

CITY OF LONG BEACH

562-570-6194 FAX 562-570-6068

THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

April 3, 2007

Long Beach, California 90802

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach

333 W. Ocean Boulevard

California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, overrule the appeal, and sustain the decision of the City Planning Commission to Approve an Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four dwelling units creating a total of eight dwelling units at 1826-1932 E. 1st Street (Case No. 0610-12). (District 2)

DISCUSSION

This is an appeal of a Planning Commission decision to approve an Administrative Use Permit to legalize four dwelling units created without benefit of building permits. The property is currently developed with two two-story structures: a four-unit building on the front of the lot that was originally constructed as a single-family home, and four apartments at the rear of the lot that was originally constructed as a duplex over a four-car garage. Five parking spaces are located in the area between the two buildings, with vehicular access from 1st Street.

This application began as a result of complaints filed in March, 2004 related to inadequate gas meters, electrical problems, a water heater illegally installed in a bathroom, lack of ventilation, and bathroom mold. Code Enforcement staff inspected the buildings and issued an Order to Vacate to the owner on October 25, 2004. The Order to Vacate was appealed by the owner and was heard at the Board of Examiners, Appeals, and Condemnation (BEAC) on February 2, 2005. The Board agreed that the building was substandard and required the owner to correct all items listed in the Findings of the Building Official and the Notice of Substandard Building.

The owner was directed to apply for an Administrative Use Permit to legalize the four unpermitted units by June 27, 2005. The application for an Administrative Use Permit was filed on October 11, 2006. The Long Beach Municipal Code (Section 21.25.403 (D) and 21.52.240) allows a property owner to file an application for an Administrative Use Permit to legalize units where there is no permit record, but where other evidence may lead to a reasonable conclusion that the unit has been in continuous use since 1964. Staff looks to the applicant to offer proof to support this contention through a review of tax records, rental receipts, utility bills, visual inspections, etc. The unit must also meet minimum housing standards, and each unit cannot exceed 640 square feet.

In analyzing City building permits and City tax records on all eight units, staff determined that the front detached two-story home, which has been divided into four units, was legally converted to a duplex with one kitchen upstairs and one kitchen downstairs in 1931. An additional bath was added in 1946. The rear unit, which also currently contains four units, was legally approved as a duplex over four garages in 1922. Two garages were converted legally to sleeping rooms with bathrooms and no kitchens in 1945. No substantial proof of continual occupation of the four units in question was submitted by the applicant through rental receipts or other methodologies as discussed above.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL April 3, 2007 Page 2

Based on the information available, staff made a recommendation to the Planning Commission that the Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit be approved with several significant conditions. These conditions included:

- A requirement that three of the non-permitted apartment units be restored to their original use as either portions of other units, or in the case of the lower half of the rear building, to two garage parking spaces.
- That the two other garage spaces that had been converted with a building permit to provide two "sleeping rooms" in 1945 could be legalized as one dwelling unit.
- That building permits be obtained to complete or remove all work that has occurred without permits or that is required by the previous code enforcement notices.

The intent of this recommendation was to allow those units that had been converted legally from garages to sleeping rooms to be recognized as a single dwelling and brought up to meet minimum health and safety standards. The removal of the non-permitted unit from the other two garage spaces and restoration of those spaces would result in a situation where seven parking spaces would be provided for the five remaining apartments.

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on January 4, 2007 and considered information provided by the applicant and staff, as well as testimony from tenants (Attachment 1). Following discussion of available parking onsite, the high density of development in the area, a motion was made by Commissioner Greenberg directing staff to prepare approval findings and conditions of approval for an Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize all four units to create a total of eight units. On February 1, 2007, after public testimony, the Planning Commission acted to formally approve the Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit, subject to conditions. In taking this action, the Planning Spaces onsite. The Planning Commission also found that the legalization of the units would be a benefit to the tenants and the community, since it would add affordable rental units to the community. In taking this action, the Commission determined that positive Administrative Use Permit Findings as to continual occupancy of the units could be made through anecdotal evidence contained in the public testimony.

One letter was received in opposition to the request and one person spoke in opposition of the request (Attachment 2). An appeal was filed by Mike Wilson, President of the Alamitos Beach Neighborhood Association, on February 8, 2007 (Attachment 3). In his appeal, Mr. Wilson contends that the legalization of the units would further impact street parking in a neighborhood that is already parking impacted.

Assistant City Attorney Michael J. Mais reviewed this report on March 26, 2007.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

The Long Beach Municipal Code requires that an appeal of the Planning Commission's decision be heard within 60 days of filing of the appeal, or by April 7, 2007. A 10-day public notice of the hearing is required.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL April 3, 2007 Page 3

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

LESLIE GENTILE, CHAIR CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

BX: <u>Alg Autoria</u> SUZANNE M. FRICK DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

SF:GC:SV

Attachments:

- 1. Planning Commission staff reports dated January 4 and February 1, 2007
- 2. Letter in opposition
- 3. Letter of Appeal
- 4. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes dated January 4, 2007

Attachment 1

Planning Commission Staff Reports from January 4, 2007 and February 1, 2007

Agenda).

Case No. 0 0-12 CE06-231

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

333 W. Ocean Boulevard

Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-6194

FAX (562) 570-6068

January 4, 2007

CHAIRMAN AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site. (Council District 2)

LOCATION: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street

APPLICANT: Natalie Kotsch 604 18th Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit for a total of five (5) dwelling units at the project site with conditions of approval requiring that the remaining unpermitted uses be converted back to their original use.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 1. The approval of four (4) additional units is not consistent with the General Plan and the Zoning Regulations as only five dwelling units would be allowed on the project site based on current zoning.
- 2. The approval of all four (4) unpermitted units will be detrimental to the surrounding community due to lack of parking, over-density, lack of open space, and the condition of the units.

BACKGROUND

On December 21, 2006, the applicant requested a continuance to the meeting of January 4, 2007. In addition, staff revised the language in Local Coastal Development Permit Finding A, in accordance to Section 21.65.060 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

The site is located on the south side of 1st Street between Hermosa Avenue and Cherry Avenue and is approximately 8,250 square feet (55 x 150) in area. The site is located in the R-4-R Zoning District and consists of eight (4 legally established and 4 illegal) dwelling units and five (5) open parking spaces accessible from a driveway on 1st Street. The building was constructed with 4 apartments and four garage parking spaces. All four (4)

garages that took access from the alley at the rear of the site have been converted to dwelling spaces without the benefit of a building permit.

According to Section 21.31 Table 31-2B of the Zoning Ordinance a total of five dwelling units are allowed by current standards. The property has been Zoned R-4-R since September 6, 1983. Prior to 1983, the property had a Zoning Designation of R-4; the density at that time was based on the number of parking spaces provided.

The following table provides a summary of the Zoning, General Plan, and land uses surrounding the subject site:

	ZONING	GENERAL PLAN	LAND USE
Project Site	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi-Family
North	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
South	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
East	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
West	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family

This current request is the result of two anonymous complaints related to inadequate gas meters, electrical problems, a water heater illegally installed in the bathroom, lack of ventilation, and mold in the bathroom on March 5, 2004. As a result of this complaint, an initial inspection was completed by March 12, 2004 and a Notice of Substandard Building was sent to the owner on April 20, 2004. A progress inspection was completed on May 26, 2004 based on a new cellar door being added. From that progress inspection, a Notice of Intent to Vacate the building was sent on July 31, 2004 and an Order to Vacate was sent on October 25, 2004. The order to vacate was heard at the Board of Examiners, Appeals, and Condemnation (BEAC) on February 2, 2005. The BEAC agreed that the building was substandard and required the owner to correct all items listed in the Findings of the Building Official dated February 2, 2005 and the Notice of Substandard Building dated April 24, 2004 by September 13, 2005. The owner was also told to apply for an Administrative Use Permit by June 27, 2005. Four tenants were allowed to remain in the rear building

According to Building, Planning & City Tax Assessor records, the property began as a single-family home in 1915, and was then altered from 1915 to 1946 as follows:

1826-28 E. 1st Street Front Two-Story Duplex (Currently 4 units):

- a. 1925- Permit to alter a single family home. (1 unit)
- b. 1931- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-5-31 shows a duplex dwelling. The tabulation shows two (2) kitchens, one upstairs, and one downstairs with a total of 2,697 square feet. (2 units) (See Exhibit A)

- c. 1946- Permit date 2-20-46 for the addition of a 5x7 toilet/shower on the first floor. (2 units) (See Exhibit B)
- d. Permit history from 1946- Present. No permits were obtained to create additional units inside of the existing two-story duplex. (2 units)

In analyzing building records, it was determined that the two-story single family home which is currently four (4) units, was legally converted to a duplex, with one kitchen upstairs and one kitchen downstairs. An additional bath was added in 1946, for two (2) dwelling units in the front building. The two non-permitted units are units No. 1 and No. 4 in the front unit (see attached floor plan).

1830- 32 E. 1st Street Rear Two-Story Duplex (Currently 4 units):

- a. 1922- Permit date 8-17-22 to build a duplex over four garages. (2 units) (See Exhibit C)
- b. 1931- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-3-31 shows two (2) apartments over four (4) garages. The tabulation shows two (2) kitchens over four (4) garages. (2 units) (See Exhibit D)
- c. 1945- Permit dated 10-2-45 for the conversion of two garages into sleeping rooms. The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet shows two garages converted to apartments but states that no kitchens are provided. Los Angeles County Assessor records show two garage bathrooms on the first floor described as old garages remodeled into two bedrooms with baths. (3 units) (See Exhibit E)
- d. 1946- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 3-6-46 says, "2 gars now apts". It also says there are two living rooms, two bathrooms and no kitchens. (3 units) (See Exhibit F)
- e. Permit dated 5-1-73 to repair balcony & 1-hour wall of stairway. (3 units)
- f. Permit history from 1973- present. No permits were obtained to create additional units inside of the existing rear building.

In analyzing building records for the rear units onsite, it was determined that a duplex over four (4) garages was first constructed in 1922. In 1945, two garages were converted to sleeping rooms with bathrooms and no kitchens. The creation of sleeping rooms was common during the post war housing crisis in 1945, in which a number of cities allowed the construction of sleeping rooms without kitchens or required parking.

CURRENT ACTION REQUESTED

The applicant is requesting approval to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units, four in the front building and four in the rear building. A request to legalize dwelling units is allowed in the City of Long Beach with the approval of an Administrative Use Permit provided the units were built prior to 1964. The Zoning

Administrator has the authority to consider and act on requests for an Administrative Use Permit according to Section 21.25.405 of the Long Beach Municipal Code and the Zoning Administrator may also refer the application to the Planning Commission in accordance with the procedures contained in Section 21.25.405.B of the Zoning Ordinance (See Attachment 10).

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The approval is consistent with and carries out the General Plan, any applicable specific plans such as the local coastal program and all Zoning Regulations of the applicable district;

The General Plan Land Use Designation for this site is the High Density Residential District (LUD #4). The High Density Residential District encourages intensification or recycling of dwelling units in limited areas of the City where apartment and condominium lifestyles are logically related to transportation and services. Present densities range widely from about forty (40) to two hundred (200) dwelling units per acre since many such high-density structures were permitted before modern setback and off-street parking requirements became effective in the mid-1960's. The maximum permitted density in the LUD #4 is 44 du/acre: With a total of five (5) legal units on the project site, the density would be consistent with the General Plan as 29 du/ac exists. However, with a total of eight (8) units existing on the project site with four (4) legal and four (4) illegal units, the proposal is inconsistent with the city General Plan since there would be a total of 46 du/acre.

A departmental memorandum dated July 9, 1991, "Legalization of Illegal Units," established additional findings in order to determine legality of units. The memorandum (see attached memo) established a written policy, which requires the following findings to be made, along with required findings:

1) The quality of the units.

The property is being renovated at this time in order to remedy the items from the Findings of the Building Official dated February 2, 2004 and the Notice of Substandard Building dated February 5, 2005 as required by BEAC. However, the building is still designated as substandard. During a site visit, staff observed very small bedrooms in all three of the units in question, a kitchen located on the porch area of the studio unit on the front dwelling, and the original garage concrete slab serving as the floor in the rear lower dwelling unit. In addition, a kitchen was located within the sloped roof eave in the front upstairs unit. The existing situation led staff to believe that illegal splitting of units has occurred on both front and rear dwelling units on the project site. Furthermore, staff believes that approving the units will lead to unsafe living conditions and substandard living spaces.

2) Crowding in the community.

The property is located in Alamitos Beach, which is a mixture of apartment, condominiums, and multifamily dwellings and is considered high density residential. The site is also within the Parking Impacted Area. Due to the high density of developments, there is considerable demand for parking. Conversion of the garages at the rear of the site has added to the impact of this project on the neighborhood.

3) Whether the unit could have been legal when built.

The applicant was asked to provide documentation, which shows that all units have been occupied since 1964. That documentation was not submitted along with the application and building records do not show more than four (4) legal units onsite. Therefore, staff has concluded that the units were created without permits, and have not been occupied continuously since 1964.

4) Whether property taxes have been paid on the unit

The current records from the County Assessor shows that the property is currently being assessed for a total of seven dwelling units. There are no records on how long seven units have been taxed. In contrast, City records show a total of four legal units.

5) Knowledge of current owner when purchased, and

Staff's belief is that the applicant, a licensed realtor, was aware that she was buying the property in an "as is" condition.

6) Community reaction.

There has been negative reaction from members of the community in response to this request. Surrounding neighbors are not in favor of increasing density in the neighborhood due to the lack of parking availability. One letter and one phone call were received in support of staff's recommendation.

In addition, the property has a parking impacted designation, which is an indication that more than 75% of available on-street parking is utilized during evening hours and that insufficient off-street parking is available to meet the needs of local residents, due to a high incidence of parcels with less than legally required offstreet parking and/or due to a high incidence of illegal garage conversions. The goal in the Parking Impacted Area is to prevent the alteration of units into additional units if the parcel is nonconforming to the City General Plan and/or Zoning Ordinance. The subject site had four garages that were converted to living units; one unit ("sleeping rooms") staff is recommending for approval, the other unit staff is recommending be returned to garage spaces. With staff's recommendation to approve one legal non-conforming unit for a total of five units, there would be two legal garage spaces along with five open parking spaces. This arrangement,

although non-conforming in terms of parking, would mitigate the impact to on street parking in the parking impacted area.

Based on the current situation, the lack of parking, the designation of the structures as substandard, and marginally inhabitable living spaces, staff believes that only one of the four of the unpermitted units should be legalized.

B. The approval will not be detrimental to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life; and

With the approval of one dwelling unit on the project site for a total of five dwelling units, staff believes that with conditions of approval that the use will not be detrimental to the surrounding community. The removal of the substandard designation as required by conditions of approval would also enhance the quality of life, public health, and safety of the existing residences onsite by combining dysfunctional bedroom spaces, and removing unsafe kitchens located on the porch, and under a slanted roof eave. The combination of units will also allow 5 units to become compliant with current zoning code standards, which will increase the quality of life, safety and, health of future and current tenants.

The approval is in compliance with the special conditions for the use enumerated in Chapter 21.52.

A. The unit(s) in question must have been created before 1964 and continually occupied since that time without having been abandoned pursuant to Section 21.15.030;

Proof of occupancy of the four (4) illegal units from 1964 to date was required in order to determine the legality of the units. The applicant did not provide the required information upon submittal, so we are unable to determine if these units existed prior to 1964.

- B. The unit must meet minimum Housing Code provisions; and

A condition of approval (Condition # 10) requires that new plans be provided that will bring the sleeping rooms up to minimum housing standards for a single unit.

C. The unit must not exceed six hundred forty (640) square feet. (Ord. C-7032 § 53, 1992).

The four illegal units are approximately 503 square feet, 230 square feet, 386 square feet and 388 square feet. All units are consistent with this requirement since no unit exceeds 640 square feet. The unit that staff is recommending be legalized, is 388 square feet in area.

LOCAL COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The proposed development conforms to the certified local coastal program including but not limited to all requirements for replacement of low and moderate-income housing; and

According to Section 21.65.060 and 18.20.140 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, the Building Official shall notify the Housing Services Bureau of the issuance of the orders to vacate and the Housing Services Bureau shall inform the tenant households in writing of the procedure to apply for relocation assistance, what the tenant household's rights are, and who to contact with questions regarding relocation assistance. The Housing Services Bureau shall also inform the tenant household that the household may request payment of relocation assistance from the city in accordance with Section 21.65.090 of this chapter. Based on the above, the legalization of one dwelling unit and removal of three illegal dwelling units may result in the relocation of one (1) low or moderate-income tenant. One tenant will be notified by the Housing Services Bureau of their right to apply for relocation assistance. Therefore, this proposal conforms to the Local Coastal Program.

B. The proposed development conforms to the public access and recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. This second finding applies only to development located seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

The site is not seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A total of 170 Public Hearing Notices were mailed on September 4, 2006 to all owners of properties within a 300-foot radius of the project site, and the elected representative of the 2nd Council District.

REDEVELOPMENT REVIEW

The project site is not located in a Redevelopment Project Area.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, a Categorical Exemption (CE-06-231) has been prepared for this project, and is attached for your review.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Approve the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit for a total of five (5) dwelling units at the project site and require conversion of the remaining units to their original use.

Respectfully submitted,

SUZANNE M. FRICK DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

By: STEVEN ANTHONY VALDEZ PLANNER

Approved:

CAROLYNE BIHN ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

CB:sv

Attachments:

- 1. Conditions of Approval
- 2. Site Plan/Floor Plan
- 3. Photographs
- 4. Categorical Exemption
- 5. Documentation from Applicant Proving Legality of Units
- 6. City Attorney Letter
- 7. Letter Forwarding Request to Planning Commission
- 8. Building Research Letter
- 9. Exhibit A-F
- 10. "Legalization of Units", Policy Memo
- 11. Letter from Applicants Attorney

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: January 4, 2007 Page 1

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL Case No. 0610-17 Date: January 4, 2007

- The use permitted on the site, in addition to other uses permitted in the R-4-R Zoning District shall be the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit creating a total of five (5) dwelling units. The legal unit shall be unit No. 6 on the first floor of the rear dwelling unit; that dwelling unit shall not exceed 388 square feet.
- 2. This permit and all development rights hereunder shall **terminate one year** from the effective date (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date) of this permit unless construction is commenced, a business license establishing the use is obtained or a time extension is granted, based on a written and approved request submitted prior to the expiration of the one year period as provided in Section 21.21.406 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.
- 3. This permit shall be invalid if the owner(s) and applicant(s) have failed to return **written acknowledgment** of their acceptance of the conditions of approval on the *Conditions of Approval Acknowledgment Form* supplied by the Planning Bureau. This acknowledgment must be submitted within 30 days form the effective date of approval (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date). Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a revised set of plans reflecting all of the design changes set forth in the conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
- 4. If, for any reason, there is a **violation of any of the conditions** of this permit or if the use/operation is found to be detrimental to the surrounding community, including public health, safety or general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life, such shall cause the City to initiate revocation and termination procedures of all rights granted herewith.
- 5. In the event of **transfer of ownership** of the property involved in this application, the new owner shall be fully informed of the permitted use and development of said property as set forth by this permit together with all conditions, which are a part thereof.
- 6. The Director of Planning and Building is authorized to make **minor modifications** to the approved design plans or to any of the conditions of approval if such modifications shall not significantly change/alter the approved design/project and if

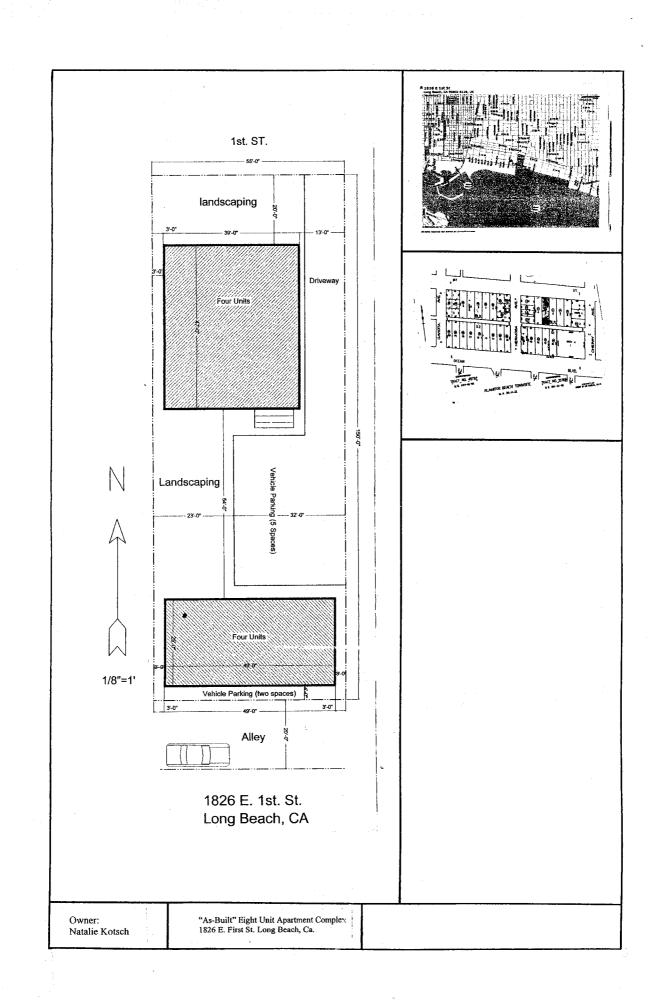
Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: January 4, 2007 Page 2

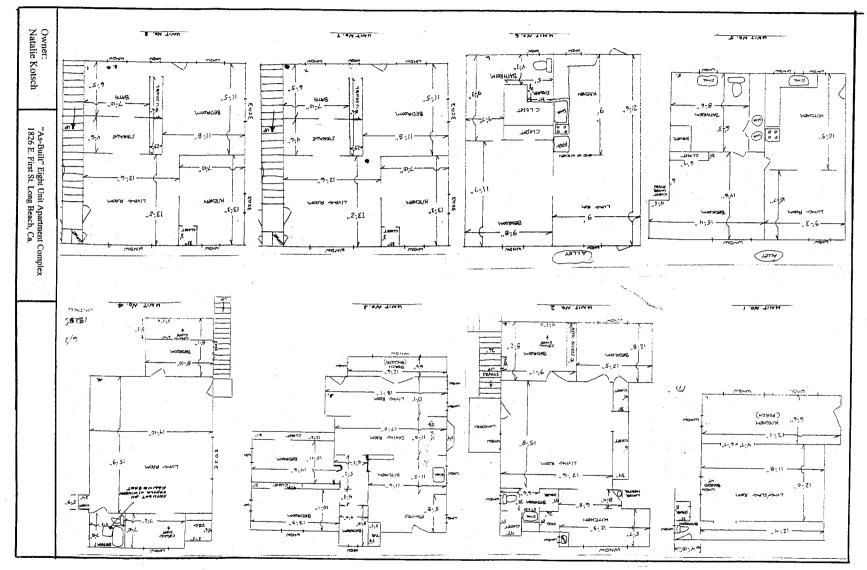
> no detrimental effects to neighboring properties are caused by said modifications. Any major modifications shall be reviewed by the Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission, respectively.

- 7. The property shall be developed and maintained in a neat, quiet, and orderly condition and operated in a manner so as not to be detrimental to adjacent properties and occupants. This shall encompass the maintenance of exterior facades of the building, designated parking areas serving the use, fences and the perimeter of the site (including all public parkways).
- 8. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date, a building permit to legalize the west first floor unit shall be secured.
- 9. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date, the following improvements shall completed on the project site:
 - A. The front dwelling unit shall be converted from a four unit dwelling to a duplex with one unit upstairs and one unit downstairs unit.
 - B. The east first floor unit on the rear dwelling shall be converted back to a compact two-car garage.
- 10. All repairs called out in the Notices of Substandard Building dated April 4, 2004 and the Findings of the Building Official dated February 3, 2005 shall be remedied within ninety days (90) of the Notice of Final Action date.
- 11. Five (5) open parking spaces shall remain as part of this approval.
- 12. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action, all applicable code enforcement fees shall be paid
- 13. Compliance is required with these Conditions of Approval as long as this use is on site. As such, the site shall be available for periodic reinspection conducted at the discretion of city officials, to verity that all conditions of approval are being met. The property owner shall reimburse the City for the inspection cost as per special building inspection specifications established by City Council.
- 14. The applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Long Beach, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach or its agents, officers, or employees brought to attack, set aside, void, or annual an approval of the City of Long Beach, its advisory agencies, commissions, or legislative body concerning this project. The City of Long Beach will promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action, or proceeding against the

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: January 4, 2007 Page 3

City of Long Beach and will cooperate fully in the defense. If the City of Long Beach fails to promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding or fails to cooperate fully in the defense, the applicant shall not, thereafter, be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the City of Long Beach.







CITY OF LONG BEACH

Long Beach, CA 90502

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

(562) 570-6194

194 FAX (562) 570-6068

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

November 22, 2006

Douglas W. Otto 111 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1300 Long Beach, CA 90801-2210

333 W. Ocean Boulevard

Re: 1826 E. 1st Street

Dear Doug,

You have requested that I not serve as Hearing Officer for an Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit filed by your client, Natalie Kotsch, regarding the legalization of dwelling units at the above address.

Based on your concerns and the length of time this matter has been in process, I will schedule the matter for hearing before the Planning Commission pursuant to Section 21.25.405 of the LBMC.

Your project planner is Steven Valdez. Please contact Steven at (562) 570-6571 if you have any questions, or feel free to give me a call at (562) 570-6223 if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Carolyne C. Bihn Zoning Officer



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

Long Beach, California

ROBERT E. SHANNON City Attorney

HEATHER A. MAHOOD Chief Assistant City Attorney

MICHAEL J. MAIS Assistant City Attorney

July 27, 2006

SENT VIA FAX (562) 590-7909 & U.S. MAIL

Douglas W. Otto Attorney at Law 111 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1300 Long Beach, CA 90801-2210

Re: AUP Application Deadline and Hearing Date Regarding Property Located at 1826-1832 E. 1st Street, Long Beach Owner Natalie Kotsch

Barbara D. de Jong Dominiic Holzhaus Belinda R. Mayes

PRINCIPAL DUPUTIES

04.040115

Gary I. Anderson Richard F. Anthony Christina L. Checel Alusha Park Choi Randall C. Fudge Charles M. Gale Everett L. Glenn Donna F. Gwin Monte H. Machit Anne C. Lattime Lisa Peskay Malmsten Barry M. Meyers Cristyl Meyers 1. Charles Parkin Howard D. Russell Tiffani L. Shin

Dear Mr. Otto:

Thank you for speaking with me last evening regarding progress on the above referenced case. As discussed, the City of Long Beach has agreed to utilize an alternate hearing officer from the Department of Planning and Building Zoning Division to preside over the Administrative Use Permit (AUP) hearing to determine the number of permitted units at 1826-1832 E. 1st Street. Given the protracted nature of this matter, the City is requesting your client file an AUP application with the City's Zoning Department no later than August 7, 2006 with an associated AUP hearing to follow on September 11, 2006. You are again reminded that all evidence in support of your client must accompany the AUP application

Please recall that this property was determined to be substandard back in 2005, and was the subject of an appeal which began in June of that year. In lieu of a formal substandard appeal hearing, your client agreed to have hearing officer Judith Cannavo conduct informal mediation proceedings in an attempt to achieve code compliance. These proceedings occurred prior to your legal representation of Natalie Kotsch. Although Ms. Kotsch agreed to apply for and attend an AUP hearing in order to properly determine the number of permitted units, an application was never submitted.

Thereafter you were retained by Ms. Kotsch, and on January 18, 2006 our office provided you with discovery regarding outstanding code violations, and also discussed the need to timely rehabilitate these properties. As you are aware, on February 13, 2006, City Building Inspectors observed ongoing un-permitted construction and renovation which resulted in issuance of a stop work order. Your client was again requested to file an AUP application with the City's Zoning Department no later than either March 20, 2006 with an associated AUP hearing on April 24, 2006, or in the alternative on April 3, 2006 with a corresponding AUP hearing to occur on May 8, 2006.

As a precursor to AUP proceedings, on March 29, 2006 you requested a zoning confirmation letter to determine the permitted number of dwelling units. Documentation was reviewed, and in late May, it was determined that a total of four dwelling units were permitted.

Despite continued efforts to assist your client in rehabilitating these properties, significant code violations remain outstanding. Therefore, this office upon completion of the September 11, 2006 AUP process will reconvene the informal mediation, or in the absence of an AUP hearing will proceed with a formal substandard building appeal hearing as previously agreed to by your client. Attorney Judith Cannavo will preside to determine compliance. These proceedings are tentatively scheduled to occur the week of September 18, 2006. Our office will provide you with a date certain upon receipt of Ms. Cannovo's availability. I look forward to resolution of this matter.

Sincerely,

ROBERT E. SHANNON CITY ATTORNEY

By CRISTYL MEYERS DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY

cc:

Carolyne Bihn, Zoning Administration Larry Brugger, Planning & Building Mark Sutton, Planning & Building David Woods, Planning & Building



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90502

(562) 570-6194 FAX (562) 570-6068

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

May 17, 2006

Mr. Douglas W. Otto 111 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 1300 P. O. Box 2210 Long Beach, CA 90801-2210

Re: Request for Building Permit Research 1826 – 1832 E. First Street

Dear Mr. Otto,

At your request the Planning Bureau has reviewed the City of Long Beach and other agencies' records, as well as the presentation you submitted to the City on March 29, 2006, to determine the number of dwelling units existing on the above property. As you are aware, this property has been identified as a substandard building and been subject to code enforcement action since 2004. In consideration of these records, the Planning Bureau has determined that the official records substantiate a total of four dwelling units in the two buildings located on the lot (the "front building" and the "rear building"). For the "front building", the records indicate:

1915 - There is no permit on record for the single family dwelling built in 1915 but the Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet, dated 1-5-31, lists 1915 as the date of construction (with a question mark).

1925 - Permit dated 2-17-25 for "Alter".

1931 – The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-5-31 shows a "Duplex Dwlg Stucco (over Siding)". The tabulation shows 2 kitchens, one upstairs and one downstairs. Total square footage is 2,697 square feet, both floors.

1946 – Permit dated 2-20-46 for the addition of a 5' X 7' toilet/shower on first floor. It is not clear that this established a dwelling unit.

1947 - The Los Angeles County Assessor's Office Building Description Blank dated 3-31-47 shows 4 living rooms, 4 bedrooms, 1 den, 3 bathrooms, and 3 kitchens. However, there are no permit records to further support more than two units.

It is concluded that the 2-story single family dwelling originally constructed in 1915 (no permit extant) had been converted to a duplex, one unit upstairs and one unit downstairs,

Mr. Douglas Otto May 17, 2006 Page 2

and that an additional bath was added in 1946, for a total of 2 dwelling units in the front building.

With regard to the rear building:

1922 – Permit dated 8-17-22 to build a duplex over garages.

1931 – The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-3-31 shows 2 apartments over 4 garages. The tabulation shows 2 kitchens and 2 bedrooms upstairs. Total of 1,372 square feet in upstairs living area.

1945 – Permit dated 10-2-45 for conversion of two garages into sleeping rooms. The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 3-6-46 describes two garages converted to apartments but states that no kitchen is provided. Los Angeles County Assessor's Building Description Blank dated 12-13-45 shows two living rooms and two bathrooms on the first floor, described as "part" of old garages remodeled into two bedrooms with baths.

It is concluded that the rear building contains two apartments on the second floor, two garage spaces on the first floor, and two sleeping rooms with baths and no kitchen on the first floor that were combined to create a single living space.

Further evaluation by the City of Long Beach of the status of the areas within the building that you contend are dwelling units but which lack clear documentation in support of this contention in the form of building permits can take place through issuance of an Administrative Use Permit pursuant to Long Beach Municipal Code, Sections 21.25.403(d) and 21.52.240. Your client was directed by the Office of the City Attorney to apply for an Administrative Use Permit, and I encourage you to comply with this request and file an application as soon as possible.

If you have any questions please call me at (562) 570-6223.

Sincerely,

Carolyne C. Bihn Zoning Officer

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1826-1838

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		Permit Hornber 1828
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	BUILDING INSPECTOR	Date Rowed
		Date isoset
	Application To Alter, Repair or Demolish	2-20-46
	To the Department of Degineering of the City of Long Beach:	
	Application is beruby made to the Department of Engineering of the City of Long Bearl, through the offee of for perzets is accordance with the description and for the purpose hereinstiter set forth. This application hereinster the beruby agreed to by the underrighted applicant and which scale the deemad conditions entering size the exercise of the p	the following conditions which are
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	Second: That the primit does not grant any right or privilege to use any building or other involute there is describ purpose that h, or may breakter be prohibited by ordinance of the City of Long Beach.	
а	Third; That is granting of the permit does not affert or projudice any claim of this ta, or right of presence on a permit.	R, INF J. Operity Contriled In South
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	Size of first floor joists	
	I have carefully examined and read the above application and know the same is true and co	rrect, and that, in doing this
	work, all provisions of Long Beach Ordinances and State Laws will be complied with, whether h in accordance with the Bulliding Code, i hereby apply for a Certificsts of Occupancy to be issue have been called for by me and have been made by the Department of Engineering.	
	All Applications must be filled out by the Applicant.	
	PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS (Sign Here)	1ª
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Exhibit C

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FIRST GARAGE CONVERSION.

Exhibit D

Attachment:B 1830-B E. 1st St., LB

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9-29-45 t a theory is the contrary 081 CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING BUILDING INSPECTOR APPLICATION TO ALTER, REPAIR OR DEMOLISH To the Department of Engineering of the City of Long Beach: Application is hereby made to the Department of Engineering of the Cate of Long Beach, through the office of the Builds dence with the description and for the purpose hereinstre set tests. This application is made the full of the following case undersigned, applicant and which shall be deemad conditions ensering into the exercise of the purpose. First the percent does not grant and right or privilege to arect and huilding or othe scinture theories described or any alley, or other public piece or percent thereof Securit. They the permit does not grant any right or privilage to use any building in other or a nore therein for stiml a they at a star is provided by ardinaries of the fare of Long Brach 34 W NOT AN Third: That the granung of the permit down not affect or prejudice any alson of title o, or right of pe (Use Ink or Indelible Pencil) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY Lot No Block ... Owner's Address Owner's Name Contractor's Firm Name State License No. Contractor's Address... Proposed Use of Building んて No. of Families No. of Rooms or Structure..... Existing Building S. S. C. Sand Cont. Sur. C.L. Type of Construction of 2.14 QCATION OF JOBStreet "Vulue" of a Bailding Shall Be the present of the Bailding Cost to Replace the VALUATION OF PROPOSED WORK 3000.6 Building in Kind. Architect State Certificate No. L. Engineer (Present Use of Building. A entland 74 stand 12.20 Number of stories in height T. A. T. A. Size of present building 「「「「「「「「「」」」」 State on following lines exactly what alterations, additions, etc., will be made to this building: 13 to 2 3 - 1-1 here Sann flor ranka Sent. Section 2 a San San Size of new addition..... Kind of Rost Material of foundation Size of Redwood Mudsills Size of Interior bearing studs...... Size of exterior studs I have carefully examined rid read the above application and know the same is true and correct, and that, in doing this work, all provisions of Long Rouch Ordinances a d State Laws will be complied with, whether herein specified or not. Abi, in accordance with the Building Code, I hereby apply for a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued after all final inspections have been called for by me and have been made by the Department of Engineering. All Applications must be filled out by the Applicant. PLANS AND SPECIFIC, TIONS 1. 2 2 (Sign Here) لتنف تتتعيب 10and other data mnet also be filed * ** A Arrial (NOTE-Turn over and fill out blank on other side.) 1830-183 LOR DEPARTMENTAL HER ANY ZONG F. D. No GROUP ISSUED BY 5 - A Exhibit E م مرد مرد مرد 1 TV. AttactmentsE-1 1830-A E. 1st St., LB £. (* dil.

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DATE 3/6/46

UNIT SQ FT 528.

> PERMIT DATE 11/2/45

> > 1830-1832

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Exhibit F

Attachment E 1830-A E. 1st St., LB



City of L g Beach Working Together to Serve Метоганиин

Date: March 12, 1996

To: Land Use Regulation Staff

From: Robert Benard, Zoning Officer

Subject: Legalization of Illegal Units

A recent case has raised questions regarding applications for the legalization of dwelling units. Such applications are governed by the provisions of the Long Beach Municipal Code; specifically Chapter 21.25, Division IV (Administrative Use Permits) and Section 21.52.240 (Special Conditions). Crucial to these provisions are the findings required for an Administrative Use Permit (Section 21.25.407).

In keeping with making the required findings for approving an AUP, in 1991 the Zoning Administrator prepared a memorandum (attached) which outlined several factors which must be considered when evaluating the affects of a legalization and making a General Plan consistency finding. Accordingly, when evaluating an legalization application, keep in mind that the essential findings are those spelled out in Section 21.25.407:

A. The approval is consistent with and carries out the General Plan, any applicable specific plans such as the local coastal program and all Zoning Regulations of the applicable district;

B. The approval will not be detrimental to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life; and

C. The approval is in compliance with the special conditions for the use enumerated in Chapter 21.52.

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MEMJRANDUM

date^{5uly} 9, 1991

toZoning Staff

from Dennis L. Eschen, Zoning Administrator

Cerino Gel

Subject Legalization of Illegal Units

It has been alleged that Planning and Building staff has been informing potential applicants for legalization of illegal units that they will be approved if they can prove the unit has been occupied since 1964. This is not true. Occupancy since 1964 is a first step but not sufficient in itself. As an Administrative Use Permit, findings must also be made as to whether there will be adverse affects on the community and consistency with the General Plan.

In determining these findings, I look at several factors. These include:

- o quality of the "unit";
- o crowding in the community;
- o parking availability;
- o whether the unit could have been legal when built;
- o whether property taxes have been paid on the unit;

o knowledge of current owner when purchased; and

o community reaction.

It is not a simple decision and it should not be portrayed as a simple decision to the potential applicants.

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JAMES V. ANDERSON

Dfc. 6, 2006 1901 E. OCEAN BLVD. UNIT 302 LONG BEACH CA 90802 (562)590-5685, E-MAIL: MARIAJIM@earthlink.net

TD. LONG BEHELT PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: CASE NO. 0610-12 1826 E. 155 ST. TO LEGALIZE & DWELLING UNITS.

I DPPOSE THESE ABDITIONAL UNITS AS THIS NEIGHBORHOOD HAS SEVERE IMPACTED PARKING, AND THESE ILLEGAL DWELLINGS JUST MAKE IT WORBE.

I SUPPORT CITY STAFF'S POSITION TO LEGALIZE ONE ONLY OF THE UNITS, AS IT WAS IN THE PAST. EVEN THAT NEEDS AN DODITIONAL PARKING SPACE, AT THE LEAST.

SINCERELY James V. auderson

CC: 2ND DIST. COUNCIL PERSON SUTA LOWENTHAL

PRESENTATION TO LONG BEACH DEPT. OF PLANNING & BUILDING ZONING ADMINISTRATOR CAROLYNE BIHN PROVIDING DOCUMENTATION JUSTIFYING THE LEGALITY OF EIGHT EXISTING UNITS AT 1826, 1826-1/2, 1828, 1828-1/2, 1830, 1830A, 1830B, 1832 E. FIRST STREET

March 29, 2006

PRESENTATION TO LONG BEACH DEPT. OF PLANNING & BUILDING ZONING ADMINISTRATOR CAROLYNE BIHN PROVIDING DOCUMENTATION JUSTIFYING THE LEGALITY OF EIGHT EXISTING UNITS AT 1826, 1826-1/2, 1828, 1828-1/2, 1830, 1830A, 1830B, 1832 E. FIRST STREET

March 29, 2006

Front Building: 1826, 1826-1/2, 1828, 1828-1/2 E. First Street

1. Building Valuation Sheet dated 01/05/31

- Shows property as a duplex with one unit above and one unit below

2. Application to Alter, Repair, or Demolish dated 02/20/46 (approval date) for addition of toilets and showers to be built into the front building (2 pages) Permit No. K1872

- Shows additions of toilets and showers (plural); back of page 2 (diagram page) provides under "Use of Building," that the building is used for "living quarters, apartments"; the term "apartments" under UBC Section 202A is a "apartment house." The UBC, CBC, and UHC all define "apartments" as three or more units; therefore, this establishes that there were at least three units (probably four) in 1946.

3. Los Angeles County Assessor's Office Building Description Blank dated 03/31/47 (2 pages)

Shows four living rooms, four bedrooms, one den, three bathrooms, and three kitchens (currently, there are four units: one 2-bedroom, one 1-bedroom, and two studios); therefore, the likely existence of four units.

4. Department of Planning & Building Exemption Certificate dated 10/04/01 for "Apartments" at 1826 E. First Street which provides that, "pursuant to Section 18.76 of the LBMC, it is determined that property at the above address qualifies for an Exemption Certificate at this time due to the fact that the parking is provided in a common parking facility."

- Shows at the time of sale that the property was up to code and provided adequate parking.

5. City of Long Beach Computer Screen Print-Out from Planning & Building Department Worker Valerie Decker dated 04/21/04

– Shows 1826 E. First Street as four units.

Back Building: 1830, 1830A, 1830B, 1832 E. First Street

1. Building Permit dated 08/17/22 for a garage and two apartments (1 page)

– Shows two apartments at the building in 1922.

2. City Assessor's Office Building Description Blank dated 08/17/22, as amended through 1945, shows two living rooms, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, and two kitchens

- Shows two upstairs apartments and downstairs garages.

3. Building Permit No. C-5780 dated 02/17/25, with 1828 E. First Street address, "to alter . . ." without further description, but permit number is referenced on Document #2 (1830 E. First Street) in this sequence

- Shows this permit in 1925 is for work on the back units, not the front house.

4. Building Valuation Sheet dated 01/03/31, updated through 1946, with diagram of "garage, now apartments for 46."

- Shows garage conversion, adding two units from 1945 permit (see Document #5, below).

PRESENTATION Page 2 of 3

- 5. Application to Alter, Repair, or Demolish for 1828 E. First Street (incorrect) dated 10/02/45 (2 pages) for "conversion of two garages into living quarters and adds two sleeping rooms"
 - Shows that two additional units are added to the back two units in 1945.
- 6. Building Valuation Sheet dated 03/06/46

– Shows two living rooms, two bathrooms, and no kitchens on the first floor of the back building and references Building Permit No. J-9710 which was issued in 1945.

- 7. Los Angeles County Assessor's Building Description Blank dated 12/13/45 which shows two living rooms and two bathrooms on the first floor. The note states that, "This part of old garages remodeled into two bedrooms, two baths, no tub."
 - Again, shows existence of four units in the back building in 1945.

Front Building:

1826, 1826-1/2, 1828, 1828-1/2 E. First Street

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1858-18981

CITY OF LONG BEACH	Pier	
	Permit Humber	1828 2-20-46
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING	Date Ro' I ved	2-20-46
BUILDING INSPECTOR	1-1-20	:
Application To Alter, Repair or Demolish	7-20-46	
To the Department of Depineering of the City of Long Seach:	/0	
Application is bereby made to the Department of Engineering of the City of Long Beach, through the offices of Bur- permit is nonvalues with the fearrighton and for the purpose bereinstier set forth. This application is made subject to bereby agreed to by the undersigned applicant and which shall be deemed conditions softening into the essence at the pu- First: That the sensiti does not grant any right or privilege to rect any building of other structure therein tearthed street, alley, or diver public place on portion thereof.	the following conditions which use graft:	
Becond: That the printit does not grant any right or privilege to use any building or other structure then is describe purpose that h, or may bereafter be prohibited by ordinance of the City of Long Beach. Third: That the granting of the permit does not affect or prejudice any claim of this to, or right of present on to permit.		
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I have carefully examined and read the above application and know the same is true and corr work, all provisions of Long Beach Ordinances and State Laws will be complied with, whether her in accordance with the Building Code, i hereby apply for a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued	ein examitial or mai Alma	
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NY LINE FORM C 3.6 PARCEL LOCATION IF CUT Building Description Blank Index BOOK 7265 BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSORS OFFICE STREET NO/826-28/2 5 155 ST PAGE 18 -ATE 1 TRACT ALAMITOS BEACH ON M. B. ON TOWNSITE DATE BLOG. ADDRESS FRONT 51 LOT NO. REVALUED SMD 4 DTW EXAMINED BY BLOCK NO ._ - 1826 12 1826 3/3/ DATE 19.4 182812 1828 EXTERIOR ExtERIOR HEATING 1 1/2 2 3 Stary Fireplace Stucco Rustic Double Shakes B & B Siding Gas Furnace Sheet Steel T & G No. Pipes Wide Siding Gas Radiators Adobe , Skingle Steam Vertical Siding Elec. Heaters Biower Furnace Brick Veneer Wall Heaters Corrugated Iron Frame, Steel DI HARING /// HEATING CLASS EXT. FEATURES Single Steel Sash Double Bungalow Maverick Copper Spouts Screens Trim-Tile, Plaster "Stone, Wood, Brick Cornice Boxed Maverick Residence California Dweiling Cottage Bungrow Court Flat Studio Apartment No. Units Sheet Steel T & Wide Slding Adobe , Skin Vertical Slding Plaster on Tile Asbestos Slding Brick Veneer Corrugated Iron Frame, Steel Frame, Wood INSIDE FINISH Plaster Sand, Putty Plaster-Board Interior Stucco Ply-Bd Knotty Pine Panelled Area per Unit Factory Church Mg______Panelled NG/44 Walls Tint, Paper es Good Unfmished Sanitas Special "Ornamental PLUMBING 14 No. of Fixtures School Store Garage Barn ROOF Cheap Medium Flat 1/4 1/2 2/8 3/4 Medium Hip Monitor Bath No. Gables Dormers Tile Floor Shed Cut-up Copper Shingle LiN FL | Sbakes Gravel Tile Walls 11213 BUILT-INS 1 Shed Shed Copper Shakes Sheet Steel Refrigerator Elec., Bas, Ice Buffer Bookcases Patent Beds Cedar Closets Venetian Blinds Poultry House $\overline{\mathbf{N}}$ FOUNDATION Stone Wood Corrugated Iron Concrete Bricki Cross Walls Tile-Trim Steel Joists Tile-Trim BASEMENT I feet x /C. feet x FOUNDATION Slate Height INI Shower IST STORY Over Tub BUILT 1910 $\overline{\mathbf{N71}}$ ADDITION TO ACCOMODATE, SHOWER Stall X Tile Walls EST AVE 1920 SINK AND TOILET. (SEE DIAGRAM- 1-2) CLASSIFICATION Glass Door Feet x /C, feet x /C, feet x ffeet deep @25 sq. ft. Cheap Medium Good Depr. Rate LIGHTING 3 Cheap Medium Good Good Special Special SECOND STORY. BUILDING VALUES Check Sanitas-B-1-1-2 3 -) 2 2 - LIVING ROOM 1941 Year Living Room No. of Square ft. 2779 () Bedrooms 2 3 2 BEDROOM DEN () Dressing Room 7 At. SCOVERT + (DEN) Building Value () Bathroom 1 4892 2 BATHROOM -1 TUB Basement () " No Tub l Volue IJUST SHOWER Heating Value Tile () () 2 1 Kitchen TDB 2 KITCHENS Garage Value `) - (Bfst. R. or N. Outbuild Plank () Hdwd. Floors 51X ings Value Hdwd. Finish P. C. by! Date % |P. C. Val. Total 4892 Year |Depr. |Depr. |Value Assessed Value Year Depr. Depr. Value Assessed 10% 947 439 214 11 80 OWNER'S AMOUNT PERMIT NO. DATE C. F. CHECKED . COMPT. CHECKED E. ON M. B. C.B . COMPARED

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Attachment C-2 1826 1/2 - 1828 1/2 E. 1st St., .L.B. 1826-1828 1/2 (3) back

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CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

(562) 570-6399 FAX (562) 570-6034 TDD (562) 570-6793

EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

SUBJECT:

1826 East 1st Street

PROJECT NO.: 335587

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD, 7TH FLOOR

DATE:

October 4, 2001

TYPE OF STRUCTURE: Apartments

APPLICANT:

Jennifer Sterud Anchor Seaport Escrow 5602 E. 2nd St. Long Beach CA 90803

Pursuant to Chapter 18.76 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, it has been determined that the property at the above address qualifies for an Exemption Certificate at this time due to the fact that parking is provided in a common parking facility.

Please be advised that the seller is required to provide the buyer this Exemption Certificate.

If you should require any additional information, contact Valerie Decker at (562) 570-6955, Monday through Friday between the hours of 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

1.

Yours truly,

FADY MATTAR Superintendent of Building

By: Jun A Mitchely

Ellen Mitchell Senior Combination Building Inspector

1898-1896,2

Select screen, then press 'ENTER'; fl=MORE screens; f8 to QUIT ILMS Name KOTSCH ,NATALIE А Proj R # 00400279 Status MPF Addr/01826. E 01ST STI Units Zip 90802-0000 Index Legal Descr ALAMITOS BEACH TOWNSITE Parcel # 7265 018 006 Hor N Hst N Oil N Fld N A/P N Air P Rdv N Cst Y CDBG N G HE Lf N Pkg Y Dt Recrd Plan Zone R4R QL Bldgs Units 004 Ins Resp C2 Iot Size F/A Depth Front Setbacks F 15 Lf 5 Rt 5 R 10 Year Built 10 Census Tract 5766.00 Council Dist 2 Insp Dist 1A Int SYS Pr Cmmts;

Cklist; REPAIR AS PER HOUSING LETTER DATED 4/21/04

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LON 10.06.337.04 (C)Copyright, Gartek Technologies, Inc.1990 All Rights Reserved

1826-1828/2

Back Building:

1830, 1830A, 1830B, 1832 E. First Street

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Attachment A-3

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Storage	Corr. Iron.	Cesspool	Refrigerator Bookcases
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Attachment A-2

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Attachment B 1830-B E. 1st St., LB

1828 9-29.45 t's hour is 56 can't any 0 CITY OF LONG BEACH E. DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING BUILDING INSPECTOR APPLICATION TO ALTER, REPAIR OR DEMOLISH the Department of Engineering of the City of Long Brach: Application is hereby made to the Department of Engineering of the City of Long Beach, through the ordence with the description and for the purpose inerventive set forth. This application is made the set undersigned applicant and which shall be deemed conditions ensering into the exercise of the purpose First: That the permit does not grant and right or privilege to arace any huilding or othe societure theoris does ilies, or other public piece or portion thereof they are only plant plant of plants and right or printers to use erry building it other originary derived for plant or being building in other originary derived for plants of the City of Long Brach Third: That the granung of the permit does affect or prejudice any diam of the a or right (Use Ink or Indelible Pencil) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY Lot No... Block Owner's Name. ... Owner's Address Contractor's Firm Name Contractor's Address City Licence No. Proposed Use of Building - e- 1 - 1 or Structure..... ... No. of Rooms.... Type of Construction of Existing Building OCATION OF JOBStreet VALUATION OF PROPOSED WORK ["Value" of a Bau Fatimate: Cost Building in Kind. "Value" of a Ballding Shall Be the : 3000.00 to. Replace the Architect , State Certificate No. 1995 Engineer i X Present Use of Building Really Number of stories in height. T. H. R. Size of present building State on following lines exactly what alterations, additions, etc., will be made to this b -1. 2 m 1 Asta. A ment . and the second anders E. A. Robert Size of new addition. Material of foundation. Size of Redwood Mudsills Size of Interior bearing studs Size of exterior stude I have carefully examined rud read the above application and know the same is true and correct, and that, in doing this work, all provisions of Long Bosch Ordinances and State Lass will be compiled with, whether herein specifici or not. Also, in accordance with the Building Code, I hereby apply for a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued after all final inspections have been called for by me and have been made by the Department of Engineering. All Applications must be filled ca' by the Applicant. PLANS AND SPECIFIC, TIONS (Sign Here) 7 7 and other data must also be filed (NOTE-Turn over and fill out blank on other side.) 1830-18 LOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY ZONE F. D. No. GROUP SET-BACKS CHECKED BY ISSUED BY ý RV., ₹ £ Allectiments -1 1830-A E. 1st St., LB G. Sil. 4-5-57

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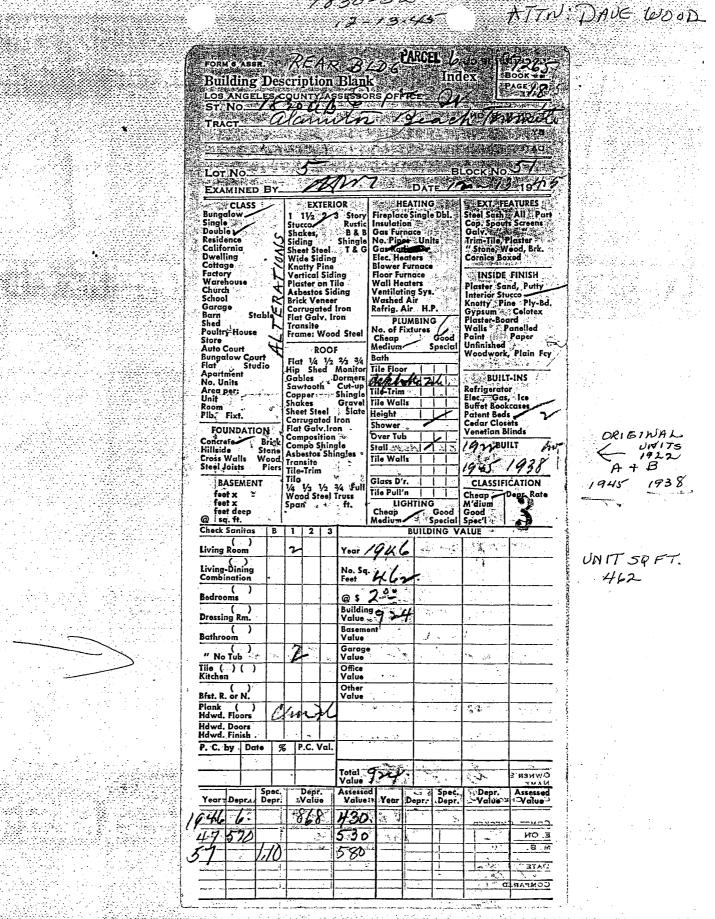
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Attachment E 1830-A E. 1st St., LB



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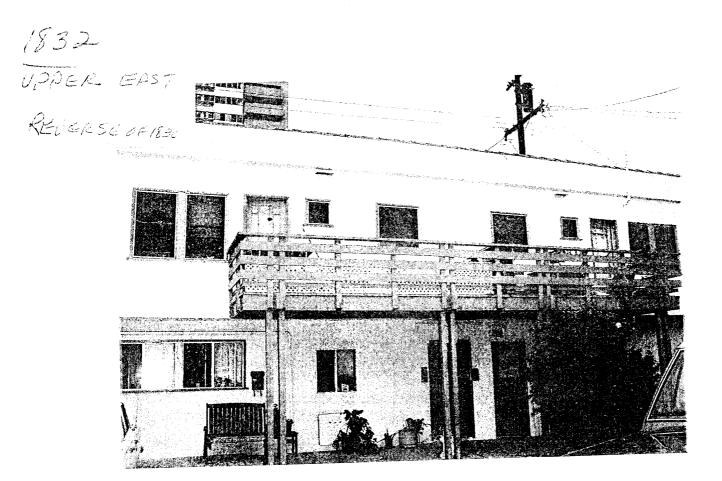
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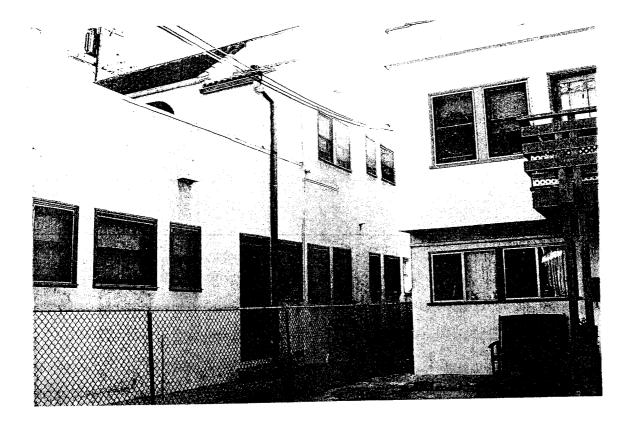
Attachment D-1 1830-B E. 1st St., LB

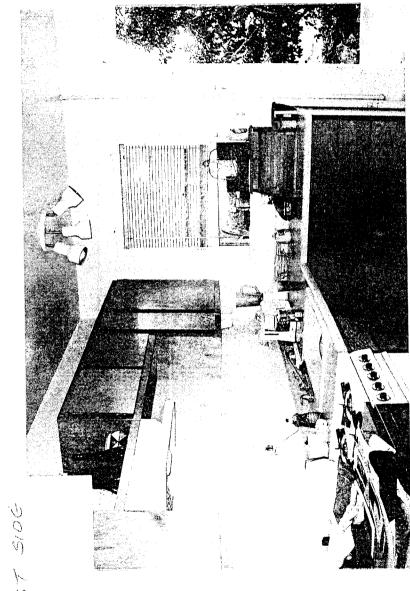
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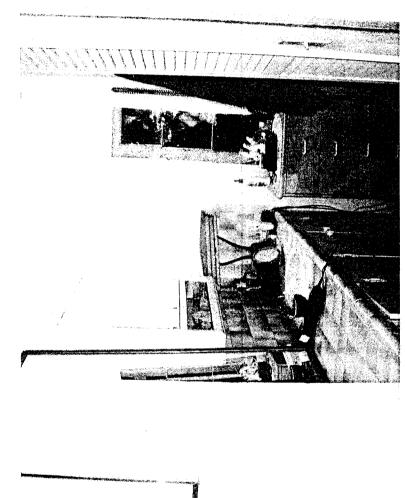
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Attachment D-2 1830-B F 1st St I B





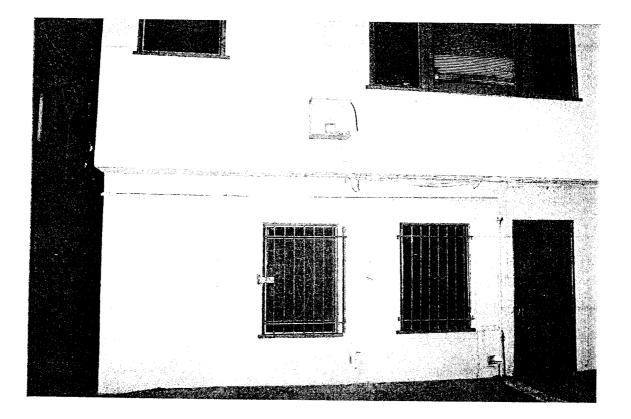




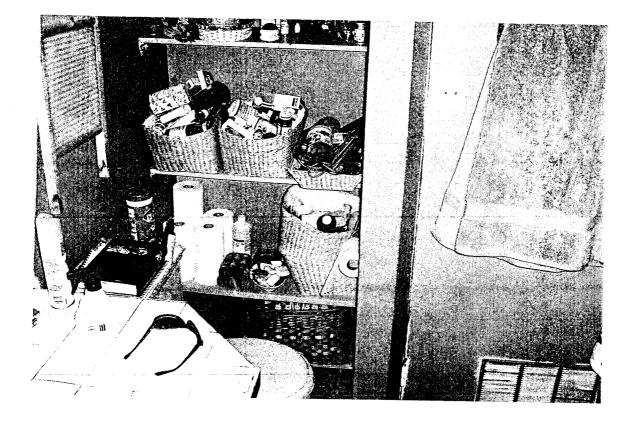
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1830 B. BACK DOOR



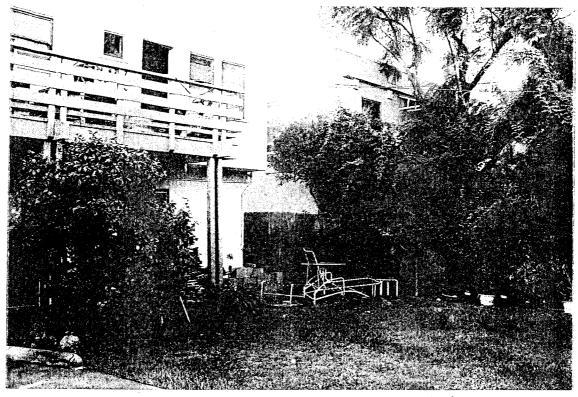




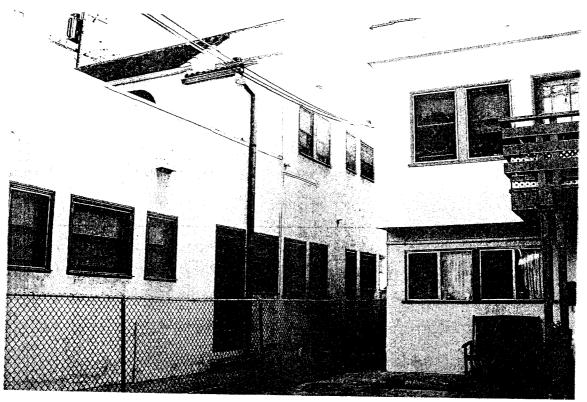




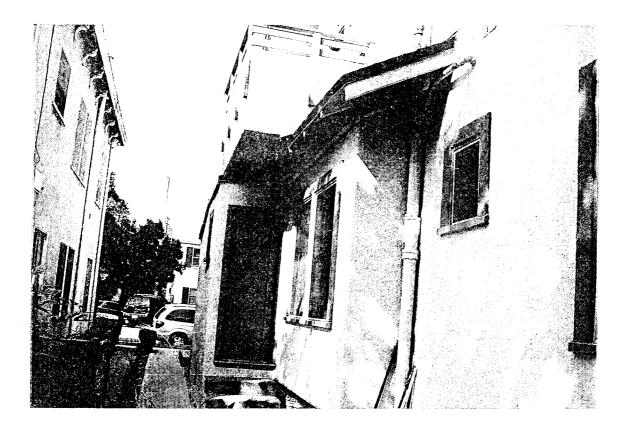




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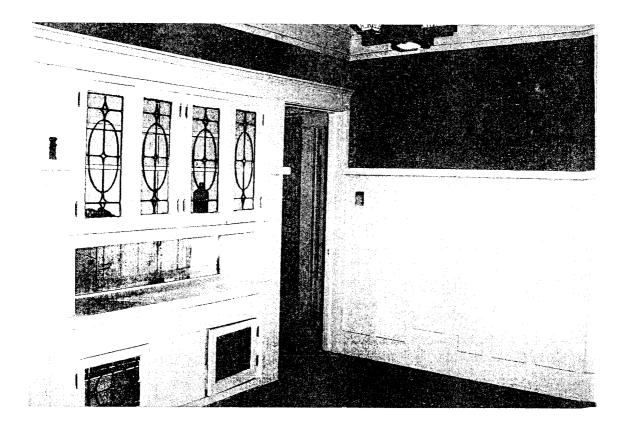


EAST NEIGHBOUR - 16 UNITS



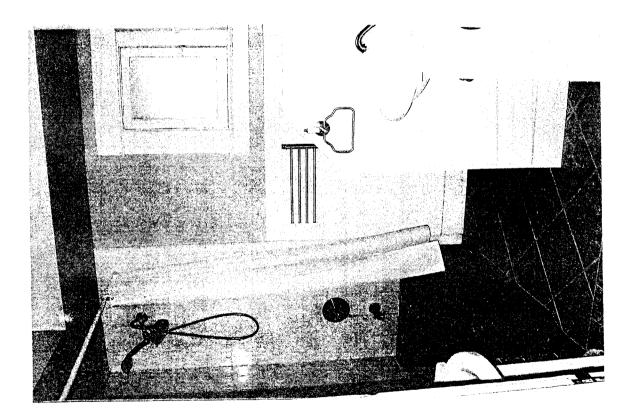


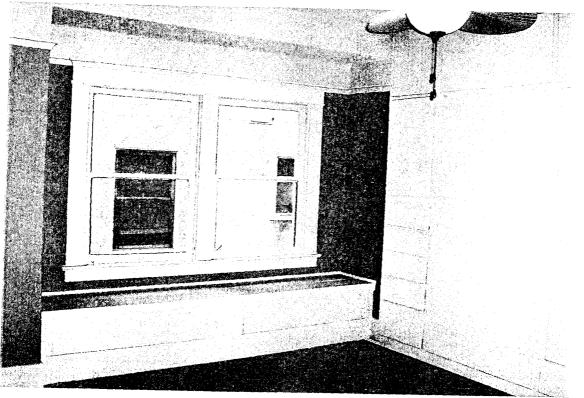
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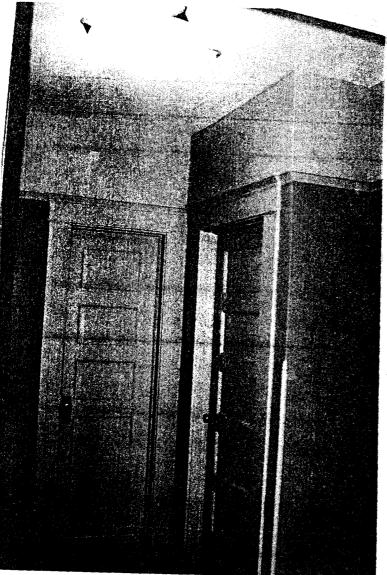




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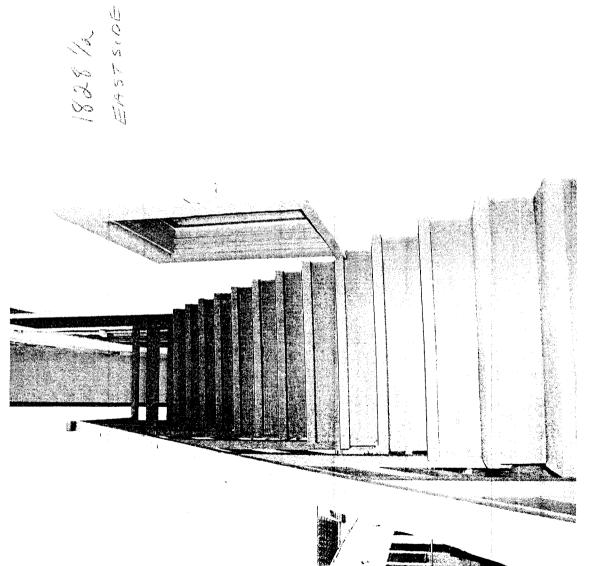


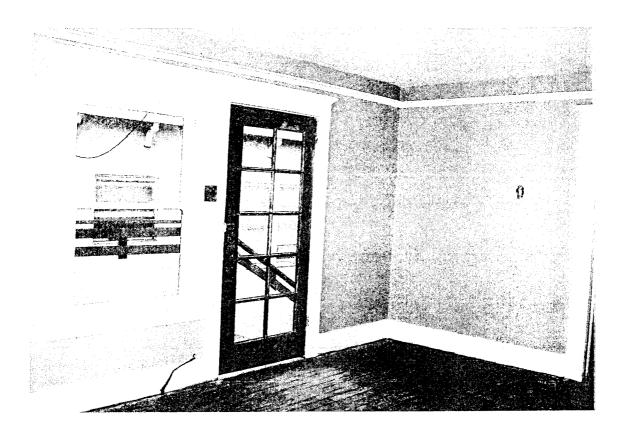
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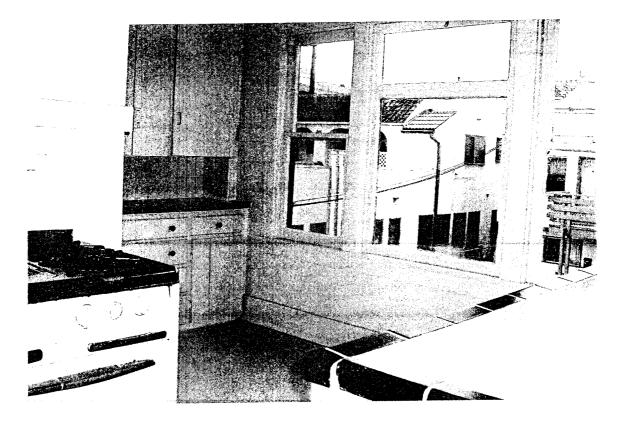
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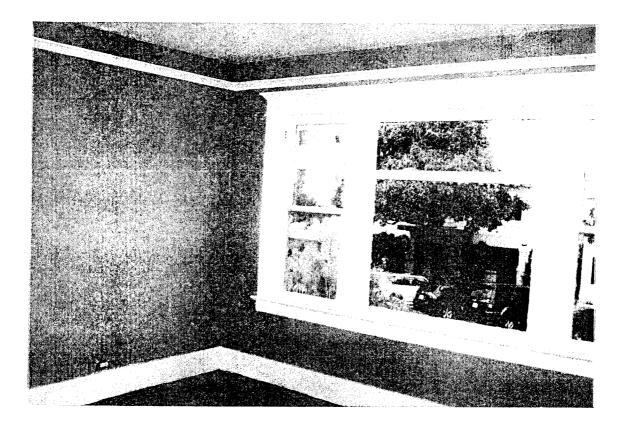


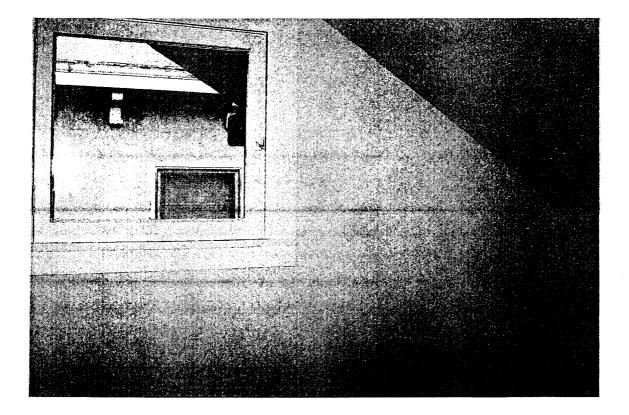


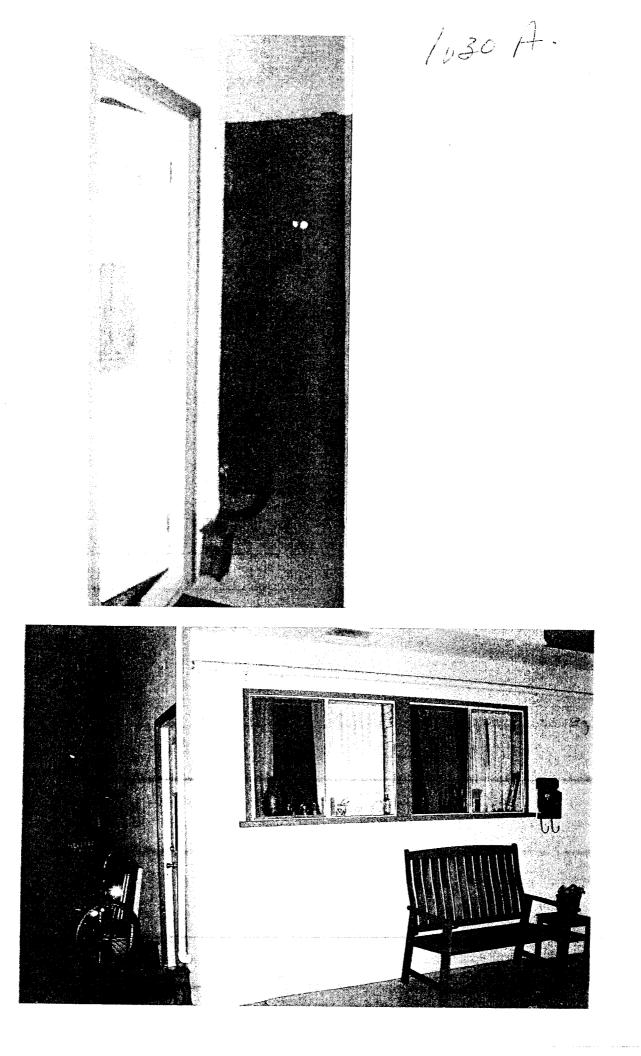


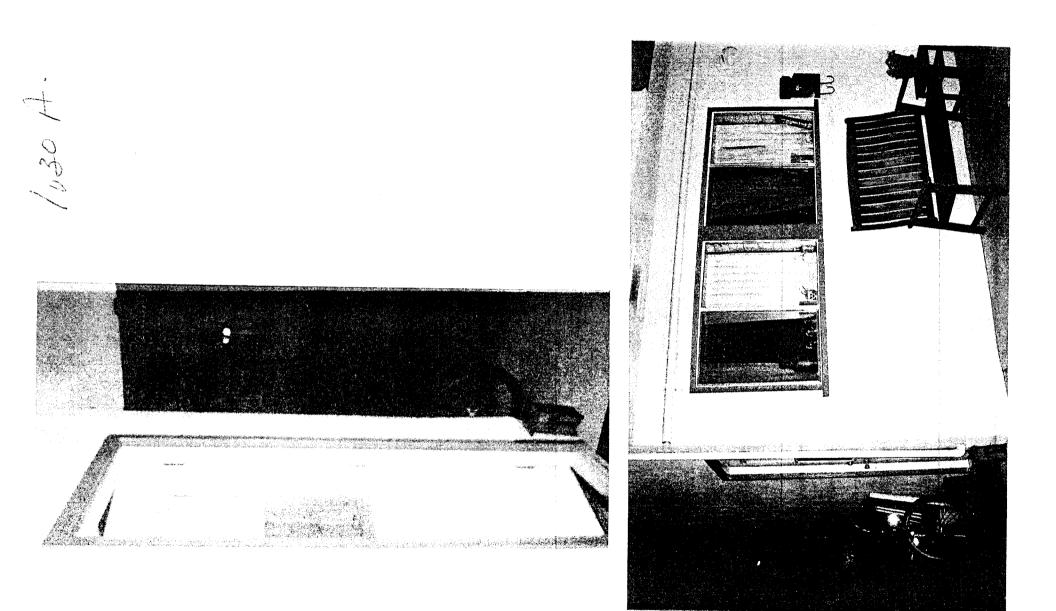




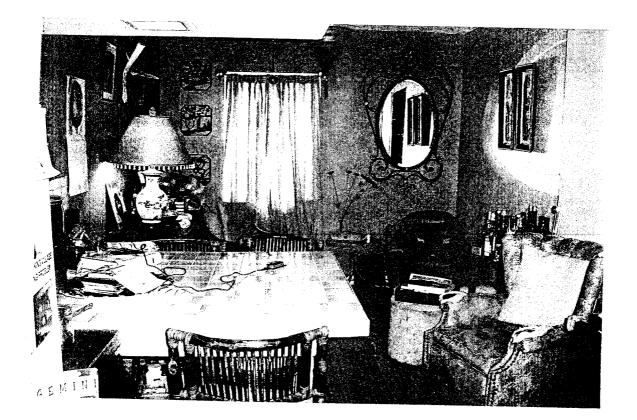


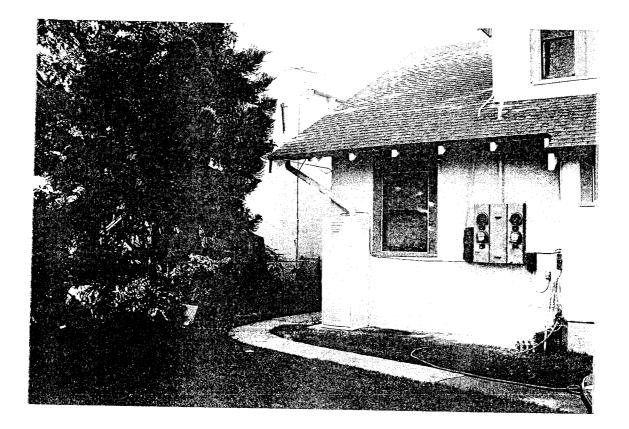






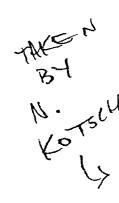








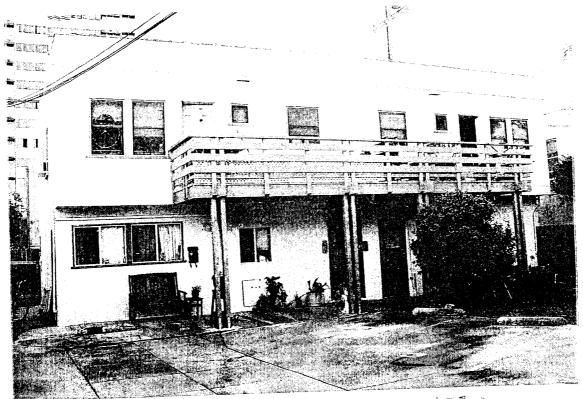
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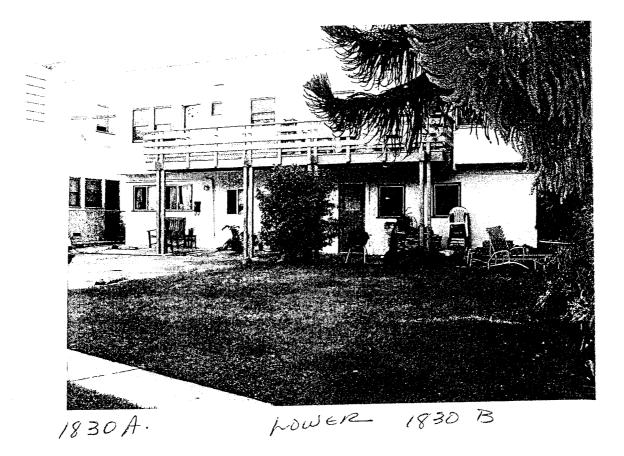


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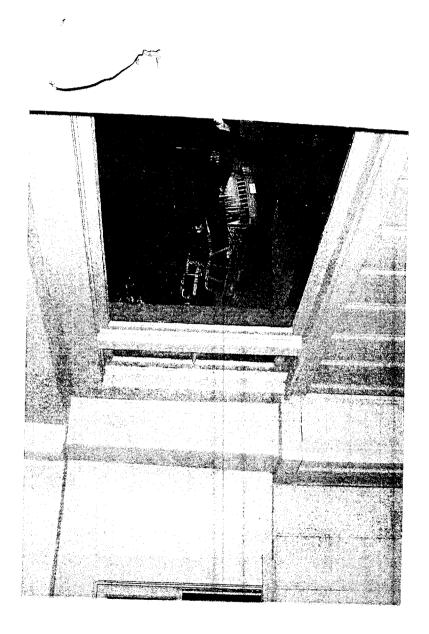
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1832 UPPER 1830

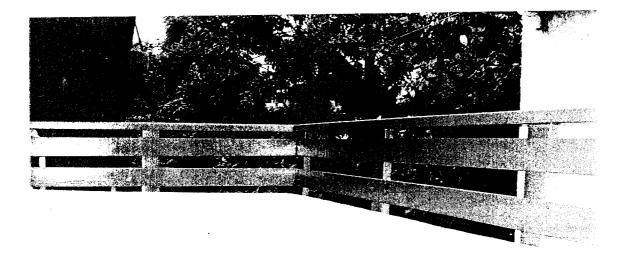






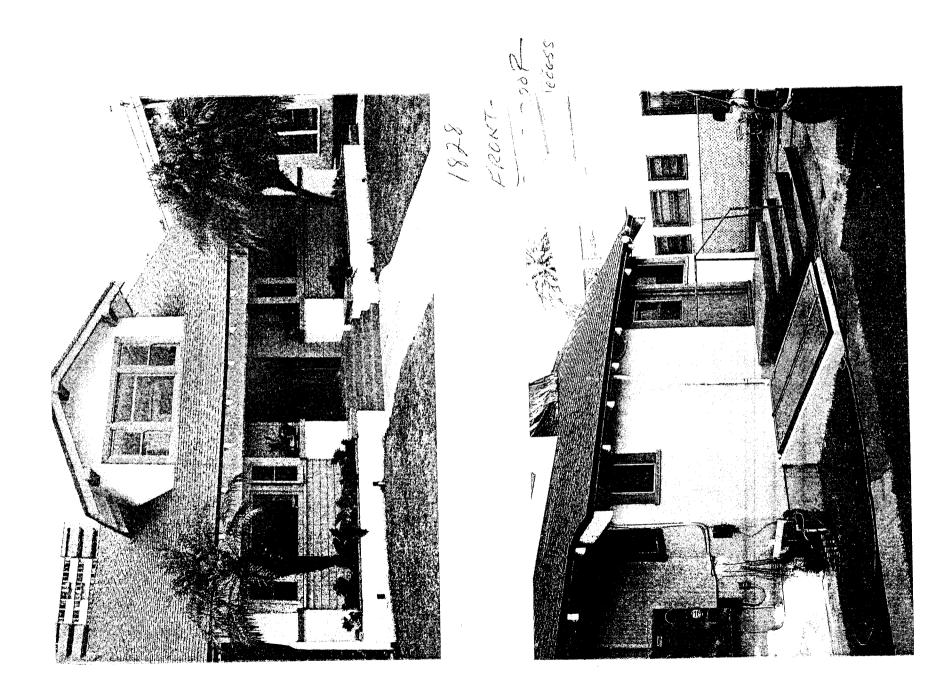
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ZONING DIVISION

December 21, 2006

CHAIRMAN AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

- SUBJECT: Request for approval of Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site. (Council District 2).
- LOCATION: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street
- APPLICANT: Natalie Kotsch 604 18th Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RECOMMENDATION

Continue the hearing to January 4, 2007

DISCUSSION

The applicant has requested a continuance to the meeting of January 4, 2007.

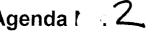
Respectfully submitted,

SUZANNE FRICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

By: PI ANNE

Approved: For CAROLYNE BIHN

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR





CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-6194

FAX (562) 570-6068

December 21, 2006

CHAIRMAN AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

- SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site. (Council District 2)
- 1826-1932 E. 1st Street LOCATION:
- Natalie Kotsch APPLICANT: 604 18th Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit for a total of five (5) dwelling units at the project site with conditions of approval requiring that the remaining unpermitted uses be converted back to their original use.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 1. The approval of four (4) additional units is not consistent with the General Plan and the Zoning Regulations as only five dwelling units would be allowed on the project site based on current zoning.
- 2. The approval of all four (4) unpermitted units will be detrimental to the surrounding community due to lack of parking, over-density, lack of open space, and the condition of the units.

BACKGROUND

The site is located on the south side of 1st Street between Hermosa Avenue and Cherry Avenue and is approximately 8,250 square feet (55 x 150) in area. The site is located in the R-4-R Zoning District and consists of eight (4 legally established and 4 illegal) dwelling units and five (5) open parking spaces accessible from a driveway on 1st Street. The building was constructed with 4 apartments and four garage parking spaces. All four (4) garages that took access from the alley at the rear of the site have been converted to dwelling spaces without the benefit of a building permit.

According to Section 21.31 Table 31-2B of the Zoning Ordinance a total of five dwelling units are allowed by current standards. The property has been Zoned R-4-R since September 6, 1983. Prior to 1983, the property had a Zoning Designation of R-4; the density at that time was based on the number of parking spaces provided.

The following table provides a summary of the Zoning, General Plan, and land uses surrounding the subject site:

	ZONING	GENERAL PLAN	LAND USE
Project Site	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi-Family
North	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
South	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
East	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family
West	R-4-R	LUD# 4 (High Density Residential)	Multi- Family

This current request is the result of two anonymous complaints related to inadequate gas meters, electrical problems, a water heater illegally installed in the bathroom, lack of ventilation, and mold in the bathroom on March 5, 2004. As a result of this complaint, an initial inspection was completed by March 12, 2004 and a Notice of Substandard Building was sent to the owner on April 20, 2004. A progress inspection was completed on May 26, 2004 based on a new cellar door being added. From that progress inspection, a Notice of Intent to Vacate the building was sent on July 31, 2004 and an Order to Vacate was sent on October 25, 2004. The order to vacate was heard at the Board of Examiners, Appeals, and Condemnation (BEAC) on February 2, 2005. The BEAC agreed that the building was substandard and required the owner to correct all items listed in the Findings of the Building Official dated February 2, 2005 and the Notice of Substandard Building dated April 24, 2004 by September 13, 2005. The owner was also told to apply for an Administrative Use Permit by June 27, 2005. Four tenants were allowed to remain in the rear building

According to Building, Planning & City Tax Assessor records, the property began as a single-family home in 1915, and was then altered from 1915 to 1946 as follows:

1826-28 E. 1st Street Front Two-Story Duplex (Currently 4 units):

- a. 1925- Permit to alter a single family home. (1 unit)
- b. 1931- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-5-31 shows a duplex dwelling. The tabulation shows two (2) kitchens, one upstairs, and one downstairs with a total of 2,697 square feet. (2 units) (See Exhibit A)
- c. 1946- Permit date 2-20-46 for the addition of a 5x7 toilet/shower on the first floor. (2 units) (See Exhibit B)

d. Permit history from 1946- Present. No permits were obtained to create additional units inside of the existing two-story duplex. (2 units)

In analyzing building records, it was determined that the two-story single family home which is currently four (4) units, was legally converted to a duplex, with one kitchen upstairs and one kitchen downstairs. An additional bath was added in 1946, for two (2) dwelling units in the front building. The two non-permitted units are units No. 1 and No. 4 in the front unit (see attached floor plan).

1830- 32 E. 1st Street Rear Two-Story Duplex (Currently 4 units):

- a. 1922- Permit date 8-17-22 to build a duplex over four garages. (2 units) (See Exhibit C)
- b. 1931- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 1-3-31 shows two (2) apartments over four (4) garages. The tabulation shows two (2) kitchens over four (4) garages. (2 units) (See Exhibit D)
- c. 1945- Permit dated 10-2-45 for the conversion of two garages into sleeping rooms. The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet shows two garages converted to apartments but states that no kitchens are provided. Los Angeles County Assessor records show two garage bathrooms on the first floor described as old garages remodeled into two bedrooms with baths. (3 units) (See Exhibit E)
- d. 1946- The Long Beach Tax Assessor data sheet dated 3-6-46 says, "2 gars now apts". It also says there are two living rooms, two bathrooms and no kitchens. (3 units) (See Exhibit F)
- e. Permit dated 5-1-73 to repair balcony & 1-hour wall of stairway. (3 units)
- f. Permit history from 1973- present. No permits were obtained to create additional units inside of the existing rear building.

In analyzing building records for the rear units onsite, it was determined that a duplex over four (4) garages was first constructed in 1922. In 1945, two garages were converted to sleeping rooms with bathrooms and no kitchens. The creation of sleeping rooms was common during the post war housing crisis in 1945, in which a number of cities allowed the construction of sleeping rooms without kitchens or required parking.

CURRENT ACTION REQUESTED

The applicant is requesting approval to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units, four in the front building and four in the rear building. A request to legalize dwelling units is allowed in the City of Long Beach with the approval of an Administrative Use Permit provided the units were built prior to 1964. The Zoning Administrator has the authority to consider and act on requests for an Administrative Use Permit according to Section 21.25.405 of the Long Beach Municipal Code and the Zoning Administrator may also refer the application to the Planning Commission in accordance

with the procedures contained in Section 21.25.405.B of the Zoning Ordinance (See Attachment 10).

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The approval is consistent with and carries out the General Plan, any applicable specific plans such as the local coastal program and all Zoning Regulations of the applicable district;

The General Plan Land Use Designation for this site is the High Density Residential District (LUD #4). The High Density Residential District encourages intensification or recycling of dwelling units in limited areas of the City where apartment and condominium lifestyles are logically related to transportation and services. Present densities range widely from about forty (40) to two hundred (200) dwelling units per acre since many such high-density structures were permitted before modern setback and off-street parking requirements became effective in the mid-1960's. The maximum permitted density in the LUD #4 is 44 du/acre. With a total of five (5) legal units on the project site, the density would be consistent with the General Plan as 29 du/ac exists. However, with a total of eight (8) units existing on the project site with four (4) legal and four (4) illegal units, the proposal is inconsistent with the city General Plan since there would be a total of 46 du/acre.

A departmental memorandum dated July 9, 1991, "Legalization of Illegal Units," established additional findings in order to determine legality of units. The memorandum (see attached memo) established a written policy, which requires the following findings to be made, along with required findings:

1) The quality of the units.

The property is being renovated at this time in order to remedy the items from the Findings of the Building Official dated February 2, 2004 and the Notice of Substandard Building dated February 5, 2005 as required by BEAC. However, the building is still designated as substandard. During a site visit, staff observed very small bedrooms in all three of the units in question, a kitchen located on the porch area of the studio unit on the front dwelling, and the original garage concrete slab serving as the floor in the rear lower dwelling unit. In addition, a kitchen was located within the sloped roof eave in the front upstairs unit. The existing situation led staff to believe that illegal splitting of units has occurred on both front and rear dwelling units on the project site. Furthermore, staff believes that approving the units will lead to unsafe living conditions and substandard living spaces.

2) Crowding in the community.

The property is located in Alamitos Beach, which is a mixture of apartment, condominiums, and multifamily dwellings and is considered high density residential.

The site is also within the Parking Impacted Area. Due to the high density of developments, there is considerable demand for parking. Conversion of the garages at the rear of the site has added to the impact of this project on the neighborhood.

3) Whether the unit could have been legal when built.

The applicant was asked to provide documentation, which shows that all units have been occupied since 1964. That documentation was not submitted along with the application and building records do not show more than four (4) legal units onsite. Therefore, staff has concluded that the units were created without permits, and have not been occupied continuously since 1964.

4) Whether property taxes have been paid on the unit

The current records from the County Assessor shows that the property is currently being assessed for a total of seven dwelling units. There are no records on how long seven units have been taxed. In contrast, City records show a total of four legal units.

5) Knowledge of current owner when purchased, and

Staff's belief is that the applicant, a licensed realtor, was aware that she was buying the property in an "as is" condition.

6) Community reaction.

There has been negative reaction from members of the community in response to this request. Surrounding neighbors are not in favor of increasing density in the neighborhood due to the lack of parking availability. One letter and one phone call were received in support of staff's recommendation.

In addition, the property has a parking impacted designation, which is an indication that more than 75% of available on-street parking is utilized during evening hours and that insufficient off-street parking is available to meet the needs of local residents, due to a high incidence of parcels with less than legally required offstreet parking and/or due to a high incidence of illegal garage conversions. The goal in the Parking Impacted Area is to prevent the alteration of units into additional units if the parcel is nonconforming to the City General Plan and/or Zoning Ordinance. The subject site had four garages that were converted to living units; one unit ("sleeping rooms") staff is recommending for approval, the other unit staff is recommending be returned to garage spaces. With staff's recommendation to approve one legal non-conforming unit for a total of five units, there would be two legal garage spaces along with five open parking spaces. This arrangement, although non-conforming in terms of parking, would mitigate the impact to on street parking in the parking impacted area.

Based on the current situation, the lack of parking, the designation of the structures as substandard, and marginally inhabitable living spaces, staff believes that only one of the four of the unpermitted units should be legalized.

B. The approval will not be detrimental to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life; and

With the approval of one dwelling unit on the project site for a total of five dwelling units, staff believes that with conditions of approval that the use will not be detrimental to the surrounding community. The removal of the substandard designation as required by conditions of approval would also enhance the quality of life, public health, and safety of the existing residences onsite by combining dysfunctional bedroom spaces, and removing unsafe kitchens located on the porch, and under a slanted roof eave. The combination of units will also allow 5 units to become compliant with current zoning code standards, which will increase the quality of life, safety and, health of future and current tenants.

C. The approval is in compliance with the special conditions for the use enumerated in Chapter 21.52.

 A. The unit(s) in question must have been created before 1964 and continually occupied since that time without having been abandoned pursuant to Section 21.15.030;

Proof of occupancy of the four (4) illegal units from 1964 to date was required in order to determine the legality of the units. The applicant did not provide the required information upon submittal, so we are unable to determine if these units existed prior to 1964.

B. The unit must meet minimum Housing Code provisions; and

A condition of approval (Condition # 10) requires that new plans be provided that will bring the sleeping rooms up to minimum housing standards for a single unit.

C. The unit must not exceed six hundred forty (640) square feet. (Ord. C-7032 § 53, 1992).

The four illegal units are approximately 503 square feet, 230 square feet, 386 square feet and 388 square feet. All units are consistent with this requirement since no unit exceeds 640 square feet. The unit that staff is recommending be legalized, is 388 square fee in area.

LOCAL COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The proposed development conforms to the certified local coastal program including but not limited to all requirements for replacement of low and moderate-income housing; and

The legalization of one dwelling unit and removal of three illegal dwelling units will not result in the relocation of low or moderate income housing as confirmed by Dale Hutchinson of our Housing Services Bureau. Therefore, the proposal will conform to the local coastal program.

B. The proposed development conforms to the public access and recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. This second finding applies only to development located seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

The site is not seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A total of 170 Public Hearing Notices were mailed on September 4, 2006 to all owners of properties within a 300-foot radius of the project site, and the elected representative of the 2nd Council District.

REDEVELOPMENT REVIEW

The project site is not located in a Redevelopment Project Area.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, a Categorical Exemption (CE-06-231) has been prepared for this project, and is attached for your review.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Approve the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit for a total of five (5) dwelling units at the project site and require conversion of the remaining units to their original use.

Respectfully submitted,

SUZANNE M. FRICK DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

By: STEVEN ANTHONY VALDEZ PLANNER

Approved:

CAROLYNE BIHN ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

CB:sv

Attachments:

- 1. Conditions of Approval
- 2. Site Plan/Floor Plan
- 3. Photographs
- 4. Categorical Exemption
- 5. Documentation from Applicant Proving Legality of Units
- 6. City Attorney Letter
- 7. Letter Forwarding Request to Planning Commission
- 8. Building Research Letter
- 9. Exhibit A-F
- 10. "Legalization of Units", Policy Memo
- 11. Letter from Applicants Attorney

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: December 21, 2006 Page 1

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL Case No. 0610-17 Date: December 21, 2006

- The use permitted on the site, in addition to other uses permitted in the R-4-R Zoning District shall be the legalization of one (1) dwelling unit creating a total of five (5) dwelling units. The legal unit shall be unit No. 6 on the first floor of the rear dwelling unit; that dwelling unit shall not exceed 388 square feet.
- 2. This permit and all development rights hereunder shall **terminate one year** from the effective date (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date) of this permit unless construction is commenced, a business license establishing the use is obtained or a time extension is granted, based on a written and approved request submitted prior to the expiration of the one year period as provided in Section 21.21.406 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.
- 3. This permit shall be invalid if the owner(s) and applicant(s) have failed to return written acknowledgment of their acceptance of the conditions of approval on the Conditions of Approval Acknowledgment Form supplied by the Planning Bureau. This acknowledgment must be submitted within 30 days form the effective date of approval (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date). Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a revised set of plans reflecting all of the design changes set forth in the conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
- 4. If, for any reason, there is a **violation of any of the conditions** of this permit or if the use/operation is found to be detrimental to the surrounding community, including public health, safety or general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life, such shall cause the City to initiate revocation and termination procedures of all rights granted herewith.
- 5. In the event of **transfer of ownership** of the property involved in this application, the new owner shall be fully informed of the permitted use and development of said property as set forth by this permit together with all conditions, which are a part thereof.
- 6. The Director of Planning and Building is authorized to make **minor modifications** to the approved design plans or to any of the conditions of approval if such modifications shall not significantly change/alter the approved design/project and if

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: December 21, 2006 Page 2

> no detrimental effects to neighboring properties are caused by said modifications. Any major modifications shall be reviewed by the Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission, respectively.

- 7. The property shall be developed and maintained in a neat, quiet, and orderly condition and operated in a manner so as not to be detrimental to adjacent properties and occupants. This shall encompass the maintenance of exterior facades of the building, designated parking areas serving the use, fences and the perimeter of the site (including all public parkways).
- 8. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date, a building permit to legalize the west first floor unit shall be secured.
- 9. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date, the following improvements shall completed on the project site:
 - A. The front dwelling unit shall be converted from a four unit dwelling to a duplex with one unit upstairs and one unit downstairs unit.
 - B. The east first floor unit on the rear dwelling shall be converted back to a compact two-car garage.
- 10. All repairs called out in the Notices of Substandard Building dated April 4, 2004 and the Findings of the Building Official dated February 3, 2005 shall be remedied within ninety days (90) of the Notice of Final Action date.
- 11. Five (5) open parking spaces shall remain as part of this approval.
- 12. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action, all applicable code enforcement fees shall be paid
- 13. Compliance is required with these Conditions of Approval as long as this use is on site. As such, the site shall be available for periodic reinspection conducted at the discretion of city officials, to verity that all conditions of approval are being met. The property owner shall reimburse the City for the inspection cost as per special building inspection specifications established by City Council.
- 13. The applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Long Beach, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach or its agents, officers, or employees brought to attack, set aside, void, or annual an approval of the City of Long Beach, its advisory agencies, commissions, or legislative body concerning this project. The City of Long Beach will promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action, or proceeding against the

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: December 21, 2006 Page 3

City of Long Beach and will cooperate fully in the defense. If the City of Long Beach fails to promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding or fails to cooperate fully in the defense, the applicant shall not, thereafter, be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the City of Long Beach.



CE No. 06-231 CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

333 West Ocean Boulevard, 7th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-6194 FAX (562) 570-6068

ZONING DIVISION

February 1, 2007

CHAIRMAN AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

.....

SUBJECT: Request for approval of Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site. (Council District 2).

LOCATION: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street

APPLICANT: Natalie Kotsch 604 18th Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the legalization of four dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units.

DISCUSSION

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the above request on January 4, 2007 and directed staff to prepare findings and conditions of approval for legalization of four dwelling units created without the benefit of permits. Attached are revised findings and conditions of approval for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

SUZANNE FRICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

By: STEVEN VAL PLANNER

Approved:

CAROLYNE BIHN ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



CITY OF LONG BEACH

THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, California 90802 562-570-6194 FAX 562-570-6068

Administrative Use Permit Local Coastal Development Approval Findings Case No. 0610-17

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The approval is consistent with and carries out the General Plan, any applicable specific plans such as the local coastal program and all Zoning Regulations of the applicable district;

The General Plan Land Use Designation for this site is the High Density Residential District (LUD #4). The High Density Residential District encourages intensification or recycling of dwelling units in limited areas of the City where apartment and condominium lifestyles are logically related to transportation and services. Present densities range widely from about forty (40) to two hundred (200) dwelling units per acre since many such high-density structures were permitted before modern setback and off-street parking requirements became effective in the mid-1960's. The maximum permitted density in the LUD #4 is 44 du/acre. The approval of eight (8) dwelling units will be consistent with the LUD # 4 at 42 dwelling units per acre. In addition, the project provides open space in excess of the Zoning Regulations, and is close to public transportation and services.

B. The approval will not be detrimental to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life; and

The approval of eight (8) units establishes a density on the property of 42 du/ac, consistent with the maximum permitted density in LUD No. 4 and significantly lower than the average density in the surrounding community (52 du/ac) or the highest densities developed in the immediate area (100-200 du/ac). No rooms are substandard in size or construction and the resulting project provides a healthy, safe, and high quality living environment.

C. The approval is in compliance with the special conditions for the use enumerated in Chapter 21.52.

1. The unit(s) in question must have been created before 1964 and continually occupied since that time without having been abandoned pursuant to Section 21.15.030;

Proof of occupancy of the four (4) illegal units from 1964 to date is required in order to determine the legality of the units in the absence of building permits. Although, the applicant did not provide this information, based on testimony at the hearing, the Planning Commission concluded that the units were viable and should be legalized.

2. The unit must meet minimum Housing Code provisions; and

A condition of approval (Condition # 10) requires that new plans be provided that will bring all four units up to minimum housing standards.

3. The unit must not exceed six hundred forty (640) square feet. (Ord. C-7032 § 53, 1992).

The four units in question are approximately 503 square feet, 230 square feet, 386 square feet, and 388 square feet. All units are consistent with this requirement since no unit exceeds 640 square feet.

LOCAL COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The proposed development conforms to the certified local coastal program including but not limited to all requirements for replacement of low and moderate-income housing; and

The legalization of four dwelling units will not result in the removal of low or moderate income tenants. Therefore, this proposal conforms to the Local Coastal Program

B. The proposed development conforms to the public access and recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. This second finding applies only to development located seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

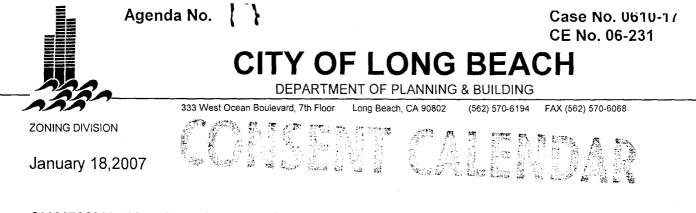
The site is not seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL Case No. 0610-17 Date: February 1, 2007

- 1. The use permitted on the site, in addition to other uses permitted in the R-4-R Zoning District shall be the legalization of four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units. The legalized units shall be units No. 1, 4, 5, & 6 as shown on the approved site plan
- 2. This permit and all development rights hereunder shall **terminate one year** from the effective date (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date) of this permit unless construction is commenced, a business license establishing the use is obtained or a time extension is granted, based on a written and approved request submitted prior to the expiration of the one year period as provided in Section 21.21.406 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.
- 3. This permit shall be invalid if the owner(s) and applicant(s) have failed to return **written acknowledgment** of their acceptance of the conditions of approval on the *Conditions of Approval Acknowledgment Form* supplied by the Planning Bureau. This acknowledgment must be submitted within 30 days form the effective date of approval (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date). Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a revised set of plans reflecting all of the design changes set forth in the conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
- 4. If, for any reason, there is a **violation of any of the conditions** of this permit or if the use/operation is found to be detrimental to the surrounding community, including public health, safety or general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life, such shall cause the City to initiate revocation and termination procedures of all rights granted herewith.
- 5. In the event of **transfer of ownership** of the property involved in this application, the new owner shall be fully informed of the permitted use and development of said property as set forth by this permit together with all conditions, which are a part thereof.
- 6. The Director of Planning and Building is authorized to make **minor modifications** to the approved design plans or to any of the conditions of approval if such modifications shall not significantly change/alter the approved design/project and if no detrimental effects to neighboring properties are caused by said modifications. Any major modifications shall be reviewed by the Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission, respectively.

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: January 18, 2007 Page 2

- 7. The property shall be developed and maintained in a neat, quiet, and orderly condition and operated in a manner so as not to be detrimental to adjacent properties and occupants. This shall encompass the maintenance of exterior facades of the building, designated parking areas serving the use, fences and the perimeter of the site (including all public parkways).
- 8. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date the applicant shall obtain a building permit to legalize units No. 1, 4, 5, & 6.
- 9. Separate building permits are required for signs, fences, retaining walls, trash enclosures, flagpoles, pole mounted yard lighting foundations and planters.
- 10. Approval of this project is expressly conditioned upon payment (prior to building permit issuance or prior to Certificate of Occupancy, as specified in the applicable Ordinance or Resolution for the specific fee) of impact fees, connection fees and other similar fees based upon additional facilities needed to accommodate new development at established City service level standards, including, but not limited to, sewer capacity charges, Park Fees and Transportation Impact Fees.
- 11. All repairs called out in the Notices of Substandard Building dated April 4, 2004 and the Findings of the Building Official dated February 3, 2005 shall be remedied within ninety days (90) of the Notice of Final Action date.
- 12. The Five (5) open parking spaces presently on-site shall remain as part of this approval.
- 13. Compliance is required with these Conditions of Approval as long as this use is on site. As such, the site shall be available for periodic reinspection conducted at the discretion of city officials, to verity that all conditions of approval are being met. The property owner shall reimburse the City for the inspection cost as per special building inspection specifications established by City Council.
- 14. The applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Long Beach, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach or its agents, officers, or employees brought to attack, set aside, void, or annual an approval of the City of Long Beach, its advisory agencies, commissions, or legislative body concerning this project. The City of Long Beach will promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach and will cooperate fully in the defense. If the City of Long Beach fails to promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding or fails to cooperate fully in the defense, the applicant shall not, thereafter, be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the City of Long Beach.



CHAIRMAN AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

SUBJECT: Request for approval of Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site. (Council District 2).

LOCATION: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street

APPLICANT: Natalie Kotsch 604 18th Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the legalization of four dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units.

DISCUSSION

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the above request on January 4, 2007 and directed staff to prepare findings and conditions of approval for legalization of four dwelling units created without the benefit of permits. Attached are revised findings and conditions of approval for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

SUZANNE FRICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

By: STEVEN VANDE PLANNER

Approved:

CAROLYNE BIHN ZONING ADMINISTRATOR



CITY OF LONG BEACH

THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, California 90802 562-570-6194 FAX 562-570-6068

Administrative Use Permit Local Coastal Development Approval Findings Case No. 0610-17

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The approval is consistent with and carries out the General Plan, any applicable specific plans such as the local coastal program and all Zoning Regulations of the applicable district;

The General Plan Land Use Designation for this site is the High Density Residential District (LUD #4). The High Density Residential District encourages intensification or recycling of dwelling units in limited areas of the City where apartment and condominium lifestyles are logically related to transportation and services. Present densities range widely from about forty (40) to two hundred (200) dwelling units per acre since many such high-density structures were permitted before modern setback and off-street parking requirements became effective in the mid-1960's. The maximum permitted density in the LUD #4 is 44 du/acre. The approval of eight (8) dwelling units will be consistent with the LUD #4 at 42 dwelling units per acre. In addition, the project provides open space in excess of the Zoning Regulations, and is close to public transportation and services.

B. The approval will not be detrimental to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life; and

The approval of eight (8) units establishes a density on the property of 42 du/ac, consistent with the maximum permitted density in LUD No. 4 and significantly lower than the average density in the surrounding community (52 du/ac) or the highest densities developed in the immediate area (100-200 du/ac). No rooms are substandard in size or construction and the resulting project provides a healthy, safe, and high quality living environment.

C. The approval is in compliance with the special conditions for the use enumerated in Chapter 21.52.

A. The unit(s) in question must have been created before 1964 and continually occupied since that time without having been abandoned pursuant to Section 21.15.030;

Proof of occupancy of the four (4) illegal units from 1964 to date is required in order to determine the legality of the units in the absence of building permits. Although, the applicant did not provide the required information, the Planning Commission concluded that the units were viable and should be legalized.

B. The unit must meet minimum Housing Code provisions; and

A condition of approval (Condition # 10) requires that new plans be provided that will bring all four units up to minimum housing standards.

C. The unit must not exceed six hundred forty (640) square feet. (Ord. C-7032 § 53, 1992).

The four illegal units are approximately 503 square feet, 230 square feet, 386 square feet and 388 square feet. All units are consistent with this requirement since no unit exceeds 640 square feet. The unit that staff is recommending be legalized, is 388 square fee in area.

LOCAL COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FINDINGS

The following findings must be analyzed, made, and adopted before any action is taken to approve or deny the subject permit and must be incorporated into the record of the proceedings relating to such approval or denial:

A. The proposed development conforms to the certified local coastal program including but not limited to all requirements for replacement of low and moderate-income housing; and

According to Section 21.65.060 and 18.20.140 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, the Building Official shall notify the Housing Services Bureau of the issuance of the orders to vacate and the Housing Services Bureau shall inform the tenant households in writing of the procedure to apply for relocation assistance, what the tenant household's rights are, and who to contact with questions regarding relocation assistance. The Housing Services Bureau shall also inform the tenant household that the household may request payment of relocation assistance from the city in accordance with Section 21.65.090 of this chapter. Based on the above, the legalization of four dwelling units will not result in the removal of low or moderate income tenants. Therefore, this proposal conforms to the Local Coastal Program

B. The proposed development conforms to the public access and recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. This second finding applies only to development located seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

The site is not seaward of the nearest public highway to the shoreline.

ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMIT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL Case No. 0610-17 Date: January 18, 2007

- 1. The use permitted on the site, in addition to other uses permitted in the R-4-R Zoning District shall be the legalization of four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units. The legalized units shall be units No. 1, 4, 5, & 6 as shown on the approved site plan
- 2. This permit and all development rights hereunder shall **terminate one year** from the effective date (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date) of this permit unless construction is commenced, a business license establishing the use is obtained or a time extension is granted, based on a written and approved request submitted prior to the expiration of the one year period as provided in Section 21.21.406 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.
- 3. This permit shall be invalid if the owner(s) and applicant(s) have failed to return **written acknowledgment** of their acceptance of the conditions of approval on the *Conditions of Approval Acknowledgment Form* supplied by the Planning Bureau. This acknowledgment must be submitted within 30 days form the effective date of approval (final action date or, if in the appealable area of the Coastal Zone, 21 days after the local final action date). Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a revised set of plans reflecting all of the design changes set forth in the conditions of approval to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
- 4. If, for any reason, there is a **violation of any of the conditions** of this permit or if the use/operation is found to be detrimental to the surrounding community, including public health, safety or general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life, such shall cause the City to initiate revocation and termination procedures of all rights granted herewith.
- 5. In the event of **transfer of ownership** of the property involved in this application, the new owner shall be fully informed of the permitted use and development of said property as set forth by this permit together with all conditions, which are a part thereof.
- 6. The Director of Planning and Building is authorized to make **minor modifications** to the approved design plans or to any of the conditions of approval if such modifications shall not significantly change/alter the approved design/project and if no detrimental effects to neighboring properties are caused by said modifications. Any major modifications shall be reviewed by the Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission, respectively.

Conditional Use Permit Conditions Date: January 18, 2007 Page 2

- 7. The property shall be developed and maintained in a neat, quiet, and orderly condition and operated in a manner so as not to be detrimental to adjacent properties and occupants. This shall encompass the maintenance of exterior facades of the building, designated parking areas serving the use, fences and the perimeter of the site (including all public parkways).
- 8. Within sixty days (60) of Notice of Final Action date the applicant shall obtain a building permit to legalize units No. 1, 4, 5, & 6.
- 9. Separate building permits are required for signs, fences, retaining walls, trash enclosures, flagpoles, pole mounted yard lighting foundations and planters.
- 10. Approval of this project is expressly conditioned upon payment (prior to building permit issuance or prior to Certificate of Occupancy, as specified in the applicable Ordinance or Resolution for the specific fee) of impact fees, connection fees and other similar fees based upon additional facilities needed to accommodate new development at established City service level standards, including, but not limited to, sewer capacity charges, Park Fees and Transportation Impact Fees.
- 11. All repairs called out in the Notices of Substandard Building dated April 4, 2004 and the Findings of the Building Official dated February 3, 2005 shall be remedied within ninety days (90) of the Notice of Final Action date.
- 12. Five (5) open parking spaces shall remain as part of this approval.
- 13. Compliance is required with these Conditions of Approval as long as this use is on site. As such, the site shall be available for periodic reinspection conducted at the discretion of city officials, to verity that all conditions of approval are being met. The property owner shall reimburse the City for the inspection cost as per special building inspection specifications established by City Council.
- 14. The applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Long Beach, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach or its agents, officers, or employees brought to attack, set aside, void, or annual an approval of the City of Long Beach, its advisory agencies, commissions, or legislative body concerning this project. The City of Long Beach will promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action, or proceeding against the City of Long Beach and will cooperate fully in the defense. If the City of Long Beach fails to promptly notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding or fails to cooperate fully in the defense, the applicant shall not, thereafter, be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the City of Long Beach.

Attachment 2 Letter in Opposition

ITEM# 1A To: Planing Connesson

From: Mike Wilson

I, mike Wilson, as President of the alinitos Beach neighborhood association, object to this plan and plan to appeal it for the following reports: Charking the # / issue that has led to the distabil ization of our neighborhood a) this project would double the density of inhabitants. without doing anything to nitigate the parking problem. Muki Keilson 102 Bonto All LB (9 90802 562 9513436

Attachment 3 Appeal Application

MARCH 27, 07



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

333 West Ocean Boulevard ! Long Beach, CA 90802 ! (562)570-6194 FAX: (562)570-6068

Application for Appeal

An appeal is hereby made to Your Honorable Body form the decision of the:
X Planning Commission on the day of FEB 20 () Zoning Officer on the day of 20
() Cultural Heritage Commission on the day of 20
() Site Plan Review Committee on the day of 20 William "Mike" Wilson
William "Mike" Wilson
Appellant: <u>President</u> , <u>Hlamitos Beach Neighborhood</u> Association
Applicant: <u>Matalie Kotsch</u>
Project Address: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street (Council District2) Administrative Use Permit
Permit(s) Requested: Local Coastal Development Permit
Project Description: Request for approval of an Administrative Use
Dermit and Local Coastal Development Dermit to
Tegalize four (4) dwelling units creating a total of eight (8) dwelling units at the project site.
eight (8) awelling units at the project site.
Reason for Appeal: This project will adversely affect the quality of
Reason for Appeal: This project will adversely affect the quality of life in Alamitos Beach. We do not feel that illegal units should be
Dermitted to be converted into legal ones without parking. We teel the
project is too dense and regatively impacts the neighborhood.
Your appellant herein respectfully requests that Your Honorable Body reject the
decision of the:
Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or
Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or () Site Plan Review Committee
Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or () Site Plan Review Committee Approve or Deny this application
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Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or () Site Plan Review Committee Approve or Deny this application Signature of the Appellant: Print name of the Appellant: William "Mike* Wilson, President, Alamitos Mailing Address: 102 Donito Avenue Long Beach, CA 90802 Phone No.: 562-951-3436 Note: Please be sure to review the filing instructions on the reverse side of this form.
Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or () Site Plan Review Committee Approve or Deny this application Signature of the Appellant: Print name of the Appellant: William "Mike* Wilson, President, Alamitos Mailing Address: 102 Donito Avenue Long Beach, CA 90802 Phone No.: 562-951-3436 Note: Please be sure to review the filing instructions on the reverse side of this form.
Approve or Deny this application Signature of the Appellant: Un Und Print name of the Appellant: Milliam "Mike*Wilson, President, Alamitos Mailing Address: 102 Donite Avenue Beach Neighborhood Phone No.: 562-951-3436 Note: Please be sure to review the filing instructions on the reverse side of this form.
Planning Commission, () Zoning Officer, () Cultural Heritage Commission or () Site Plan Review Committee Approve or Deny this application Signature of the Appellant: Print name of the Appellant: William "Mike* Wilson, President, Alamitos Mailing Address: 102 Ponito Avenue Long Beach, CA 90802 Association Note: Please be sure to review the filing instructions on the reverse side of this form.

Attachment 4

Planning Commission Minutes from January 4, 2007

Case No. 0610-12, Administrative Use Permit, Local Coastal Development Permit, CE 06-231

3.

Applicant: Natalie Kotsch Subject Site: 1826-1932 E. 1st Street (Council District 2) Description: Request for approval of an Administrative Use Permit and Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize four dwelling units creating a total of eight dwelling units at the project site.

Steve Valdez presented the staff report recommending approval of only one unit for a total of five units at the project site since approving all four would not be consistent with the General Plan and Zoning Regulations and would be detrimental to the surrounding community due to lack of parking, over-density, lack of open space, and the condition of the units.

Doug Otto, representative for Natalie Kotsch, 1826-1932 E. 1st Street, outlined the findings he felt could be made to approve all four units. Mr. Otto also presented extensive documentary evidence to prove that there had been eight separate units on the site for many decades that they felt met minimum housing requirements.

Joe Santiago, local contractor, no address given, presented documents showing tax assessments and building permits supporting the applicant's claim that the four front units labeled as illegal by staff were actually legally allowed before 1964. He also presented documents supporting their claim that the four rear apartments were legally permitted, along with escrow papers and an exemption certificate for parking.

Mr. Otto claimed there was enough evidence to prove that all eight units were built prior to 1964 and continuously occupied, with no parking restrictions in place at that time.

Jack Humphrey, 620 Ultimo Avenue, spoke on behalf of the applicant, saying he had also researched the legality of the eight units, and had assembled fragmented evidence to recreate the site's development process. Mr. Humphrey noted that each of the eight units had their own address and electric meter, and added that this building was of much lower density than the surrounding neighborhood.

Mr. Otto added that he felt there was also enough space between the buildings to meet open space requirements.

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Natalie Kotsch, 1826-1932 E. 1st Street, building owner, presented photos of the improvements she had made to the building, and stressed her commitment to restore the units.

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Ms. Bihn stated that staff had found each of the units to be substandard in terms of ventilation, floor-to-ceiling clearance and more. She added that staff's research had only been able to substantiate five continuously-occupied units through public records, utility billing records, rent receipts and neighbor testimony. Ms. Bihn noted that City records indicated only two units had been constructed in the rear, not four. She explained that having an address did not automatically grant legal status to a unit.

Deputy City Attorney Mais pointed out that the property owner has the burden of proof to establish the legality of a structure, not City staff, and that hearsay evidence cannot be relied upon in making decisions with corroborative evidence.

Commissioner Greenberg remarked that sparse City records made it difficult for property owners, and he said he felt the applicant had failed less than City had, and that as a result, the preponderance of evidence would be corroborative only.

David Woods, Building Inspector, City of Long Beach, outlined the history of building code violations at the site, including exposed gas meters under a sink; deteriorated balconies and staircases, water heaters inside bathroom areas, obvious garage conversions, an illegally enclosed front porch with a kitchen conversion and shallow, sloping ceiling heights with undersized rooms and obvious signs of haphazard and illegal construction.

In response to queries from Commissioners Sramek and Stuhlbarg, Mr. Woods explained that the back units suffered from nonworking electrical outlets and bathroom mold, and that in the past two months, the building department had visited the site to confirm progress of repairs, noting that some electrical concerns had been addressed, and that the owner was cooperative, agreeing to address the issues in a timely manner.

Commissioner Greenberg noted that even if the applicant's request was granted, she still faced an extensive list of fixes which may or may not be financially feasible.

Mr. Otto noted that Ms. Kotsch had corrected 52 of 58 actionable items listed by the building inspector, with the balance on hold pending the outcome of this hearing, and he promised that all

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requests would be satisfied if a determination was made for eight units.

Suzanne Frick warned that compliance with building codes rested with the building official who has the authorization to determine compliance with the codes, not the Commission.

Shannon Allen, 1830 E. 1st Street, Apt. A, tenant, spoke in favor of the application, saying she liked the concrete floor in her unit, had none of the electrical or mold problems mentioned, and felt the room sizes were appropriate.

Carl Peterson, 1830 E. 1st Street, tenant and structural engineer, also spoke in support of the application, saying he had lived in his unit for nine years, and the new owner had made many improvements.

Whasook Dawson, 1830 E. 1st Street, Apt. B, tenant, agreed that the units were huge and reasonably priced.

David Schlemmer, David Schlemmer Investments, 1836 E. 1st Street, neighboring building owner, said the area was parking impacted, and he had noticed ongoing construction at the site for over a year while the owner was making improvements.

Joseph Andrew Fabozzi, 2129 E. Florida, also supported the applicant's request, saying that he had lived at the site for many years and that there had been an ongoing and painstaking refurbishment of interiors at the site, with more than enough parking for eight units.

Mr. Otto noted that there was no opposition to the request and that the units provided unusually affordable housing in the area, with the out-of-area landlord spending reconstruction dollars to bring the building up to code.

Commissioner Greenberg said he was not worried about making a precedent-setting decision, and thought these unusual, noncookie-cutter buildings should be encouraged, especially given the artistic nature of its enthusiastic tenants. Mr. Greenberg added that he felt it was more likely than not that the building had been maintained and lived in as eight units before the code was passed.

Commissioner Greenberg moved to continue the item to the January 18, 2007 meeting, directing staff to return with findings and

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revised conditions of approval supporting the request for eight legal units. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Stuhlbarg expressed his agreement, saying it was good to see tenants and a landlord working together.

Commissioner Winn demurred, saying that not enough convincing evidence existed to support eight legal units, so he would not support the motion.

Commissioner Sramek said he thought a couple of the units were not legal, but in spite of that, he could still procedurally approve the request if overriding considerations existed, and he felt that the landlord would improve and enhance all the units, providing needed housing for the area.

The question was called, and the motion passed 4-1. Commissioner Winn dissented, and Commissioner Gentile was absent.

4. Case No. 0604-28, Administrative Use Permit, CE 06-80

Applicant: John P. Erskine Subject Site: 2295 N. Long Beach Blvd. (Council District 3) Description: Request for approval of an Administrative Use Permit to establish a check cashing facility in a neighborhood shopping center.

Mark Hungerford presented the staff report recommending approval of the request since the facility's nearby relocation would not increase the overall number of check cashing concerns in the area, nor would it have any adverse affects on the surrounding community.

John Rogers, 1062 McCall, Corona, CA, Southern California marketing manager, Money Mart, said they provided services to an area with a marked lack of financial institutions, and were also involved in making charitable contributions to the community. Mr. Rogers noted that the Long Beach Police Department had expressed satisfaction with their stringent security measures.

John P. Erskine, 2295 N. Long Beach Blvd., applicant, commented that Money Mart would be paying to significantly improve the streetscape of the entire mall, not just their leased space.

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