CITY OF AUSTIN Board of Adjustment Decision Sheet

DATE: Monday, August 14, 2017	CASE NUMBER: C15-2017-0040
YBrooke Bailey	
Y William Burkhardt	
Y Christopher Covo	
Y Eric Goff	
- Melissa Hawthorne OUT	
Y Bryan King	
Y Don Leighton-Burwell	
- Rahm McDaniel OUT	
- Veronica Rivera OUT	
Y James Valadez	
Y Michael Von Ohlen	
Y Kelly Blume (Alternate)	
Y Martha Gonzalez (Alternate)	
Y Pim Mayo (Alternate)	
APPLICANT: Ron Thrower	

OWNER: Aaron Levy

ADDRESS: 7513 COOPER LN

VARIANCE REQUESTED: The applicant has requested variance(s) from Article 10, Compatibility Standards Section 25-2-1063 (Height Limitations and Setbacks for Large Sites) (B) to decrease the required setback from a property in an urban family residence (SF-5) or more restrictive zoning district or on which a use permitted in SF-5 or more restrictive zoning district is located from 25 feet (required) to 2 feet (requested) in order to erect a private drive for 30 unit condominium use in a "SF-6-CO", Townhouse and Condominium Residence – Conditional Overlay zoning district.

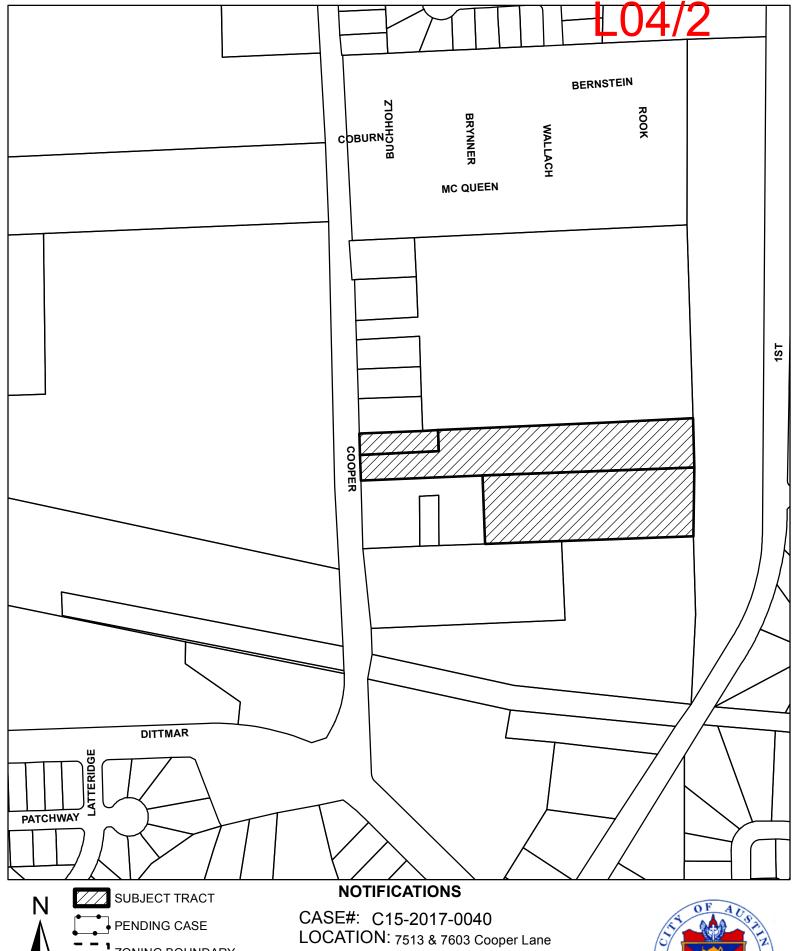
BOARD'S DECISION: Aug 14, 2017 The public hearing was closed on Board Member Bryan King motion to postpone to September 18, 2017, Board Member Don Leighton Burwell second on an 11-0 vote; POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2017.

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

Jeff Jack Chairman





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.



Board of Adjustment General/Parking Variance Application

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

This application is a fillable PDF that can be completed electronically. To ensure your information is saved, <u>click here to Save</u> the form to your computer, then open your copy and continue.

The Tab key may be used to navigate to each field; Shift + Tab moves to the previous field. The Enter key activates links, emails, and buttons. Use the Up & Down Arrow keys to scroll through drop-down lists and check boxes, and hit Enter to make a selection.

The application must be complete and accurate prior to submittal. *If more space is required, please complete Section 6 as needed.* All information is required (if applicable).

For Office Use Only

Case # C15 - 2017 - 0040 ROW # 11754	102 Tax # 0423 190415
Section 1: Applicant Statement	
Street Address: 7513. Cooper Lane	
Subdivision Legal Description:	
LOT 2 *RESUB OF TRT 1 GARCIA WILLIE C SI	JBD
Lot(s):	Block(s): Division:
Zoning District: SF-6-CO	
I/We A. Ron Thrower authorized agent for Townbridge Homes, LLC	on behalf of myself/ourselves as
Month June , Day 14 , Year 2 Board of Adjustment for consideration to (select approximately provided to the select approxi	, hereby apply for a hearing before the propriate option below):
● Erect	lel OMaintain Other:

Portion of the City of Austin Land Development Code applicant is seeking a variance from:

25-2-1063 (Height Limitations and Setback Requirments for Large Sites) of Article 10, Compatibility Standards (B) to decrease the distance that a structure can be constructed from a property on which a use permitted in an SF-5 or more restrictive zoning district is located from 25 feet (required) to 2 feet (requested) to construct a driveway for access to property.

Section 2: Variance Findings

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 supporting documents.

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.

I contend that my entitlement to the requested variance is based on the following findings:

, and the question varieties to based on the following infamigs.
Reasonable Use The zoning regulations applicable to the property do not allow for a reasonable use because:
A driveway cannot be constructed to access the property without the removal of a stand of
mature trees, one of which is determined to be of Heritage size and species. See Tree No. 5628,5629, 5627 on BOA Exhibit.
dardship a) The hardship for which the variance is requested is unique to the property in that:
There are several protected trees that span the width of the property at the street-front western
property line therefore lending to geometric design challenges with finding the best placement for driveway access to the balance of the property that will disturb the least amount of quality
trees while maitaning the existing street scape character and preserving the heritage tree.
b) The hardship is not general to the area in which the property is located because:
The proposal is for in-fill development that seeks to work around existing constraints, including
trees, lot width and adjacency to existing, less intense residential uses in a way that is context sensitive to the existing character of the street and neighborhood while balancing the City's
need for additional dwelling units.

Area Character

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 variance will maintain the character of the area by allowing for development that is consistent with the existing residential lots that have a residential structure facing the street along side mature trees that have grown in place over decades. Maintenance of old growth trees provides a level of screening between the street and the increased unit density at the rear of the property.

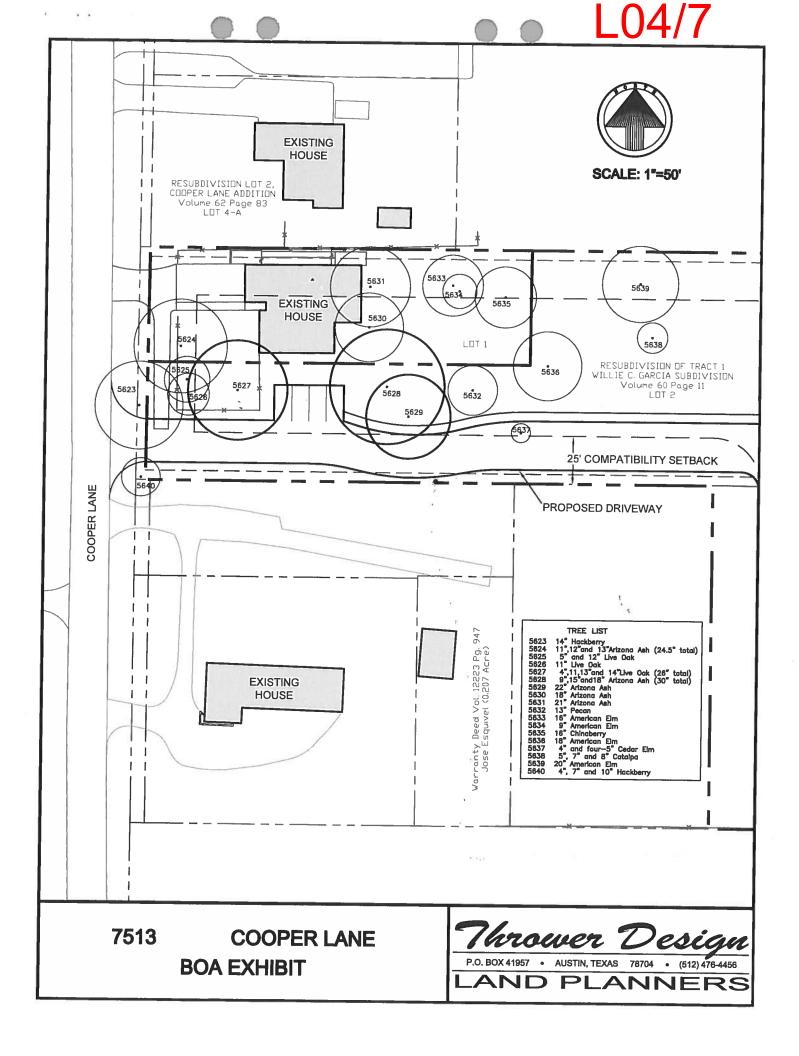
Parking (additional criteria for parking variances only)

Request for a parking variance requires the Board to make additional findings. The Board may grant a variance to a regulation prescribed in the City of Austin Land Development Code Chapter 25-6, Appendix A 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:

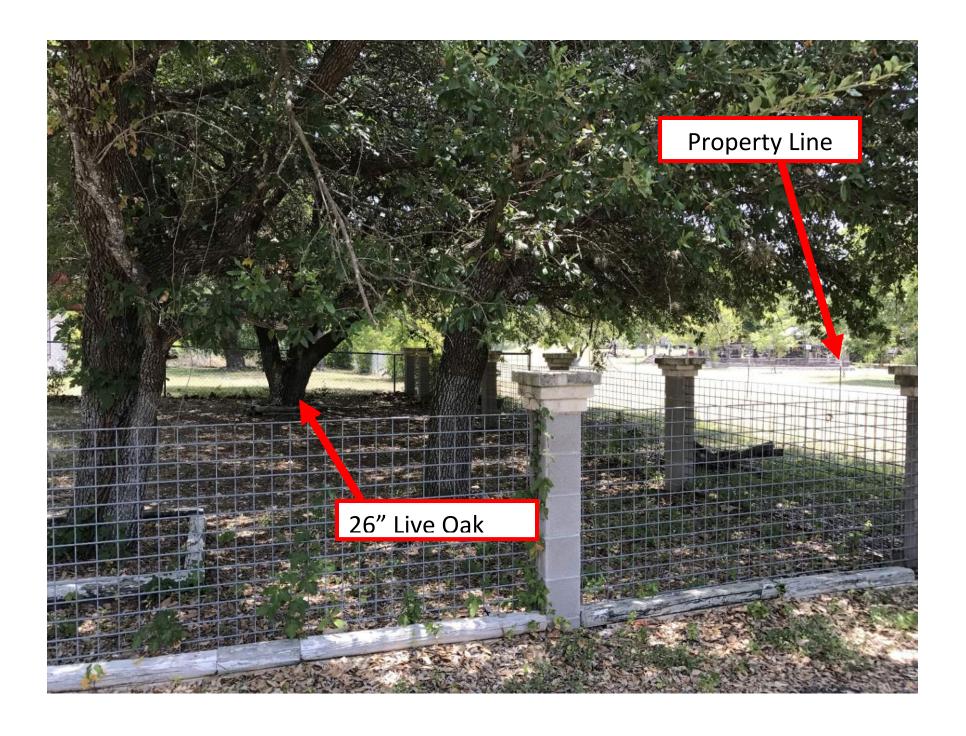
Neither present nor anticipated future traffic volumes generated by the use of the site or the uses of sites in the vicinity reasonably require strict or literal interpretation and enforcement of the specific regulation because: /a
The granting of this variance will not result in the parking or loading of vehicles on public streets in such a manner as to interfere with the free flow of traffic of the streets because:
The granting of this variance will not create a safety hazard or any other condition inconsisten with the objectives of this Ordinance because:
The variance will run with the use or uses to which it pertains and shall not run with the site because:

Section 3: Applicant Certificate

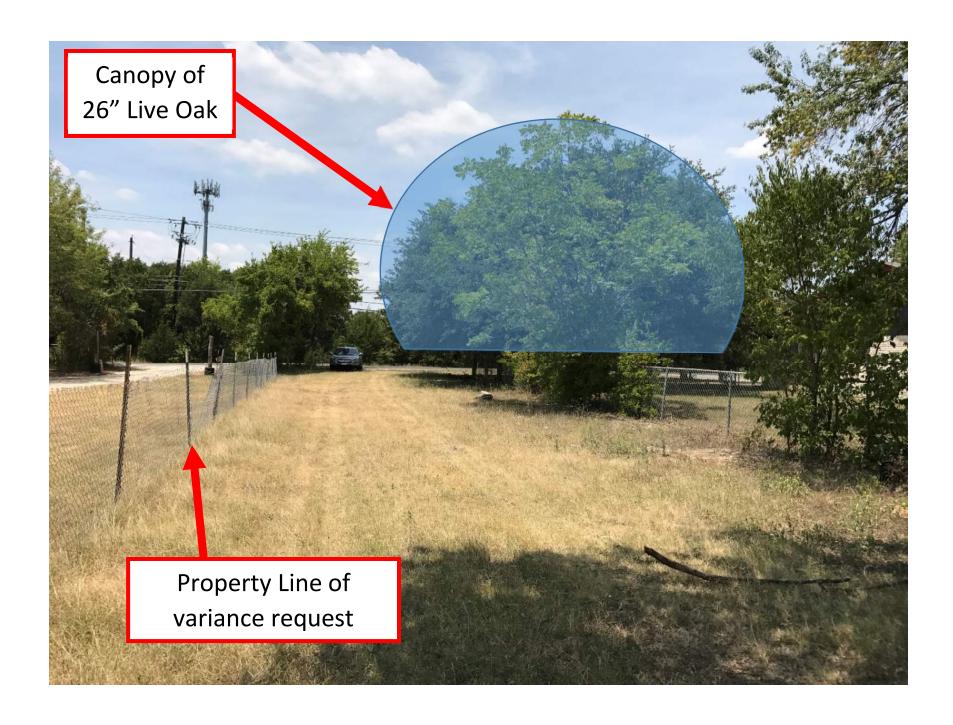
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete ap my knowledge and belief.	plication are true ar	nd correct to the best of
Applicant Signature: Q, R. Thows		Date: 06/16/2017
Applicant Name (typed or printed): A. Ron Thrower		
Applicant Mailing Address: P.O. Box 41957		
City: Austin	State: Texas	Zip: 78704
Phone (will be public information): (512) 476-4456		
Email (optional – will be public information): ront@throwe	erdesign.com	
Section 4: Owner Certificate		
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete ap my knowledge and belief.	plication are true ar	nd correct to the best of
Owner Signature:		Date: 06/17/2017
Owner Name (typed or printed): Townbridge Homes (Aa	ron Levy)	
Owner Mailing Address: P.O. Box 90638		
City: Austin	State: TX	Zip: 78709
Phone (will be public information):		
Email (optional – will be public information):		
Section 5: Agent Information		
Agent Name: A. Ron Thrower		
Agent Mailing Address: P.O. Box 41957		
City: Austin	State: Texas	Zip: 78704
Phone (will be public information): (512) 476-4456		
Email (optional – will be public information): ront@throwe	rdesign.com	
Section 6: Additional Space (if applicable	e)	
Please use the space below to provide additional informate referenced to the proper item, include the Section and Fi	ation as needed. To eld names as well (ensure the information is continued on next page).





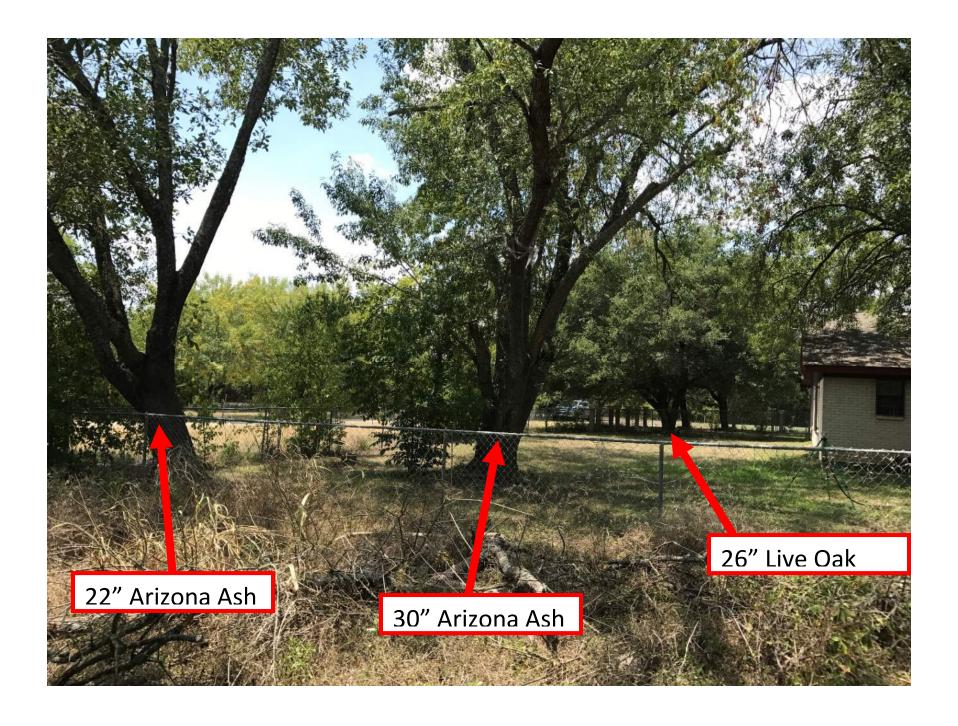












8-13-17

TO: City of Austin Development Center

ATTN: LEANE HELDENFELS-phone 512-974-2202

For the Board Of Adjustment hearing 8-14-17

FAX#: 512-974-6305

From: Abbe Waldman CELL #: 512-736-5802

RE: Case #: C-15-2017-0040 7513 and 7603 Cooper Lane

4 Page Fax includes Cover

Thanks!

Please notify me that this was received Thanks

512-736-5802-cell

Perez Family Against Variance Case C-15-2017-0040 Board of Adjustments Hearing 8-14-17

512-8923569

- The Perez Estate owns land contiguous to this tract. There will potentially be some type of development of this property in the future and protecting the value of that development is an important consideration for the estate. Michael Perez and his family live next door in this (point to picture) home and have immediate concerns in this same regard. In addition, his mother owns a tract located behind the Michael Perez home.
- With 30 condo units being built, and assuming 2 cars per unit, there will potentially be sixty or more cars two or more times a day driving right on the property line past, and contiguous to, the Perez Family Estate property and homes. Whatever number of trips per day, it will be substantial.
- We feel that this request for a variance would be easier to understand if we had the opportunity to review the applicants' site plan. No one but the applicants know where they will be building their 30 condominiums, whether the existing house will be removed nor what trees will be removed and what trees they intend to replace, and just where. We applaud their concern of wanting to protect the trees and allow the trees to screen future condo units from being seen. The Perez family deserves to have that same sense of privacy as well. Putting the driveway right along the property line will certainly affect the Perez family's privacy, however. Applicants may potentially plan on keeping the existing home currently located on their tract. It seems they are claiming that because of the existing home and trees there is no other place to locate the driveway they are asking for in their claim. No-one to our knowledge has seen their preliminary development plan proving that claim. If their plans include removing the house this certainly would seem to free up much of their access.
- The Perez Family would like to know:
 - A. What trees they plan to remove when they start construction of their 30 condominiums. In their application it is claimed that there is no other path for their access without disturbing existing trees.
 - B. Where will they be planting new trees to offset trees that they remove?
 - C. One can only assume that they will be removing the existing older home as it will not be compatible with a new high end condominium project similar to what has been built in the neighborhood. Will this home be removed?
- When Townbridge starts construction of their condos we feel that there are 2 alternative sites where they can put their driveway as shown on my drawing. Option A as shown in the picture would allow the driveway to be built centered on the line shown just to the south of the home as there is a clear path located within the normal 25 foot setback and just to the north side of heritage trees 5627 and surrounding group of trees noted as 5628, 5629, and 5632.
- Alternative Option B shown in my drawing and pictures also allows the driveway to be located within the normal side setbacks of 25'. We can assume that the existing home will be removed considering the price point of this new condominium project. With the house removed there is a clear path for a driveway that will easily allow passage past the existing trees. Only one tree it appears would potentially need removal with this option. Tree #5636 an 18" American Elm. These are not typically considered a heritage tree. Please note that many of these trees on this property are Arizona Ash. These trees were used by the building company Nash Phillips Copus for years throughout the 60's, 70's and 80's as they are a fast growing shade tree. They have, however, very soft wood and with mature trees such as these limbs break off easily in storms and wind. Many owners and builders typically remove them when they have reached maturity levels such as these have as they can pose a safety issue when their limbs constantly break off. These may end up being removed by TownBridge.

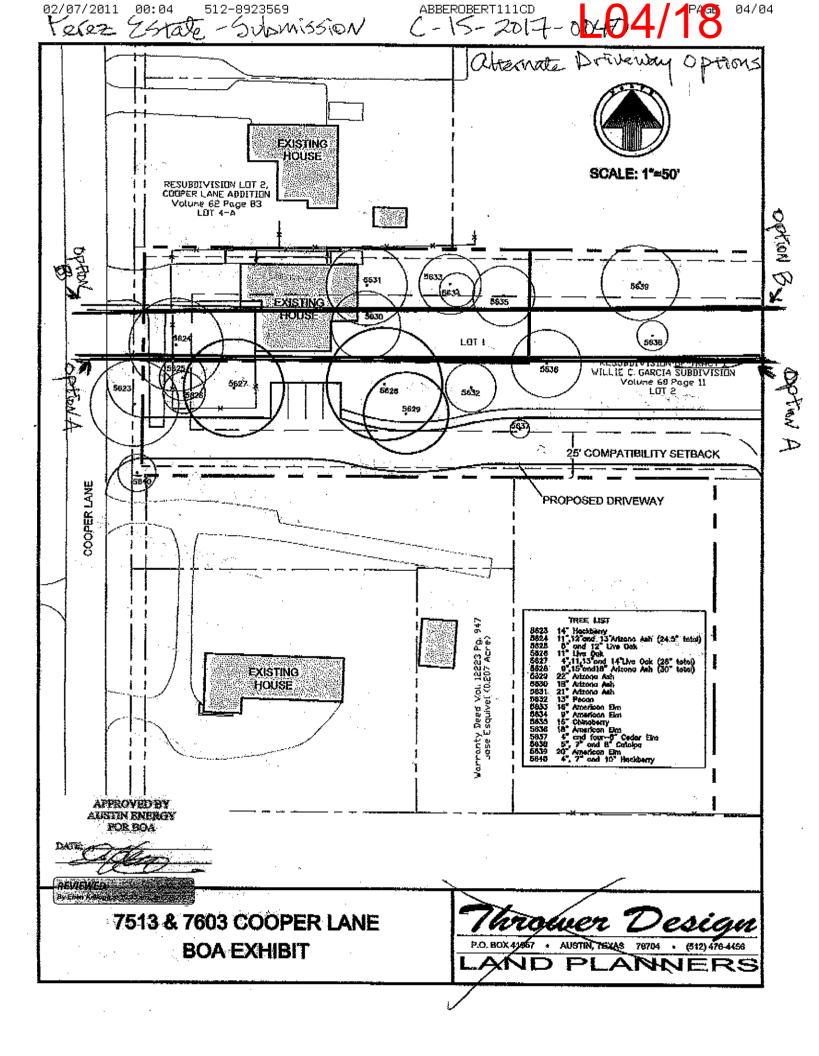
03/04

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- All this said we are requesting that this Board consider postponing a decision until the
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 the condominium units will be built, whether there are plans to remove the house and
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- In addition, if the Board chooses to grant this variance tonight, we are requesting the Board make it a condition of the variance that in fact no existing trees will be allowed to be removed by the applicant, and that the home will have to remain in their final plan as this would ensure that the hardship claimed by applicant does actually exists that would not allow the Option B we proposed to be a viable option. In fact, Option A placement of their driveway would allow the trees and the home to remain undisturbed and has no need for a variance to be granted at all.

We thank the Board and TownBridge Homes in advance for their willingness to allow new solutions to be found as we feel this variance places unwanted noise, traffic and financial impact on the shoulders of the Perez Family as to how this variance will impact their properties.

Abbe Waldman-Consultant for the Estate Of Ignacio and Rosa Perez Michael Perez-Administrator

512-736-5802



From:

 Subject:
 BOA-Submission C-15-2017-0040

 Date:
 Sunday, August 13, 2017 11:00:16 PM

Attachments: Perez-Cooper Ln. BOA.odt

Hi Leane,

My remarks are attached that Michael Perez Administrator of the the Perez Estate wants submitted into the Case regarding a variance being sought by TownBridge LLC.

I am also pasting the letter into this email in case you have trouble opening it. I am also faxing it to you with a drawing that will be part of my presentation to the Board. I will also email you in a minute a few pictures that will need to be included. PLEASE LET ME KNOW THAT YOU RECEIVED THIS EMAIL.

Thanks so much for all your assistance Leane! Talking points are pasted in following my contact information....

Best Regards,

Abbe Waldman-Realtor Broker Associate Kaleido Properties Certified Negotiation Specialist 512-736-5802-Cell 512-892-3569-Fax

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Perez Family Against Variance Case C-15-2017-0040 Board of Adjustments Hearing 8-14-17

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Abbe Waldman-Consultant for the Estate Of Ignacio and Rosa Perez, Michael Perez-Administrator 512-736-5802

From:



Subject: Pi

Picture #2 & #3 BOA Case C-15-2017-0040 TownBridge Perez Family

Date: Sunday, August 13, 2017 10:54:59 PM

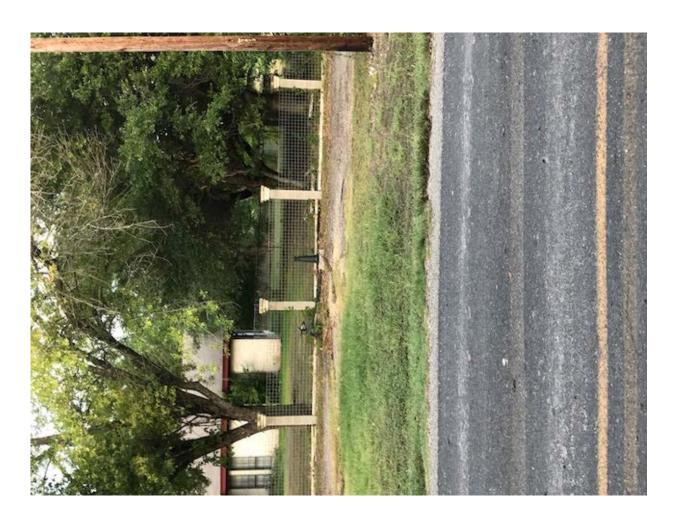
Picture #2 & #3 Thanks Leane! See as follows.... Abbe Waldman











Sent from my iPhone





From:

Subject: Attached remarks-BOA case# C-15-2017-0040--7513 & 7603 Cooper Lane

Date: Sunday, August 13, 2017 10:37:22 PM

Attachments: Perez-Cooper Ln. BOA.odt

Importance: High

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Perez Family Against Variance Case C-15-2017-0040 Board of Adjustments Hearing 8-14-17

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Abbe Waldman-Consultant for the Estate Of Ignacio and Rosa Perez, Michael Perez-Administrator 512-736-5802





August 11, 2107

Concerning the Zoning Variance requested by Townbridge Homes, we'd like to be sure that the Board of Adjustment is aware of and will recognize a previous set-back agreement.

The agreement was made between Townbridge Homes and my husband Jon Ogden and me in October 2015. Our property borders the Townbridge Homes property on the northeast side (our lot is marked as Horticulture on City maps although it is a personal residence.) What was agreed upon for that shared property line was a 10' vegetative buffer with privacy fencing along with 25' building set-back (by code). This agreement was supposed to be included in the Zoning and Platting Commission's minutes approving SF-6 zoning for the project. We do not wish to have any modifications made to this set-back agreement for driveways or other changes.

Thank you and I've included an email below from Ron Thrower which references my notes above (although he incorrectly mentioned us as being on the "southern property line". Regards, Molly McDonald-Ogden

Molly McDonald-Ogden 7611 Cooper Ln Austin, TX 78745

Subject: RE: Proposed Condition of Zoning Change for Townbridge Homes, 7603 Cooper Lane, Austin, TX

Molly,

Yes, it was good to talk with you too. Thank you for contacting us so we can talk through the issues.

My client is in agreement to preserve the trees in the fenceline. We can find a way to make that happen with a 10' natural vegetation buffer provided and maintained along the southern property line. As to fencing – yes we can coordinate with you on the fencing placement. The City Code requires a screening element between the two uses and this screening can be accomplished with vegetation and / or fencing. Obviously vegetation would not keep the coyotes out so fencing would be necessary and tree preservation to the greatest extent feasible would be important so that both elements can coexist to provide for greater screening. Please let me know if this is agreeable to you.

I'm sure this can get put into the ordinance as a condition.

The code already requires a 25' building setback from our common property line. So there will be 25' of actual greenspace in that area. There is not any reason to state a 25' setback because that is what the Compatibility Code requires and we will not seek to modify that provision to allow for a lessor setback. Wendy is copied herein and can confirm the 25' setback. FYI - Under a rezoning of the type we are seeking, that Compatibility Code cannot be modified through that process. It would be a separate process, which we would not pursue.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Ron Thrower

7hrower Design

510 South Congress Avenue, Suite 207

Mail: P.O. Box 41957 Austin, Texas 78704 512-476-4456 office 8-13-17

TO: City of Austin Development Center

ATTN: LEANE HELDENFELS-phone 512-974-2202

For the Board Of Adjustment hearing 8-14-17

FAX#: 512-974-6305

From: Abbe Waldman CELL #: 512-736-5802

RE: Case #: C-15-2017-0040 7513 and 7603 Cooper Lane

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- The Perez Estate owns land contiguous to this tract. There will potentially be some type of development of this property in the future and protecting the value of that development is an important consideration for the estate. Michael Perez and his family live next door in this (point to picture) home and have immediate concerns in this same regard. In addition, his mother owns a tract located behind the Michael Perez home.
- With 30 condo units being built, and assuming 2 cars per unit, there will potentially be sixty or more cars two or more times a day driving right on the property line past, and contiguous to, the Perez Family Estate property and homes. Whatever number of trips per day, it will be substantial.
- We feel that this request for a variance would be easier to understand if we had the opportunity to review the applicants' site plan. No one but the applicants know where they will be building their 30 condominiums, whether the existing house will be removed nor what trees will be removed and what trees they intend to replace, and just where. We applaud their concern of wanting to protect the trees and allow the trees to screen future condo units from being seen. The Perez family deserves to have that same sense of privacy as well. Putting the driveway right along the property line will certainly affect the Perez family's privacy, however. Applicants may potentially plan on keeping the existing home currently located on their tract. It seems they are claiming that because of the existing home and trees there is no other place to locate the driveway they are asking for in their claim. No-one to our knowledge has seen their preliminary development plan proving that claim. If their plans include removing the house this certainly would seem to free up much of their access.
- The Perez Family would like to know:
 - A. What trees they plan to remove when they start construction of their 30 condominiums. In their application it is claimed that there is no other path for their access without disturbing existing trees.
 - B. Where will they be planting new trees to offset trees that they remove?
 - C. One can only assume that they will be removing the existing older home as it will not be compatible with a new high end condominium project similar to what has been built in the neighborhood. Will this home be removed?
- When Townbridge starts construction of their condos we feel that there are 2 alternative sites where they can put their driveway as shown on my drawing. Option A as shown in the picture would allow the driveway to be built centered on the line shown just to the south of the home as there is a clear path located within the normal 25 foot setback and just to the north side of heritage trees 5627 and surrounding group of trees noted as 5628, 5629, and 5632.
- Alternative Option B shown in my drawing and pictures also allows the driveway to be located within the normal side setbacks of 25'. We can assume that the existing home will be removed considering the price point of this new condominium project. With the house removed there is a clear path for a driveway that will easily allow passage past the existing trees. Only one tree it appears would potentially need removal with this option. Tree #5636 an 18" American Elm. These are not typically considered a heritage tree. Please note that many of these trees on this property are Arizona Ash. These trees were used by the building company Nash Phillips Copus for years throughout the 60's, 70's and 80's as they are a fast growing shade tree. They have, however, very soft wood and with mature trees such as these limbs break off easily in storms and wind. Many owners and builders typically remove them when they have reached maturity levels such as these have as they can pose a safety issue when their limbs constantly break off. These may end up being removed by TownBridge.

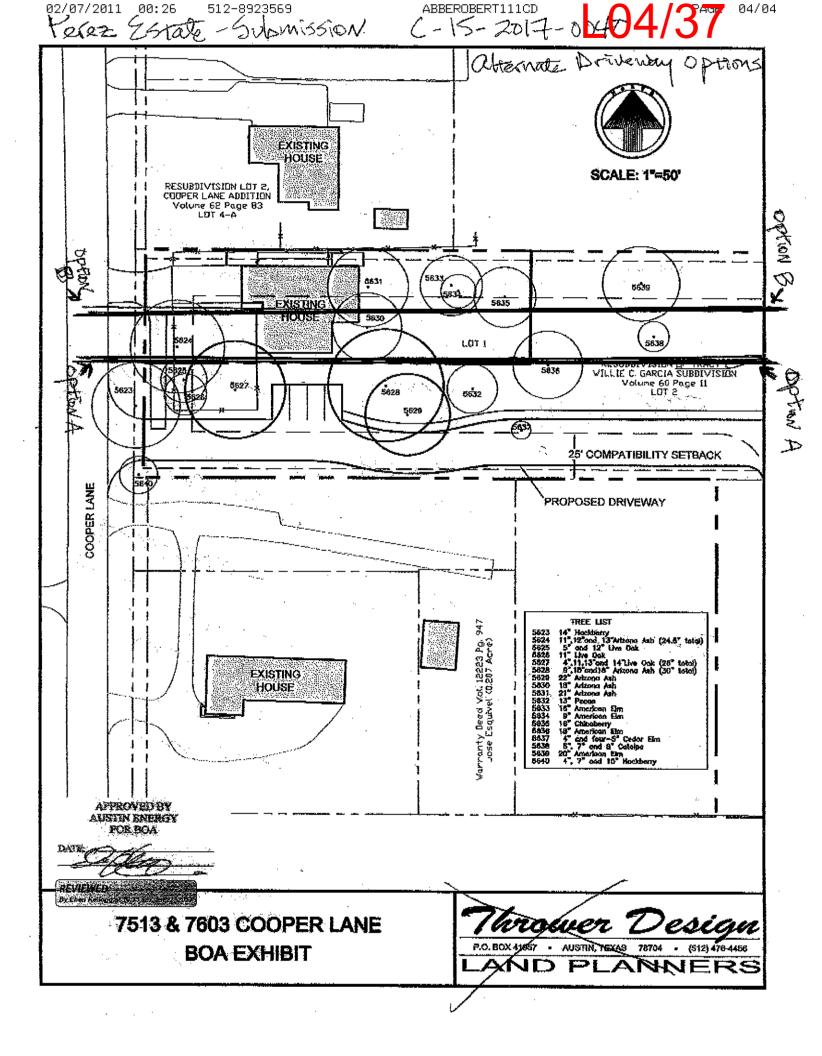
512-8923569

- The Perez Family is requesting that a postponement of this decision tonight would allow the applicant an opportunity to come up with some new options to present to the family. It would also allow the Family and neighbors to see the site plan we are requesting so we can all understand whether this variance is needed or not. The family is willing to sit down and find some common ground. Currently having this high traffic driveway immediately on top of their property seems to be out of line with the intent of City Code, Setbacks are designed to protect neighboring properties from the very concerns the Perez Family has regarding this request for a variance.
- All this said we are requesting that this Board consider postponing a decision until the neighborhood and Board have had an opportunity to review a site plan that shows where the condominium units will be built, whether there are plans to remove the house and what trees will be removed and where (if) new ones will be planted.
- In addition, if the Board chooses to grant this variance tonight, we are requesting the Board make it a condition of the variance that in fact no existing trees will be allowed to be removed by the applicant, and that the home will have to remain in their final plan as this would ensure that the hardship claimed by applicant does actually exists that would not allow the Option B we proposed to be a viable option. In fact, Option A placement of their driveway would allow the trees and the home to remain undisturbed and has no need for a variance to be granted at all.

We thank the Board and TownBridge Homes in advance for their willingness to allow new solutions to be found as we feel this variance places unwanted noise, traffic and financial impact on the shoulders of the Perez Family as to how this variance will impact their properties.

Abbe Waldman-Consultant for the Estate Of Ignacio and Rosa Perez Michael Perez-Administrator

512-736-5802



7513 Cooper Lane

Board of Adjustment Variance Request

C15-2017-0040 August 14, 2017

Requested Variance -

To decrease the no build setback

From 25 feet

To 2 feet

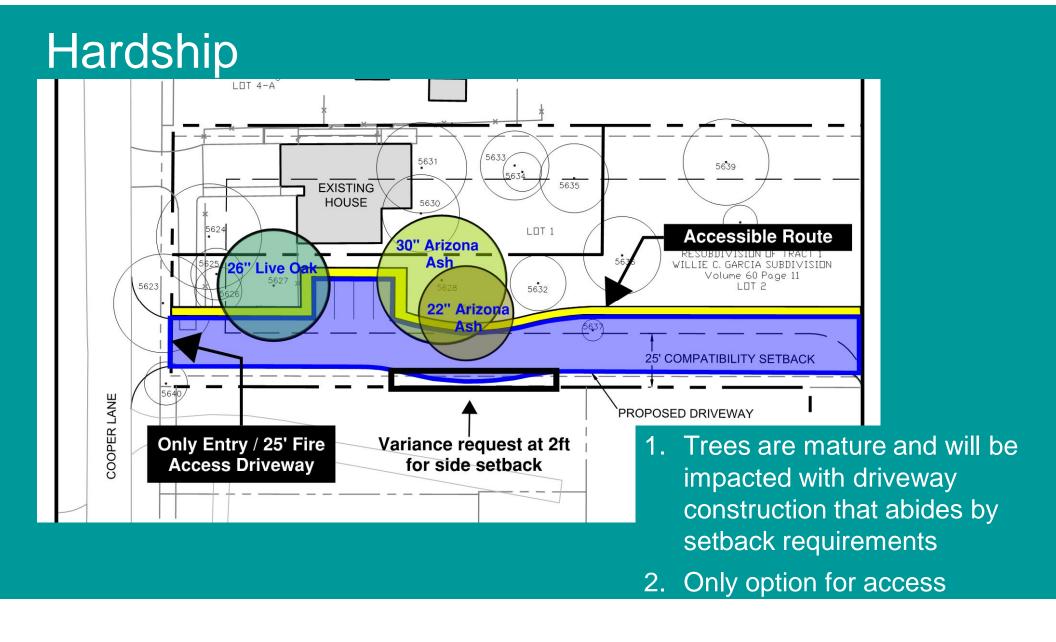


Why is a variance needed?

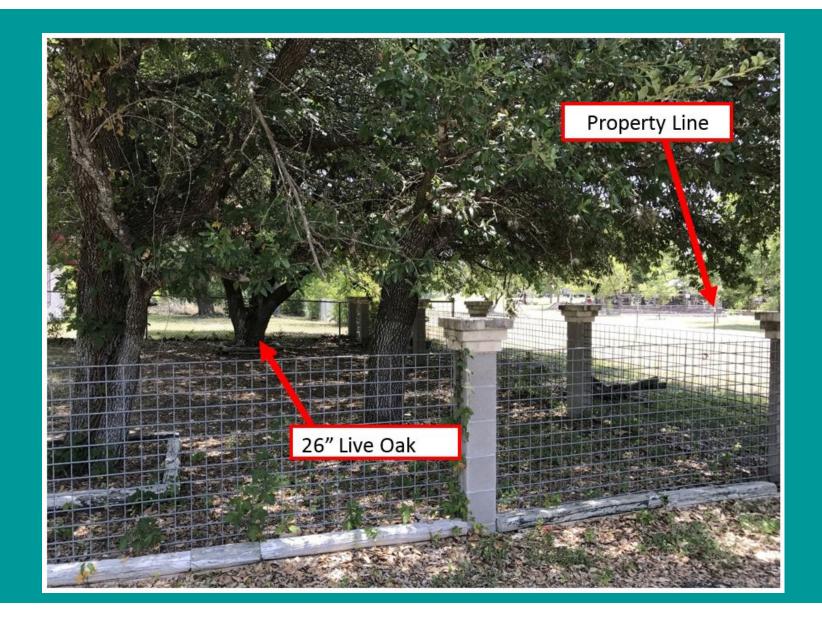
To allow construction of driveway access <u>and</u> preserve quality trees:

- 1 Heritage Tree 26" Live Oak
- 2 Protected Trees 30" Arizona Ash 22" Arizona Ash



















Reasons to support -

- Retain trees that contribute to original neighborhood & street character
- Allow for infill development of much needed dwelling units and housing stock variety