On the 21st day of January, 2020, Brian Langwell, agent for property owner William Simon, Robert Simon Trust (“Applicant”) appeared before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (“ZHE”) requesting a conditional use to allow a taproom (“Application”) upon the real property located at 524 Romero ST NW (“Subject Property”). Below are the ZHE’s findings of fact and decision:

FINDINGS:

1. Applicant is requesting a conditional use to allow a taproom.
2. The City of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances Section 14-16-6-6(A)(3) (Review and Decision Criteria—Conditional Use) reads: “An application for a Conditional Use Approval shall be approved if it meets all of the following criteria:

   (a) It is consistent with the ABC Comp. Plan, as amended;
   (b) It complies with all applicable provisions of the IDO, including, but not limited to any Use-specific Standards applicable to the use in Section 14-16-4-3; the DPM; other adopted City regulations; and any conditions specifically applied to development of the property in any prior permit or approval affecting the property;
   (c) It will not create significant adverse impacts on adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the larger community;
   (d) It will not create material adverse impacts on other land in the surrounding area, through increases in traffic congestion, parking congestion noise, or vibration without sufficient mitigation or civic or environmental benefits that outweigh the expected impacts;
   (e) It will not increase non-residential activity within 300 feet of a lot in any residential zone district between the hours of 8:00 pm and 6:00 am;
   (f) It will not negatively impact pedestrian or transit connectivity without appropriate mitigation

3. The Applicant bears the burden of ensuring there is evidence in the record supporting a finding that the above criteria are met under Section 14-16-6-4(N)(1).
4. Agent for property owner appeared and gave evidence in support of the application.
5. All property owners within 100 feet and affected neighborhood association(s) were notified.
6. The subject property is currently zoned MX-T.
7. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use is consistent with the ABC Comp. Plan, as amended; specifically, because it supports Comp Plan goal 5.1.6 by fostering the mixed use center of the Old Town Activity Center, and because it furthers Goal 8.2 by fostering entrepreneurship in the community. No evidence to the contrary was submitted.

8. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use complies with all applicable provisions of the IDO, including, but not limited to any Use-specific Standards applicable to the use in Section 14-16-4-3; the DPM; other adopted City regulations; and any conditions specifically applied to development of the property in any prior permit or approval affecting the property. No evidence to the contrary was submitted.

9. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use will not create significant adverse impacts on adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the larger community. In fact, applicant received a letter of support from the Historic Old Town Property Owners Association indicating the positive impact the proposed conditional use would have.

10. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use will not create material adverse impacts on other land in the surrounding area, through increases in traffic congestion, parking congestion noise, or vibration without sufficient mitigation or civic or environmental benefits that outweigh the expected impacts. Applicant testified that the proposed use would not increase traffic, parking congestion, noise, or vibration. No evidence to the contrary was submitted.

11. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use will not increase non-residential activity within 300 feet of a lot in any residential zone between the hours of 8:00PM and 6:00AM as required by Section 14-16-6-6(A)(3)(e), because all proposed uses would not impact any residentially zoned property.

12. Based on evidence submitted by the Applicant, the proposed use will not negatively impact pedestrian or transit connectivity, as required by Section 14-16-6-6(A)(3)(f), because Applicant testified that the proposed use would be set back from the pedestrian sidewalk and there is no transit stops near the property. No evidence to the contrary was submitted.

13. The ZHE finds that the proper “Notice of Hearing” signage was posted for the required time period as required by Section 14-16-6-4(K)(3).

14. The ZHE finds that the Applicant has authority to pursue this Application.

15. The ZHE finds that the proper “Notice of Hearing” signage was posted for the required time period as required by Section 14-16-6-4(K)(3).

16. The ZHE finds that the Applicant has authority to pursue this Application.

DEcision:

APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS of a conditional use to allow a taproom.

CONDITIONS:

A. Applicant must comply with all applicable use-specific standards, including, without limitation, IDO Section 14-16-4-3(D)(8) and Section 14-16-4-3(D)(36).
APPEAL:

If you wish to appeal this decision, you must do so by February 20, 2020 pursuant to Section 14-16-6-4(U), of the Integrated Development Ordinance, you must demonstrate that you have legal standing to file an appeal as defined.

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.

Robert Lucero, Esq.
Zoning Hearing Examiner

cc:
ZHE File
Zoning Enforcement
Brian Langwell, 2924 Girard Blvd NE, 87107
William, Simon, Robert Simon Trust, 1415 Park Ave SW, 87104
Marie Coleman, 522 Romero ST NW, 87104
Jesse Ehrenberg, 2110 Charlevoux NE, 87105