

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015  
BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN  
ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**

PRESENT: Vice-Chair MOISON and Commissioner BLOCKHUS and MEADOWS  
ABSENT: Chair KIRIK  
STAFF: Planning Services Manager DAHL and Assistant Planners GALLEGOS and  
DAVIS

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. **Design Review Commission Minutes**  
Approve minutes of the regular meeting of December 2, 2015.
3. **15-SC-49 – Inhabiture Design – 25 Doud Drive**  
Design review for the conversion of an existing accessory structure to a second living unit. The project includes the conversion of an existing 288 square-foot, detached accessory structure to a second living unit in the rear yard. *Project Planner: Davis*

MOTION by Commissioner MEADOWS, seconded by Commissioner BLOCKHUS, to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2015 regular meeting as written and design review application 15-SC-49 for the project at 25 Doud Drive.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (3/0).

**DISCUSSION**

4. **15-SC-09 – S. Woo and E. Dinh – 84 Doud Drive**  
Consideration of a continued design review application for a new two-story house. The project includes 2,919 square feet on the first story and 1,741 square feet on the second story. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

Assistant Planner GALLEGOS presented the staff report, recommending approval of design review application 15-SC-09 subject to the findings and conditions.

Project architect G'lush Dada spoke in support of the project and presented an overview of the design revisions to address the Design Review Commission's concerns. Neighbor Don Weiden outlined his concerns related to the rear fence and shielding any exterior lighting. There was no other public comment.

The Commission discussed the project, expressing their general support. The Commission noted the substantial improvement from the original design and that the Commission's direction was addressed. Commissioner BLOCKHUS said to consider retaining the existing Camelia bush in the rear yard.

MOTION by Commissioner MEADOWS, seconded by Commissioner BLOCKHUS, to approve design review application 15-SC-09 per the staff report findings and conditions, with the following additional conditions:

- Replace existing fencing with a minimum of six feet solid with one-foot of lattice; and
- The second story exterior lights shall be shielded and/or downward facing.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (3/0).

**5. 15-SC-40 – Ali's Construction – 772 University Avenue**

Design review for a new two-story house. The project includes 2,205 square feet on the first story and 1,469 square feet on the second story. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

Assistant Planner GALLEGOS presented the staff report, recommending approval of design review application 15-SC-40 subject to the findings and conditions and noted that staff had received three comment letters from neighboring property owners.

Project designer and applicant Kyle Chen spoke in support of the project and presented an overview of the design, noting that it was a Craftsmen inspired design. East side neighbor Cornelia Lovette raised concerns about the seven-foot side yard setback, the side facing windows, potential noise impacts from the air conditioner, and requested a taller fence with lattice along the side property line. Rear neighbors Jerry and Judy Klein raised concerns about privacy impacts from the rear facing windows, light impacts from the second story exterior lighting and requested a taller fence and additional landscape screening along the rear property line. There was no other public comment.

The Commission discussed the project, expressing their general support. The Commission noted that the project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood, provides ample landscape screening along the side and rear property lines and the rear elevation does not create any unreasonable privacy impacts due to the large setback.

MOTION by Commissioner BLOCKHUS, seconded by Commissioner MEADOWS, to approve design review application 15-SC-40 per the staff report findings and conditions.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (3/0).

**2. 15-SC-46 – A. Askari – 1198 Richardson Avenue**

Design review for a new second living unit. The project includes a 799 square-foot detached second living unit in the rear yard. *Project Planner: Davis*

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION AND MOVED TO THE END OF THE AGENDA.

Assistant Planner DAVIS presented the staff report, recommending approval of design review application 15-SC-46 subject to the findings and conditions.

Project applicant Adam Askari spoke in support of the project, outlined the reasons why the project was not built in 2012 when it was originally approved, and stated that he would be living on the property once the second living unit was built. Neighbors Kevin O'Reilly and Kevin O'Brien raised

concerns that the property owner was not living on site and that they do not want the property to turn into two rental units. There was no other public comment.

The Commission discussed the project, expressing their general support and noting the project is a better design than when it was approved in 2012 and that the Code requires the property owner to live on the premises if the second living unit is rented.

MOTION by Commissioner MEADOWS, seconded by Commissioner BLOCKHUS, to approve design review application 15-SC-46 per the staff report findings and conditions.  
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (3/0).

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None.

### **POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair MOISON adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM.

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Zachary Dahl, AICP  
Planning Services Manager  
Current Planning