



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

LUIS AND AMANDA ARAMBURU requests a special exception to Section 14-16-3-19(A)(1)(c): a CONDITIONAL USE to allow a 6' wall at property line on a corner lot which abuts a front yard for all or a portion of Lot 15-P1, COTTONWOOD HILLS SEVEN BAR zoned R-1, located on 4344 CANADA PL NW (A-13)

Special Exception No:..... **15ZHE-80069**  
Project No:..... **Project# 1010425**  
Hearing Date:..... 05-19-2015  
Closing of Public Record:..... 05-19-2015  
Date of Decision: ..... 05-29-2015

On the 19th day of May, 2015 (hereinafter "**Hearing**") LUIS AND AMANDA ARAMBURU (hereinafter "**Applicant**") appeared before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (hereinafter "**ZHE**") requesting a Conditional Use to allow a 6' wall at property line on a corner lot which abuts a front yard (hereinafter "**Application**") upon the real property located at 4344 CANADA PL NW ("**Subject Property**"). Below are the findings of facts:

**FINDINGS:**

1. Applicant is requesting a Conditional Use to allow a 6' wall at property line on a corner lot which abuts a front yard.
2. The City of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances Section § 14-16-4-2 (C) (1) (a) "SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS" reads in part: "*A conditional use shall be approved if and only if, in the circumstances of the particular case and under conditions imposed, the use proposed will not be injurious to the adjacent property, the neighborhood, or the community.*"
3. Applicant testified at the Hearing that the Conditional Use, if approved, will not be injurious to the adjacent property, neighborhood, or the community because the proposed six foot wall appears to the ZHE to be architecturally in harmony with the neighborhood and further, the Cottonwood Hills/Mirador Sandia Homeowners' Association authored a letter of approval (from their Architectural Committee) on April 20, 2015 – which provides further evidence to the ZHE that this proposed wall is not injurious to the community. Additionally, the ZHE received a letter of support from the owner of 10431 Chaparro Drive NW, which stated in part "we have no objections to them raising their existing wall to 6 feet at the property line which abuts our front property."
4. The City of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances Section § 14-16-4-2 (C) (1) (b) "SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS" reads in part: "*A conditional use shall be approved if and only if, in the circumstances of the particular case and under conditions imposed, the use proposed will not be significantly damaged by surrounding structures or activities.*"

5. Applicant testified at the Hearing that the proposed conditional use, will not be significantly damaged by the surrounding structures or activities.
6. The Applicant made arguments to the ZHE that there are “lots of six foot walls like this one” in this surrounding neighborhood, and that this wall would be architecturally similar to neighboring walls.
7. The yellow “Notice of Hearing” signs were posted for the required time period as articulated within City of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances § 14-16-4-2 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS.
8. The Applicant has adequately justified the Conditional Use request pursuant to City of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances § 14-16-4-2 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS.

**DECISION:**

**APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS** of a CONDITIONAL USE to allow a 6' wall at property line on a corner lot which abuts a front yard.

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:**

- A. The Applicant shall adhere to the *design guidelines* for walls and fences as set forth in the City of Albuquerque Zoning Code.
- B. The Applicant shall abide by the City of Albuquerque Traffic Engineer approval to keep the wall's clear sight triangle free of obstructions.
- C. The Applicant shall utilize a color for the fence that is substantially similar to the color and style of the neighborhood.

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so 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.



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Zoning Hearing Examiner

cc: Zoning Enforcement  
ZHE File  
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