

## CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS ZONING HEARING EXAMINER NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

VOORHIES J. STCYR request(s) a special exception to Section 14-16-3-3(A)(4)(a)(1): a VARIANCE of 3' to the 8' wall height allowance for an existing 11' high wall in the side and rear yard setback areas on all or a portion of Lot(s) 40, Block(s) 74, BEL-AIR zoned R-1, located at 2942 ALVARADO DR NE (H-18)

Special Exception No:	11ZHE-80073
Project No:	Project# 1008745
Hearing Date:	05-17-11
Closing of Public Record:	05-17-11
Date of Decision:	06-29-11

**STATEMENT OF FACTS:** The applicant, Voorhies St Cyr, requests a variance of 3' to the 8' wall height allowance for an existing 11' high wall in the side and rear yard setback areas.

There is a report dated May 3, 2011 from the Traffic Engineer noted in the file indicating that the existing wall does impact the City of Albuquerque Transportation Design 11 ft mini clear sight triangle (CST) for residential driveways. Mr. St. Cyr was given a copy of this report at the hearing and informed that the existing wall must be modified to comply with the Traffic Engineer requirements. He was told that until that was done; this office would not render a decision for this request. On June 14, 2011, a reminder letter was mailed to the applicant informing him that if this office did not get a report for the Traffic Engineer by June 28, 2011 indicating that the wall no longer caused a clear sight violation, this matter would be denied. This office has not received any correspondence indicating that the wall is no longer in violation. Therefore, this matter is denied.

Based on all of the testimony and a review of the entire file, it is determined that there is substantial evidence to make the following findings and conclusions:

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS: I find that this parcel is not exceptional as compared to other parcels in the vicinity and, therefore, it does not meet the test for the granting of a variance as provided for by Section 14. 16. 4. 2. I further find that the regulations do not produce an unnecessary hardship in that it will not limit the owner's reasonable use of the property and/or deprive the owner of a reasonable return on the property. Finally, the variance will significantly interfere with the enjoyment of other land in the vicinity and is inconsistent with the spirit of the Zoning Ordinance, substantial justice and the general public interest.

**<u>DECISION</u>**: Denied. The existing wall must be brought into compliance with all City regulations, including Traffic Engineer requirements. This matter will be referred to the Code Enforcement Division.

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by 5:00 p.m., on July 14, 2011 in the manner described below:

Appeal is to the Board of Appeals within 15 days of the decision. A filing fee of \$105.00 shall accompany each appeal application, as well as a written explanation outlining the reason for appeal and a copy of the ZHE decision. Appeals are taken at 600 2nd Street, Plaza Del Sol Building, Ground Level, Planning Application Counter located on the west side of the lobby. **Please present this letter of notification when filing an appeal.** When an application is withdrawn, the fee shall not be refunded.

An appeal shall be heard by the Board of Appeals within 45 days of the appeal period and concluded within 75 days of the appeal period. The Planning Division shall give written notice of an appeal, together with a notice of the date, time and place of the hearing to the applicant, a representative of the opponents, if any are known, and the appellant.

Please note that pursuant to Section 14. 16. 4. 4. (B)., of the City of Albuquerque Comprehensive Zoning Code, you must demonstrate that you have legal standing to file an appeal as defined.

You will receive notice if any other person files an appeal. If there is no appeal, you can receive building permits any time after the appeal deadline quoted above, provided all conditions imposed at the time of approval have been met. However, the Zoning Hearing Examiner may allow issuance of building permits if the public hearing produces no objection of any kind to the approval of an application. To receive this approval, the applicant agrees in writing to return the building permit or occupation tax number.

Successful applicants are reminded that other regulations of the City must be complied with, even after approval of a special exception is secured. This decision does not constitute approval of plans for a building permit. If your application is approved, bring this decision with you when you apply for any related building permit or occupation tax number. Approval of a conditional use or a variance application is void after one year from date of approval if the rights and privileges are granted, thereby have not been executed or utilized.

Roberto Albertorio, Esq. Zoning Hearing Examiner

cc: Zoning Enforcement

ZHE File

Voorhies St Cyr, 2942 Alvarado Drive NE