#### **AUSTIN ENERGY REPORT**



June 27, 2019

Leah Boho 8300 N Ih 35 Svrd Sb Austin TX, 78753

Property Description: LOT 2 DINERSTEIN ADDN NO 2 (COMMERCIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY)

Re: C15-2019-0040

Dear Leah,

Austin Energy (AE) has reviewed your application for the above referenced property, requesting that the Board of Adjustment consider a variance(s) to decrease the minimum site area requirement of Subchapter E, Article 4, Mixed Use Combining District, Section 4.2.1 (D)(6)(c) (District Standards) from a minimum requirement of 210,800 square feet (required) to 130,0680 square feet (requested);

In order to construct a Multi-Family use in a "CS-MU-CO-NP", General Commercial Services – Mixed Use – Conditional Overlay –Neighborhood Plan zoning district. (Georgian Acres Neighborhood Plan).

Austin Energy does not oppose request provided any proposed and existing improvements are in compliance with AE clearance criteria requirements, The National Electric Safety Code and OSHA. Any removal or relocation of existing electric facilities will be at owners/applicants expense. Please use this link to be advised of our clearance and safety requirements which are additional conditions of the above review action:

https://library.municode.com/tx/austin/codes/utilities\_criteria\_manual?nodeId=S1AUENDECR\_1 .10.0CLSARE

If you require further information or have any questions regarding the above comments, please contact our office. Thank you for contacting Austin Energy.

#### **Eben Kellogg, Property Agent**

Austin Energy
Public Involvement | Real Estate Services
2500 Montopolis Drive
Austin, TX 78741
(512) 322-6050

#### **BOA REVIEW COVERSHEET**

**CASE:** C15-2019-0040 **BOA DATE:** July 8, 2019

ADDRESS: 8300 N IH 35 SVRD SB COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4

**OWNER:** Artesia 2018 Investments LLC **AGENT:** Leah Bojo

**ZONING:** CS-MU-CO-NP (Georgian Acres)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 2 DINERSTEIN ADDN NO 2 (COMMERCIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY)

**VARIANCE REQUEST:** decrease min. site area requirement of Subchapter E

**SUMMARY:** remodel into apartment units

**ISSUES:** required minimum site area allows for fewer units of new converted hotel to apartment units

	ZONING	LAND USES		
Site	CS-MU-CO-NP	General Commercial Services; Mixed Use		
North	MF-3-CO-NP	Multi-Family		
South	MF-4NP; CS-CO-NP	Multi Family; General Commercial Services		
East	GO-NP; GR-CO-NP	General Office; Community Commercial		
West	MF-3-CO-NP	Multi-Family		

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:**

Austin Independent School District; Austin Neighborhoods Council; Bike Austin; Friends of Austin Neighborhoods; Georgian Acres Neigh. Assn.; Go Austin Vamos Austin – North; Hill Country Conservancy; Homeless Neighborhood Association; Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation; North Growth Corridor Alliance; North Lamar/Georgian Acres Combined Neighborhood Plan Contact Team; SEL Texas; Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group





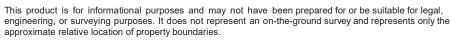




**ZONING BOUNDARY** 



CASE#: C15-2019-0040 LOCATION: 8300 N IH 35 SB





### **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, click here to Save 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 Utilice Use	Uniy				
Case #	ROW # _		Tax #		
Section 1: Appl	icant Statement	t			
Street Address: 8300 Subdivision Legal Des	cription:				
Dinerstein Additio	n No. 2				
Lot(s): 2		Block	(s):		
Outlot:		Divisi	on:		
Zoning District: <u>CS-M</u>	U-CO-NP				
I/We <u>Leah M. Bojo</u>				_	
	or Artesia 2018 Inves				
Month Select	, Day Select	, Year Select	, hereby ap	ply for a hea	ring before the
Board of Adjustme	nt for consideration to	(select appropri	ate option bel	ow):	
○ Erect   ○ Atta	ch Complete	<ul><li>Remodel</li></ul>	Maintain	Other:	
Type of Structure:	Hotel				

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

Site area requirements listed in Article 4.2, Mixed Use Zoning Districts [§ 25-2, Subchapter E, Article 4.2.1.D.6.C] to be reduced from 210,800 SF to 130,680 SF.

#### **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 Mixed Use Zoning District Standards do not allow for a reasonable use of existing building stock to provide affordable multifmaily use. The developer would like to provide 10% of the units at 60% MFI, however the zoning district standards would require the existing building to be demolished and reconstructed with fewer units, meaning that level of affordability cannot be offered.

#### Hardship

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

The hardship incurred by the conversion of the existing building stock into a multifamily use is that the required minimum site area for the proposed number of units on the existing building's site area would require that a new structure to be constructed with fewer units, when a functional building exists on the site, or that a portion of the units not be given a certificate of occupancy and instead their doors would have to be locked and truly cannot be occupied.

b	) The	hardship	is not	general	to the	area in	which	the	property i	s l	ocated	becau	ıse:

The hardship is not general to the area because conversion of an existing hotel building into affordable multifamily residences is not frequent in the Georgian Acres neighborhood.

#### **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 not alter the character of the area because the building exists today and has existed since 1981. The adjacent property to the north, that wraps around the west of the property, is a multifamily residence and the property to the south is a hotel. Using the existing hotel building for multifamily use is consistent with the area. Multifamily use is permitted in the current mixed use zoning. Conversion of use on this site aligns with the Austin Stategic Housing Blueprint's goal of relaxing strict regulations in order to provide affordable housing.

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:
N	/A
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:
N	/A
3. <u>N</u>	The granting of this variance will not create a safety hazard or any other condition inconsistent 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 a my knowledge and belief.	pplication are true and	correct to the best of
Applicant Signature:		Date:
Applicant Name (typed or printed): Leah M. Bojo.		
Applicant Mailing Address: 200 Lee Barton Drive		
City: Austin	State: <u>Texas</u>	Zip: 78704
Phone (will be public information): (512) 807-2918		
Email (optional – will be public information):		
Section 4: Owner Certificate		
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete a my knowledge and belief.	pplication are true and	correct to the best of
Owner Signature:		Date:
Owner Name (typed or printed): ARTESIA 2018 INVES	TMENTS LLC	
Owner Mailing Address: 1000 E Cesar Chavez Street		
City: Austin	State: Texas	Zip: 78702
Phone (will be public information):		
Email (optional – will be public information):		
Section 5: Agent Information		
Agent Name: Leah M. Bojo		
Agent Mailing Address: 200 Lee Barton Drive		
City: Austin	State: Texas	
Phone (will be public information): (512) 807-2918		
Email (optional – will be public information):		
Section 6: Additional Space (if applicab	le)	
Please use the space below to provide additional information referenced to the proper item, include the Section and		
See attached summary letter.		

Section 3: Applicant Certificate			
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete my knowledge and belief.			
Applicant Signature:		Date: 6	6.9
Applicant Name (typed or printed): Leah M. Bojo.			•
Applicant Mailing Address: 200 Lee Barton Drive			
City: Austin	State: <u>Texas</u>	Zi	ip: 78704
Phone (will be public information): (512) 807-2918			3
Email (optional – will be public information):	<u>,                                    </u>		
Section 4: Owner Certificate			
I affirm that my statements contained in the complete my knowledge and belief.	application are true an	d correct to	the best of
Owner Signature:		Date:	)
Owner Name (typed or printed): ARTESIA 2018 INVE			STORY OF THE STORY
Owner Mailing Address: 1000 E Cesar Chavez Stree	t		
City: Austin	State: <u>Texas</u>	Zi	ip: 78702
Phone (will be public information):			
Email (optional – will be public information):		· ·	
Section 5: Agent Information			
Agent Name: <u>Leah M. Bojo</u>			
Agent Mailing Address: 200 Lee Barton Drive			
City: Austin	State: <u>Texas</u>	Zi	ip: 78704
Phone (will be public information): (512) 807-2918			
Email (optional – will be public information):			
Section 6: Additional Space (if applica	ble)		
Please use the space below to provide additional info			
See attached summary letter.			

Leah M. Bojo direct dial: (512) 807-2918

## **DRENNER GROUP**

June 10, 2019

**Board of Adjustment Members** City of Austin 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, TX 78704

Via Hand Delivery

Re:

<u>Austin Suites Board of Adjustment Variance</u>— Board of Adjustment ("BOA") variance request for the building located at 8500 N Interstate 35 Service Road Southbound in Austin, Travis County, Texas (the "Property")

Dear Board of Adjustment Members:

As representatives of the owner of the Property, we respectfully submit the enclosed BOA variance application package for the Property currently known as the Austin Suites Hotel.

The Property is a 3.0 acre lot zoned General Commercial Services – Mixed Use – Conditional Overlay – Neighborhood Plan (CS-MU-CO-NP). The proposed project proposes to convert the existing building stock, which has been a hotel use since 1981, into affordable multifamily residences targeting low-income individuals and families at 50% - 60% Median Family Income (MFI). The Property is located within the North Lamar Combined Neighborhood Planning Area. The tract is currently developed with a hotel. The developer would like to convert the existing 93,510 square foot hotel building with 218 rooms into a 218 unit multifamily building with 10% of units reserved at 50% MFI for 40 years. The market rate units would target 50% to 60% MFI residents.

We are seeking a variance from the site area requirements set forth in Article 4.2, Mixed Use Zoning Districts [§ 25-2, Subchapter E, Article 4.2.1.D.6] of the Land Development Code (LDC) in order to be able to occupy all 218 existing units. The MU combining district allows for a multifamily use and the existing minimum site area requirements for each dwelling unit are 800 square feet for an efficiency dwelling unit, 1,000 square feet for a one bedroom dwelling unit, and 1,200 square feet for a dwelling unit with two or more bedrooms. Under current code, the total site area requirement for the 218 unit project is 210,800 square feet. The existing building cannot comply with this requirement; we are asking that the site area requirements be reduced to 130,680 square feet.

In 2018, City staff supported the rezoning of this site to CS-MU, with the staff report citing that "this will provide additional housing opportunities in this area of the city." Council unanimously approved the rezoning of the property on August 23, 2018. The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint encourages compact development and the relaxation of regulations in order to help

January 15, 2019 Page 2

utilize land for affordable housing. The minimum site area requirement does not allow for the reasonable use of the current building on this site to provide affordable multifamily housing at income levels set forth by the City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office.

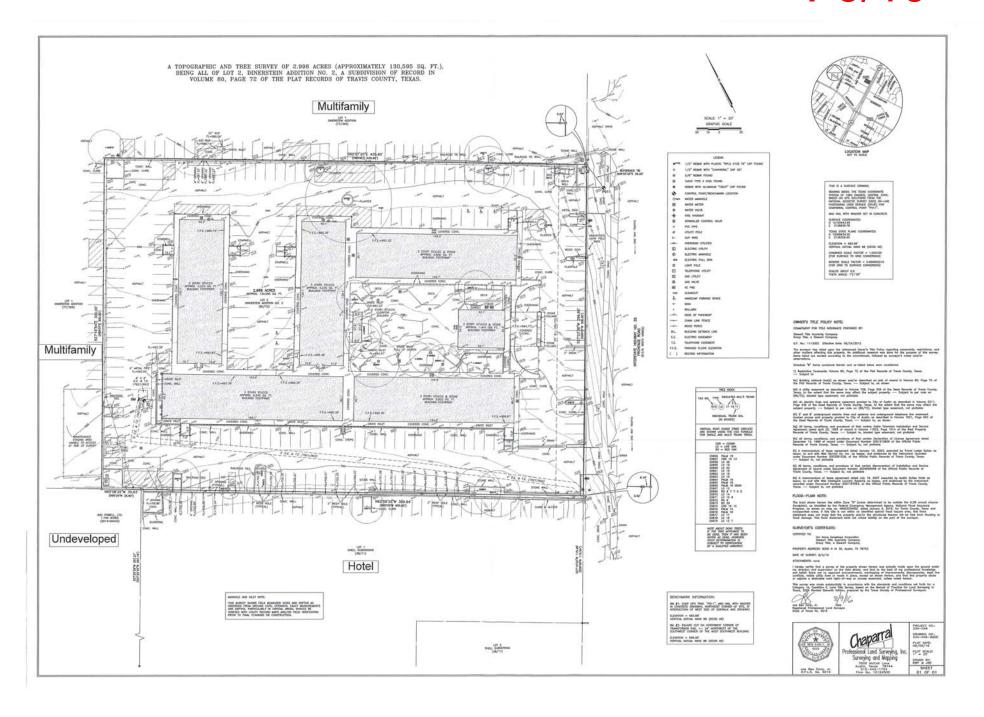
There are various code provisions that would allow exemption from site area requirements, like the vertical mixed use overlay and provisions related to units less than 500 SF that are located on a Core Transit Corridor, a Future Transit Corridor, or in a Transit Oriented District. Unfortunately, those provisions are not applicable to this site due to its location. We have been in communication with the North Lamar Combined Neighborhood (Georgian Acres) regarding this case throughout the rezoning process and again in preparation for this application. They support use of the existing structure for residential use.

We ask that you grant this variance in order to convert this existing building stock into affordable multifamily residences with 10% of the units reserved for low-income individuals and families at 50% MFI. Please let me know if you or your team members require additional information or have any questions. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Regards,

Leah M. Bojo Drenner Group

cc: Jerry Rusthoven, Planning and Zoning Department (via electronic delivery)
Elaine Ramirez, Development Services Department (via electronic delivery)



## Site Exhibit



Property Immediately to the North - Apartments







# I-6/13



Subject Site – Austin Suites Motel

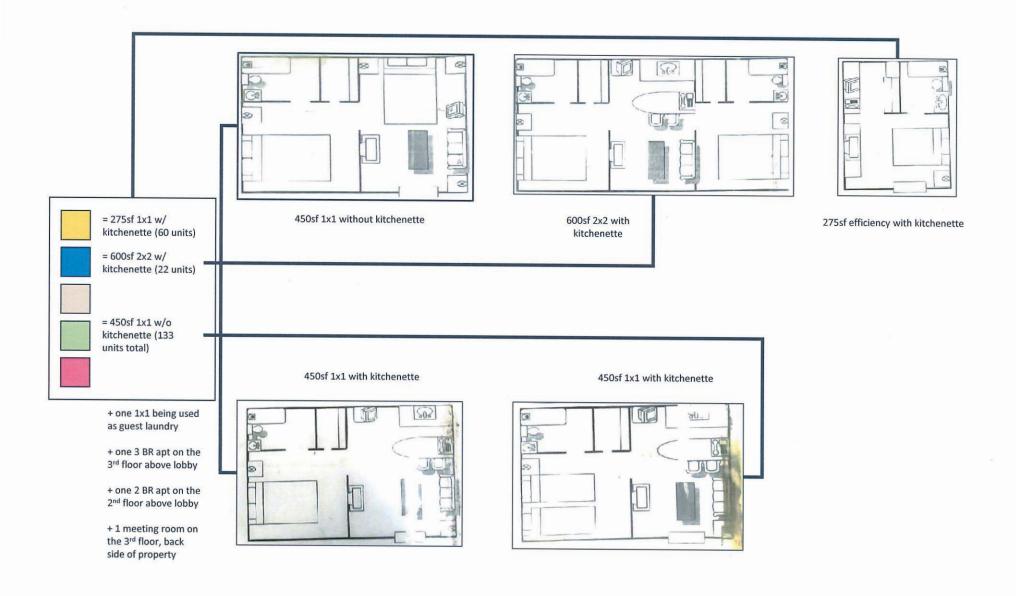


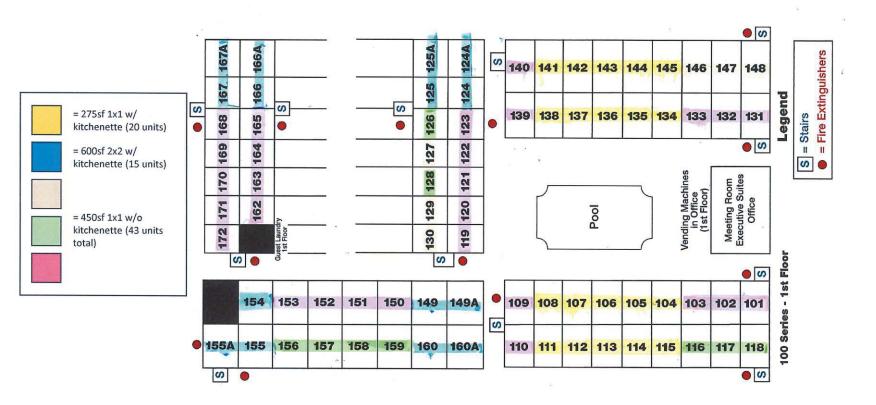
## I-6/14

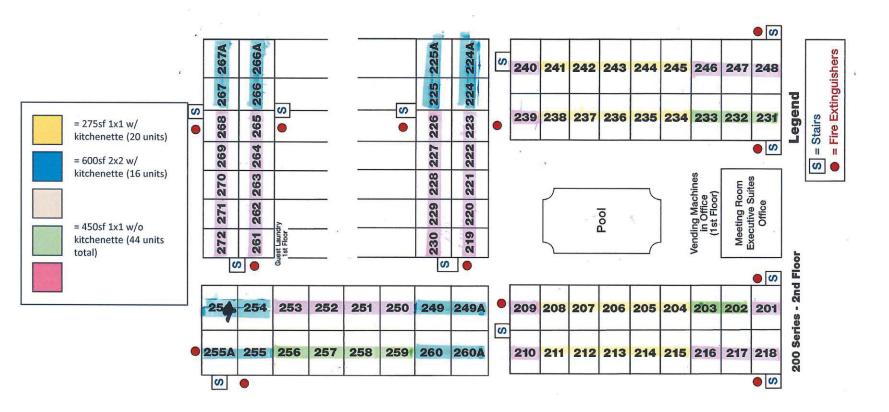


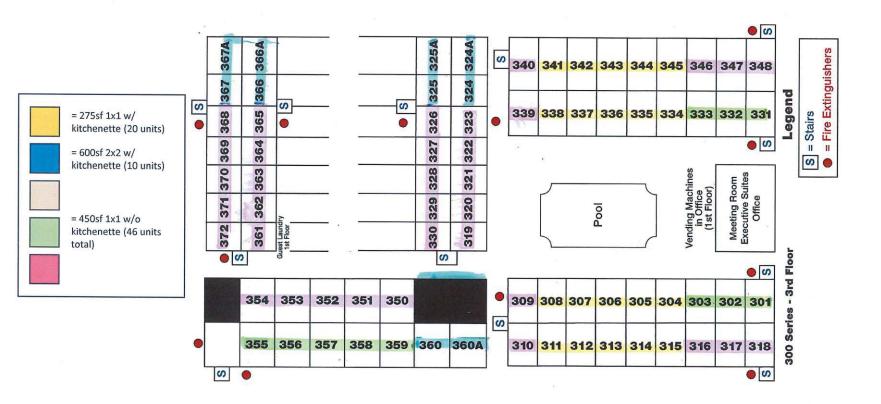
Subject Site – Austin Suites Motel











#### Leah Bojo

From:

Sent:

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 9:10 PM

To: Cc: Rye, Stephen Leah Bojo

Subject:

Support for Variance at Austin Suites Hotel

Dear Board of Adjustments and Mr. Stephen Rye,

I own two properties near the Austin Suites (108 E Powell Ln, 411 Primrose St) and as the outgoing vice chair of the North Lamar Georgian Acres Contact Team, am very familiar with this property and its proposed renovation by Artesia. I support the variance requested, provided that it is attached to the current structure / permit, not the land in perpetuity.

I speak for myself, not the Contact Team, which was not able to call a meeting with a quorum in time for an official vote on this issue.

Respectfully,

Colin Macdougal