### **BOA CASE REVIEW SHEET**

CASE: C15-2019-0027

ADDRESS: 810 ½ San Marcos Street

**OWNER:** Barbara Stevens

**BOA DATE:** May 13, 2019

1-4/1

#### **COUNCIL DISTRICT:** 1

AGENT: Bryan Lym

**ZONING:** GR-MU-CO-NCCD-NP (Central East Austin)

AREA: NE 145 x 158 feet of Outlot 1, Division B

VARIANCE REQUEST: Height

**<u>SUMMARY</u>**: Erect a Cultural Center – Republic of Texas History Museum

**ISSUES:** Base elevation

	ZONING	LAND USES
Site	GR-MU-CO-NCCD-NP	Vacant
	(Central East Austin)	
North	CS-MU-NCCD-NP (Central	Multifamily Residential
	East Austin)	
South	SF-3-H-NP (Central East	French Legation
	Austin)	
East	SF-3-H-NP (Central East	Single Family
	Austin)	
West	SF-3-NP (Central East Austin)	French Legation

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:** ANT Artists and Neighbors Together; Austin Independent School District; Austin Neighborhoods Council; Bike Austin; Black Improvement Association; Claim Your Destiny; Del Valle Community Coalition; East Austin Conservancy; El Concilio Mexican-American Neighborhoods; Friends of Austin Neighborhoods; Guadalupe Neighborhood Association for an Improved Neighborhood; Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation; Homeless Neighborhood Association; Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation; Neighbors United for Progress; Organization of Central East Austin Neighborhoods; Preservation Austin; SEL Texas; Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group; United East Austin Coalition; Waller Creek Conservancy



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#### **CITY OF AUSTIN**

**Development Services Department** One Texas Center | Phone: 512.978.4000 505 Barton Springs Road, Austin, Texas 78704

### 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 #	ROW #		Tax #		
Section 1: Appl	icant Statement				
Street Address: 810 1	/2 SAN MARCOS ST	REET AUSTIN	, TX		
Subdivision Legal Des	cription:				
<u>NE 145X158 FT (</u>	DLT 1 DIVISION B				
Lot(s):		Block	<(s):		
Outlot:		Divis	ion:		
Zoning District: GR-M	U-CO-NCCD-NP				
I/We LYM MILLER AF authorized agent fo	RCHITECTURE			-	
Month May	, Day 13	, Year 2019	, hereby ap	ply for a hea	aring before the
Board of Adjustmer	nt for consideration to	(select appropr	iate option belo	ow):	
● Erect OAttac	ch OComplete	Remodel	O Maintain	Other:	
Type of Structure:	CULTURAL CENTER	R - REPUBLIC (	OF TEXAS HIS	STORY MUS	EUM



1991 11TH STREET NCCD ORDINANCE 910620-C, WITH RESPECT TO: (1) SECTION VIII.8.B EFFETIVRLY LOWERING THE BASE ELEVATION ALONG SAN MARCOS STREET, AND (2) SECTION VIII.10.B EXCEPTING THE FRENCH LEGATION PROPERTY FROM ALL OTHER AREA PUBLIC AND CIVIC USES NOT TRIGGERING COMPATIBILITY STANDARDS

#### 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:

#### **Reasonable Use**

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

The lowered height restrictions in the NCCD sections noted above do not allow for reasonable development of this site when combined compliance with Subchapter E Design Requirements. This small 0.6 acre corner site has limited street frontage, and vehicle site access will be further restricted if SF-3 compatibility reuirements are deemed to be triggered by the adjacent French Legation. The NCCD lowers the base elevation for measuring the allowable 40 ft height restriction over 12 feet below our site elevation and this lowerd allowable height does not allow reasonable use.

#### Hardship

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

This small 0.6 acre corner site adjacent to the French Legation has limited street frontage and TCM requirements heavily restrict driveway access. Requiring the French Legation Museum site adjacent to two sides to trigger SF-3 compatibility requirements further restricts pedestrian and vehicular access. Height restrictions, when measured from a base elevation well below our site, will not allow for a reasonablely sized multi-story cultural center and museum.

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

The recently developent Tyndall Multi-family building was granted a variance to the French Legation compatibility requirements and was allowed to be at least 70 feet tall. Our site is the only other GR-MU-CO-NCCD-NP adjacent to the French Legation. All other sites are afforded taller height restrictions and are at a lower elevation than this site.

# **I-**4/5

#### **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 proposed building will be a three-story cultural center that steps back from and respects the French Legation site, with the majority of the third story planned to be an open-air rooftop deck for public events that looks over the historic French Legation site with a view of the downtown skyline beyond.

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:

1. 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:

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:



#### Section 3: Applicant Certificate

I affirm that my statements contained in the complete application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

	itally signed by Bryan L Lym te: 2019.04.09 16:27:43 -05'00	<sub>2</sub> Date: <u>04/09/2019</u>
Applicant Name (typed or printed): Bryan L Lym, Al	Α	
Applicant Mailing Address: 610 Brazos Street, Suite	400	
City: Austin	State: TX	Zip: <u>78701</u>
Phone (will be public information): (512) 476-7001		
Email (optional – will be public information):		

#### Section 4: Owner Certificate

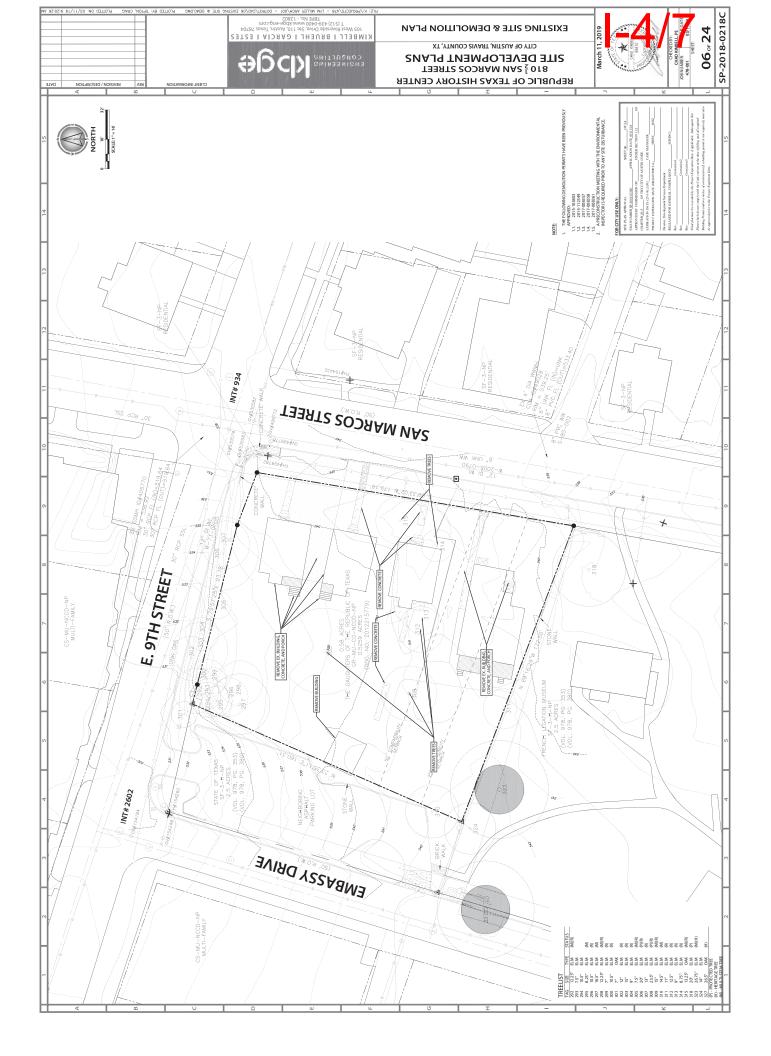
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

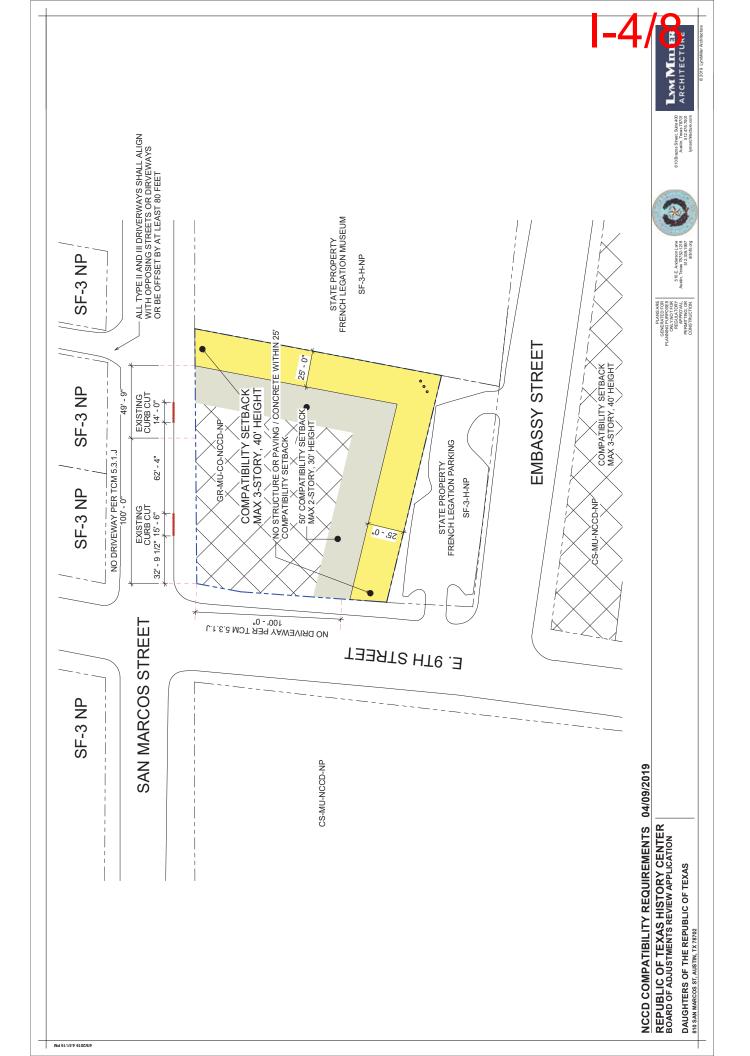
Owner Signature: Barbara Stevens Digitally signed by Barbara Stevens Date: 2019.04.09 16:21:53 -05'00' Date: 04/09/2018				
Owner Name (typed or printed): Daughters of the Republic of Texas				
Owner Mailing Address: 510 E Anderson Ln				
City: Austin	State: TX	Zip: 78752		
Phone (will be public information): (512) 339-1997				
Email (optional – will be public information):				
Section 5: Agent Information				

Agent Name: Lym Miller Architecture, PLLC					
Agent Mailing Address: 610 Brazos Street, Suite 400					
City: Austin	State: TX	Zip: <u>78701</u>			
Phone (will be public information): (512) 476-7001					
Email (optional – will be public information):					

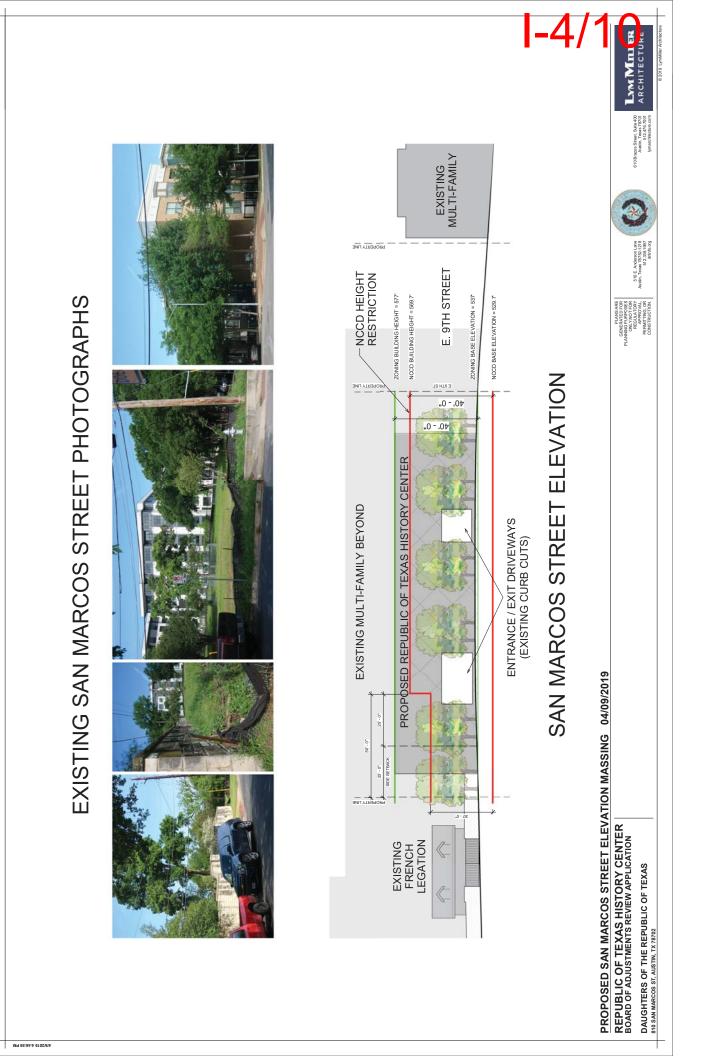
#### Section 6: Additional Space (if applicable)

Please use the space below to provide additional information as needed. To ensure the information is referenced to the proper item, include the Section and Field names as well (continued on next page).











# I-4/12



April 18, 2019

Barbara Stevens DRT President General 510 E. Anderson Lane Austin, TX 78752-1218

Dear Ms. Stevens,

I am pleased to write a letter of support for the Republic of Texas History Building Project to be built on San Marcos Street & East 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

The proposed Republic of Texas Museum will bring many community benefits to East Austin which has been a community and elected officials focus for several years if not decades. Not only will the Museum provide instructional and visual history for school children; it includes community benefits such as meeting spaces, beautification of the area and support for the economic vitality of East Austin.

I am confident that the Austin City Council through its land development code did not intentionally want to provide a barrier to such a community benefit project. In fact, I am as equally confident that the Austin City Council will be the first in line to celebrate the addition of Republic of Texas Museum in East Austin.

Again, I am pleased to write in support of the project and the work of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Inc.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Rollins President & CEO





## City of Austin

Natasha Harper-Madison, Council Member District 1 301 W. Second St., Austin, TX 78701 512-978-2101 • Fax 512-978-2111 natasha.madison@anstintexas.gov

4.29.2019

Dear Ms. Stevens,

As I write this, it is another beautiful day in Austin, Texas, one of the most forward-thinking municipalities in the nation. For years, our growing city has shouldered a phenomenal amount of change and growth with an eager spirit of innovation and all eyes on a brighter future. However, despite the promise of Tomorrow's prosperity, it's absolutely critical to remember our rich Yesterdays, both as a city and as the seat of government for our great state.

To that end, I'm writing to you to today to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed Republic of Texas History Cultural Center aimed for 810 ½ San Marcos Street. As you may know, this property is in Austin City Council District 1, the district I am so fortunate enough to represent. This is a dynamic area loaded with cultural vitality that would further benefit from the offerings of the RTHC, including public meeting spaces, family research opportunities, and a museum that challenges visitors with the truths of history. I am also very interested in the opportunities for collaboration between the RTHC and other museums and cultural institutions in East Austin.

If there is any way my office can help, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison Austin City Council District 1