



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: 3003903
Applicant Name: Brittani Ard
Address of Proposal: 9421 Linden Avenue N

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION

Land Use Permit to subdivide one parcel into eight-unit lots (unit subdivision). 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 construction of the townhouses structures has been approved under Project #6070960.

The following approval is required:

Short Subdivision - to divide one parcel into eight-unit lots (unit subdivision).
(Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 23.24)

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

BACKGROUND DATA

Site and Vicinity Description

Zoning: Lowrise 2 (L-2)
Date of Site Visit: February 7, 2006
Uses on Site: Eight Townhouse Building with attached garages

Substantive Site Characteristics: The 9,350 sq. ft proposal site is located on the corner of 95th Street and Linden Avenue N. The site slopes gently from west to east but steep along the property line on N 95th Street where a retaining wall is used to raised the site above the sidewalk grade along N 95th street. The existing streets at the project location are developed with concrete

curbs, gutters and sidewalks. There are several small trees existing on the site especially along the north side property line and on the west side where the trees are used to form fence along the west property line.

Direct Access to the site is from Linden Avenue N and from N 95th Street. Single family zoning and development abuts the L-2 zone immediately to the north, while Lowrise 3 (L-3) zoning and development abuts the L-2 zone to the northeast and C2-65 zone and development abuts the L-2 zone to the east. Development in the immediate zone and vicinity is predominantly a mixture of single family and multifamily residential uses with some warehouse uses in the abutting commercial zone to the east.

Public Comment:

Notice of the proposed project was published on December 29, 2005. The public comment period ended on January 11, 2006. Four comment letters were received. The respondent raised several concerns including; increased density in the neighborhood, parking and traffic impacts.

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 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.*
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, 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 two or more lots from one lot with more than one existing single-family dwelling unit.*

Summary - Short Subdivision

Based on information provided by the applicant, referral comments from DPD, Water (SWD), Fire Departments (SFD) 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. Seattle City Light has not yet commented, but any comment they should make would be satisfied by compliance with the pertinent condition below.

The lots to be created by this unit lot subdivision will meet all minimum standards or applicable exceptions set forth in the Land Use Code, and are consistent with applicable development standards. As conditioned, this unit lot 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 an environmentally critical area; therefore SMC 25.09.240 is not applicable. There are several existing trees on site; however, the related construction plans under project #6070960 provided a landscape plan, which included specific location and description of trees and shrubs. 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. *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 Department of Records and Elections.*
- F. *The facts 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 unit lot subdivision would conform to applicable standards of SMC 23.24.045 subject to the conditions imposed at the end of this decision. The proposed development consists of four two-unit townhouse structures. The structures, reviewed under their separate building permits, conform to the development standards of the time the permit application was vested. To assure that future owners have constructive notice that additional development may be limited; the applicant will be 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 lots created by unit subdivision are not separate building lots. 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 will be required as conditioned at the end of this decision. Each parcel has an established parking space provided within each unit and private usable open space will be provided on each lot.

DECISION – UNIT LOT SUBDIVISION

The proposed Unit Lot Subdivision is **CONDITIONALLY GRANTED**.

CONDITIONS – UNIT LOT SUBDIVISION

Conditions of Approval Prior to Recording

The owner(s) and/or responsible party(s) shall:

1. Provide on the plat a joint use and maintenance agreement.
2. Add the conditions of approval after recording on the face of the plat or on a separate page. If the conditions are on a separate page, insert on the plat "For conditions of approval after recording see page ___ of ___."
3. Provide on the plat the required Seattle City Light Easement.
4. Have final recording documents prepared by or under the supervision of a Washington State licensed land surveyor. Each lot, parcel, or tract created by the short subdivision shall be surveyed in accordance with appropriate State statutes. The property corners set shall be identified on the plat and encroachments such as side yard easements, fences or structures shall be shown. Lot areas shall be shown on the plat. The lot areas of each parcel shall be shown on the recording documents.
5. Include the following on the face of the plat: "The lots created by unit subdivision are not separate building lots. 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."

6. Post an address sign to benefit all units at a location visible from North 95th Street and Linden Avenue North provide an easement, covenant, or other legal agreement to ensure that the address signage is maintained.
7. Submit the recording fee and final recording forms for approval.

Prior to Issuance of any Building Permit

The owner(s) and/or responsible party(s) shall:

8. 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)
Christopher A. Ndifon, Land Use Planner
Department of Planning and Development

Date: March 9, 2006