

Thursday, August 23, 2007

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 34

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 25-2, Subchapter F: Residential Design and Compatibility Standards (the "McMansion Ordinance") of the City Code to authorize the Residential Design and Compatibility Commission to waive or modify the side wall articulation requirement. (Suggested date and time: August 30, 2007, 6:00 p.m., at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Jessica King, 974-2728; Joi Harden, 974-3345

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Planning Commission.

On June 7, 2007, the Council initiated an amendment to Chapter 25-2, Subchapter F: Residential Design and Compatibility Standards (the "McMansion Ordinance") to allow the Residential Design and Compatibility Commission (RDCC) to waive or modify the side wall articulation requirement. Under the existing Code regulations, the RDCC may only increase by up to 25 percent the maximum side wall length before articulation is required and/or decrease by up to 25 percent the minimum depth or length of a required wall articulation requirement for any specific project proposed by an applicant. Modifications beyond 25 percent must be considered by the Board of Adjustment as a variance, which requires the applicant to provide proof of a hardship. This amendment would allow the RDCC to consider any side wall articulation modification request.