

6608 Northeast Dr.
Austin, TX. 78723
12/07/2020

Board of Adjustment<br>Development Services Department<br>One Texas Center<br>505 Barton Springs Road<br>Austin, Texas 78704

To Whom It May Concern;
My name is Miles J. Lefler. I am a Certified Arborist (TX-3423A), TRAQ, ISA.
On the above date I made an onsite visit to the home of Daniel Salazar at: 2810 Gonzales St., 78702.
Mr. Salazar told me that he needed me to view a large Pecan Tree in his yard, and wanted to get my impressions of this tree in relation to a new house he had built behind it. Specifically, he was very worried that this tree might fail at any time, and that being the case, he located the new house he had built, a year ago, as far from this tree as possible.

I viewed the tree and took measurements of the same. This Pecan Tree is, approximately, 35" DBH. It is an over-mature, over-extended tree with a spread about as wide as it is tall. The height is about $35^{\prime}$ - $40^{\prime}$ tall.

This tree is seen to have stubs present that indicate that, in the past, it has dropped some fairly large leaders from its canopy. In fact, there is a hanger of approximate length 10 ', that is now hanging almost directly over Mr. Salazar's house. Other larger leaders are extended over his house at an almost vertical orientation. Mr. Salazar showed me a damaged area of his storage shed roof where the tree had dropped another leader.

Mr. Salazar told me that he wanted to move his family into the new house, in back, because he feared for their safety, under the subject tree. I share his concerns. I feel that this tree could have its major leaders fail at any time.

Mr. Salazar felt that the farther from the tree he sited his new house, the better for the safety of his family. I agree with him.

The variance he is applying for pertains to his siting his new house far from the subject tree, but about 5' too close to his back property line. Even so, he has left an amount of space between his back fence line and the new house, such space being about five feet.

I feel that he did the prudent thing by moving his new house as far from the subject tree as possible, and I hope the BOA can grant him the variance he seeks, for the sake of his completing his new house and for the safety of his family.

If I may be of further service, please feel free to contact me, as below.
Miles J. Lefler
CA, TRAQ, ISA




## D-1/58



## PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.
During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person with standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.
An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice); or
- appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing;
and:
- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development;
- is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development; or
- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 10 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.
For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: Www.austintexas.gov/devservices.

Written comments must be submitted to the contact person listed on the notice before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the name of the 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 received will become part of the public record of this case.

## Case Number: C15-2020-0083

Contact: Elaine Ramirez; elaine.ramirez@austintexas.gov
Public Hearing: Board of Adjustment; January 11 ${ }^{\text {th }}, 2021$


If you use this form to comment, it must currently be returned via email (as we do not have access to our mail due to social distancing):

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

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

