

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2021, BEGINNING AT 7:05
P.M. VIA TELECONFERENCE AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN
ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

Please Note: Per California Executive Order N-29-20, the Commissions will meet via teleconference only. Members of the Public may call (650) 242-4929 to participate in the conference call (Meeting ID: 148 047 1816 or via the web at <https://tinyurl.com/t4xwc727>). Members of the Public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Commission Chair and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at DesignReviewCommission@losaltosca.gov or Planning@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Bishop, Vice-Chair Blockhus, Commissioners Kirik, Harding and Ma

STAFF: Planning Services Manager Persicone and Associate Planner Gallegos

Chair Bishop announced he would have to recuse himself for the project at 61 Coronado Avenue because his property is within 500 feet of the project site.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Kirik, the Commission moved agenda item #3 for 587 Van Buren Street to the second item on the agenda so Chair Bishop could recuse himself from the 61 Coronado Avenue project.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Harding, Kirik, and Ma

NOES: None

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 June 2, 2021.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Ma, seconded by Commissioner Harding, the Commission approved the minutes from the June 2, 2021, regular meeting as written.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Harding, Kirik, and Ma

NOES: None

DISCUSSION

2. SC21-0019 – Walter Chapman - 587 Van Buren Street

Design review for a second story addition to a two-story house. The project will include enclosing an existing balcony to add 252 square feet at the second story. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

Associate Planner Gallegos presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0019 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

Walter Chapman, project designer discussed the minimal impact of enclosing an existing balcony on the second floor would have on the neighborhood.

Public Comment

None.

Chair Bishop closed the Public Comment section of the meeting and Commission discussion then proceeded.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Ma, the Commission approved design review application SC21-0019 subject to the staff report findings and conditions.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Harding, Kirik and Ma

NOES: None

Chair Bishop recused himself from the 61 Coronado Avenue project, gave Vice-Chair Blockhus the virtual gavel, then logged off from the video meeting.

3. SC21-0016 – Walter Chapman – 61 Coronado Avenue

Design review for a new two-story house. The project includes 2,289 square feet at the first story and 1,754 square feet addition at the second story. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

Associate Planner Gallegos presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0016 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

Walter Chapman, project designer, explained the project design and some alternatives that could be considered to reduce the privacy impacts to abutting neighbors.

The 61 Coronado Avenue property owners spoke about the need for additional bedrooms for their growing family.

Walter Chapman answered questions from Commissioner Kirik about the design.

Public Comment

The property owner for 75 Coronado Avenue expressed concern about the trees identified as T1 on the site plan as they would impact his recently installed solar panels.

The property owners at 51 Coronado expressed concern about the design of the right-side elevation and the lack of outreach conducted for this project. They asked that the item be continued to work out their concerns with the property owners and the project designer.

Vice-Chair Blockhus closed the Public Comment section of the meeting and Commission discussion then proceeded.

Walter Chapman then provided a rebuttal with several options to accommodate the concerns of the neighbor and Commissioners.

The property owners explained the color of the siding is a light grey and not white as the rendering appears.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Ma, the Commission voted to continue design review application SC21-0016 with the following direction:

- Work with abutting neighbors for mutually agreed upon trees for the height and species of the trees identified as T1 along the 75 Coronado property line.

The motion failed (1-3) by the following vote:

AYES: Harding

NOES: Blockhus, Kirik and Ma

RECUSED: Bishop

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Kirik, seconded by Commissioner Ma, the Commission continued design review application SC21-0016 to the next available DRC meeting once the following direction has been addressed:

1. Applicant and design work with abutting neighbors for mutually agreed upon trees for the height and species of the trees identified as T1 along the 75 Coronado property line.
2. Reduce the mass of the overall project.
3. Reduce the living room plate height from 12 feet to 9-10 feet.
4. Reduce the wall and length of the second-floor addition and break up this feature so it does not appear as a monolithic wall.

The motion was approved (4-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Blockhus, Harding, Kirik and Ma

NOES: None

RECUSED: Bishop

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Planning Services Manager Persicone went over the agenda items for upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Blockhus adjourned the meeting at 8:22 PM.

Guido Persicone, AICP
Planning Services Manager