



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

Vic Strasburger (Agent, Michael Torrez) requests a conditional use to allow an accessory dwelling unit without a kitchen for Lot 3, Block C, Lee Acres, located at 526 Solar RD NW, zoned R-1D [Section 14-16-4-3(F)(5)(g)]

Special Exception No: ..... **VA-2023-00035**  
Project No: ..... **Project#2023-008192**  
Hearing Date: ..... 03-21-23  
Closing of Public Record: ..... 03-21-23  
Date of Decision: ..... 04-05-23

On the 21st day of March, 2023, Michael Torrez, agent for property owner Vic Strasburger (“Applicant”) appeared before the Zoning Hearing Examiner (“ZHE”) requesting a conditional use to allow an accessory dwelling unit without a kitchen (“Application”) upon the real property located at 526 Solar RD NW (“Subject Property”). Below are the ZHE’s finding of fact and decision:

FINDINGS:

1. Applicant is requesting a conditional use to allow an accessory dwelling unit without a kitchen.
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, or there is a condition of approval that any Variances or Waivers needed to comply with any of these provisions must be approved or the Conditional Use Approval will be invalidated pursuant to Subsection (2)(c)2 above;*
  - (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) *On a project site with existing uses, it will not increase non- residential activity within 300 feet in any direction of a lot in any Residential zone district between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.;*
  - (f) *It will not negatively impact pedestrian or transit connectivity without appropriate mitigation*
3. The applicant bears the burden of providing a sound justification for the requested decision, based on substantial evidence, pursuant to IDO Section 14-16-6-4(E)(3).

4. The applicant bears the burden of showing compliance with required standards through analysis, illustrations, or other exhibits as necessary, pursuant to IDO Section 14-16-6-4(E)(4).
5. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval is consistent with the ABC Comp. Plan, as amended. Specifically, evidence supports that the community would benefit from an attractive and harmoniously designed accessory structure to allow uses compatible with single family dwellings and that the requested Conditional Use approval would help “create healthy, sustainable communities with a mix of uses that are conveniently accessible from surrounding neighborhoods” as stated as a goal in ABC Comp. Plan Policy 5.2.1.
6. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval 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. Applicant testified and confirmed in written submittals that the requested Conditional Use approval would comport with all applicable requirements. No prior permits or approvals apply.
7. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval will not create significant adverse impacts on adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the larger community. Applicant testified and confirmed in written submittals that the requested Conditional Use approval would not create any adverse impact and would in fact enhance property value as well as that of neighboring properties.
8. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval 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 confirmed in written submittals that the requested Conditional Use approval would not create any adverse impact and would not increase traffic congestion, parking, congestion, noise, or vibration.
9. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval will not increase non-residential activity within 300 feet of a lot in any residential zone district between the hours of 10:00 pm and 6:00 am. Applicant confirmed in written submittals that non-residential activity would not increase in any prohibited manner.
10. Applicant has met its burden of providing evidence that establishes that the requested Conditional Use approval will not negatively impact pedestrian or transit connectivity without appropriate mitigation. Applicant confirmed in written submittals that no negative impact on pedestrian or transit connectivity would result.
11. The City Traffic Engineer submitted a report stating no objection to the Application.
12. All property owners within 100 feet and affected neighborhood association(s) were notified.
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)(4).
14. The ZHE finds that the Applicant has authority to pursue this Application.

DECISION:

APPROVAL of a conditional use to allow an accessory dwelling unit without a kitchen.

APPEAL:

If you wish to appeal this decision, you must do so by April 20, 2023 pursuant to Section 14-16-6-4(V), 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  
Michael Torrez, [mrmiketorrez@gmail.com](mailto:mrmiketorrez@gmail.com)  
Vic Strasburger, [VStrasburger@salud.unm.edu](mailto:VStrasburger@salud.unm.edu)