

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M. HELD VIA VIDEO/TELECONFERENCE PER EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20**

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: 145 072 1614 or via the web at <https://tinyurl.com/42enajw> with Password: 163755). 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](mailto:DesignReviewCommission@losaltosca.gov) or [Planning@losaltosca.gov](mailto:Planning@losaltosca.gov). Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**

PRESENT: Chair Bishop, Vice-Chair Blockhus and Commissioner Kirik  
ABSENT: Commissioner Harding and Ma  
STAFF: Planning Services Manager Persicone, Senior Planner Golden, Associate Planner Gallegos, and Associate Planner Liu

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

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. **Design Review Commission Minutes**  
Approve minutes of the regular meeting of November 3, 2021.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Blockhus, seconded by Commissioner Kirik, the Commission approved the minutes of the regular meeting of November 3, 2021 as written.

The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Kirik

NOES: None

ABSENT: Harding and Ma

**DISCUSSION**

This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

2. **SC21-0038 - Nick McCracken - 1396 Marinovich Way**  
Design review for modifications of second story windows. The proposed project includes the modification in the number and size of second story windows at the rear and right elevations. Other improvements include replacing windows and replacing exterior materials. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act. *Project Planner: Golden*

Senior Planner Golden presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0038 subject to the listed findings and conditions and made himself available to answer Commissioner questions.

Public Comment

Rear neighbor Cecelia Walsh of 1435 Braddale Avenue stated her concerns with the project regarding the rear windows that look into her backyard and asked if there was a variance.

Senior Planner Golden answered Mrs. Walsh question and stated there was no variance being requested.

Chair Bishop closed the public comment period for Commissioner discussion.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Kirik, seconded by Vice-Chair Blockhus, the Commission approved design review application SC21-0038.

The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Kirik

NOES: None

ABSENT: Harding and Ma

**3. SC21-0027 - Farnaz Khadiv - 2256 Deodara Drive**

Design Review for a two-story addition to a two-story house. The project includes a 591 square-foot addition at the first story and an 881 square-foot addition at the second story with a new 462 square-foot basement. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

No ex parte communications to report, just access given by the property owners.

Associate Planner Gallegos presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0027 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

Associate Planner Gallegos answered questions from Commissioner Kirik and Vice-Chair Blockhus.

The project designer Farnaz Khadiv of KDS gave a summary and introduction to the project.

The property owner Rosa Allen provided some project background, presented some slides and spoke in favor of the project.

The property owner answered questions from Commissioner Blockhus regarding the deck and consideration of skylights.

The project designer answered questions from Commissioners Kirik and Chair Bishop about existing and proposed plate heights.

Public Comment

Neighbor Joe Maletti of 1564 Honeysuckle Place spoke to the concerns of height and coverage of landscaping.

Chair Bishop closed the public comment period for Commissioner discussion.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Kirik, seconded by Vice-Chair Blockhus, the Commission continued design review application SC21-0027 subject to the following direction:

- Reduce the plate height to nine feet at the first and the second story; and
- Provide an architectural feature over the garage to mitigate the bulk and mass along Deodara Drive.

The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Kirik

NOES: None

ABSENT: Harding and Ma

**4. SC21-0032 - Jun Zhang - 1850 Capistrano Way**

Design review for a new two-story residence. The project includes a 2,268 square-foot at the first story and 1,232 square-foot at the second story. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act. *Project Planner: Liu*

No ex parte communication reported.

Associate Planner Liu presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0032 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

The Commissioners had no questions for staff.

The project architect Joyce Liu provided a project presentation and made herself available to answer any questions.

Commissioner Kirik asked if the architect considered a different window at the front elevation where the stairway is located.

The project architect replied that she had a different size and shape proposed originally, but staff suggested there were too many different window types so she simplified it.

**Public Comment**

Neighbor Dan Motsuzuki at 1235 Sandalwood stated his concerns with privacy from the master bedroom window and the new trees being planted in the easement under the powerlines.

Neighbor Roger at 1225 Sandalwood Lane stated concerns over privacy with the bushes being removed and asked if it would be replanted.

Project architect Joyce Liu answered the public comment questions about privacy and landscaping and offered to work with the neighbors to address their privacy concerns.

Chair Bishop closed the public comment period for Commissioner discussion.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Blockhus, seconded by Commissioner Kirik, the Commission approved design review application SC21-0032 subject to the staff report findings and conditions and the following additional conditions:

- Applicant shall work with rear and side neighbors to provide a suitable landscaping plan to mitigate privacy impacts;
- A new fence shall be installed along the rear and right-side property lines; and
- Require a minimum 15-gallon size tree species on the revised landscaping plan.

The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Kirik

NOES: None

ABSENT: Harding and Ma

**5. SC21-0034 - William McIntosh - 779 Santa Rita Avenue**

Design Review for a new two-story house. The project includes a 2,314 square feet at the first story and 1,684 square feet at the second story with a new 1,810 square-foot basement. The project includes an 849 square-foot detached accessory dwelling unit, which is not part of the design review application. This project is categorically exempt from environmental review under Section 15303 of

the California Environmental Quality Act.  
*Project Planner: Gallegos*

No ex parte communication reported.

Associate Planner Gallegos presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC21-0034 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

There were no Commissioner questions of staff.

The project architect Bill McIntosh provided a project presentation and made himself available to answer any questions.

The property owners the Lee and Justin Martin provided some project background and spoke in support of their project.

Project landscape designer, Tom Cliff, spoke about the project landscaping and screening.

There were no Commissioner questions.

#### Public Comment

None.

Chair Bishop closed the public comment period for Commissioner discussion.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Kirik, seconded by Vice-Chair Blockhus, the Commission approved design review application SC21-0034 subject to the staff report findings and conditions. The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Kirik

NOES: None

ABSENT: Harding and Ma

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

Commissioner Kirik reported on the SB 8 and SB 9 Implementation Subcommittee with Commissioner Ma and staff and the objective standard regulations to be adopted by City Council.

Planning Services Manager Persicone went over the next steps.

Councilmember Enander asked the Commissioners to send in their comments regarding the proposed regulations.

#### **POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Planning Services Manager Persicone went over the upcoming agenda items.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bishop adjourned the meeting at 9:36 PM.