



City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

**Department of Planning and Development**

D. M. Sugimura, Director

**CITY OF SEATTLE  
ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Application Number:** 3009128  
**Applicant Name:** Todd Mayne  
**Address of Proposal:** 2850 S. Nevada Street

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Land Use Application to subdivide one parcel containing eight unit lots into two parcels containing four unit lots each. The construction of residential units will be reviewed under Projects #6179128 and #6179132. This subdivision of property is only for the purpose of allowing sale or lease of the unit lots. Development standards will be applied to the original parcels and not to each of the new unit lots.

The following approval is required:

**Short Subdivision** - to create eight unit lots. (SMC Chapter 23.24).

**SEPA DETERMINATION:**  Exempt  DNS  MDNS  EIS  
 DNS with conditions  
 DNS involving non-exempt grading or demolition or involving another agency with jurisdiction.

**BACKGROUND DATA**

Site & Area Description

The subject site is located midblock below Cheasty greenbelt in a portion of the Rainier Vista redevelopment west of MLK Jr. Drive S. Eight unit lots of similar configuration already exist on one parcel, and the proposal would make minor adjustments among the common lot lines while separating the one parcel into two, each serving a four-plex townhouse building. S Nevada Street is fully improved. There is an existing 16-foot platted alley behind the site, from which access to parking structures would be taken. The site is zoned L4, as are adjacent sites. Property across the street to the south of the east portion of the site has, in addition, an RC overlay. The area is within the Columbia Center residential urban village, and also within the light rail construction impact area.

Proposal Description

The proposal is to create two parent lots from the single one existing, and to replace the existing unit lot lines with slightly different ones.

Public Comment

None.

**ANALYSIS – SHORT SUBDIVISION**

Pursuant to SMC 23.24.040, the Director shall, after conferring with appropriate officials, use the following criteria to determine whether to grant, condition or deny a short plat:

1. *Conformance to the applicable Land Use Code provisions, as modified by this chapter;*
2. *Adequacy of access for pedestrians, vehicles, utilities and fire protection, as provided in Section 23.53.005, Access to Lots, and Section 23.53.006, pedestrian access and circulation;*
3. *Adequacy of drainage, water supply, and sanitary sewage disposal;*
4. *Whether the public use and interests are served by permitting the proposed division of land;*
5. *Conformance to the applicable provisions of SMC Section 25.09.240, short subdivision and subdivisions in environmentally critical areas;*
6. *Is designed to maximize the retention of existing trees;*
7. *Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.046, Multiple single-family dwelling units on a single family lot, when the short subdivision is for the construction and/or transfer of title of townhouses, cottage housing, clustered housing, or single-family housing; and*
8. *Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.046, Multiple single-family dwelling units on a single-family lot, when the short subdivision is for the purpose of creating 2 or more lots from 1 lot with more than 1 existing single-family dwelling unit.*

Summary

Based on information provided by the applicant, referral comments as appropriate from DPD, Water (SPU), Fire Department (SFD), Seattle City Light, and review by the Land Use Planner, the applicable of the above cited criteria have been met subject to the conditions imposed at the end of this decision. The lots to be created by this short subdivision will meet all minimum standards or applicable exceptions as set forth in the Land Use Code, and are consistent with applicable development standards. As conditioned, this short subdivision can be provided with vehicular access, public and private utilities and access (including emergency vehicles). Adequate provisions for drainage control, water supply and sanitary sewage disposal have been provided for each lot and service is assured, subject to standard conditions governing utility extensions. The proposal site is not located in a mapped environmentally critical area; hence, the provisions of SMC 25.09.240 are not applicable. The proposed plat maximizes the retention of existing trees. The public use and interest are served by the proposal since all applicable criteria are met and the proposal creates the potential for additional owner-occupied housing opportunities in the City.

**ANALYSIS –UNIT LOT SUBDIVISION (CRITERION #7)**

Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.045, unit lot subdivisions, when the short subdivision is for the purpose of creating separate lots of record for the construction and/or transfer of title of townhouses, cottage housing, clustered housing, or single-family housing.

- A. *The unit subdivision provisions of SMC Section 23.24.045 apply exclusively to the unit subdivision of land for townhouses, cottage housing developments, residential cluster developments, and single-family residences in zones where such uses are permitted.*
- B. *Except for any site for which a permit has been issued pursuant to Section 23.44.041 for a detached accessory dwelling unit, sites developed or proposed to be developed with dwelling units listed in subsection A above, may be subdivided into individual unit lots. The development as a whole shall meet development standards applicable at the time the permit application is vested. As a result of the subdivision, development on individual unit lots may be nonconforming as to some or all of the development standards based on analysis of the individual unit lot, except that any private, usable open space for each dwelling unit shall be provided on the same lot as the dwelling unit it serves.*
- C. *Subsequent platting actions, additions or modifications to the structure(s) may not create or increase any nonconformity of the parent lot.*
- D. *Access easements and joint use and maintenance agreements shall be executed for use of common garage or parking areas, common open space (such as common courtyard space for cottage housing), and other similar features, as recorded with the Director of the King County Department of Records and Elections.*
- E. *Within the parent lot, required parking for a dwelling unit may be provided on a different unit lot than the lot with the dwelling unit, as long as the right to use that parking is formalized by an easement on the plat, as recorded with the Director of King County Development of Records and Elections.*
- F. *The fact that the unit lot is not a separate buildable lot, and that additional development of the individual unit lots may be limited as a result of the application of development standards to the parent lot shall be noted on the plat, as recorded with the Director of the King County Department of Records and Elections.*

**Summary - Unit Lot Subdivision**

Review of this application shows that the proposed short subdivision would conform to applicable standards of SMC 23.24.045 subject to the conditions imposed at the end of this decision. For example, a condition is imposed to provide for common use and maintenance of utilities. Additional development on any individual lot in this unit subdivision may be limited as a result of the application of development standards to the parent lot pursuant to applicable provisions of the Seattle Land Use Code. A joint use and maintenance agreement has been provided on the plat. Provisions for addressing have been provided.

**DECISION - SHORT (UNIT LOT) SUBDIVISION**

The proposed Short Subdivision is **CONDITIONALLY GRANTED**. Applicant must meet all standard recording requirements and conditions and/or requirements as attached to approval cover letter. (Conditions of approval prior to recording are to be met, but they are not to be printed onto the plat to be recorded).

**CONDITIONS - SHORT SUBDIVISION**

*Conditions of Approval Prior to Recording*

1. The owner(s) and/or responsible party(s) shall comply with all applicable standard recording requirements and instructions.
2. Maintain the following note to the face of the plat: *“The lots created by this unit subdivision are not separate buildable lots. Additional development on these unit lots in this unit subdivision may be limited as a result of the application of development standards to their parent lot pursuant to applicable provisions of the Seattle Land Use Code.”*
3. Maintain common agreements for maintenance and joint use of shared walls on property lines and all ingress, egress, and utility easements.

*Prior to Issuance of any Building Permit*

4. The owner(s) and/or responsible party(s) shall attach a copy of the recorded short subdivision to all permit application plans for any application for a permit to construct, demolish, or change use.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature on file) Date: July 28, 2008  
Paul Janos, Land Use Planner  
Department of Planning and Development