



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:** 3009595  
**Applicant Name:** Jennifer McCully  
**Address of Proposal:** 3447 21<sup>st</sup> Ave West

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Land Use Application to subdivide one parcel into eight unit lots. The construction of residential units has been approved under Project #6160370. 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 parcel and not to each of the new unit lots.

The following approval is required:

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

**BACKGROUND DATA**

Zoning: Lowrise-Three (L-3).  
Date of Site Visit: N/A.  
Uses on Site: Construction of townhouse development approved under #6160370.

**Substantive Site Characteristics**

The subject site is a midblock property, located on the west side of 21<sup>st</sup> Ave W. between W. Ruffner St and and W. Bertona St. Lowrise Multifamily zoning (L-3) continues to the north and southeast. Less intensive Lowrise Multifamily zoning (L-1) is located to the west and south. General Industrial zoning (IG1 U/45) is located to the east, across Gilman Ave W. The lot has alley access. The street is improved with curb, gutter, sidewalk, and paving. There is a mixture of multifamily, single family, and industrial development in the immediate area.

Public Comment

Notice of application was issued on November 27, 2008. No public comment letters were received.

**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;*
2. *Adequacy of access for pedestrians, vehicles, utilities and fire protection, as provided in Section 23.53.005;*
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;*

Summary - Short Subdivision

Based on information provided by the applicant, referral comments from DPD, Water (SPU), and Seattle City Light, and review by the Land Use Planner, the above cited criteria have been met subject to the conditions imposed at the end of this decision. The lots created by this short subdivision will meet all minimum standards or applicable exceptions of the 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 mapped environmentally critical area nor were any environmentally critical areas observed on site; therefore SMC 25.09.240 is not applicable. Tree and other landscaping requirements were considered under the building permit review. The public use and interest are served by the proposal since all applicable criteria are met and the proposal creates the potential for additional housing opportunities in the City.

**ANALYSIS –UNIT LOT SUBDIVISION**

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. 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. A joint use and maintenance agreement has been included on the short plat documents and should also be included on the final documents for recording.*
- F. 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.*
- G. 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. The proposed developments are townhouses. The structures, as reviewed under their separate building permits, conform to the development standards for the time the permit application was vested. To assure that future owners have constructive notice that additional development may be limited; the applicant is required to add a note to the face of the plat that reads as follows: Include the following on the face of the plat: *“The unit lots created by unit lot subdivision are not separate buildable lots. Additional development on any individual unit lot in this unit lot 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 is required.

