

CITY OF LAWNDALE

14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California 90260 Phone (310) 973-3200 – <u>www.lawndalecity.org</u>

AGENDA OF THE LAWNDALE PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, December 13, 2023 - 6:30 p.m. Lawndale City Hall Council Chamber 14717 Burin Avenue

Members of the public may provide their comments when the public comment sections of the meeting are opened. Anyone unable to attend the meeting may submit their public comment by email to <u>agutierrez@lawndalecity.org</u>. Submit your written comments to the Community Development Department by 5:30 p.m. the day of the meeting. Electronic, or written, comments must identify the Agenda Item Number in the comment letter or the subject line of the email. The public comment period will close once the public hearing time for the agenda item has concluded. The comments will be entered into the record and provided to the Commission. All comments should be a maximum of 500 words, which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time.

Copies of this Agenda Packet may be obtained prior to the meeting by written request or on the <u>City Website</u>. Interested parties may contact the Community Development Department at (310) 973-3230 for clarification regarding individual agenda items.

This Agenda is subject to revision up to 72 hours before the meeting.

- A. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>
- B. <u>ROLL CALL</u>
- C. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>
- D. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>

1. <u>Minutes of the Lawndale Planning Commission Special Meeting – November 15, 2023</u>

E. <u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u>

Members of the audience may address the Commission on matters of public interest, which pertain to the City and are not otherwise listed on the agenda. If you wish to speak, please step forward to the microphone, but not required, state your name and city of residence, and make your presentation. The maximum time for the presentation is 3 minutes.

F. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u>

1. <u>Case No. 23-20: Consideration of a Lot Size Exception to Legalize 237.5 Square Feet</u> <u>Addition and Add 200 Square Feet to an Existing Single-Family Residence Located on a</u> <u>Nonconforming Lot Identified as 4557 W. 154th Street and Finding of Exemption from</u> <u>CEQA</u>

G. <u>REGULAR AGENDA</u>

None

H. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

I. <u>ITEMS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION</u>

J. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in the Lawndale City Hall council chamber, 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

It is the intention of the City of Lawndale to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Community Development Department at (310) 973-3230 prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at that time if you will need accommodations to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting to be held on December 13, 2023, was posted not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Adrian Gutierrez, Administrative Assistant II



MINUTES OF THE LAWNDALE PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 2023

A. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

Chairperson Price called the special meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the Lawndale City Hall Council Chamber, 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

B. <u>ROLL CALL</u>

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Ni Kal S. Price, Vice Chairperson John Martinez, Commissioner Scott Smith, Commissioner Madonna Sitka

- Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Dr. Daniel Urrutia
- Other Participants: Acting Assistant City Attorney Justin A. Tamayo, Community Development Manager Jared Chavez, Associate Planner Jose Hernandez, De Novo Principal Planner Amanda Tropiano, De Novo Senior Planner Ashley Brodkin, Administrative Assistant II Adrian Gutierrez

C. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>

Commissioner Sitka led the flag salute.

D. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>

1. <u>Minutes of the Lawndale Planning Commission Regular Meeting – October 11, 2023</u>

Chairperson Price asked if the project located at 4025 W. 169th Street would need to be recontinued since it is past the original thirty-day continuance period. Acting Assistant City Attorney Tamayo said that no additional action was necessary. Community Development Manager Chavez stated that the applicant withdrew the project due to a change in the scope of work.

Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the minutes, with a second from Commissioner Sitka. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Urrutia absent.

E. <u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u>

None

F. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u>

1. <u>Case No. 23-19: A Proposal by the City of Lawndale for Consideration of a</u> <u>Comprehensive Update of the City's General Plan (2045) and General Plan</u> <u>Environmental Impact Report (EIR).</u>

Community Development Manager Chavez introduced the item. Principal Planner Tropiano and Senior Planner Brodkin presented information about the General Plan Update process.

Chairperson Price had questions regarding the new "Public Facilities" designation for schools. She also asked questions regarding the Metro right-of-way being redesignated to "Open Space".

City staff and De Novo staff responded to Chairperson Price's questions, stating that the updated General Plan policies would allow future development of potential park space on the Metro right-of-way, and allow joint-use agreements to use schools as parks and other recreational uses.

Chairperson Price opened the public hearing at 6:59 p.m.

Chairperson Price closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. with no one in the audience.

Vice Chairperson Martinez motioned to approve Resolutions 23-08 and 23-07 with a second from Commissioner Sitka. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Urrutia absent.

G. <u>REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS</u>

None

H. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Manager Chavez spoke about the upcoming Santa Sleigh Event, the tentative grand opening date for the Sprouts store, a new proposed Starbucks off the corner of Burin Avenue and Rosecrans Avenue, and the 2024 Planning Commissioners Academy.

In addition, she asked the Commission if they would consider canceling the November 22nd and December 27th regular meetings. The Commission agreed to cancel both meetings.

I. <u>ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION</u>

Commissioner Sitka mentioned that she did not receive a follow-up call regarding her inquiry about the Neighborhood Watch program. Community Development Manager Chavez said she will follow up with the Municipal Services Department.

The Commission discussed the increased police patrol at William Green Park and the removal process of graffiti from the Little League's materials.

The Commission and staff had a brief discussion regarding the Santa Sleigh event.

J. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Chairperson Price adjourned the special meeting at 7:09 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lawndale City Hall Council Chamber located at 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

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Ni Kal S. Price, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jared Chavez, Community Development Manager



CITY OF LAWNDALE PLANNING COMMISSION

STAFF REPORT

DATE:	December 13, 2023			
то:	Honorable Chairman and Members of the Planning Commission			
REVIEWED BY:	Jared Chavez, Community Development Manager			
PREPARED BY:	Jose Hernandez, Associate Planner			
RE:	CASE NO. 23-20 CONSIDERATION OF LOT SIZE EXCEPTION TO LEGALIZE 237.5 SQUARE FEET ADDTION AND ADD 200 SQUARE FEET TO AN EXISTING SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE LOCATED ON A NONCONFORMING LOT IDENTIFIED AS 4557 W 154 TH STREET AND FINDING OF EXEMPTION FROM CEQA			

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The applicant is requesting approval of a lot size exception to legalize 237.5 square feet and add 200 square feet to the existing single-family residence at the subject site. The existing unit is currently 675 square feet, and it has a two-car garage. The applicant is proposing to add a family room to the rear portion of the house. The lot size exception is required when the lots are undersized. The current size of the lot is 4,651 sq. ft. and the minimum lot size is 5,000 sq. ft. for ("Project").

- APPLICANT: Francisco and Mabel Talavera
- **PROPERTY** Francisco and Mabel Talavera **OWNER:**
- LOCATION: 4557 W 154th Street

APN: 4079-014-023

ZONE: R-2 (Two Family Residential)

GENERAL PLAN:

The City's General Plan designates the Property as "Residential Multi-Family Low Density," which permits a density of 17.4 dwelling units per acre. The designation

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permits single-family detached, duplex/double unit, condominiums, town homes, or any combination of the above and ancillary uses.

ZONING CODE:

The property is zoned R-2 (Two-Family Residence). The R-2 Zone allows up to three residential dwelling units subject to compliance with the density standards for the R-2 zone.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301 "Existing Facilities" of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA ") Guidelines. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing and licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or not expansion of existing or former use. Additions to existing structures provided that the addition will not result in an increase of more than 50 percent of the floor area of the structures before the addition, or 2,500 square feet, whichever is less. The proposed addition will not result in an increase of more than 50 percent of the existing single family residential unit and the addition will be less than 2,500 square feet.

SURROUNDING

LAND USES		
AND ZONING:	North:	R-2 (Two-Family Residence) Zone
	South:	R-2 (Two-Family Residence) Zone
	East:	R-2 (Two-Family Residence) Zone
	West:	R-2 (Two-Family Residence) Zone

BACKGROUND:

The applicant is seeking approval for a lot size exception in order to be permitted to add a office, bedroom, laundry room and master bathroom to the existing single family dwelling. The home was originally constructed as a 675 square foot home with an attached carport in 1957. The property owner is proposing to add 437.5 square feet to the rear portion of the house. The home currently has a 3-bedroom 2 bath house and they will add an office and laundry room.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

The project is proposed within the R-2 (Two Family Residence) zoning district. The property has a frontage of 39.33 feet and a depth of 122 feet. The lot is approximately 4,758 square feet, which does not meet the City's R-2 zoning code minimum area requirement of 5,000 square feet to alter the existing nonconforming structures.

LOT SIZE EXCEPTION:

The Applicant is seeking a lot size exception because the lot is non-conforming to the minimum lot size for the R-2 zone district. However, the current size of the lot allows for additions with the approval from the Planning Commission with a request by the applicant for a lot size exemption per the Lawndale Municipal Code Section 17.20.120. A lot size exception is required for any development proposed as part of any lot or parcel of lands which has less than the required lot area as required by the R-2 zone district.

The approval of the lot size exception by Planning Commission is required to allow the construction of a 437.5 square foot addition to the existing single-family unit because the property is located in R-2 zone and with a lot less than 5,000 square feet.

As described above, the project and current condition of the property meet the provisions and intent of Lawndale Municipal Code Sections 17.20.120. Therefore, staff recommends that the Planning Commission determine that the grounds for approving a lot size exception apply to this project, subject to the findings and conditions of approval.

PUBLIC REVIEW:

Notices of a public hearing were mailed to property owners within a 500 ft. radius of the project site on November 30,2023. Notices were also posted on the message board outside City of Lawndale's City Hall pursuant to Government Code Section 65091 (a)(5)(B) Additionally a notice was published in the *Daily Breeze* on November 26, 2023.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney's office has reviewed the resolution and approved it as to form.

RECOMMENDATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Planning Commission:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing;
- 2) Find and determine that the proposed Project is exempt from the CEQA pursuant to Section 15301 "Existing Facilities" of the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 23-09 setting forth findings of fact and conditions of approval relative to the submitted application.

ATTACHMENTS:	"A"	Resolution No. 23-09
	"B"	Vicinity Map
	"C"	Architectural Plans

ATTACHMENT "A"

Resolution No. 23-09

RESOLUTION NO. 23-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAWNDALE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A LOT SIZE EXCEPTION TO ADD 437.5 SQ. FT. TO AN EXISTING SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING LOCATED ON A LEGAL NONCONFORMING UNDERSIZED LOT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4557 W 154TH STREET, (WITHIN THE TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-2) ZONE) AND FIND THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM CEQA

WHEREAS, an application has been filed by Francisco and Mabel Talavera ("Applicant") desiring to construct a 437.5 sq. ft. addition to the existing single family dwelling unit on an undersized lot ("Project") located at 4557 W 154th Street in the City of Lawndale ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property, which is zoned R-2 (Two Family Residence Zone), is 3,750 square feet in size does not meet the 5,000 sq. ft. minimum area requirement of the Lawndale Municipal Code ("LMC") and therefore is undersized; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to LMC Section 17.20.120 a lot size special exception may be granted when the present owner of an under-sized and illegally created lot was neither responsible for, nor aware at the time the lot was acquired, of the fact of the illegal creation of the lot and further that permitting the establishment, alteration, enlargement, occupancy or use will not be detrimental to the value of adjacent property, or to the public health, safety and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted an application for a Lot Size Exception to construct a 437.5 sq. f.t addition to an existing single-family dwelling with an attached carport; and

WHEREAS, Lawndale Municipal Code Section 17.20.120 authorize the Planning Commission to grant lot size exception to accommodate an undersized lot; and

WHEREAS, Case No. 23-20 was properly noticed and set for public hearing before the Planning Commission on December 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS, evidence was heard and presented from all persons interested in affecting said proposal, from all persons protesting the same and from members of the City staff, and the Planning Commission, having reviewed, analyzed and studied said proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAWNDALE, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, FIND, AND DETERMINE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

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- Section 2. That, subject to compliance with the conditions below, the Planning Commission hereby approves a Lot Size Exception for the Project (a) the present owner of the Property, which is under-sized, was not responsible for, nor aware at the time the lot was acquired, of the fact of the illegal creation of the lot and (b) permitting the construction of a 437.5 square foot addition will not be detrimental to the value of adjacent property, or to the public health, safety and general welfare because it is consistent with Lawndale Municipal Code Chapter 17.20.
- **Section 3.** That because the Project involves the construction of a 437.5 square foot addition to an existing residential dwelling unit a property within a residential zone and has no potential to substantially impact the environment, a Categorical Exemption is hereby approved for the Project in accordance with Section 15301(e) ("Existing Facilities") of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines, which provides a categorical exemption from CEQA for the construction of additions to existing structures provided that the addition will not result in an increase of more than 50 percent of the floor area of the structures before the addition, or 2,500 square feet, whichever is less. The Planning Commission finds that the Project meets the following conditions:
- 1. Within 30 days of approval of this entitlement, the Applicant shall certify his/her acceptance of the conditions placed on the approval by signing an Affidavit of Acceptance.
- 2. The proposed project shall be developed in accordance with all applicable City, County State and Federal regulations.
- 3. Pay of all applicable fees and plan check fees with Public Works Department.
- 4. The applicant shall submit a demolition plan to the Public Works Department and pay all applicable fees in connection with the review thereof prior to the issuance of a demolition permit.
- 5. The applicant shall submit a copy of the approved Grading and/or Drainage Plan to the Public Works Department prior to the issuance of a building permit.
- 6. The applicant shall design the project in a manner that prevents surface water from draining across the sidewalk.
- 7. Remove and reconstruct damaged and substandard sidewalk fronting the property to the satisfaction of the City Engineer. New sidewalk and driveway approaches need to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 8. The Applicant shall submit the building construction documents to the City for plan check within one (1) year of approval of this Project.

- 9. No exterior security bars shall be allowed to be placed along the buildings' facade.
- 10. Except as set forth in the conditions of approval, development shall take place as shown on the approved site plans and elevations. Any deviation must be approved by the Director of Community Development before any construction occurs.
- 11. The entire site shall be kept in good, first class condition, free from trash, debris and litter at all times, and all trash, debris and litter shall be removed as soon as possible but at least within 24 hours.
- 12. All landscaping and irrigation systems shall be continuously maintained in good repair by the property owners or homeowners association. Irrigation systems shall not produce overspray. All landscaping shall be maintained in a healthy condition and dying and dead landscaping shall be promptly replaced with similar plant materials and of a size similar to the plant being replaced.
- 13. All planning conditions of approval shall be printed as general notes on the front pages of the approved set of building plans.
- 14. Tarps are prohibited from use as carports, patio covers, shade covers, and covers for outdoor storage in all front and side setback areas, rear yard areas, and over driveways and in parking and circulation areas.
- 15. Roof-Mounted Equipment and Projections. All roof appurtenances, including air conditioners and other roof mounted equipment and/or projections shall be screened from all sides and the sound shall be buffered from adjacent properties and streets as required by the Community Development Department. Such screening shall be architecturally integrated with the building design and constructed to the satisfaction of the Community Development Director. Any roof-mounted mechanical equipment and/or ductwork, that projects vertically more than 18 inches above the roof or roof parapet, shall be screened by an architecturally designed enclosure which exhibits a permanent nature with the building design and is detailed consistent with the building. Any roof-mounted mechanical equipment and/or ductwork, that projects vertically less than 18 inches above the roof or roof parapet shall be painted consistent with the color scheme of the building. Details shall be included in the building plans.
- 16. Violation of, or noncompliance with, any of the conditions shall constitute grounds for revocation of this entitlement.
- 17. The Applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City and its agents, officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the City or its agents, officers or employees to attack, set aside, void or annul the approval by the City concerning this approval or in any way relating to this Project. The City shall promptly notify the Applicant of any filed claim, action or proceeding and shall cooperate fully in the defense of the action.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 13th DAY OF DECEMBER 2023.

Nik al Price, Chairperson Lawndale Planning Commission

I, Jared Chavez, Community Development Manager for the City of Lawndale, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing **Resolution No. 23-09** was duly approved and adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Lawndale at a regular meeting of said Commission held on the 13th day of December 2023 by the following roll call vote:

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AYES: NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

Jared Chavez, Community Development Manager

ATTACHMENT "B"

Vicinity Map



ATTACHMENT "C"

Architectural Plans













