

Staff Report

Infill Housing Design Review Committee

File Number: 5-C-24-IH

Meeting: 5/15/2024

Applicant: Dawn Irion Beit Development LLC **Owner:** Dawn Irion Beit Development LLC

Property Information

Location: 3436 Gay Road Parcel ID 81 | S 02802

Zoning: RN-2 (Single-Family Residential Neighborhood)

District: Lonsdale Infill Housing Overlay District

Description of Work

Level III New Primary Structure

New primary structure fronting Gap Road. The house is proposed to be set 41' from the front property line. One-story residence features a front-gable roof (7/12 pitch), an exterior of board-and-batten siding (no material specified), and a slab foundation. A lower front-gable massing projects from the left side of the façade. A 4'-5" entry stoop is recessed below the primary roofline, on the right half of the façade. Parking is proposed for a 20' wide concrete driveway in front of the house.

The façade (west) features paired double-hung windows on the projecting front-gable massing, with a door and another bay of paired windows recessed under the stoop. A fixed window is located in the gable field. The right side (south) elevation features two bays of windows, with one window on the left (north) elevation. A secondary entry and three windows are located on the rear elevation.

Applicable Design Guidelines

Heart of Knoxville Infill Housing Design Guidelines

- 1. Front Yards
- Consistent front yard space should be created along the street with the setback of a new house matching the older houses on the block.
- A walkway should be provided from the sidewalk or street to the front door. Along grid streets, the walk should be perpendicular to the street.
- Healthy trees that are outside the building footprint should be preserved. The root area should be marked and protected during construction.
- 2. Housing Orientation
- New housing should be proportional to the dimensions of the lot and other houses on the block.
- On corner lots, side yard setbacks should be handled traditionally (that is, closer to the side street). The zoning requirement to treat corner lots as having two frontages should not apply in Heart of Knoxville neighborhoods.
- Side yard setbacks should be similar to older houses on the block, keeping the rhythm of spacing between houses consistent.

3. Alleys, Parking, and Services

- Parking should not be in front yards.
- Alley access should be used for garage or parking pad locations. On level ground, pea gravel or similar material may be used as a parking pad off alleys.
- Garages which are perpendicular to the alley should be about 18 feet from the center line of the alley pavement, allowing a comfortable turning radius for a driver to enter a garage.
- Alley-oriented parking pads, garbage collection points, and utility boxes should be screened with a combination of landscaping and fencing.
- On those streets which have alleys, driveways should not be permitted from the front of the house.
- On corner lots, a driveway to the garage may be provided off the side street.

4. Scale, Mass, and Foundation Height

- The front elevation should be designed to be similar in scale to other houses along the street.
- The front façade of new houses should be about the same width as original houses on the block.
- New foundations should be about the same height as the original houses in the neighborhood.
- If greater height is to be created (with new construction or an addition), that portion of the house should be located toward the side or rear of the property.

5. Porches and Stoops

- Porches should be part of the housing design in those neighborhoods where porches were commonplace.
- Porches should be proportional to original porches on the block, extending about 8-12 feet toward the street from the habitable portion of the house.
- Porches should extend into the front yard setback, if necessary, to maintain consistency with similarly sited porches along the street.
- Porch posts and railings should be like those used in the historic era of the neighborhood's development. Wrought iron columns and other materials that were not used in the early 1900's should not be used.
- Small stoops centered on entry and no more than 5 feet deep are appropriate on blocks where porches were not traditional.

6. Windows and Doors

- When constructing new houses, the window and door styles should be similar to the original or historic houses on the block.
- To respect the privacy of adjacent properties, consider the placement of side windows and doors.
- The windows and doors on the front facade of an infill house should be located in similar proportion and position as the original houses on the block.
- Attention should be paid to window placement and the ratio of solid (the wall) to void (the window and door openings).
- Contemporary windows such as "picture windows" should not be used in pre-World War II neighborhoods.

7. Roof Shapes and Materials

- New roofs should be designed to have a similar pitch to original housing on the block
- More complex roofs, such as hipped roofs and dormers, should be part of new housing designs when such forms were historically used on the block.
- Darker shades of shingle were often used and should be chosen in roofing houses in Heart of Knoxville neighborhoods.

8. Siding Material

- Clapboard-like materials (such as cement fiberboard) should be used in constructing new housing where painted wood siding was traditionally used.
- Brick, wood shingle, and other less common material may be appropriate in some older neighborhoods, particularly those with a mix of architectural styles.

- Faced stone, vertical siding, and other non-historic materials should not be used in building new houses. In 1930-1950 era neighborhoods, faced stone may be appropriate (see Section 12).
- 11. Landscape and Other Considerations
- One native or naturalized shade tree should be planted in the front and rear yards of in fill lots with 25 feet or more in depth to front of house.

Comments

- 1. The house is proposed to be set 41' from the front property line. The block to receive new construction is relatively undeveloped; however, the existing houses on the block are set 15' and 18' from the front property line. The four proposed new houses have proposed front setbacks which vary from 47' to 25'. Front setbacks should be revised to align with each other as much as possible and meet the base zoning.
- 2. The block to receive new construction is characterized by modified Craftsman bungalows and is primarily vacant. The proposed one-story residence is proportional to the dimensions of the lot and the other houses on the block. The site plan features large side setbacks.
- 3. The application proposes a concrete driveway in the front of the house. Infill Housing guidelines recommend that on streets without alleys, parking areas should be at least 20' behind the front façade of the house with access limited to one lane between the street and the front façade. The parking should be revised to meet the guidelines. Final site plans should meet City Engineering standards.
- 4. Overall, the one-story, three-bay façade is similar in scale and width to the context. The house is proposed for a concrete slab foundation; the foundation should be elevated to at least 12" to be compatible with the broader neighborhood. Topography of the site may also affect the house's foundation; the applicant should submit a revised foundation drawing to staff for approval.
- 5. The application includes a 4'-5" entry stoop. The design should be revised to include a front porch proportional to the block, measuring at least 8' deep.
- 6. Guidelines recommend window and door styles be similar, with similar proportions and ratio of solid to void, to historic houses on the block and in the neighborhood. Additional windows are needed on the right and left side elevations to avoid large swaths of siding with no transparency.
- 7. The proposed roof pitch (7/12) meets the design guidelines.
- 8. The application does not include information on siding materials. Guidelines recommend that clapboard-like materials be used in new houses and discourages vertical siding; the houses should feature horizontal lap siding instead of board-and-batten.
- 9. Final site plans should include one native or naturalized shade tree in the front and rear yards. The lots currently feature a substantial amount of trees and other vegetation; existing trees should be retained if at all possible.
- 10. The proposed new construction should be differentiated in design from the three other new houses proposed on Gap Road at the same time. Design tactics can include roofline modifications, different porch designs, or other methods.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Certificate 5-C-24-IH, subject to the following conditions:

1) revisions to the front setback to align with adjacent new construction and create a consistent streetscape pattern;

- 2) revisions to parking placement to meet the Infill Housing guidelines;
- 3) foundation to be elevated at least 12 inches to reflect historic houses in the neighborhood, with a revised foundation profile submitted to staff;
- 4) revised front porch design to measure at least 8 feet deep;
- 5) one window each to be added to right and left elevations;
- 6) siding to be horizontal lap siding instead of board-and-batten;
- 7) design be revised to differentiate from other adjacent new construction on Gap Road, with approval by staff.

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Original Print Date: 5/6/2024 Revised: Knoxville/Knox County Planning - Infill Housing Design Review Committee Feet



CORRESPONDENCE

Applicant 4/19/24

Date Filed

Dawn Irion

800 S Gay St, Suite 700

Name

Address

Phone

865-809-1504

3436 GAP RD

Neighborhood

AUTHORIZATION

Applicant Signature

Property Address

DESIGN REVIEW REQUEST

DOWNTOWN DESIGN (DK) HISTORIC ZONING (H) INFILL HOUSING (IH) Beit Development LLC / Javonte Cotner (contractor) 5-C-24-IH Meeting Date (if applicable) File Number(s) All correspondence related to this application should be directed to the approved contact listed below. ■ Owner □ Contractor □ Engineer □ Architect/Landscape Architect Beit Development LLC Company Knoxville TN 37929 City State Zip dawn@beit.llc Email **CURRENT PROPERTY INFO** Owner Name (if different from applicant) Owner Address Owner Phone 081IS02802 Parcel ID Lonsdale Infill Housing Overlay District RN₂ Zoning Lindsay Crockett
Staff Signature 4.29.24 Lindsay Crockett Please Print Date Dawn Irion Digitally signed by Dawn Irion Date: 2024.04.19 10:50:53 -04'00' Dawn Irion 4/19/24

Date

Please Print

REQUEST

DOWNTOWN DESIGN	Level 1: Signs Alteration of an existing building/structure Level 2: Addition to an existing building/structure Level 3: Construction of new building/structure Site design, parking, plazas, landscape See required Downtown Design attachment for more details. Brief description of work:		
HISTORIC ZONING	Level 1: Signs Routine repair of siding, windows, roof, or other features, in-kind; Installation of gutters, storm windows/doors Level 2: Major repair, removal, or replacement of architectural elements or materials Additions and accessory structures Level 3: Construction of a new primary building Level 4: Relocation of a contributing structure Demolition of a contributing structure See required Historic Zoning attachment for more details. Brief description of work:		
INFILL HOUSING	Level 1: □ Driveways, parking pads, access point, garages or similar facilities □ Subdivisions Level 2: □ Additions visible from the primary street □ Changes to porches visible from the primary street Level 3: □ New primary structure □ Site built □ Modular □ Multi-Sectional See required Infill Housing attachment for more details. □ Brief description of work: construction of a 3 bedroom 2 bath single family home with a bonus room		
STAFF USE ONLY	ATTACHMENTS Downtown Design Checklist Historic Zoning Design Checklist Infill Housing Design Checklist ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS Property Owners / Option Holders Level 1: \$50 • Level 2: \$100 • Level 3: \$250 • Level 4: \$500	FEE 1: 250.00 FEE 2: FEE 3:	TOTAL: 250.00





