which the proposed infill development is located. Design features include, but shall not be limited to, building height, architectural style, building materials, landscape and setbacks.

The proposed development is compatible with existing development.

- G. Density. The maximum number of dwelling units per gross acre permitted in the base-zoning district may be increased up to fifty percent for an infill development as approved by city council.

The application is to request an expansion to an existing single-family dwelling.

- H. Lots. There shall be no minimum area requirement for lots within an infill development unless otherwise provided in the ordinance designating the infill development overlay.

The applicant is only requesting setback reductions and complies with all other density and dimensional standards.

20.04.320 Special permit approvals.

- A. Building and occupancy permits shall not be issued to any building or use identified in this title as requiring a special permit until after approval of such special permit by the city council.
- B. Building and occupancy permits shall not be issued for any building or use identified in this title as requiring an approved detailed site development plan as required by Article III, until such approval has been granted.
- C. No building or occupancy permit may be granted for the erection, rehabilitation, enlargement or demolition of any building in a designated historic area or for any building that is a designated historic landmark until prior approval has been granted by the historic landmark commission.
- D. The city council, after hearing and report by the city plan commission, may approve a special permit upon a finding that the proposed development meets the following minimum requirements necessary to protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the community:
 - 1. The proposed development complies, except to the extent waived, varied or modified pursuant to the provisions of this title, with all of the standards and conditions applicable in the zoning district in which it is proposed to be located; complies with any special standards applicable to the particular type of development being proposed, or to the particular area in which the development is proposed; complies with any special approvals required in connection with such development or area;
 - 2. The proposed development is in accordance with and in furtherance of the plan for El Paso, any special neighborhood plans or policies adopted by the city regarding the development area, or any approved concept plan;
 - 3. The proposed development is adequately served by and will not impose an undue burden upon the public improvements and rights-of-way by which it will be served or benefited, or which exist or are planned for installation within its boundaries or their immediate vicinity. A traffic impact study may be required to determine the effects of the proposed development on the public rights-of-way;

4. Any impacts of the proposed development on adjacent property are adequately mitigated with the design, proposed construction and phasing of the site development;
 5. The design of the proposed development mitigates substantial environmental problems;
 6. The proposed development provides adequate landscaping and/or screening where needed to reduce visibility to adjacent uses;
 7. The proposed development is compatible with adjacent structures and uses;
 8. The proposed development is not materially detrimental to the enjoyment or valuation of the property adjacent to the site.
- E. The applicant may request that the city plan commission waive one or more of the criteria based on its no applicability to the proposed development. The city plan commission, upon a recommendation of the planning official, shall make a determination on the no applicability of the criteria and shall render a finding based on such determination, and shall forward their recommendation to city council for final review and approval.

The application meets the requirements for special permit.

20.04.140 When required.

Except as stated herein, a detailed site development plan is required prior to development in a special purpose district or with a special permit application and may be required if a zoning condition exists on a particular piece of property. Detailed site development plans are not required for any projects for development in the Mixed Use District (RMU, GMU and IMU) or for any other projects other than those located in special purpose districts or as otherwise required herein.

Detailed Site Development Plan review is required as part of the special permit application.

20.04.150 Procedure.

- D. City plan commission approval. Pursuant to this Code, the city plan commission, in addition to the powers and duties identified in this chapter, shall have final authority on approval of all other detailed site development plans, unless a zoning condition, contract provision, other city code provision or state law require the detailed site development plan to be approved by city council.
1. The planning division shall make its recommendations to the city plan commission within thirty days after a complete application is submitted.
 2. The city plan commission shall hold a public hearing at its regular meeting that is within thirty days from receipt of department recommendations.
 3. The commission shall consider the following information when approving a proposed detailed site development plan: the boundaries of the tract proposed for development; location and arrangement of structures; determine if the use conforms to applicable zoning regulations, determine if historic landmark commission approval has been granted for architectural design of all structures if located in a historic district and the design conforms to such approval; location of utility rights-of-way and easements and storm water drainage; vehicular and pedestrian ways; on-site parking areas; location of open spaces and landscape planted areas.
 4. In no instance shall the city plan commission have authority to vary the yard standards applicable to the district.
 5. The city plan commission shall approve the plan if it complies with all applicable code provisions.

Planning Staff has reviewed the detailed site development plan, and it meets all requirements of Sections 20.04.320, Special Permit, and 20.04.150 Detailed Site Development Plan.

Plan El Paso-Future Land Use Map Designation

All applications for special permit shall demonstrate compliance with the following criteria:

G-2 – Traditional Neighborhood (Walkable): This sector includes the remainder of central El Paso as it existed through World War II. Blocks are small and usually have rear alleys; buildings directly faced streets; schools, parks, and small shops are integrated with residential areas. This sector is well-suited for use of the SmartCode as a replacement for current zoning when planned in conjunction with specific neighborhood plans or identified in this Comprehensive Plan.

The purpose of the A-3 (Apartment) district is to promote and preserve residential development within the city associated with a landscape more urban in appearance and permitting a mixture of housing types. It is intended that the district regulations allow for medium densities of dwelling units supported by higher intensity land uses located at the periphery of single-family neighborhoods providing that the overall character and architectural integrity of the neighborhood is preserved. The regulations of the districts will permit building types designed for transition from areas of low density residential neighborhoods to other residential areas, and certain nonresidential uses and support facilities.

COMMENTS:

City Development Department – Planning Division - Transportation

No objections.

Note:

All existing / proposed paths of travel (accessible sidewalks, wheelchair access curb ramps and driveways) within public rights-of-way shall be in compliance with current ADA/TAS rules and regulations and the current City of El Paso Design Standards for Construction.

City Development Department – Plan Review

No objections.

City Development Department - Landscaping Division

Not required for the existing single-family dwelling use.

City Development Department - Land Development

No objections.

Fire Department

Recommend APPROVAL of Site Plan as presented.

NOTE - PZST14-00010:

In accordance with the requirements of the Zoning Code Section 20.04.160 Content of application the Fire Planning Division has reviewed the submitted “Detailed Site Plan for the following: Elevations, Perspective of the building, Dimensions, square footage and height of all structures, Number of dwelling units in Multi-family structures, and Driveways as applicable to following sections of the fire code; Sections 503 and Appendix D Fire Apparatus Access Roads, Section 903 Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Section 905 Standpipe Systems.

“When required as per section 905.3.1, 905.4 and 905.5 all fire protections system plans shall be submitted separately to Fire Plan Review for further requirements and comments”.

NOTE:

The Fire Planning Division has reviewed the submitted “Site Plan” as per requirements of the Zoning Code Section 20.04.160 Content of application for the following:

The determination of this review is that this DOES comply with regulations set forth in the El Paso Zoning Code.

Police Department

El Paso Police Department has no issues with this request.

Sun Metro

Sun Metro does not oppose this request. Routes 11, 14 and 15 travel along Oregon. There is an existing bus stop approximately 117 ft. north from the subject site. The Mesa RTS will be traveling along Oregon. The subject site is located between the Oregon/Hague and Oregon/Rio Grande RTS stations.

El Paso Water Utilities

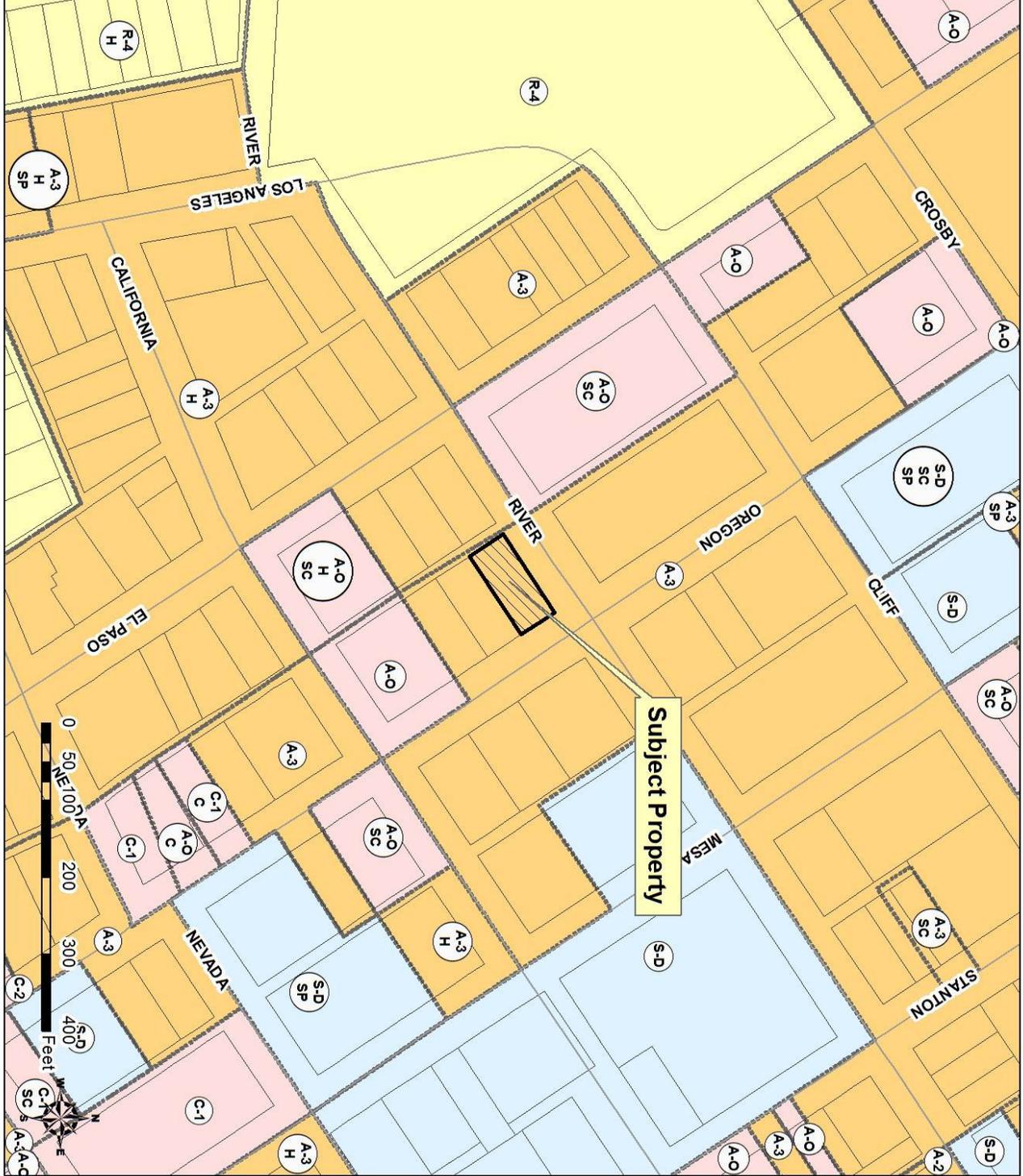
No comments received.

Attachments

1. Zoning Map
2. Aerial Map
3. Detailed Site Development Plan

ATTACHMENT 1: ZONING MAP

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ATTACHMENT 2: AERIAL MAP

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