## CITY OF AUSTIN

## Board of Adjustment

## Decision Sheet

DATE: Monday September 09, 2019
CASE NUMBER: C15-2019-0047
Brooke Bailey
Ada Corral
Melissa Hawthorne (OUT)
William Hodge
Don Leighton-Burwell
Rahm McDaniel

APPLICANT: Janis J.Smith, P.E.
OWNER: David Middleton/YOLO Partners, Ltd.

## ADDRESS: 3707 TAYLORS DR

VARIANCE REQUESTED: The applicant is requesting a variance(s) from Section 25-2-1176 (A) (1) (Site Development Regulations for Docks, Marinas, and other Lakefront Uses) to increase the Shoreline setback requirement from 30 feet (required) to 40 feet (requested) in order to erect a Boat Dock in a "SF-3-NP", Single-Family -Neighborhood Plan zoning District (West Austin Neighborhood Plan, LA zoning Overlay).

The Land Development Code states that the director may require a dock to extend a lesser or greater distance from the shoreline if deemed necessary to ensure navigation safety.

BOARD'S DECISION: BOA Sept 9, 2019 meeting The public hearing was closed by Chair Don Leighton-Burwell, Board Member Denisse Hudock motions to Postpone to October 14, 2019, Board Member Jessica Cohen seconds on an 11-0 vote; POSPTONED TO OCTOBER 14, 2019.

## EXPIRATION DATE:

FINDING:

## P-4/2

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:


September 27, 2019
Board of Adjustment
City of Austin
505 Barton Springs Road
Austin, Texas 78704
Re: Additional information requested for postponed Item I-1 from 9/9/19 BOA meeting Application for a variance to LDC 25-2-1176(A)(1) to allow construction of a boat dock further than 30ft. from the shoreline on Lake Austin

Dear Board Members:
This case was postponed at the 9/9/19 BOA meeting in order to gather additional information from City staff. The BOA charged me with the task of securing written confirmation that City staff would consider granting a Site Plan Correction for a slight change in the dock design after the site plan is issued. The BOA directed that the change in the dock design should result in moving the SE corner of the proposed dock 2.8 ft . closer to the shoreline and away from the neighboring dock. This direction was based on a proposed design shown at the meeting as a compromise with the neighbors at 3705 Taylors Drive required a dock shift. The dock shift, in an area of dense tree critical root zones, may prove difficult to permit with a correction. Upon further examination, I determined that the same outcome can be accomplished by shortening the lower deck on the SE corner. Therefore, I presented to Kristin Carlton, who manages the Site Plan Correction process, the design modification shown in Attachment 1. The dock deck east of the slip will be shortened by 3 ft .. Kristin then emailed me the message contained in Attachment 2 confirming that such a change was possible with a site plan correction. The dock footprint and access route through the trees remain the same. The dock position in relation to the gabions remains the same. The BOA's desire to move the SE corner 2.8 ft . closer to the shoreline is accomplished. In fact, the SE corner is actually moved 3 ft . closer to the shoreline.

In addition to the new information contained in Attachments 1 and 2, there is also a new photo in Attachment 3, and new survey data in Attachment 4. After the BOA meeting on the $9^{\text {th }}$, the owners, Jeff and Fredericka Middleton, and I went out in their boat to stake out the corners of the modified proposed dock. Please excuse our lack of equipment, but the photo in Attachment 3 shows the location of the corner of the dock if the deck is reduced by 3 ft . on the SE corner (the yellow paddle). The SE corner of the modified proposed slip does not interfere with the lake access path to the neighbor's dock. Nonetheless we wanted to confirm our impressions with survey data, and the Middletons called out a survey team to verify.

Attachment 4 contains the drawing produced by All-Star Surveying after revisiting the site to define the proposed dock layout in relation to the neighbor's dock and boat slip. Missing from our previous information was the exact location and orientation of the neighbor's dock. As is common practice, City data was used for neighboring properties. The new survey data shows that the SE corner of the originally proposed dock footprint is 3.9 ft . from the straight-on approach to the neighbor's boat slip. The survey data confirms that there is no encroachment under the original design. However, as an accommodation to their neighbor, David and Fredericka remain committed to reducing the lower deck of their proposed dock as described above. The clearance between the approach to the neighbor's slip and the SE corner of the modified proposed dock will be 6.9 ft .

## P-4/4

In summary, the modified layout for the proposed dock clears the straight shot into the neighboring dock by a substantial margin, and City staff confirmed that the modification can be accomplished through a site plan correction. The owners and I have provided the information requested by the BOA in order to proceed with deliberations of our variance application. I ask, on the owner's behalf, that the BOA approves our variance application for dock extension into the lake exceeding 30 ft .

Very truly yours,


Janis J. Smith, P.E
Janis Smith Consulting, LLC


## ATTACHMENT 1 <br> MODIFIED PROPOSED DOCK EASTERN GANGWAY IS SHORTENED BY 3 FT.

$\mathrm{P}-4 / 6$


（1）DOCK FIRSTFLOOR PLAN

## ATTACHMENT 2

EMAIL FROM KRISTIN CARLTON CONFIRMNG THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF A SITE PLAN CORRECTION

## P-4/8

Janis,
The proposed is well within what is permitted to correct through the site plan correction process.

## Kristin S. Carlton

Environmental Review Specialist Senior
City of Austin Development Services Department
One Texas Center, $1^{\text {st }}$ Floor
505 Barton Springs Road
Office: 512-974-6369

Walk in hours are 9am to noon, Monday-Friday

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## Scheduled Meeting Disclosure Information:

In accordance with City of Austin Ordinance 20160922-005, responsibility of written disclosure is required by visitors when attending a scheduled meeting with a City Official regarding a municipal question as defined within City Code 4-8-2 for compensation on behalf of another person. Development Services Department has elected to implement an electronic survey as the methodology to provide the opportunity to record information as required of the department under Section 4-8-8 (E) of the City Code. Individuals scheduling or accepting a meeting invitation with a City Official are requested to provide responses to the questions included in the department survey available at the following link: DSD Survey. Please note that all information provided is subject to public disclosure via DSD's open data portal.

For more information please visit:
Click here to view City of Austin Ordinance 2016-0922-005
City Clerk's website
City Clerk's FAQ's

From: Janis Smith
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2019 1:32 PM
Tn: Carlton Krictin <Krictin Carlton@aııstintexac onv>>

## P-4/9

Subject: SITE PLAN CORRECTION?

## *** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Kristin - As we discussed this morning, can you confirm that it will be possible to get a site plan correction for a minor change to the lower deck of this dock that's in the process of being permitted? The attached sheet shows the proposed changes. The dock footprint, location, and access all remain the same. Thanks tons!

Thanks much,
Janis J. Smith, P.E. Janis Smith Consulting, LLC

512-914-3729

CAUTION:This email was received at the City of Austin, from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please forward this email to CSIRT@austintexas.gov.

## P-4/10

## ATTACHMENT 3

PHOTO OF APPROACH TO NEIGHBORING DOCK


## ATTACHMENT 4

## ALL STAR SURVEYING

ORIGINAL DESIGN OF THE PROPOSED DOCK RELATIVE TO THE NEIGHBOR'S DOCK AT 3705 TAYLORS DRIVE


August 29, 2019

## Janis Smith

3707 Taylors Dr Bldg Bd
Austin TX, 78703
Property Description: LOT 2 BLK D LESS W TRI BROWN HERMAN ADDN NO 2 SEC 4

## Re: C15-2019-0047

Dear Janis,
Austin Energy (AE) has reviewed your application for the above referenced property, requesting that the Board of Adjustment consider a variance(s) from;

Section 25-2-1176 (A) (1) (Site Development Regulations for Docks, Marinas, and other Lakefront Uses) to increase the Shoreline setback requirement from 30 feet (required) to 40 feet (requested); In order to erect a Boat Dock in a "SF-3-NP", Single-Family -Neighborhood Plan zoning District (West Austin Neighborhood Plan, LA zoning Overlay).

Austin Energy does not oppose requested variance, provided any proposed and existing improvements are following 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

## P-4/14

## BOA REVIEW COVERSHEET

CASE: C15-2019-0047
ADDRESS: 3707 Taylors Dr
OWNER: YOLO Partners, LTD

BOA DATE: Sept. 9, 2019
COUNCIL DISTRICT: 10
AGENT: Janis J. Smith P.E.

ZONING: SF-3-NP
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 2 BLK D BROWN HERMAN ADDN NO 2 SEC 4
VARIANCE REQUEST: increase the Shoreline setback from 30 ft . to 40 ft .
SUMMARY: erect a boat dock
ISSUES: heritage trees

|  | ZONING | LAND USES |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Site | SF-3-NP | Single-Family |
| North | SF-3-NP | Single-Family |
| South | LA | Lake Austin |
| East | SF-3-NP | Single-Family |
| West | SF-3-NP; LA | Single-Family; Lake Austin |

## NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:

Austin Independent School District
Austin Lost and Found Pets
Austin Neighborhoods Council
Bike Austin
Central West Austin Neighborhood Plan Contact Team
Friends of Austin Neighborhoods
Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation
Preservation Austin
SEL Texas
Save Barton Creek Assn.
Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group
TNR BCP - Travis County Natural Resources
Tarrytown Alliance
Tarrytown Neighborhood Association
West Austin Neighborhood Group


## P-4/16

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, 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 Office Use Only

Case \# $\qquad$ ROW \# $\qquad$ Tax \# $\qquad$

## Section 1: Applicant Statement

Street Address: 3707 Taylors Drive
Subdivision Legal Description:
Lot 2, Herman Brown Addition No. 2 Section 4

Lot(s): $\qquad$ Block(s): $\qquad$
Outlot: $\qquad$ Division: $\qquad$
Zoning District: LA

I/We Janis J. Smith, P.E. on behalf of myself/ourselves as
authorized agent for YOLO Partners, Ltd. $\qquad$ affirm that on

Month July , Day 10 , Year 2019 , hereby apply for a hearing before the Board of Adjustment for consideration to (select appropriate option below):

- Erect
○Attach
$\bigcirc$ Complete
○Remodel
OMaintain
O Other:
$\qquad$
Type of Structure: Boat Dock

Portion of the City of Austin Land Development Code applicant is seeking a variance from:
LDC 25-5-1176(A)(1) -- to allow the construction of a dock 40 feet from the shoreline on Lake Austin because of bulkhead repair construction methods necessitated by the location of heritage tree critical root zones.

## 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:
Exisiting conditions at the site include a failing bulkhead within a cut-in slip which is supporting a sloped homesite. The bulkhead is right on top of several heritage Cypress trees including a
$34^{\prime \prime}$ Cypress which is on the lake side of the bulkhead. Also present is a non-compliant, dilapidated dock. The only means of reinforcing the bulkhead within the $1 / 2$ CRZs of the trees is to install gabions. The dock will be built adjacent to the gabions. But the size of the gabions and tree in the lake will require that the dock is extended beyond the code compliant limit of 30 ft into the lake.

## Hardship

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

Heritage trees dictate the design of a load bearing bulkhead which in turn determines the location of the dock.
b) The hardship is not general to the area in which the property is located because:

The vast majority of dock sites on the lake can be constructed by following current code. This property cannot.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## 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 dock extension measurement is taken from the shoreline of a cut-in slip. The dock extension from the natural shoreline is $\leq$ to the 30 ft . allowed by code.

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:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
3. The granting of this variance will not create a safety hazard or any other condition inconsistent with the objectives of this Ordinance because:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
4. The variance will run with the use or uses to which it pertains and shall not run with the site because:

## P-4/19

## 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.
Applicant Signature: Applicant Name (typed dr printed): (anis J. Smith, $\qquad$ Date: 7/10/19
Applicant Name (typed or printed): , anis J. Smith, P.E.
Applicant Mailing Address: 1505 Westover Road
City: Austin State: TX Zip: 78703
Phone (will be public information): 512-914-3729
Email (optional - will be public information): $\qquad$

## 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:
 Date: 7/10/19
Owner Name (typed or printed): David Middleton for YOLO Partners, Ltd
Owner Mailing Address: 3709 Taylors Drive
City: Austin
State: TX
Zip: 78701
Phone (will be public information): 210-380-5923
Email (optional - will be public information): $\qquad$

## Section 5: Agent Information

Agent Name:
Agent Mailing Address:
City: $\qquad$ State: $\qquad$ Zip: $\qquad$
Phone (will be public information): $\qquad$
Email (optional - will be public information): $\qquad$

## 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).
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

August 5, 2019
Board of Adjustment
City of Austin
505 Barton Springs Road
Austin, Texas 78704
Re: Engineering Summary Letter for 3707 Taylors Drive SP-2019-0053D Application for a variance to LDC 25-2-1176(A)(1) to allow construction of a boat dock further than 30ft. from the shoreline on Lake Austin

## Dear Board Members:

3707 Taylors Drive is about 1 mile west of the intersection of Westover Road and Exposition Boulevard. It's within the Full Purpose Jurisdiction of the City of Austin on the shore of Taylor Slough. The site currently contains a home, a failing bulkhead partially composed of rotting railroad ties, and a dilapidated non-compliant dock. Exhibit 1 contains photos of the site.

This project proposes to clear a red tag on the property for unpermitted work completed when the lake was down; construct a new boat dock; and modify the existing bulkhead in order to restore its structural capacity. The bulkhead supports the hillside upon which the house is built; so its structural integrity is integral to the entire site. The usual go-to method of restoring a failing bulkhead is to construct either a limestone block or sheetpile wall on the lakeside of the existing bulkhead leaving the existing bulkhead in place. But this site also has several heritage Cypress trees right on the shoreline. In most cases, and this is one of them, structural walls aren't allowed in the $1 / 2$ critical root zone (CRZ) of protected trees because the walls don't meet tree criteria.

Structural engineer John Maggio, P.E. of Duffy Engineering had the task of coming up with a design that structurally supports a hillside home site and meets tree criteria along with all design regulations that apply to Lake Austin. Gabion baskets are the only design that fits the bill. Gabions are basically wire boxes that contain rock rip. They're 3 ft . tall $\times 3 \mathrm{ft}$. deep $\times 6 \mathrm{ft}$. long, and the baskets are tied together. Exhibit 2 contains the site plan sheet for SP-2019-0053D showing the gabion design and proposed shoreline layout. We've cleared almost all review comments.

The dock shown keeps the piles out of the $1 / 4$ CRZs of the shoreline trees as required by code, and the bulkhead modifications will allow stability for the hillside serving as the site for an existing house. To meet environmental code, a dock extension of 40 ft . into the lake is required.

I look forward to presenting the variance application to the BOA on 9/9/19 on behalf of the owners, Fredericka and David Middleton. I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have at that time.

Very truly yours,


## P-4/21

## EXHIBIT 1

## PHOTOS OF EXISTING SITE



## EXHIBIT 2

## PROPOSED CONDITIONS DOCK PLAN SHEET SP-2019-0053D




Re: Case Number: C15-2019-0047—Board of Adjustment hearing Sept 9, 2019

To whom it may concern:
Reference is hereby made to the above referenced case number and the objection filed by the undersigned in the case with the City of Austin -Development Services on September 4, 2019. That objection was based on the fact that the proposed Boat Dock impedes the ingress and egress to the boat dock at 3705 Taylors.

As a compromise the undersigned requested certain modifications as reflected on the attached drawing. This revised boat dock is acceptable to me and I would be in favor of its construction.

If you have any questions, you can reach my son James McAnelly at 713-221-1194 or my daughter Kathryn Schwartz at 512-663-1718. One or both of us plan to attend the hearing.

Sincerely,


## P-4/26


process, visit our web site: www.austintexas.gov/devservices.
For additional information on the City of Austin's land development be available from the responsible department. department no later than 10 days after the decision. An appeal form may A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible
 has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of

- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that
is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property
or proposed development; or

- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject and: appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing; notice); or concern (it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of
- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before or owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a
board or commission by: An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision. can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who
 than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required. specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or
 environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an





Scan \& Email to: elaine.ramirez@austintexas.gov

## Fax: (512) 974-6305

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 received will become part of the public record of this case. board or commission, or Council; the scheduled date of the public hearing; the
Case Number; and the contact person listed on the notice. All comments before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the name of the Written comments must be submitted to the contact person listed on the notice

