



STAFF REPORT
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

**For the Design Review Commission
Meeting of June 2, 2011**

TO: Design Review Commission

FROM: Shena Rojemann, Associate Planner

SUBJECT: A request for an R-1 Design Review Permit to allow the construction of a new two-story single-family residence, located in the Central Area of the City, north of Santa Monica Boulevard at **706 Alpine Drive (PL 110 1970)**.

Continued from the May 5, 2011 Design Review Commission meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aziz Zarabi, on behalf of the property owner, has filed an application for Track 2 design review to allow the construction of a new two-story single-family residence with basement at **706 Alpine Drive**.

This item was reviewed by the Commission its March 3, 2011 meeting, April 7, 2011 meeting and May 5, 2011 meeting. At the May 5, 2011 meeting, the Commission's comments were as follows:

Continued on the next page.

Design Review Commission Requests May 5, 2011 Meeting	Applicant's Response
1. The railings should be greatly simplified. Provide 2-3 alternative options for the Commission's consideration.	1. The applicant has simplified the railing design. Only one railing design has been submitted for the Commission's consideration (see sheet A-3.1).
2. The bathrooms windows at the second floor should be moved the center of the wall on which they are located.	2. The applicant has relocated the bathroom windows at the second floor to the center of the wall (see the building elevation on sheet A-3.1).
3. Provide a revised landscape plan and landscape lighting plan. The landscape plan must include the type of species proposed, the quantity of each type of species and the size of each type of species. Pictures of the proposed plants are highly encouraged.	3. The applicant has provided a landscape plan and landscape lighting plan for the Commission's review. The plan also contains photos of the proposed plant materials and spec sheets of the lighting fixtures. Additionally, the Commission may recall the previous discussions regarding the maintenance of the existing Sycamore trees on the site. The applicant is proposing to maintain the trees. As conditioned (see Exhibit A), prior to the issuance of a building permit, the City's Parks and Urban Forest Manager, Ken Pfalzgraf, shall review and approve a plan for the protection of the existing Sycamore trees during construction.
4. Provide physical samples of the proposed paving.	4. The applicant has included an image of the proposed paving materials (see sheet 4 of the landscape set of plans).

A revised material board will be presented at the meeting for the Commission's review.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing analysis and pending the information and conclusions that may result from testimony received at the public hearing, as well as Design Review Commission deliberations, the Commission may approve the project as presented, approve the project subject to conditions, return the project for restudy or deny the project.


 SHENA ROJEMANN
 Associate Planner

Attachment(s)

Exhibit A – DRC Findings

Exhibit B – Conditions of Approval

Exhibit C - Draft Resolution for the Commission's consideration

Exhibit A
DRC Findings

If the Commission finds that the project meets the criteria set forth below, the Commission shall make findings to approve the application. When the proposed development does not comply with the criteria, the Commission may impose such conditions it deems necessary to bring the proposed development into conformity with the provisions of this article.

- 1. The proposed development's design exhibits an internally compatible design scheme.***
- 2. Appropriately minimizes the appearance of scale and mass, enhances the garden like quality of the city, and appropriately maximizes the use of required open space within the proposed architectural style.***
- 3. The development will enhance the appearance of the neighborhood.***
- 4. The proposed development is designed to balance the reasonable expectation of development for the owner with the reasonable expectation of privacy of neighbors.***
- 5. The proposed development respects prevailing site design pattern, carefully analyzing the characteristics of the surrounding group of homes, and integrates appropriate features that will ensure harmony between old and new.***

Exhibit B
Conditions of Approval

PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

1. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the City's Parks and Urban Forest Manager, Ken Pfalzgraf, shall review and approve a plan for the protection of the existing Sycamore trees during construction.

STANDARD CONDITIONS:

2. Any future modifications to this approval shall be presented to staff for a determination as to whether the change may be approved by staff (minor) or to the Commission for review. Changes made without City approval shall be required to be restored to match the City approved plans.
3. Final plans shall include spec sheets for windows to include manufacturer, size and shape.
4. Colored elevations for all construction visible from the street shall be provided with call-outs for each material proposed for verification in the field during construction.
5. A copy of the final conditions of approval per the approved Resolution shall be scanned onto the cover sheet of the final building plans.
6. The proposed landscape plan shall comply with the City's Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance.

706 Alpine Drive
For the Design Review Commission Meeting of June 2, 2011

Exhibit C
Draft Resolution for
the Commission's consideration

RESOLUTION NO. DR-8-11

RESOLUTION OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS CONDITIONALLY APPROVING AN R-1 DESIGN REVIEW PERMIT TO ALLOW A NEW SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 706 ALPINE DRIVE.

Aziz Zarabi, applicant on behalf of the property owner, has applied for an R-1 Design Review Permit to allow a new single-family residence on a single-family property located in the Central Area of the City. As conditioned, the Project meets all required zoning standards, including height, setbacks, parking, and floor area.

The Design Review Commission of the City of Beverly Hills hereby finds, resolves, and determines as follows:

Section 1. Reviewing Authority.

Pursuant to Section 10-3-4408 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code, no single-family residence located in a Central R-1 Zone shall be erected, constructed, altered, or remodeled unless the elevations and plans for the exterior portions and areas visible from the street are reviewed and approved by the City. The Design Review Commission is the reviewing authority if it has first been determined that the design does not substantially conform to a pure architectural style, but has been designed by a licensed architect. Therefore, it has been determined that the Design Review Commission shall be the reviewing authority.

Pursuant to Section 10-3-4415 of the Beverly Hills Municipal code, the request for a Design Review Permit may be approved, provided the Design Review Commission makes certain findings as set forth in Section 4: Project Public Hearing/Approved Project Plans.

Section 2. Terms Defined.

The Following Terms	Shall Mean:
"Project Site"	706 Alpine Drive
"Agent"	Aziz Zarabi
"Property Owner"	Pirooz and Susan Nourizad
"Applicant"	Collectively, the property owner and agent.

Section 3. Project Description.

The lot is currently developed with a with a single-story residence and accessory structure. The existing primary residence and accessory structure would be demolished and replaced by a new two-story residence with basement. Surrounding development consists of one- and two-story single-family homes.

Section 4. Project Public Hearing/Approved Project Plans

The Design Review Commission held a duly noticed public hearing to consider the application. Evidence, both written and oral, was presented and architectural plans addressing the conditions of approval were presented for the Commission's consideration in conjunction with this Resolution.

- A Public Hearing for this project was held on the following date(s):
 - March 3, 2011
 - April 7, 2011
 - May 5, 2011
 - June 2, 2011
- Architectural plans were conditionally approved by the Commission on June 2, 2011.

Section 5. Environmental Assessment

The Project has been environmentally reviewed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq, hereafter the "Guidelines"), and the City's environmental guidelines. The City has determined that the Project qualifies for a Class 2 Categorical Exemption (replacement or reconstruction of a single-family residence) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15302 of the Guidelines. Therefore, no significant impacts to the environment are anticipated.

Section 6. Findings of the Design Review Commission.

Based upon the evidence presented at the hearing, including the staff report and architectural plans, the Design Review Commission made findings to approve the project as set forth in "Exhibit 1" to this Resolution.

Section 7. Conditions of Approval

Based on the foregoing, the Design Review Commission hereby grants the R-1 Design Review Permit for the Project subject to the conditions set forth in "Exhibit 2" to this Resolution.

Section 8. Certification.

The Secretary of the Design Review Commission shall certify to the passage, approval, and adoption of this resolution, and shall cause this resolution and certification to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Design Review Commission of the City.

Adopted: June 2, 2011

Howard Szabo
Chair of the Design Review Commission of
the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:

Shena Rojemann, Associate Planner
Secretary to the Design Review Commission

EXHIBIT 1 OF 2: FINDINGS

Based on its review of the application, documentation, and the testimony heard at the public hearing, the Design Review Commission determined that the proposed Project meets the following 5 criteria in accordance with Beverly Hills Municipal Code Section 10-3-4415:

1. The project includes high quality materials such as smooth stucco and concrete mouldings, slate tile roof, and wood windows and doors. The proposed materials and details are consistent throughout the project's design, thereby creating a uniform design scheme. Based on the project's balanced design and consistent use of materials, it appears to exhibit an internally compatible design scheme.

2. The project incorporates substantial modulation along the facades, contains recessed windows and doors, recessed entryway and recessed balconies. Because these elements help to reduce the appearance of mass and scale, it is therefore possible to make the required finding. The landscape plan utilizes a variety of landscaping features and mature-sized trees that will contribute to the garden quality of the city and help to soften the appearance of the project.

3. The project utilizes high quality building materials and design, which will help to enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. Additionally, the design follows a consistent, balanced theme, while maintaining an appropriate level of scale, mass, and modulation. Therefore, the project is expected to enhance the appearance of the neighborhood.

4. The project meets and in some areas exceeds the City's current side setback requirements along all property lines. Because the project meets all required setbacks the proposed project creates a balance between the reasonable expectation of development and the reasonable expectation of privacy of neighbors.

5. The project respects prevailing site design by following prevailing setbacks and building orientation found along the adjacent streetscape. Although the project is larger than some of the existing residences on the block, the design has been executed to ensure that scale and massing is controlled, and that the project will be consistent with the surrounding area. Based on its design, the project maximizes floor area without appearing unduly massive and bulky and would be a harmonious addition to the existing neighborhood.

EXHIBIT 2 OF 2: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

1. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the City's Parks and Urban Forest Manager, Ken Pfalzgraf, shall review and approve a plan for the protection of the existing Sycamore trees during construction.

STANDARD CONDITIONS:

2. Design Review: Any approval by the Commission is for design only; the project is subject to all applicable City zoning regulations.
3. Final Plans: The Applicant shall submit final working drawings to the Director of Community Development for review and approval prior to the issuance of a building permit. The Project shall be built in substantial compliance with the plans approved by the Design Review Commission on May 5, 2011 on file with the Department of Community Development.
4. Future Modifications: Any future modifications to this approval shall be presented to staff for a determination as to whether the change may be approved by staff (minor changes only) or presented to the Commission for review. Changes made without City approval shall be required to be restored to match the City approved plans.
5. Windows: Final plans shall include spec sheets and details for windows and include the name of the manufacturer, size, shape, color and material of each window.
6. Elevations – Material Call-Outs: Colored elevations for all construction visible from the street shall be provided with the final plans. Call-outs for each material shall be provided for verification in the field during construction.
7. Resolution Scanned on Plans: A copy of the executed Covenant and approved Resolution (including the Findings and Conditions of Approval) shall be scanned onto the cover sheet of the approved building plans.
8. Water Efficient Landscaping: The proposed landscape plan shall comply with the City's Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance.
9. Construction Management Plan. Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Applicant shall prepare a construction management plan for review and approval by the Department of Community Development. The plan shall include the location of construction parking, loading and hauling routes and locations, and number of construction employees anticipated on site. All construction-related parking, staging and hauling shall conform to the construction parking and hauling plan submitted to and approved by the Building Official and the City Engineer.

10. Site Maintenance and Contact Information. The Applicant shall maintain the site in an orderly condition prior to commencement of and during construction, including, but not limited to, maintenance of the orderly appearance of existing structures and landscaping on the site, dust suppression for areas cleared by demolition, maintenance of safety barriers and adjacent public sidewalks, and provision of a contact person directly accessible to the public by telephone in the event that the public has any concerns regarding maintenance of the site. The name and telephone number of the contact person shall be transmitted to the Director of Community Development and the Building Official. In addition, the Applicant shall post the name and telephone number of the contact person on the site in a location readily visible to the general public and approved by the Director of Community Development.
11. Recordation of Covenant. These conditions of approval shall run with the land and shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the life of this approval. This resolution approving the R-1 Design Review Permit shall not become effective until the owner of the Project site records a covenant, satisfactory in form and content to the City Attorney, accepting the conditions of approval set forth in this resolution. The covenant shall include a copy of this resolution as an exhibit. The Covenant shall be recorded prior to issuance of a building permit.

The Applicant shall deliver the executed covenant to the Department of Community Development **within 60 days** of the Design Review Commission decision. At the time that the Applicant delivers the covenant to the City, the Applicant shall also provide the City with all fees necessary to record the document with the County Recorder. If the Applicant fails to deliver the executed covenant within the required 60 days, this resolution approving the R-1 Design Review **shall be null and void** and of no further effect. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the director of Community Development may, upon a request by the Applicant, grant a waiver from the 60-day time limit if, at the time of the request, the Director determines that there have been no substantial changes to any federal, state or local law that would affect the R-1 Design Review.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS.
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS)

I, SHENA ROJEMANN, Secretary of the Design Review Commission and City Planner of the City of Beverly Hills, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. DR-8-11 duly passed, approved, and adopted by the Design Review Commission of said City at a meeting of said Commission on June 2, 2011 and thereafter duly signed by the Secretary of the Design Review Commission, as indicated; and that the Design Review Commission of the City consists of five (5) members and said Resolution was passed by the following vote of said Commission, to wit:

- AYES: Commissioner Wyka, Commissioner Nathan, Commissioner Strauss and Chair Szabo.
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: Vice Chair Pepp

SHENA ROJEMANN
Secretary to the Design Review
Commission/Associate Planner
City of Beverly Hills, California