

Staff Report

Infill Housing Design Review

File Number: 3-A-25-IH

Meeting:	3/19/2025
Applicant:	Josh Braden Braden Family Properties, LLC
Owner:	Josh Braden Braden Family Properties, LLC
District:	Oakwood/Lincoln Park Infill Housing Overlay District

Property Information

Location:	212 E. Morelia Ave.	Parcel ID: 81 F T 009
Zoning:	RN-2 (Single-Family Residential Neighborhood)	
Description:		
New primary		

Description of Work

Level III New Primary Structure

New primary structure (duplex) fronting East Morelia Avenue. Two-story building features a side-gable roof (6/12 pitch), an exterior of lap siding with corner boards and cedar-texture accent boards at the top of each story, and a block foundation clad in stucco. The duplex is 34-5' wide by 50' deep (two adjacent units of 17' wide by 50' deep) and will be set 54.9' from the front lot line. Each unit features a 6'-9" wide by 4'-5" deep front porch at the edge of the façade, and the porches are recessed under a front-gable roof supported two square posts. Parking is two adjacent 18' wide by 35' deep concrete pads and is accessed via the rear alley.

The façade (south) features four bays, and the two central bays contain a two-story, paired front-gable massing that projects 4'-5" from the façade, with two windows on each story. The left and right bays each feature a porch with a paneled door and a window on the second story. All windows on the duplex are 1/1 and double-hung. The left and right elevations each feature three windows on the first story, one of which is a box bay window that projects 1'-6" from the main massing with a half-hipped roof, and there are two windows on the second story. Side elevations feature large swaths of "cedar texture architectural ascent board" as trim between the first and second story. The rear elevation features two windows and a secondary entrance for each unit on the first story, and the second story features four windows.

Applicable Design Guidelines

Heart of Knoxville Infill Housing Design Guidelines

10. Multi-Unit Housing

- Multi-unit housing (where permitted by zoning) should have similar front yard space to that of the traditional single-family houses along the street.

- In zoning districts where multi-unit housing is permitted, the height of the new housing should be similar to the original houses along the street.

- Multi-unit housing should be designed to continue the architectural rhythm of the block. In addition to the same build-to line, porches, bays and breaks in the front façade should be created to mimic the look of older homes when

looking down the block. This should be done by dividing

the building into separate sections that are proportionally similar to original houses on the block.

- Parking should be provided behind apartments with access from the alley.

- Landscaping, including shade trees, should be planted in both front and back yards.

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.

- On streets without alleys, garages or parking pads should be at least 20 feet behind the front façade of the infill house with access limited to one lane between the street and the front façade.

- 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 applicant intends to use Section 4.6 of the zoning code, the Middle Housing standards, which are "intended to promote the development of neighborhood-scale housing forms which are compatible with existing housing in the surrounding area," and "may allow more flexible development of land than is possible under the base district zoning regulations," subject to additional dimensional, design, and parking standards. Middle Housing review occurs separately through Planning staff; the DRB review focuses on how the project meets the Infill Housing design guidelines. However, some elements of Middle Housing review may trigger site plan and building elevation revisions, which would require additional review by the DRB.

2. The house is proposed to be set 54.9' from the front property line. The average of the blockface is 18.4', with the adjacent houses at 20' and 22'. The house should be moved to be aligned with the front setback pattern of the block, to meet Infill guidelines and Middle Housing standards. The final site plan should include a walkway from the front porches to the street.

3. The guidelines for multi-unit housing recommend that "new multi-family buildings be designed in scale and context with the early architectural features of the neighborhood." The block to receive new construction is characterized by Craftsman bungalows, modified Queen Anne cottages, and infill construction. Almost all houses on the block are one or one-and-a-half story, except for a six-unit apartment complex at the intersection with McMillan St. The duplex is proportionate to the dimensions of the lot and to other houses on the block. It does not incorporate any details which align with the architectural context. Additional design elements are also required by the Middle Housing standards.

4. Parking is two adjacent 18' wide by 35' deep concrete pads and is accessed via the rear alley, which meets the design guidelines.

5. The 35'-4" wide duplex is compatible in façade width with original houses in the neighborhood and meets the maximum building width requirements in Article 4.6, Middle Housing standards, for a side-by-side duplex. The side elevations are large in scale but attempt to break up the massing with a bay window on each side and trim separating each story. The building is within the maximum depth for a side-by-side duplex in the Middle Housing Standards. Guidelines also recommend that multi-unit housing be similar in height to original houses on the street. The two-story building is taller than the surrounding context, as the block only features one and one-and-a-half story houses, except for the two-story, six unit apartment complex at the intersection with McMillan Street. The Board should discuss the height of the duplex. The duplex also features a 2' tall foundation, which increases the building's overall height.

6. While the proposed entry stoops are not 8' deep per the guidelines, similarly-designed entry stoops have been approved for multi-unit buildings in the Infill Housing overlay. The entry stoops are relatively small in scale.

7. At least a 6/12 roof pitch is required in the Middle Housing standards to fill the "steep" category of roofline; 6/12 is also the minimum pitch approved by the Infill Housing guidelines. The large building may also benefit from additional variations in roofline, particularly on the larger side elevations.

8. Guidelines recommend window and door styles be similar to historic houses on the block, with similar placement and ratio of solid to void. While all four elevations feature sufficient transparency for the historic context, some revisions may be necessary to better align the buildings with the historic context (including the irregular placement of windows on the side elevations).

9. The elevation drawings feature horizontal siding (no materials provided) and a stucco-clad CMU foundation. The siding should feature a horizontal overlap similar to wood siding instead of Dutch lap or flush panes.

10. Guidelines state that there should be a native or naturalized shade tree in the front and rear yards, and they also state that "Healthy trees that are outside the building footprint should be preserved. The root area should be marked and protected during construction." There was a mature oak tree in the back yard that was recently cut down. The remaining mature maple tree in the front yard should be retained and a new native or naturalized shade tree should be added to the rear yard. Both trees should be indicated on the revised site plan.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Certificate 3-A-25-IH, subject to the following conditions: 1) final site plan to meet City Engineering standards, with major changes to the site plan to return to the DRB; 2) front setback to be revised to align with the front setback pattern of the blockface; 3) incorporation of additional design elements to meet Middle Housing standards, with minor revisions to be approved by staff; 4) the final site plan to include a walkway from the porches to the street; 5) the final site plan to include the existing mature tree in the front yard and a new native or naturalized shade tree in the rear yard; 6) revision to side elevation window placement; 7) the siding to be lap siding with an overlap instead of Dutch lap or flush panel; 8) meeting all relevant standards of Article 4.6. and Article 9.3.J.





DESIGN REVIEW REQUEST

DOWNTOWN DESIGN (DK)

□ HISTORIC ZONING (H)

INFILL HOUSING (IH)

Braden Family Properties, LLC.

Applicant			
02/24/25		3-A-25-IH	
Date Filed	Meeting Date (if applicable)	File Number(s)	

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence related to this application should be directed to the approved contact listed below.

📕 Owner 🔲 Contractor 🗌	Engineer 🗌 Architect/Land	ieer 🔲 Architect/Landscape Architect				
Josh Braden		Braden Family Properties, LLC.				
Name		Company				
303 Bob Smith Lane		Knoxville	TN	37924		
Address		City	State	Zip		
865.696.7343	joshuabradens4(joshuabradens4@gmail.com				
Phone	Email					

CURRENT PROPERTY INFO

Braden Family Properties, LLC.	303 Bob Smith Lane, Knoxville, TN 37924	865.696.7343	
Owner Name (if different from applicant)	Owner Address	Owner Phone	
212 E. Morelia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917	081FT009		
Property Address	Parcel ID		
CB Atkins Addition			
Neighborhood	Zoning		

AUTHORIZATION

Lindsay	Lanois
Staff Signature	~
\cap	1/-

Please Print

Date

Joshuabradens4@gmail.com

Applicant Signature

Please Print

Date

02/24/25

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 gutter Level 2: Major repair, removal, or replacement of architectural elements or materials Additions and Level 3: Construction of a new primary building Level 4: Relocation of a contributing structure Brief description of work: Brief description of work:	ers, storm windows/doors d accessory structures	
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:		
STAFF USE ONLY	ATTACHMENTS Downtown Design Checklist Historic Zoning Design Checklist Infill Housing Design Checklist ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS Property Owners / Option Holders FEE 3:	TOTAL:	

ADDITIONAL	REQUIREMENT
Property Ow	ners / Option Hold

Level 1: \$50

AL REQUIREMENTS		
Owners / Option Holders	FEE 3:	
• Level 2: \$100 • Level 3: \$250 • Level 4: \$500		

Pd. 02/25/2025, SG





















 $\frac{\text{ENLARGED SECOND FLOOR WALL FRAMING PLAN}}{\text{Scale: }\frac{1}{2^{n}}=1^{1}\cdot O^{n}}$









IRC 2018 Code Requir	ements for	Smoke	Alanmo	and C	arbon I	Monxide	Detecto
P314 Smoke Alarma							

- R314.1 General. Smoke alarms shall comply with NPPA 72 and Section R314.

R314.1.1 Listings. Smoke alarms shall be listed in accor dance with UL 217. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 217 and UL 2034.

R314.2 Where required. Smoke alarms shall be provided in accordance with this section

R314.2.1 New construction. Smoke alarms shall be provided in dwelling units

R314.2.2 Alterations, repairs and additions. Where alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, the individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with smoke alarms located as required for new dwellings.

ng the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, the addition or replacement of wind ore, or the addition of a porch or deck. Installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing or mechanical systems.

R314.3 Location. Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations

- i e ach hidepting monit. 2. One-bidden by prime sheeping area in the miniciple values of the biddnoom. 3. On each additional story of the duelling, including biddenetics and biddenetic attack and not including crast appears and inmibiated attacks, in duellings or duell in guits that shipt lines and without an intervening door biddness that his indexed as a minicipation of the upper line at bidding to the adjuant prime incell provided attacks in duelling or duell in guits by bidding the duelling of a di 8. Sinck adarms shall be installed not leas than of Bidding through the adjuant or opening of a 4. Sinck adarms duell and the line at bidding of the duelling of the adjuant or leas intervent bidding of a sinck adarm encopied by the section.

R314.3.1 Installation near cooking appliances. Smoke alarms shall not be installed in the following locations unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm in a location required by Section R314.3.

onzaton smoke alarme shall not be installed less than 20 feet (6096 mm) horizontally from a perma nently installed cooking appliance. Iomzation smoke alarme with an alarm-silenong switch shall not be installed less than 10 feet (3048 mm) horizontally from a permanently installed king appliance. promote. schno smoke alarma shall not be installed less than 6 feet (1828 mm) horizontally from a per manently installed cooking appliance.

E3 (J 4) detectoremetter, Were are that one ender size a reason to be instaled within an inductal adding and a size and a source size of the size o

R314.5 Combination alarms. Combination smoke and car bon monoxide alarms shall be permitted to be used in lieu of smoke alarms. 314.6 Power source. Smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building winna where such winna is served from a c urce and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wring shall be permanent and without a descenaecting switch her than those required for overcurrent protection.

ceptions: Smoke alarms shall be permtted to be battery oper ated where installed in buildings without commer cial power Smoke alarms installed in accordance with Section R314.2.2 shall be permtted to be battery powered.

R314.7 Fire alarm systems. Fire alarm systems shall be per mitted to be used in lieu of smoke alarms and shall comply with Sections R314.7.1 through R314.7.4.

R314.7.1 General. Fire alarm systems shall comply with the provisions of this code and the household fire warning equipment provisions of NIPA 72. Smoke detectors shall be listed in accordance with UL 268.

R314.7.2 Location. Smoke detectors shall be installed in the locations specified in Section R314.3.

R314.7.3 Permanent fxture. Where a household fire alarm system is installed, it shall become a permanent fx ture of the occupancy, owned by the

R314.7.4 Combination detectors. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors shall be permitted to be installed in fire alarm systems in lieu of smoke detectors, provided that they are listed in accordance with UL 268 and UL 2075.

R315 Carbon Monoxide Alarms

R315.1 General. Carbon monoxide alarms shall comply with Section R315

. R315.1.1 Listings, Carbon monoxide alarms shall be 1sted in accordance with UL 2034. Compination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be Isted in accordance with UL 2034 and UL 217.

R315.2 Where required. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Sections R315.2.1 and R315.2.2.

R315.2.1 New construction. For new construction, car bon monoxide alarms shall be provided in dwelling units where either or both of the wna conditions exist.

The dwelling unit contains a fuel-fired appliance. . The dwelling unit has an attached garage with an opening that communicates with the dwelling unit.

R315.2.2 Alterations, repairs and additions. Where alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, the individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms located as required for new dwellings.

Work involving the extensor surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or ors, or the addition of a porch or deck. Installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing or mechanical systems.

R315.3 Location. Carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling unto shall be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate ucinity of the bedrooms. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bath room, a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed within

P315 4 Comb nation carbon monox ide and smoke alarms shall be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon m

23.15.5 interconnectively. Where more than one carbon monousle aim in ensympt to be established within an individual valueling with in accordance with Section 87.15.3, but aim dividuos all bill is interconnectivitien in such a name that the actuation of one aimme with the actuation of one aimme single and all aimme sound aim actuation of one aimme installed and all aimme sound aim actuation of one aimme. R315.5 Inte

sception: Interconnection of carbon monoxide alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in removal of terror wall or colling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attoc, crawl space or basement available that could provide access for terconnection wholk the removal of interior finishes:

R315.6 Power source. Carbon monoxide alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wring where such wring is served from commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a bat tery. Wring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protoction.

prosto. Jarbon monoxide alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated where installed in buildings without commercial p Sarbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with Section R315.2.2 shall be permitted to be bat tery powered

R403.1 General. All exteror walls shall be supported on continuous solid or fully groated maxonry or concrete foot-ings, crusted store footings, wood foundations, or other approved structural systems that shall be of sufficient design to accommodate all locate according to Section R501 set to transmit the resulting location to be soli within the initiations as determined from the character of the soli. Footing shall be supported antization and entermined from the character of the soli. Footing shall be supported on underturbed natized as angineering bill. Concrete footing shall be designed and constructed in accon-dance with the provisions of Section R403 or in accondance with RCI 332. "Yooting shall be continuous across gravage doors".

R403, I.4 Minimum depth. Extenor footings shall be placed not less than 12 inches (305 mm) below the undesturbed ground surface. Where applicable, the depth of foot-ings shall also conform to Sections R403, I.4.1 through R403, I.4.2.

Wood sole pistes at all extenor walls on monotifics sales, wood sole pistes of insceed wall panels at building interiors on monotific sales and all wood soll pistes that is anothered to the flowdation with minimum $||Z_n-rho_i|$ and/or $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accider to the special dust ($||Z_n||$ and $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accider to the special dust ($||Z_n||$ and $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accider to the special dust ($||Z_n||$ and $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accider to the special dust ($||Z_n||$ and $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accider to the special dust $||Z_n-rho_i|$ accident $||Z_n-rho_i|$ acciden

R317.1 Location required, Protection of wood and wood-based products from decay shall be provided in the following locations by the use of naturally data from decay shall be provided in the following locations by the use of naturally data from decay of the based of the state (1997) and the state of naturally data from decay of the based products (1997) and the state (1997) and the

bits and settings of a district is instancy and visit is instance and visit and distribution of the distribution

R302.5.1 Opening protection. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and resolucie shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 138 metrics (35 mm) in thickness, solid or horeycomit-core steel doorn not less than 138 metrics (35 mm) thick, or 22 normality framed to force, requipped with a selectioning or automatic-closing device.

R302.15 The protection of floors. Those assessible that are not respired advandance in its coade to be for-resentance rated, what like provided with 1/2/arch (12.7 mm) aground without motiones, 50%-not (10 mm) wood structures aprol metrorate, or equivalent to the udoritance of the foor its member. Foretrations or generation statistic approximation and an advantage of the structure of the structure of the foor its or presentations statistic permitted.

prions: "Noor assemblies located directly over a space pro-tected by an automatic sprinkler system in accor-dance with Section P2904, NPPA 13D, or other Ploor assembles located directly over a crawl space not intended for storage or for the installation of fuel-fired or electro-powered heating

appliance 3. Wood flo ». or assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber equal to or greater than 2-inch by 10-inch (50.8 mm by 254 mm) mension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.

Key Sections in R311 Means of Egress: R311.1 Means of Egress R311.3 Floors and Indings at externor doors R311.7 Stankayon R311.7.2 Haadroom R311.7.5 Start tradis and r sere R311.7.6 Landop for starways R311.7.6 J. Height R311.7.6 J. Height R311.7.6 J. Height R311.7.8.4 Continuity R311.7.8.5 Grip Size

Key Sections in R312 Guards and Window Pall Protection

R312.1 Guards R312.1.1 Where Required R312.2.2 Window fall protec

TABLE N1102.4.1.1 AIR BARRIER AND INSULATION INSTALLATION - Approved Air Barrier required between Tub/Shower and Extenor wall stude when r is located on an exterior wa

NI103.4 Mechanical system piping insulation (Mandatory). Mechanical system piping capable of carrying fluids greater than 105% (41%) or less than 55% (13%) shall be insulated to an R-value of not less than R-3.

N1103.4.1 Protection of pping insulation. Pping insulation exposed to weather shall be protected from damage, including that caused by surlight, morehier, equipment maintenance and wind. The protection shall provide shelding from solar radiation that can cause deg-radiation of the material. Adhesive tage shall be prohibited.

2003.5 Presenge, locatives having a writer design tem-perature of 32°T (0°C) or lower as shown in Table R501.2(1) of this code, a water, soil or waste pipe shall not be installed otabled of a building, in eather or walking, in atthese or cravil spaces, or any other place subjected to feesing temperature wiles adequate provision andle to protect it from feering by invalidation or heat or both. Water server pipe validable installed in the shall be installed or to be shall be installed or table to the shall be installed or table shall be installed or tables to be insulted however waste and opping are currently excluded. Knowle, IN first line is 12 below undertabled earth.

NI 103.5.3 (R403.5.3) Hot water pipe insulation (Pre-scriptive). Insulation for hot water piping with a thermal resistance, R-value, of not less than R-3

- III (US.3.5.2) (Fot water pre-instation (free-crytine), insulation for not water preng statistic applied to (Lowing).
 Preng serving more than one dwelling unit.
 Preng serving more than dwelling unit.

Note: It is the general contractor and each sub-trade contractors responsibility to know, construct and install as required by the required code adopted by the juradiction and any amendments adopted where construction is to be performed. Do not go solely on construction drawings.



Typical Wall Framing and Header Construction







