

## HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

September 18, 2019

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2018-533  
**COMMON NAME:** 335 TRAIL  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 6078 BLK 2 LOTS 9 THRU 14 & 17 THRU 20  
**ZONING:** MF-33, H, RIO  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 1  
**DISTRICT:** River Road Historic District  
**APPLICANT:** Mark Odom, AIA/Mark Odom Studio  
**OWNER:** Robert Price  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Construction of a multi-family residential development  
**APPLICATION RECEIVED:** August 05, 2019  
**60-DAY REVIEW:** October 04, 2019  
**CASE MANAGER:** Edward Hall

### REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to construct a multi-unit residential development on the vacant lot located at 335 Trail. The property features lots that are located within the River Improvement Overlay only, as well as those that are located within both the River Improvement Overlay and the River Road Historic District. The applicant has proposed for the residential structures to feature two and three stories in height. Access to the site will be provided from Trail Street and Huisache Street.

### APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

*Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 4, Guidelines for New Construction*

#### 1. Building and Entrance Orientation

##### A. FAÇADE ORIENTATION

*i. Setbacks*—Align front facades of new buildings with front facades of adjacent buildings where a consistent setback has been established along the street frontage. Use the median setback of buildings along the street frontage where a variety of setbacks exist. Refer to UDC Article 3, Division 2. Base Zoning Districts for applicable setback requirements.

*ii. Orientation*—Orient the front façade of new buildings to be consistent with the predominant orientation of historic buildings along the street frontage.

##### B. ENTRANCES

*i. Orientation*—Orient primary building entrances, porches, and landings to be consistent with those historically found along the street frontage. Typically, historic building entrances are oriented towards the primary street.

#### 2. Building Massing and Form

##### A. SCALE AND MASS

*i. Similar height and scale*—Design new construction so that its height and overall scale are consistent with nearby historic buildings. In residential districts, the height and scale of new construction should not exceed that of the majority of historic buildings by more than one-story. In commercial districts, building height shall conform to the established pattern. If there is no more than a 50% variation in the scale of buildings on the adjacent block faces, then the height of the new building shall not exceed the tallest building on the adjacent block face by more than 10%.

*ii. Transitions*—Utilize step-downs in building height, wall-plane offsets, and other variations in building massing to provide a visual transition when the height of new construction exceeds that of adjacent historic buildings by more than one-half story.

*iii. Foundation and floor heights*—Align foundation and floor-to-floor heights (including porches and balconies) within one foot of floor-to-floor heights on adjacent historic structures.

##### B. ROOF FORM

*i. Similar roof forms*—Incorporate roof forms—pitch, overhangs, and orientation—that are consistent with those predominantly found on the block. Roof forms on residential building types are typically sloped, while roof forms on

nonresidential

building types are more typically flat and screened by an ornamental parapet wall.

*ii. Façade configuration*—The primary façade of new commercial buildings should be in keeping with established patterns. Maintaining horizontal elements within adjacent cap, middle, and base precedents will establish a consistent street wall through the alignment of horizontal parts. Avoid blank walls, particularly on elevations visible from the street. No new façade should exceed 40 linear feet without being penetrated by windows, entryways, or other defined bays.

#### D. LOT COVERAGE

*i. Building to lot ratio*—New construction should be consistent with adjacent historic buildings in terms of the building to lot ratio. Limit the building footprint for new construction to no more than 50 percent of the total lot area, unless adjacent historic buildings establish a precedent with a greater building to lot ratio.

### 3. Materials and Textures

#### A. NEW MATERIALS

*i. Complementary materials*—Use materials that complement the type, color, and texture of materials traditionally found in the district. Materials should not be so dissimilar as to distract from the historic interpretation of the district. For example, corrugated metal siding would not be appropriate for a new structure in a district comprised of homes with wood siding.

*ii. Alternative use of traditional materials*—Consider using traditional materials, such as wood siding, in a new way to provide visual interest in new construction while still ensuring compatibility.

*iii. Roof materials*—Select roof materials that are similar in terms of form, color, and texture to traditionally used in the district.

*iv. Metal roofs*—Construct new metal roofs in a similar fashion as historic metal roofs. Refer to the Guidelines for Alterations and Maintenance section for additional specifications regarding metal roofs.

*v. Imitation or synthetic materials*—Do not use vinyl siding, plastic, or corrugated metal sheeting. Contemporary materials not traditionally used in the district, such as brick or simulated stone veneer and Hardie Board or other fiberboard siding, may be appropriate for new construction in some locations as long as new materials are visually similar to the traditional material in dimension, finish, and texture. EIFS is not recommended as a substitute for actual stucco.

### 4. Architectural Details

#### A. GENERAL

*i. Historic context*—Design new buildings to reflect their time while respecting the historic context. While new construction should not attempt to mirror or replicate historic features, new structures should not be so dissimilar as to distract from or diminish the historic interpretation of the district.

*ii. Architectural details*—Incorporate architectural details that are in keeping with the predominant architectural style along the block face or within the district when one exists. Details should be simple in design and should complement, but not visually compete with, the character of the adjacent historic structures or other historic structures within the district. Architectural details that are more ornate or elaborate than those found within the district are inappropriate.

*iii. Contemporary interpretations*—Consider integrating contemporary interpretations of traditional designs and details for new construction. Use of contemporary window moldings and door surroundings, for example, can provide visual interest while helping to convey the fact that the structure is new. Modern materials should be implemented in a way that does not distract from the historic structure.

### 5. Garages and Outbuildings

#### A. DESIGN AND CHARACTER

*v. Garage doors*—Incorporate garage doors with similar proportions and materials as those traditionally found in the district.

### 6. Mechanical Equipment and Roof Appurtenances

#### A. LOCATION AND SITING

*i. Visibility*—Do not locate utility boxes, air conditioners, rooftop mechanical equipment, skylights, satellite dishes, and other roof appurtenances on primary facades, front-facing roof slopes, in front yards, or in other locations that are clearly

visible from the public right-of-way.

*ii. Service Areas*—Locate service areas towards the rear of the site to minimize visibility from the public right-of-way.

## B. SCREENING

*i. Building-mounted equipment*—Paint devices mounted on secondary facades and other exposed hardware, frames, and piping to match the color scheme of the primary structure or screen them with landscaping.

*ii. Freestanding equipment*—Screen service areas, air conditioning units, and other mechanical equipment from public view using a fence, hedge, or other enclosure.

*iii. Roof-mounted equipment*—Screen and set back devices mounted on the roof to avoid view from public right-of-way.  
Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 5, Guidelines for Site Elements

## B. NEW FENCES AND WALLS

*i. Design*—New fences and walls should appear similar to those used historically within the district in terms of their scale, transparency, and character. Design of fence should respond to the design and materials of the house or main structure.

*ii. Location*—Avoid installing a fence or wall in a location where one did not historically exist, particularly within the front yard. The appropriateness of a front yard fence or wall is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences or wall should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them.

*iii. Height*—Limit the height of new fences and walls within the front yard to a maximum of four feet. The appropriateness of a front yard fence is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. If a taller fence or wall existed historically, additional height may be considered. The height of a new retaining wall should not exceed the height of the slope it retains.

*iv. Prohibited materials*—Do not use exposed concrete masonry units (CMU), Keystone or similar interlocking retaining wall systems, concrete block, vinyl fencing, or chain link fencing.

*v. Appropriate materials*—Construct new fences or walls of materials similar to fence materials historically used in the district. Select materials that are similar in scale, texture, color, and form as those historically used in the district, and that are compatible with the main structure. Screening incompatible uses—Review alternative fence heights and materials for appropriateness where residential properties are adjacent to commercial or other potentially incompatible uses.

## 3. Landscape Design

### A. PLANTINGS

*i. Historic Gardens*— Maintain front yard gardens when appropriate within a specific historic district.

*ii. Historic Lawns*—Do not fully remove and replace traditional lawn areas with impervious hardscape. Limit the removal of lawn areas to mulched planting beds or pervious hardscapes in locations where they would historically be found, such as along fences, walkways, or drives. Low-growing plantings should be used in historic lawn areas; invasive or large-scale species should be avoided. Historic lawn areas should never be reduced by more than 50%.

*iii. Native xeric plant materials*—Select native and/or xeric plants that thrive in local conditions and reduce watering usage. See UDC Appendix E: San Antonio Recommended Plant List—All Suited to Xeriscape Planting Methods, for a list of appropriate materials and planting methods. Select plant materials with a similar character, growth habit, and light requirements as those being replaced.

*iv. Plant palettes*—If a varied plant palette is used, incorporate species of taller heights, such informal elements should be restrained to small areas of the front yard or to the rear or side yard so as not to obstruct views of or otherwise distract from the historic structure.

*v. Maintenance*—Maintain existing landscape features. Do not introduce landscape elements that will obscure the historic structure or are located as to retain moisture on walls or foundations (e.g., dense foundation plantings or vines) or as to cause damage.

### B. ROCKS OR HARDSCAPE

*i. Impervious surfaces*—Do not introduce large pavers, asphalt, or other impervious surfaces where they were not historically located.

*ii. Pervious and semi-pervious surfaces*—New pervious hardscapes should be limited to areas that are not highly visible, and should not be used as wholesale replacement for plantings. If used, small plantings should be incorporated into the design.

*iii. Rock mulch and gravel* - Do not use rock mulch or gravel as a wholesale replacement for lawn area. If used, plantings should be incorporated into the design.

## D. TREES

*i. Preservation*—Preserve and protect from damage existing mature trees and heritage trees. See UDC Section 35-523 (Tree Preservation) for specific requirements.

*ii. New Trees* – Select new trees based on site conditions. Avoid planting new trees in locations that could potentially cause damage to a historic structure or other historic elements. Species selection and planting procedure should be done in accordance with guidance from the City Arborist.

## 5. Sidewalks, Walkways, Driveways, and Curbing

### A. SIDEWALKS AND WALKWAYS

*i. Maintenance*—Repair minor cracking, settling, or jamming along sidewalks to prevent uneven surfaces. Retain and repair historic sidewalk and walkway paving materials—often brick or concrete—in place.

*ii. Replacement materials*—Replace those portions of sidewalks or walkways that are deteriorated beyond repair. Every effort should be made to match existing sidewalk color and material.

*iii. Width and alignment*—Follow the historic alignment, configuration, and width of sidewalks and walkways. Alter the historic width or alignment only where absolutely necessary to accommodate the preservation of a significant tree.

*iv. Stamped concrete*—Preserve stamped street names, business insignias, or other historic elements of sidewalks and walkways when replacement is necessary.

*v. ADA compliance*—Limit removal of historic sidewalk materials to the immediate intersection when ramps are added to address ADA requirements.

### B. DRIVEWAYS

*i. Driveway configuration*—Retain and repair in place historic driveway configurations, such as ribbon drives. Incorporate a similar driveway configuration—materials, width, and design—to that historically found on the site. Historic driveways are typically no wider than 10 feet. Pervious paving surfaces may be considered where replacement is necessary to increase stormwater infiltration.

*ii. Curb cuts and ramps*—Maintain the width and configuration of original curb cuts when replacing historic driveways. Avoid introducing new curb cuts where not historically found.

## 7. Off-Street Parking

### A. LOCATION

*i. Preferred location*—Place parking areas for non-residential and mixed-use structures at the rear of the site, behind primary structures to hide them from the public right-of-way. On corner lots, place parking areas behind the primary structure and set them back as far as possible from the side streets. Parking areas to the side of the primary structure are acceptable when location behind the structure is not feasible. See UDC Section 35-310 for district-specific standards.

*ii. Front*—Do not add off-street parking areas within the front yard setback as to not disrupt the continuity of the streetscape.

*iii. Access*—Design off-street parking areas to be accessed from alleys or secondary streets rather than from principal streets whenever possible.

### B. DESIGN

*i. Screening*—Screen off-street parking areas with a landscape buffer, wall, or ornamental fence two to four feet high—or a combination of these methods. Landscape buffers are preferred due to their ability to absorb carbon dioxide. See UDC Section 35-510 for buffer requirements.

*ii. Materials*—Use permeable parking surfaces when possible to reduce run-off and flooding. See UDC Section 35-526(j) for specific standards.

*iii. Parking structures*—Design new parking structures to be similar in scale, materials, and rhythm of the surrounding historic district when new parking structures are necessary.

*UDC Section 35-672. – Neighborhood Wide Design Standards*

(a) **Pedestrian Circulation.** Pedestrian access shall be provided among properties to integrate neighborhoods.

(1) Provide sidewalks that link with existing sidewalks on adjoining properties. If no sidewalk currently exists on an adjoining property, the applicant will have discretion in the placement of the sidewalk provided the following criteria are met:

- A. Provide a sidewalk connection from one (1) side of the applicant's property to the other, parallel to the public right-of way, on the street sides of the property in all river improvement overlay districts
- B. Provide a connection from the street level sidewalk to the Riverwalk at cross streets and bridges and other designated access points. This requirement may be waived if there is already a public connection from the street level to the Riverwalk.
- C. In order to preserve the rural character of "RIO-6," the HPO, in coordination with the development services department, may waive the requirement of sidewalks.
  - In "RIO-3," the width of the pathway along the river shall match those widths established in the historic Hugman drawings. If there are no sidewalks in the Hugman drawings, the path will not exceed eight (8) feet in width.

(2) Link the various functions and spaces on a site with sidewalks in a coordinated system.

Provide pedestrian sidewalks between buildings, parking areas and built features such as outdoor plazas and courtyards.

(3) **Paving materials.** Paving materials for pedestrian pathways shall use visually and texturally different materials than those used for parking spaces and automobile traffic.

A. Paving materials for pedestrian pathways shall be either:

- i. Broom-finished, scored, sandblasted or dyed concrete;
- ii. Rough or honed finished stone;
- iii. Brick or concrete pavers; or
- iv. Other materials that meet the performance standards of the above materials.

B. Asphalt is permitted for pedestrian pathways that also are designated as multi-use paths by the City of San Antonio. The public works department will maintain the designated multi-use path locations.

(4) **Street Connections to River.** Retain the interesting and unique situations where streets dead-end at the river, creating both visual and physical access to the river for the public.

(5) **Pedestrian Access Along the Riverwalk Pathway Shall Not Be Blocked.**

A. Queuing is prohibited on the Riverwalk pathway.

B. Hostess stations shall be located away from the Riverwalk pathway so as to not inhibit pedestrian flow on the Riverwalk pathway. That is, the hostess station shall not be located in such a manner to cause a patron who has stopped at the hostess stand to be standing on the Riverwalk pathway. Pedestrian flow shall be considered "inhibited" if a pedestrian walking along the pathway has to swerve, dodge, change direction or come to a complete stop to avoid a patron engaged at the hostess stand.

C. Tables and chairs shall be located a sufficient distance from the Riverwalk pathway so that normal dining and service shall not inhibit the flow of pedestrian traffic. See inhibited definition in subsection B. above.

(b) **Automobile Access and Parking.** Automobile circulation should be efficient, and conflicts with pedestrians minimized. Entry points for automobiles should be clearly defined and connections to auto circulation on adjoining properties are encouraged to facilitate access and reduce traffic on abutting public streets.

(1) **Curb Cuts.**

A. Limit curb cuts to two (2) on parking areas or structures facing only one (1) street, and one (1) for each additional street face. The prohibition of additional curb cuts may be waived by the HDRC where the intent of the standards are clearly met and specific site circulation patterns require an additional curb cut, such as on long parcels or at nodes.

B. Curb cuts may be no larger than twenty-five (25) feet zero (0) inches. Continuous curb cuts are prohibited.

C. Sharing curb cuts between adjacent properties, such as providing cross property access easements, is permitted.

(2) **Location of Parking Areas.** Automobile parking in new developments must be balanced with the requirements of active environments. Large expanses of surface parking lots have a negative impact on street activity and the pedestrian experience. New commercial and residential structures can accommodate parking needs and contribute to a pedestrian-friendly streetscape.

A. Locate parking areas, that is any off-street, ground level surface used to park cars or any parking structure,

toward the interior of the site or to the side or rear of a building.

B. The extent of parking area that may be located along the street edge or riverside shall be limited to a percentage of the lot line as per Table 672-1 as measured in a lineal direction parallel to the lot line. All parking within a thirty-foot setback from the above mentioned lot line shall comply with the requirements of the table. Where parking is located on corner sites only one (1) lot line has to meet the requirements of the table.

C. Parking lots should be avoided as a primary land use. Parking lots as a primary use are prohibited in RIO-3 and for all properties that fall within one hundred (100) feet of the river right-of-way in all RIO districts.

(3) Screen or Buffer Parking Areas From View of Public Streets, the River or Adjacent Residential Uses. (see Figure 672-2). Parking lots shall be screened with a landscape buffer as per the illustrations of bufferyards and Table 510-2 if the parking area meets one (1) of the following conditions:

- A. Within a fifty-foot setback from the edge of the river ROW use, at a minimum, type E; or
- B. Within a twenty-foot setback from a property line adjacent to a street use, at a minimum, type B; or
- C. Within a twenty-foot setback of commercial or industrial property that abuts a residential property use, at a minimum, type C.

(4) Parking Structures Shall Be Compatible With Buildings in the Surrounding Area. Parking garages should have retail space on the ground floor of a parking structure provided the retail space has at least fifty (50) percent of its linear street frontage as display windows. Parking structures may be made visually appealing with a mural or public art component approved by the HDRC on the parking structure. A parking garage will be considered compatible if:

- A. It does not vary in height by more than thirty (30) percent from another building on the same block face; and
- B. It uses materials that can be found on other buildings within the block face, or in the block face across the street.

(5) Parking Structures Shall Provide Clearly Defined Pedestrian Access. Pedestrian entrances and exits shall be accentuated with directional signage, lighting or architectural features so that pedestrians can readily discern the appropriate path of travel to avoid pedestrian/auto conflicts.

(6) Parking lots, structures, and hardscape shall not drain directly into the river without installation of appropriate water quality best management practices (WQ BMPs). Acequias shall not be used for any type of drainage.

(c) Views. The river's course (both natural and manmade), and San Antonio's street pattern, creates unique views of certain properties from the public ROW. These properties often occur at prominent curves in the river or where a street changes direction and a property appears to be a terminus at the end of a street.

(1) Architectural Focal Point. When a property is situated in such a manner as to appear to be the terminus at the end of the street or at a prominent curve in the river, the building shall incorporate into its design an architectural feature that will provide a focal point at the end of the view. (see Figure 672-3) An architectural feature will be considered to be a focal point through any of the following methods, but not limited to:

- A. Additional height.
- B. Creation of a tower.
- C. Variation in roof shape.
- D. Change of color or materials.
- E. Addition of a design enhancement feature such as:
  - i. Embellished entrance areas.
  - ii. Articulated corners, especially when entrance is at corner, rounded or chamfered corners ease the transitions from one street facade to the adjoining facade.
  - iii. Recessed or projecting balconies and entrances.

Billboards, advertising and signage are expressly prohibited as appropriate focal points.

#### *UDC Section 35-673. – Site Design Standards*

(a) Solar Access. The intent of providing and maintaining solar access to the San Antonio River is to protect the river's specific ecoclimate. The river has a special microclimate of natural and planted vegetation that requires certain levels and balanced amounts of sunlight, space and water. Development must be designed to respect and protect those natural requirements, keeping them in balance and not crowding or altering them so that vegetation does not receive more or less space and water, but particularly sunlight, than is required for normal expected growth.

(1) Building Massing to Provide Solar Access to the River. Building massing shall be so designed as to provide direct sunlight to vegetation in the river channel as defined:

- A. The area to be measured for solar access shall be a thirty-foot setback from the river's edge or from the river's edge to the building face, which ever is lesser, parallel to the river for the length of the property.
- B. The solar calculations shall be measured exclusive to the applicant's property; that is, shades and shadows of

other buildings shall not be included in the calculations. The solar calculations shall only measure the impact of new construction and additions. The shading impact of historic buildings on the site may be excluded from the calculations.

C. The defined area shall receive a minimum of 5.5 hours of direct sunlight, measured at the winter solstice, and 7.5 hours of direct sunlight, measured at the summer solstice.

D. Those properties located on the south side of the river (whose north face is adjacent to the river) shall only be required to measure the sunlight in the 30-foot setback on the opposite bank of the river.

E. Those properties within the river improvement overlay district not directly adjacent to the river are still subject to the provisions of this section. To determine the solar access effect of these buildings on the river the applicant must measure the nearest point to the river of an area defined by a thirty-foot setback from the river's edge, parallel to the river for the length of their property that would be affected by their building. For those buildings on the south side of the river, the 30-foot setback shall be measured only on the opposite bank.

F. However, in those cases where the above conditions cannot be met due to the natural configuration of the river, existing street patterns, or existing buildings, the HDRC may approve a buildings mass and height as allowed by table 674-2.

G. If there is a conflict with this section and another section of this chapter this section shall prevail.

(2) Prohibition of Structures, Buildings, Roofs or Skywalks Over the River Channel. No structure, building, roof or skywalk may be constructed over the river channel, or by-pass channel with the exception of structures for flood control purposes, open air pedestrian bridges at ground or river level, and street bridges. The river channel is the natural course of the river as modified for flood control purposes and the Pershing-Catalpa ditch.

(b) Building Orientation. Buildings should be sited to help define active spaces for area users, provide pedestrian connections between sites, help animate the street scene and define street edges. Consideration to both the street and riverside should be given. The placement of a building on a site should therefore be considered within the context of the block, as well as how the structure will support the broader design goals for the area.

(1) Two or More Buildings on a Site.

A. Cluster buildings to create active open spaces such as courtyards along the street and river edges. Site plazas and courtyards, if possible, so that they are shaded in the summer and are sunny in the winter.

(2) Primary and Secondary Entrances

A. Orient a building's primary entrance toward the street with subordinate entrances located on the riverside and/or the interior of the property. On a major thoroughfare street it is acceptable to provide the primary entrance through a common courtyard and then to a street.

B. The primary entrance shall be distinguished by architectural features such as, but not limited to: an entry portal; change in material or color; change in scale of other openings; addition of columns, lintels or canopies.

C. Secondary entrances shall have architectural features that are subordinate to the primary entrance in scale and detail. For purposes of this division subordinate means that the entrance is smaller in height and width, and has fewer or simpler architectural elements.

(c) Topography and Drainage. The natural contours of occasional hillsides and riverbanks contribute to the distinct character of the San Antonio River and shall be considered in site designs for new development. Site plans shall minimize the need for cut and fill. It should be considered as an opportunity for positive enhancements through the creative use of terraces and retaining walls.

(1) Visual Impacts of Cut and Fill. Divide a grade change of more than ten (10) vertical feet into a series of benches and terraces. Terrace steep slopes following site contours. When creating site benches, using sloped "transitional areas" as part of the required landscaping is appropriate.

(2) Minimize the Potential for Erosion at the Riverbank. Grade slopes at a stable angle not to exceed four to one (4:1) and provide plant material that will stabilize the soil such as vigorous ground covers, vines or turf planting that are native and noninvasive species as found on the permissible plant list maintained by the parks and recreation department. Use of stabilizing materials such as geo-web or geo-grid is permitted as long as plant material is used to conceal the grid.

Use of terraced walls is permitted when there is a slope of more than four to one (4:1).

(3) Retaining Walls. Limit the height of a retaining wall to less than six (6) feet. If the retaining wall must exceed six (6) feet, a series of six-foot terrace walls is acceptable. Walls at dams and locks are excluded from this requirement. If in the opinion of the historic preservation officer a higher wall is consistent with the adopted conceptual plan of the river, a higher wall (not to exceed twelve (12) feet) is allowed. Materials used for the walls may include limestone, stucco, brick, clay, tile, timber, or textured concrete. (see Figure 673-2)

(4) Enhance or Incorporate Acequias Into The Landscape Design and Drainage Scheme of the Site. Where archeological evidence indicates a site contains or has contained a Spanish colonial acequia, incorporate the original

path of the acequia as a natural drainageway or a landscape feature of the site by including it as part of the open space plan, and a feature of the landscape design.

(5) Design of Stormwater Management Facilities to be a Landscape Amenity. Where above ground stormwater management facilities are required, such facilities shall be multi-purpose amenities. For example, water quality features can be included as part of the site landscaping and detention facilities can be included as part of a hardscape patio. Using an open concrete basin as a detention pond is prohibited.

(6) Walls and Fences at Detention Areas.

- A. When the topography of the site exceeds a four to one (4:1) slope and it becomes necessary to use a masonry wall as part of the detention area, use a textured surface and incorporate plant materials, from the plant list maintained by the parks department, that will drape over the edge to soften the appearance of the structure.
- B. The use of solid board or chain link fence with or without slats is prohibited. A welded wire, tubular steel, wrought iron or garden loop is permitted.

(7) Roof Drainage into the River.

- A. All roof drainage and other run-off drainage shall conform to public works department standards so that they \ drain into sewer and storm drains rather than the river. Drainage of this type shall not be piped into the river unless the outlet is below the normal waterline of the river at normal flow rates.
- B. All downspouts or gutters draining water from roofs or parapets shall be extended underground under walks and patios to the San Antonio River's edge or stormwater detention facility so that such drainage will not erode or otherwise damage the Riverwalk, landscaping or river retaining walls.
- C. All piping and air-conditioning wastewater systems shall be kept in good repair. Water to be drained purposely from these systems, after being tested and adjudged free from pollution, shall be drained in the same manner prescribed in subsection (7)A. above.

(d) Riverside Setbacks. Riverside setbacks for both buildings and accessory structures are established to reinforce the defined character of the specific river improvement overlay district and help to define an edge at the river pathway that is varied according to the relationship of the river and the street. In the more urban areas, buildings should align closer to the river edge, while in more rural areas the buildings should be set farther away.

(1) Minimum setback requirements are per the following Table 673-1.

Description	RIO-1	RIO-2	RIO-3	RIO-4	RIO-5	RIO-6
Riverside Setback	20 FT	15 FT	0 FT	20 FT	50 ft	100 FT

(2) Designation of a development node district provides for a minimum riverside setback of zero (0) feet.

(e) Landscape Design. Lush and varied landscapes are part of the tradition of the San Antonio River. These design standards apply to landscaping within an individual site. Additional standards follow that provide more specific standards for the public pathway along the river and street edges.

(1) Provide Variety in Landscape Design. Provide variety in the landscape experience along the river by varying landscape designs between properties. No more than seventy-five (75) percent of the landscape materials, including plants, shall be the same as those on adjacent properties. (see Figure 673-4).

(2) Planting Requirements in Open Space Abutting the River. On publicly-owned land leased by the adjoining property owner, if applicable, and/or within privately owned setbacks adjacent to the river, a minimum percentage of the open space, excluding building footprint, lease space under bridges and parking requirements, are required to be planted according to Table 673-2.

- A. Planting requirements in RIO-4, RIO-5, and RIO-6 should continue the restoration landscape efforts along the river banks. Planting in these RIO districts is to be less formal so as to maintain the rural setting of the river.
- B. In "RIO-3," if existing conditions don't meet the standards as set out in Table 673-2, the owner or lessee will not have to remove paving to add landscaping in order to meet the standards until there is a substantial remodeling of the outdoor area. Substantial remodeling will include replacement of seventy-five (75) percent of the paving materials, or replacement of balcony and stair structures.

(f) Plant Materials. A number of soil conditions converge in the San Antonio area to create unique vegetation ecosystems. Along the route of the San Antonio River, the soil conditions vary greatly from the northern boundary near Hildebrand to the city limits near Mission San Francisco de la Espada (Mission Espada) and therefore native and indigenous plants will vary accordingly. Landscaping should reflect the unique soil characteristics of the specific site.

(1) Incorporate Existing Vegetation. Extend the use of landscape materials, including plants, shrubs and trees that are used in the public areas of the river onto adjacent private areas to form a cohesive design.

(2) Use indigenous and noninvasive species characteristic of the specific site as found on the permissible plant list maintained by the parks and recreation department or the Unified Development Code Plant List found in Appendix

E. In "RIO-3," plantings of tropical and semi-tropical plants with perennial background is permitted.

(3) Install Trees to Provide Shade and to Separate Pedestrians From Automobile Traffic. Install street trees along the property line or in the ROW abutting all streets according to minimum requirement standards established in subsection 35-512(b), except where this conflicts with existing downtown Tri-Party improvements in "RIO-3." In "RIO-3" the owner has the option of placing trees at the property line, or along the street edge.

(g) Paving Materials. An important San Antonio landscape tradition is the use of decorative surfaces for paving and other landscape structures. Paving materials and patterns should be carefully chosen to preserve and enhance the pedestrian experience.

(1) Vary Walkway, Patio and Courtyard Paving to Add Visual Interest on the Riverside of Properties Abutting the River. Pervious paving is encouraged where feasible and appropriate to the site.

A. A maximum of six hundred (600) square feet is allowed for a single paving material before the paving material must be divided or separated with a paving material that is different in texture, pattern, color or material. A separation using a different material must be a minimum of twenty-four (24) inches wide, the full width of the pathway.

B. A maximum of one hundred (100) lineal feet is allowed in a walkway before the pattern must change in districts "RIO-2," "RIO-3," and "RIO-4." A maximum of five hundred twenty-eight (528) lineal feet is allowed before the pattern must change in districts "RIO-1," "RIO-5" and "RIO-6." The change of material at five hundred twenty-eight (528) lineal feet will define and delineate one-tenth-mile markers.

C. In "RIO-3," the Riverwalk pathway shall be delineated by using a separate material that is clearly distinguished from the adjacent patio paving materials. If the historic Hugman drawings indicate a sidewalk width and pattern on the site, that paving pattern and material shall be replicated.

(h) Site Walls and Fences. Site walls and fences are used to help divide spaces, screen unsightly objects and provide privacy. However, the character of the San Antonio River is such that walls shall not be erected in such a way as to block views of the river from public spaces.

(1) Use of Site Walls to Define Outdoor Spaces.

A. Use of low scale walls (twenty-four (24) inches to forty-eight (48) inches) to divide space, create a variety in landscaping and define edges is permitted.

B. Solid walls (up to seventy-two (72) inches) are permitted to: screen mechanical equipment, garbage receptacles and other unsightly areas; and provide privacy at the back of lots up to the front building face.

(2) Site Wall and Fence Materials.

A. On properties abutting the river, site walls and fence materials may be constructed of: stone, block, tile, stucco, wrought iron, tubular steel, welded wire or a combination of masonry and metal, cedar posts and welded wire or garden loop or other materials having similar characteristics. All other properties, not abutting the river may use the above listed materials plus wood fencing.

B. All chain link fences are prohibited for properties abutting the river. For properties that do not abut the river chain link is only allowed in the rear yard if not readily visible from the right-of-way. Barbed wire, razor wire, and concertina are prohibited in all RIO districts.

(i) Street Furnishings. Street furnishings are exterior amenities, including but not limited to, tables, chairs, umbrellas, landscape pots, wait stations, valet stations, bicycle racks, planters, benches, bus shelters, kiosks, waste receptacles and similar items that help to define pedestrian use areas. Handcrafted street furnishings are particularly important in San Antonio, and therefore this tradition of craftsmanship and of providing street furniture is encouraged.

(1) Prohibited Street Furnishings in Riverwalk Area. The following street furnishings are prohibited within the publicly owned portion of the Riverwalk area, whether or not the property is leased, and on the exterior of the riverside of buildings directly adjacent to the publicly owned portion of the river:

A. Vending machines.

B. Automatic teller machines.

C. Pay phones.

D. Photo booths.

E. Automated machines such as, but not limited to, penny crunching machines, blood pressure machines, fortune-telling machines, video games, animated characters and other machines that are internally illuminated, or have moving parts, or make noise, or have flashing lights.

F. Inanimate figures such as horses, kangaroos, bears, gorillas, mannequins or any such animal, cartoon or human figure. This section does not affect public art as defined in Appendix "A" of this chapter.

G. Monitors (i.e., television screens, computer screens).

H. Speakers.

(2) Street Furnishing Materials.

A. Street furnishings shall be made of wood, metal, stone, terra cotta, cast stone, hand-sculpted concrete, or solid surfacing material, such as Corian or Surell.

B. Inexpensive plastic resin furnishings are prohibited.

(3) Advertising on Street Furnishings.

A. No commercial logos, trademarks, decals, product names whether specific or generic, or names of businesses and organizations shall be allowed on street furnishings.

B. Product or business advertising is prohibited on all street furnishings.

C. Notwithstanding the restrictions above, applications may be approved for purposes of donor or non-profit recognition.

(4) Street furnishings, such as tables and chairs may not be stored (other than overnight storage) in such a way as to be visible from the river pathway.

(j) Lighting. Site lighting should be considered an integral element of the landscape design of a property. It should help define activity areas and provide interest at night. At the same time, lighting should facilitate safe and convenient circulation for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Overspill of light and light pollution should be avoided.

(1) Site Lighting. Site lighting shall be shielded by permanent attachments to light fixtures so that the light sources are not visible from a public way and any offsite glare is prevented.

A. Site lighting shall include illumination of parking areas, buildings, pedestrian routes, dining areas, design features and public ways.

B. Outdoor spaces adjoining and visible from the river right-of-way shall have average ambient light levels of between one (1) and three (3) foot-candles with a minimum of 0.5-foot candles and a maximum of six (6) foot-candles at any point measured on the ground plane. Interior spaces visible from the river right-of-way on the river level and ground floor level shall use light sources with no more than the equivalent lumens of a one hundred-watt incandescent bulb. Exterior balconies, porches and canopies adjoining and visible from the river right-of-way shall use light sources with the equivalent lumens of a sixty-watt incandescent bulb with average ambient light levels no greater than the lumen output of a one hundred-watt incandescent light bulb as long as average foot candle standards are not exceeded. Accent lighting of landscape or building features including specimen plants, gates, entries, water features, art work, stairs, and ramps may exceed these standards by a multiple of 2.5. Recreational fields and activity areas that require higher light levels shall be screened from the river hike and bike pathways with a landscape buffer.

C. Exterior light fixtures that use the equivalent of more than one hundred-watt incandescent bulbs shall not emit a significant amount of the fixture's total output above a vertical cut-off angle of ninety (90) degrees. Any structural part of the fixture providing this cut-off angle must be permanently affixed.

D. Lighting spillover to the publicly owned areas of the river or across property lines shall not exceed one-half (½) of one (1) foot-candle measured at any point ten (10) feet beyond the property line.

(2) Provide Lighting for Pedestrian Ways That is Low Scaled for Walking. The position of a lamp in a pedestrian-way light shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet in height above the ground.

(3) Light Temperature and Color.

A. Light temperature and color shall be between 2500° K and 3500° K with a color rendition index (CRI) of eighty (80) or higher, respectively. This restriction is limited to all outdoor spaces adjoining and visible from the river right-of-way and from the interior spaces adjoining the river right-of-way on the river level and ground floor level. Levels shall be determined by product specifications.

(4) Minimize the Visual Impacts of Exterior Building Lighting.

A. All security lighting shall be shielded so that the light sources are not visible from a public way.

B. Lighting (uplighting and downlighting) that is positioned to highlight a building or outdoor artwork shall be aimed at the object to be illuminated, not pointed into the sky.

C. Fixtures shall not distract from, or obscure important architectural features of the building. Lighting fixtures shall be a subordinate feature on the building unless they are incorporated into the over-all design scheme of the building.

(5) Prohibited Lighting on the Riverside of Properties Abutting the River.

A. Flashing lights.

B. Rotating lights.

C. Chaser lights.

D. Exposed neon.

E. Seasonal decorating lights such as festoon, string or rope lights, except between November 20 and January 10.

F. Flood lamps.

(6) Minimize the visual impacts of lighting in parking areas in order to enhance the perception of the nighttime sky and to prevent glare onto adjacent properties. Parking lot light poles are limited to thirty (30) feet in height, shall have a 90° cutoff angle so as to not emit light above the horizontal plane.

(k) Curbs and Gutters.

(1) Construct Curb and Gutter Along the Street Edge of a Property.

A. Install curbs and gutter along the street edge at the time of improving a parcel.

B. In order to preserve the rural character of RIO-5 and RIO-6, the HPO in coordination with public works and the development services department may waive the requirement of curbs and gutters.

(l) Access to Public Pathway Along the River. These requirements are specifically for those properties adjacent to the river to provide a connection to the publicly owned pathway along the river. The connections are to stimulate and enhance urban activity, provide path connections in an urban context, enliven street activity, and protect the ambiance and character of the river area.

(1) A stair, ramp or elevator connecting the publicly owned pathway at the river to private property along the river is allowed by right at the following locations:

A. At all street and vehicular bridge crossings over the river.

B. Where publicly owned streets dead end into the river.

C. Where the pedestrian pathway in the Riverwalk area is located at the top of bank and there is a two-foot or less grade change between the private property and the pathway.

(2) If there is a grade change greater than two (2) feet between the private property and the publicly owned pathway at the river then the following conditions apply:

A. Access to the publicly owned pathway is limited to one (1) connection per property, with the exception that connections are always allowed at street and vehicular bridge crossings. For example if one (1) property extends the entire block face from street crossing to street crossing the owner would be allowed three (3) access points if the distance requirements were met.

B. The minimum distance between access points shall be ninety-five (95) feet. Only street and vehicular bridge connections are exempted. Mid-block access points must meet this requirement.

C. Reciprocal access agreements between property owners are permitted.

(3) Clearly define a key pedestrian gateway into the site from the publicly owned pathway at the river with distinctive architectural or landscape elements.

A. The primary gateway from a development to the publicly owned pathway at the river shall be defined by an architectural or landscape element made of stone, brick, tile, metal, rough hewn cedar or hand-formed concrete or through the use of distinctive plantings or planting beds.

(m) Buffering and Screening. The manner in which screening and buffering elements are designed on a site greatly affects the character of the river districts. In general, service areas shall be screened or buffered. "Buffers" are considered to be landscaped berms, planters or planting beds; whereas, more solid "screens" include fences and walls. When site development creates an unavoidable negative visual impact on abutting properties or to the public right-of-way, it shall be mitigated with a landscape design that will buffer or screen it.

(1) Landscape Buffers Shall be Used in the Following Circumstances: To buffer the edges of a parking lot from pedestrian ways and outdoor use areas, (such as patios, and courtyards), and as an option to screening in order to buffer service areas, garbage disposal areas, mechanical equipment, storage areas, maintenance yards, equipment storage areas and other similar activities that by their nature create unsightly views from pedestrian ways, streets, public ROWs and adjoining property.

(2) Screening Elements Shall be Used in the Following Circumstances: To screen service areas, storage areas, or garbage areas from pedestrian ways.

(3) Exceptions for Site Constraints. Due to site constraints, in all RIOs and specifically for "RIO-3" where there is less than ten (10) feet to provide for the minimum landscape berm, a screen may be used in conjunction with plantings to meet the intent of these standards. For example a low site wall may be combined with plant materials to create a buffer with a lesser cross sectional width.

(4) Applicable Bufferyard Types. Table 510-2 establishes minimum plant materials required for each bufferyard type. For purposes of this section, type C shall be the acceptable minimum type.

(5) Applicable Screening Fence and Wall Types. Screening fences and walls shall be subject to conditions of subsection 35-673(h), Walls and Fences.

(n) Service Areas and Mechanical Equipment. Service areas and mechanical equipment should be visually unobtrusive and should be integrated with the design of the site and building. Noise generated from mechanical equipment shall not exceed city noise regulations.

(1) Locate service entrances, waste disposal areas and other similar uses adjacent to service lanes and away from

major streets and the river.

- A. Position utility boxes so that they cannot be seen from the public Riverwalk path, or from major streets, by locating them on the sides of buildings and away from pedestrian and vehicular routes. Locating them within interior building corners, at building offsets or other similar locations where the building mass acts as a shield from public view is preferred.
- B. Orient the door to a trash enclosure to face away from the street when feasible.
- C. Air intake and exhaust systems, or other mechanical equipment that generates noise, smoke or odors, shall not be located at the pedestrian level.

(2) Screening of service entrance shall be compatible with the buildings on the block face.

- A. When it would be visible from a public way, a service area shall be visually compatible with the buildings on the block face.
- B. A wall will be considered compatible if it uses the same material as other buildings on the block, or is painted a neutral color such as beige, gray or dark green or if it is in keeping with the color scheme of the adjacent building.

(o) Bicycle Parking. On-site bicycle parking helps promote a long term sustainable strategy for development in RIO districts. Bicycle parking shall be placed in a well lit and accessible area. UDC bicycle parking requirements in UDC 35-526 can be met through indoor bicycle storage facilities in lieu of outdoor bike rack fixtures.

#### *Sec. 35-674. Building Design Principles*

(a) Architectural Character. A basic objective for architectural design in the river improvement overlay districts is to encourage the reuse of existing buildings and construction of new, innovative designs that enhance the area, and help to establish distinct identities for each of the zone districts. At the same time, these new buildings should reinforce established building traditions and respect the contexts of neighborhoods.

When a new building is constructed, it shall be designed in a manner that reinforces the basic character-defining features of the area. Such features include the way in which a building is located on its site, the manner in which it faces the street and its orientation to the river. When these design variables are arranged in a new building to be similar to those seen traditionally, visual compatibility results.

(b) Mass and Scale. A building shall appear to have a "human scale." In general, this scale can be accomplished by using familiar forms and elements interpreted in human dimensions. Exterior wall designs shall help pedestrians establish a sense of scale with relation to each building. Articulating the number of floors in a building can help to establish a building's scale, for example, and prevent larger buildings from dwarfing the pedestrian.

- (1) Express facade components in ways that will help to establish building scale.
  - A. Treatment of architectural facades shall contain a discernible pattern of mass to void, or windows and doors to solid mass. Openings shall appear in a regular pattern, or be clustered to form a cohesive design. Architectural elements such as columns, lintels, sills, canopies, windows and doors should align with other architectural features on the adjacent facades.
- (2) Align horizontal building elements with others in the blockface to establish building scale.
  - A. Align at least one (1) horizontal building element with another horizontal building element on the same block face. It will be considered to be within alignment if it is within three (3) feet, measured vertically, of the existing architectural element.
- (3) Express the distinction between upper and lower floors.
  - A. Develop the first floor as primarily transparent. The building facade facing a major street shall have at least fifty (50) percent of the street level facade area devoted to display windows and/or windows affording some view into the interior areas. Multi-family residential buildings with no retail or office space are exempt from this requirement.
- (4) Where a building facade faces the street or river and exceeds the maximum facade length allowed in Table 674-1 divide the facade of building into modules that express traditional dimensions.
  - A. The maximum length of an individual wall plane that faces a street or the river shall be as shown in Table 674-1.

Table 674-1

Description	RIO-1	RIO-2	RIO-3	RIO-4	RIO-5	RIO-6
Maximum Facade Length	50 ft.	50 ft.	30 ft.	75 ft.	75 ft.	50 ft.

B. If a building wall plane facing the street or river and exceeds the length allowed in Table 674-1, employ at least two (2) of the following techniques to reduce the perceived mass:

- Change materials with each building module to reduce its perceived mass; or
- Change the height with each building module of a wall plane. The change in height shall be at least ten (10) percent of the vertical height; or
- Change the roof form of each building module to help express the different modules of the building mass; or
- Change the arrangement of windows and other facade articulation features, such as, columns, pilasters or strap work, which divides large planes into smaller components.

(5) Organize the Mass of a Building to Provide Solar Access to the River.

A. One (1) method of doing so is to step the building down toward the river to meet the solar access requirements of subsection 35-673(a).

B. Another method is to set the building back from the river a distance sufficient to meet the solar access requirements of subsection 35-673(a).

(c) Height. Building heights vary along the river corridor, from one-story houses to high-rise hotels and apartments. This diversity of building heights is expected to continue. However, within each zone, a general similarity in building heights should be encouraged in order to help establish a sense of visual continuity. In addition, building heights shall be configured such that a comfortable human scale is established along the edges of properties and views to the river and other significant landmarks are provided while allowing the appropriate density for an area.

(1) The maximum building height shall be as defined in Table 674-2.

A. Solar access standards subsection 35-673(a), and massing standards subsection 35-674(b) also will affect building heights.

Table 674-2

Description	RIO-1	RIO-2	RIO-3	RIO-4	RIO-5	RIO-6
Maximum # of Stories	5	10	None	7	5	4
Maximum Height in Feet	60 ft.	120 ft.	None	84 ft.	60 ft.	50 ft.

(3) On the street-side, the building facade shall appear similar in height to those of other buildings found traditionally in the area.

If fifty (50) percent of the building facades within a block face are predominantly lower than the maximum height allowed, the new building facade on the street-side shall align with the average height of those lower buildings within the block face, or with a particular building that falls within the fifty (50) percent range. However, the remainder of the building may obtain its maximum height by stepping back fifteen (15) feet from the building face.

(4) Designation of a development node provides for the ability to increase the building height by fifty (50) percent from the requirements set out in article VI.

(d) Materials and Finishes. Masonry materials are well established as primary features along the river corridor and their use should be continued. Stucco that is detailed to provide a texture and pattern, which conveys a human scale, is also part of the tradition. In general, materials and finishes that provide a sense of human scale, reduce the perceived mass of a building and appear to blend with the natural setting of the river shall be used, especially on major structures.

(1) Use indigenous materials and traditional building materials for primary wall surfaces. A minimum of seventy-five (75) percent of walls (excluding window fenestrations) shall be composed of the following:

- A. Modular masonry materials including brick, stone, and rusticated masonry block, tile, terra-cotta, structural clay tile and cast stone. Concrete masonry units (CMU) are not allowed.
- B. Other new materials that convey the texture, scale, and finish similar to traditional building materials.
- C. Stucco and painted concrete when detailed to express visual interest and convey a sense of scale.
- D. Painted or stained wood in a lap or shingle pattern.

(2) The following materials are not permitted as primary building materials and may be used as a secondary material only:

- A. Large expanses of high gloss or shiny metal panels.
- B. Mirror glass panels. Glass curtain wall buildings are allowed in RIO-3 as long as the river and street levels comply with 35-674(d)(1) above.

(3) Paint or Finish Colors.

- A. Use natural colors of indigenous building materials for properties that abut the Riverwalk area.
- B. Use matte finishes instead of high glossy finishes on wall surfaces. Wood trim and metal trim may be painted

with gloss enamel.

C. Bright colors may highlight entrances or architectural features.

(e) Facade Composition. Traditionally, many commercial and multi-family buildings in the core of San Antonio have had facade designs that are organized into three (3) distinct segments: First, a "base" exists, which establishes a scale at the street level; second a "mid-section," or shaft is used, which may include several floors. Finally a "cap" finishes the composition. The cap may take the form of an ornamental roof form or decorative molding and may also include the top floors of the building. This organization helps to give a sense of scale to a building and its use should be encouraged.

In order to maintain the sense of scale, buildings should have the same setback as surrounding buildings so as to maintain the street-wall pattern, if clearly established.

In contrast, the traditional treatment of facades along the riverside has been more modest. This treatment is largely a result of the fact that the riverside was a utilitarian edge and was not oriented to the public. Today, even though orienting buildings to the river is a high priority objective, it is appropriate that these river-oriented facades be simpler in character than those facing the street.

(1) Street Facade. Buildings that are taller than the street-wall (sixty (60) feet) shall be articulated at the stop of the street wall or stepped back in order to maintain the rhythm of the street wall. Buildings should be composed to include a base, a middle and a cap.

A. High rise buildings, more than one hundred (100) feet tall, shall terminate with a distinctive top or cap. This can be accomplished by:

- i. Reducing the bulk of the top twenty (20) percent of the building by ten (10) percent.
- ii. By stepping back the top twenty (20) percent of the building.
- iii. Changing the material of the cap.

B. Roof forms shall be used to conceal all mechanical equipment and to add architectural interest to the structure.

C. Roof surfaces should include strategies to reduce heat island effects such as use of green roofs, photo voltaic panels, and/or the use of roof materials with high solar reflectivity.

(2) Fenestration. Windows help provide a human scale and so shall be proportioned accordingly.

D. Curtain wall systems shall be designed with modulating features such as projecting horizontal and/or vertical mullions.

(3) Entrances. Entrances shall be easy to find, be a special feature of the building, and be appropriately scaled.

A. Entrances shall be the most prominent on the street side and less prominent on the river side.

B. Entrances shall be placed so as to be highly visible.

C. The scale of the entrance is determined by the prominence of the function and or the amount of use.

D. Entrances shall have a change in material and/or wall plane.

E. Entrances should not use excessive storefront systems.

(4) Riverside facade. The riverside facade of a building shall have simpler detailing and composition than the street facade.

A. Architectural details such as cornices, sills, lintels, door surrounds, water tables and other similar details should use simple curves and handcrafted detailing.

B. Stone detailing shall be rough hewn, and chiseled faced. Smooth faced stone is not permitted as the primary building material, but can be used as accent pieces.

C. Facades on the riverside shall be asymmetrical, pedestrian scale, and give the appearance of the back of a building. That is, in traditional building along the river, the backs of building were designed with simpler details, and appear less formal than the street facades.

(g) Awnings, Canopies and Arcades. (See Figure 674-2) The tradition of sheltering sidewalks with awnings, canopies and arcades on commercial and multi-family buildings is well established in San Antonio and is a practice that should be continued. They offer shade from the hot summer sun and shelter from rainstorms, thereby facilitating pedestrian activity. They also establish a sense of scale for a building, especially at the ground level. Awnings and canopies are appropriate locations for signage. Awnings with signage shall comply with any master signage plan on file with the historic preservation officer for the property. Awnings and canopies installed at street level within the public right-of-way require licensing with the city's capital improvements management services (CIMS) department. Canopies, balconies and awnings installed at river level within the public right-of-way require licensing with the city's downtown operations department.

(1) If awnings, arcades and canopies are to be used they should accentuate the character-defining features of a building.

A. The awning, arcade or canopy shall be located in relationship to the openings of a building. That is, if there are a series of awnings or canopies, they shall be located at the window or door openings. However awnings, canopies and arcades may extend the length of building to provide shade at the first floor for the pedestrian.

B. Awnings, arcades and canopies shall be mounted to highlight architectural features such as moldings that may

be found above the storefront.

C. They should match the shape of the opening.

D. Simple shed shapes are appropriate for rectangular openings.

E. Odd shapes and bubble awnings are prohibited except where the shape of an opening requires a bubble awning, or historic precedent shows they have been previously used on the building.

F. Canopies, awnings and arcades shall not conflict with the building's proportions or with the shape of the openings that the awning or canopy covers.

G. Historic canopies shall be repaired or replaced with in-kind materials.

(2) Materials and Color.

A. Awnings and canopies may be constructed of metal, wood or fabric. Certain vinyl is allowed if it has the appearance of natural fiber as approved by the HDRC.

B. Awning color shall coordinate with the building. Natural and earth tone colors are encouraged. Fluorescent colors are not allowed. When used for signage it is appropriate to choose a dark color for the canopy and use light lettering for signage.

(3) Incorporating lighting into the design of a canopy is appropriate.

A. Lights that illuminate the pedestrian way beneath the awning are appropriate.

B. Lights that illuminate the storefront are appropriate.

C. Internally illuminated awnings that glow are prohibited.

*UDC Section. 35-675. Archaeology.*

When an HDRC application is submitted for commercial development projects within a river improvement overlay district the city archeologist shall review the project application to determine if there is potential of containing intact archaeological deposits utilizing the following documents/methods:

(1)The Texas Sites Atlas for known/recorded sites, site data in the files of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and the Texas Historical Commission;

(2)USGS maps;

(3)Soil Survey maps;

(4)Distance to water;

(5)Topographical data;

(6)Predictive settlement patterns;

(7)Archival research and historic maps;

(8)Data on file at the office of historic preservation.

If after review the city archeologist determines there is potential of containing intact archaeological deposits, an archaeological survey report shall be prepared and submitted. If, after review by the city archeologist, a determination is made that the site has little to no potential of containing intact archaeological deposits, the requirement for an archaeological survey report may be waived.

Upon completion of a survey, owners of property containing inventoried archaeological sites are encouraged to educate the public regarding archaeological components of the site and shall coordinate any efforts with the office of historic preservation.

**FINDINGS:**

- a. The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to construct a multi-unit residential development on the vacant lot located at 335 Trail. The property features lots that are located within the River Improvement Overlay only, as well as those that are located within both the River Improvement Overlay and the River Road Historic District. The applicant has proposed for the residential structures to feature two and three stories in height. Access to the site will be provided from Trail Street and Huisache Street.
- b. CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL (Buildings 1, 2 and 3) – This request received conceptual approval from the Historic and Design Review Commission on January 2, 2019. Conceptual approval was issued with the following stipulations for buildings 1, 2, and3:
  - i. That the applicant increase the setback on Huisache for Buildings 1 and 2 to feature an overall setback

- that is equal to or greater than that of the adjacent structure on Huisache.
- ii. That the applicant comply with all Transportation and Capital Improvements Requirements in regards to access for emergency vehicles and automobile traffic.
- iii. That the applicant continue to develop the proposed landscaping plan, incorporating additional buffering elements.
- iv. That foundation heights that are comparable to those found within the district and consistent with the Guidelines.
- v. That additional implementation of porches and balcony recessions into the front façade massing should occur.
- vi. That a double-hung, aluminum-clad wood window should be used. Meeting rails must be no taller than 1.25" and stiles no wider than 2.25". White manufacturer's color is not allowed, and color selection must be presented to staff. There should be a minimum of two inches in depth between the front face of the window trim and the front face of the top window sash. This must be accomplished by recessing the window sufficiently within the opening or with the installation of additional window trim to add thickness. Window trim must feature traditional dimensions and architecturally appropriate sill detail. Window track components must be painted to match the window trim or concealed by a wood window screen set within the opening. The recessing of windows at least two inches within walls is also a requirement of the UDC Section 35-674.
- vii. That all mechanical and service equipment be screened from view at the public right of way.
- viii. ARCHAEOLOGY- An archaeological investigation is required. The archaeological scope of work should be submitted to the OHP archaeologists for review and approval prior to beginning the archaeological investigation. The development project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology.

c. CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL (Buildings 4, 5 and 6) – This request received conceptual approval from the Historic and Design Review Commission on January 2, 2019. Conceptual approval was issued with the following stipulations for buildings 4, 5 and 6:

- i. That the applicant increase building 6's setback to match that of Building 5(the commission clarified that at least an eighteen foot setback be used).
- ii. That the applicant increase the distance between building 4 and the acequia to at least fifteen (15) feet.
- iii. That the applicant comply with all Transportation and Capital Improvements Requirements in regards to access for emergency vehicles and automobile traffic.
- iv. That the applicant continue to develop the proposed landscaping plan, incorporating additional buffering elements.
- v. That foundation heights that are comparable to those found within the district and consistent with the Guidelines.
- vi. That additional implementation of porches and balcony recessions into the front façade massing should occur.
- vii. That a double-hung, aluminum-clad wood window should be used. Meeting rails must be no taller than 1.25" and stiles no wider than 2.25". White manufacturer's color is not allowed, and color selection must be presented to staff. There should be a minimum of two inches in depth between the front face of the window trim and the front face of the top window sash. This must be accomplished by recessing the window sufficiently within the opening or with the installation of additional window trim to add thickness. Window trim must feature traditional dimensions and architecturally appropriate sill detail. Window track components must be painted to match the window trim or concealed by a wood window screen set within the opening. The recessing of windows at least two inches within walls is also a requirement of the UDC Section 35-674.
- viii. That all mechanical and service equipment be screened from view at the public right of way.
- ix. ARCHAEOLOGY- An archaeological investigation is required. The archaeological scope of work should be submitted to the OHP archaeologists for review and approval prior to beginning the archaeological investigation. The development project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology.

d. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed by the Design Review Committee on April 5, 2019. At that meeting, committee members asked questions regarding architectural elements, including roof overhangs, brick detailing, columns, roof forms, window fenestration and commented on the proposed driveways and overall amount of impervious cover.

e. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed a second time by the Design Review Committee

on May 7, 2019. At that meeting, the committee noted that the second story should not be a solid mass, but should be divided by balconies or other elements, asked if the three story structures could be reduced in mass, asked questions regarding site paving, that porch elements should be incorporated into the design and that an additional buffer should be considered between the proposed new construction and the acequia.

- f. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed a third time by the Design Review Committee on July 23, 2019. At that meeting, committee members asked questions regarding the proposed cantilever, suggested that the critical root zones of surrounding trees be studied, noted that bathroom windows should be increased in size and noted that the decreased setback of building 6 in combination with the increased height is concerning.
- g. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed a fourth time by the Design Review Committee on August 13, 2019. At that meeting, the Committee commented on architectural details, the need to incorporate entrance elements, that windows that meet staff's specifications should be installed, that the gabled mass over the garage doors on Building 6 should be redesigned, that eave details should be included and asked questions about plans to protect the acequia.
- h. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed a fifth time by the Design Review Committee on August 28, 2019, after it was referred to the DRC by the Historic and Design Review Commission at the August 21, 2019, HDRC hearing. At that meeting, the development team discussed drainage and water retention plans on site. The Committee noted concerns over grading and impacts to drainage onto Trail, noted that entrance design could be refined, noted concerns regarding front facing garages and found that both structures on Trail should not exceed more than two (2) stories in height.
- i. SETBACKS (Trail) – Both the UDC Section 35-672(b)(A) and the Guidelines for New Construction note that front facades on new construction are to align with the front facades of adjacent buildings where a consistent setback has been established along the street frontage. The applicant has noted setbacks on Trail of eighteen (18) feet for both buildings 5 and 6. Generally, staff finds this setback to be appropriate.
- j. SETBACKS (Huisache) The applicant has proposed setbacks on Huisache to align with the single-family residential structures to the immediate west. Staff finds the proposed setbacks to be appropriate and consistent with both the Guidelines and UDC.
- k. ENTRANCES – Both the UDC Section 35-672(b)(A) and the Guidelines for New Construction note that a structure's primary entrance is to be orientated toward the street. The proposed new construction is consistent with the Guidelines and the UDC in regards to entrance orientation.
- l. SCALE & MASS – The applicant has proposed buildings 1 through 5 to feature three stories in height, while building 6 is to feature two stories in height. Per the Guidelines for New Construction 2.A.i., a height and massing similar to historic structures in the vicinity of the proposed new construction should be used. In residential districts, the height and scale of new construction should not exceed that of the majority of historic buildings by more than one-story. The UDC Section 35-673(c) notes that the maximum construction height for RIO-1 is 5 stories, or sixty (60) feet in height. Additionally, the UDC notes that within each RIO District, a general similarity in building heights should be encouraged in order to help establish a sense of visual continuity and that building heights shall be configured such that a comfortable human scale is established along edges of properties. The River Road Historic District is comprised mainly of single family residential structures. Multi-family residential structures that exist within the District often feature two stories in height. At the time of conceptual review, staff found that not only should building 6 feature a reduced height of only two stories, but that building 5 should also, as they closest in proximity to structures located within the River Road Historic District. Generally, staff continues to find this to be the most appropriate approach to massing on Trail.
- m. ROOF FORM – The applicant has proposed roof forms that include front facing gabled roofs, and compound roof structures that feature both gabled and shed elements. At various locations, the applicant has also incorporated side gables. Generally, staff finds the use of gabled roofs to be appropriate, as well as the shed roof forms that the applicant has incorporated to reduce the overall height and massing of each structure.
- n. WINDOW & DOOR OPENINGS – Per the Guidelines for New Construction 2.C.i., window and door openings with similar proportions of wall to window space as typical with nearby historic facades should be incorporated into new construction. Per the UDC Section 35-674(e)(5), fenestration should be well-detailed to add depth and scale to a building's façade. Additionally, window placement, size, material and style should help define a building's architectural style and integrity. Generally, the applicant has proposed window openings that relate to those found historically within the River Road Historic District in regards to both the locations and profiles; however, staff finds that the small, square windows that are in locations that are visible from the right of way, or on primary facades be increased in size.
- o. LOT COVERAGE – Per the Guidelines for New Construction, the building footprint for new construction should be no more than fifty (50) percent of the size of the total lot area. The proposed footprint exceeds that which is

recommended by the Guidelines. Staff finds that given the lack of an established block pattern for this lot, additional lot coverage is appropriate. The applicant has incorporated recessed building masses and additional landscaping materials to reduce the impact of the proposed development's footprint.

- p. PROXIMITY TO ACEQUIA – The applicant has proposed a setback of fifteen (15) feet from building 4 to the acequia, as well as a setback of more than fifteen (15) feet from building 6. While staff finds the increased setbacks to be appropriate; staff finds that additional steps must be taken to further protect the acequia. Staff finds that the applicant must submit a construction management plan. The construction management plan should outline the steps taken to protect the acequia throughout the course of construction. Moreover, the formal construction plans should identify no subsurface work (utilities, grading, etc.) within 5 feet of the extant acequia. In-field protection of the acequia should include orange construction fencing and silt fencing at a buffer distance of 5 feet from the feature. No construction activities will occur within the buffer area. This fencing should be present on-site until construction is completed. As stated previously, the acequia shall not be used for storm water drainage. Furthermore, the acequia shall not be used for storage, equipment cleaning, or any other use during development that could impact the feature.
- q. ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS – The applicant has incorporated a number of architectural elements that are contemporary interpretations of historic elements found within the River Road Historic District. These elements include gabled roofs, grouped windows, and the use of various materials. Staff finds however, the elements such as front porches or distinct entrance massing has not been incarnated into the proposed new construction. These two elements are found consistently throughout historic structures within the district. Staff finds that both porches and distinct entrance elements should be incorporated into each outward (street) facing façade. Additionally, staff finds that other architectural elements, such as eave details should be incorporated into the design. The applicant has updated porch entrance elements to include square columns and reduced height planters.
- r. ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS (Garage doors) – The applicant has proposed for the structures on Trail to feature front loaded garages. This is inconsistent with the historic development pattern found within the River Road Historic District. Detached parking structures located to the rear of each structure follows the historic development pattern and would be more appropriate for the River Road Historic District.
- s. MATERIALS – The applicant has proposed materials that include standing seam metal roofs, Hardie siding with a board and batten profile, and brick. The applicant has noted both light and dark brick. Generally, staff finds the proposed materials to be appropriate. The proposed standing seam metal roofs should feature panels that are 18 to 21 inches wide, seams that are 1 to 2 inches in height, crimped ridge seams or low profile ridge caps and a standard galvalume finish. If a low profile ridge cap is to be used, it must be submitted to OHP staff for review and approval.
- t. WINDOW MATERIALS – Per the applicant's submitted documents, an aluminum clad wood window is to be installed. Meeting rails must be no taller than 1.25" and stiles no wider than 2.25". White manufacturer's color is not allowed, and color selection must be presented to staff. There should be a minimum of two inches in depth between the front face of the window trim and the front face of the top window sash. This must be accomplished by recessing the window sufficiently within the opening or with the installation of additional window trim to add thickness. Window trim must feature traditional dimensions and architecturally appropriate sill detail. Window track components must be painted to match the window trim or concealed by a wood window screen set within the opening. The recessing of windows at least two inches within walls is also a requirement of the UDC Section 35-674.
- u. MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT – Per the UDC and Historic Design Guidelines, all mechanical and service equipment, to include trash enclosures are to be screened from view at the public right of way.
- v. AUTOMOBILE ACCESS – The applicant has proposed units to be constructed on Trail to the easternmost extent of the lot. As proposed, automobile access would dead end, as currently existing on Trail. The applicant is responsible for all compliance with Transportation and Capital Improvements in regards to access for emergency vehicles and automobile traffic.
- w. LANDSCAPING – The applicant has submitted a landscaping plan that notes the locations of various landscaping materials, as well as specific materials. Generally, staff finds the proposed landscaping plan to be appropriate.
- x. DRAINAGE – The applicant has updated design documents to include a drainage plan, the location of detention ponds. The applicant has submitted two options; Option 1 includes two detention ponds with vertical walls. Pond 1 would discharge towards Huisache and pond 2 discharges toward the acequia. As previously noted by staff, using the historic acequia for drainage is not allowed per the UDC Section 35-671. Drainage Option 2 would include one detention pond at the north east corner of the property with vertical walls and permeable pavers in the shared drive.
- y. DRAINAGE – The applicant has noted that no increase in flow towards Trail Street or the acequia would occur

with either option. Additionally, the applicant has noted that neither Option 1, nor Option 2 are final.

- z. SIDEWALKS – The UDC requires that a pedestrian sidewalk be provided across properties. The applicant has received an administrative variance to not install sidewalks from Development Services Department. The applicant and neighborhood are in agreement on not installing sidewalks.
- aa. TREE PRESERVATION – The applicant has submitted a tree preservation plan noting percentages of trees, including heritage trees that have been preserved.
- bb. PROXIMITY TO ACEQUIA – The applicant has proposed a setback of fifteen (15) feet from building 4 to the acequia, as well as a setback of more than fifteen (15) feet from building 6. While staff finds the increased setbacks to be appropriate; staff finds that additional steps must be taken to further protect the acequia. Staff finds that the applicant must submit a construction management plan. The construction management plan should outline the steps taken to protect the acequia throughout the course of construction. Moreover, the formal construction plans should identify no subsurface work (utilities, grading, etc.) within 5 feet of the extant acequia. In-field protection of the acequia should include orange construction fencing and silt fencing at a buffer distance of 5 feet from the feature. No construction activities will occur within the buffer area. This fencing should be present onsite until construction is completed. As stated previously, the acequia shall not be used for storm water drainage. Furthermore, the acequia shall not be used for storage, equipment cleaning, or any other use during development that could impact the feature.
- cc. ARCHAEOLOGY – The archaeological investigation has been completed. The development project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology.
- dd. ARCHAEOLOGY – Staff has general concern about the sensitivity of the site and the impacts of construction to the acequia. Detailed construction management plans should be developed and provided prior to final approval that includes the limits of construction in proximity to the historic acequia and measures taken to mitigate potential impacts during construction. The UDC Section 35-672 does not allow drainage into the acequia.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Staff does not recommend approval based on finding q, which notes the inclusion of street facing, front loaded garage doors, an architectural element that is not present within the River Road Historic District. Staff finds this detail to be inappropriate and inconsistent with the Guidelines.

If the Historic and Design Review Commission finds the submitted design to be appropriate, staff recommends the following:

- i. That the proposed small square windows found in bathrooms be modified to feature both a size and profile that are more consistent with those found historically within the district, when located on primary facades or where visible from the public right of way as noted in finding n. (**The applicant has noted that they will comply with this stipulation.**)
- ii. That the applicant must submit a construction management plan. The construction management plan should outline the steps taken to protect the acequia throughout the course of construction. Moreover, the formal construction plans should identify no subsurface work (utilities, grading, etc.) within 5 feet of the extant acequia. In-field protection of the acequia should include orange construction fencing and silt fencing at a buffer distance of 5 feet from the feature. No construction activities will occur within the buffer area. This fencing should be present on-site until construction is completed. As stated previously, the acequia shall not be used for storm water drainage. Furthermore, the acequia shall not be used for storage, equipment cleaning, or any other use during development that could impact the feature. (**The applicant has noted that they will comply with this stipulation.**)
- iii. That the proposed standing seam metal roofs feature panels that are 18 to 21 inches wide, seams that are 1 to 2 inches in height, a crimped ridge seam or a low profile ridge cap, and a standard galvalume finish. If a low profile ridge cap is used, it must be submitted to OHP staff for review and approval. (**The applicant has noted that they will comply with this stipulation.**)
- iv. That the proposed aluminum clad wood windows feature meeting rails that are no taller than 1.25" and stiles no wider than 2.25". White manufacturer's color is not allowed, and color selection must be presented to staff. There should be a minimum of two inches in depth between the front face of the window trim and the front face of the top window sash. This must be accomplished by recessing the window sufficiently within the opening or with the installation of additional window trim to add thickness. Window trim must feature traditional dimensions and architecturally appropriate sill detail. Window track components must be painted to match the window trim or

concealed by a wood window screen set within the opening. The recessing of windows at least two inches within walls is also a requirement of the UDC Section 35-674.

- v. That all mechanical equipment be screened from view at the public right of way as noted in finding u.
- vi. That the applicant comply with all Transportation and Capital Improvements department requirements regarding emergency vehicle access, automobile access, storm water management and parking.
- vii. **ARCHAEOLOGY** – That the applicant must submit a construction management plan. The construction management plan should outline the steps taken to protect the acequia throughout the course of construction. Moreover, the formal construction plans should identify no subsurface work (utilities, grading, etc.) within 5 feet of the extant acequia. In-field protection of the acequia should include orange construction fencing and silt fencing at a buffer distance of 5 feet from the feature. No construction activities will occur within the buffer area. This fencing should be present on-site until construction is completed. As stated previously, the acequia shall not be used for storm water drainage. Furthermore, the acequia shall not be used for storage, equipment cleaning, or any other use during development that could impact the feature.
- viii. **ARCHAEOLOGY** – The archaeological investigation has been completed. The development project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology. The Upper Labor Acequia shall be preserved and shall not be impacted by new construction. Staff has general concern about the sensitivity of the site and the impacts of construction to the acequia. Detailed construction management plans should be developed and provided prior to final approval that includes the limits of construction in proximity to the historic acequia and measures taken to mitigate potential impacts during construction. The UDC Section 35-672 does not allow drainage into the acequia.

**A foundation inspection must be scheduled with OHP staff to ensure that appropriate setbacks are being installed. The foundation inspection shall be scheduled prior to the pouring of the foundation.**

**A roofing inspection must be scheduled with OHP staff to ensure that an industrial or large ridge cap in not installed. The roofing inspection shall be scheduling prior to the installation of roofing materials.**



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**OFFICE OF HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

**Historic and Design Review Commission  
Design Review Committee  
Report & Recommendation**

DATE: APRIL 5, 2019

HDRC Case# \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: 335 TRAIL

Meeting Location: 1901 S ALAMO

APPLICANT: MARI MICHAEL GLASSEL / MARK ODOM STUDIO

DRC Members present: SCOTT CARPENTER, JEFF FETZER, CURTIS FISH

Staff present: EDWARD HALL

Others present: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST: CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-UNIT, MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL  
STRUCTURE

COMMENTS/CONCERNS: MG: OVERVIEW OF PROJECT UPDATES (ELEVATIONS,  
ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS, ETC.). JE: QUESTIONS REGARDING OVERHANG  
(3' IN DEPTH). JE: NON-REPETITIVE DESIGN IS AN IMPROVEMENT.  
MG: BRICK HAS BEEN ADDED TO LOWER LEVELS TO PROVIDE A  
HUMAN SCALE. SC: APPEARS THAT BUILDINGS HAVE INCREASED  
SETBACKS. JE: EXTEND MASONRY TO THE GROUND IN THE SAME PLANE.  
CONSIDER CORBELING IN BRICK OR ADDITIONAL COLUMN TO HAVE

LOAD NOT APPEAR TO BE ALL ON ONE. CONSIDER TREATING TOP  
LEVEL AS OCCUPIED ATTIC SPACE.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**    APPROVE [ ]    DISAPPROVE [ ]  
APPROVE WITH COMMENTS/STIPULATIONS:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff".

Committee Chair Signature (or representative)

4/9/19  
Date

AF: CONSIDER DEVIATIONS TO THE SIZE OF ATTIC WINDOWS.

SC: QUESTIONS REGARDING WINDOW OPENINGS AND DETAILS (TRIM, SILLS, ETC).

CF: QUESTIONS REGARDING HAMMER HEAD TURNABOUT ON TRAIL. MGL REQUIRED FOR FIRE ACCESS. CF: COULD APPON BE MODIFIED TO DISGUISE THE SCALE AND WIDTH? MGL YES, WILL CONFIRM WITH CODE.

JF: STUDY DRIVEWAYS AND OVERALL AMOUNT OF CONCRETE.



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**OFFICE OF HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

Historic and Design Review Commission  
**Design Review Committee**  
**Report & Recommendation**

DATE: MAY 7, 2019

HDRC Case#       

ADDRESS: 335 TRAIL

Meeting Location: 1901 S ALAMO

APPLICANT: DAVID MORIN

DRC Members present: ZAC HARRIS

Staff present: EDWARD HALL

Others present: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST: CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE, MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

COMMENTS/CONCERNS: AM: OVERVIEW OF PROJECT AND PROJECT UPDATES

THAT REFLECT CHANGES SINCE CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL. ZH: SECOND STORY

SHOULD FEATURE PORCH OR BALCONY ELEMENTS AND NOT BE A SOLID

MASS. ZH: HAS BUILDING FIVE BEEN CONSIDERED TO BE REDUCED?

CAN 3-STORY STRUCTURES BE REDUCED IN HEIGHT? AM: NEW SITE

PLAN INCLUDES UPDATED SITE PLAN. ZH: QUESTIONS REGARDING

SITE PAVING ELEMENTS ADJACENT TO THE ALEGRIA. AM: OVERVIEW OF

UPDATED ELEVATIONS; BRICK, BOARD + BATTEN - EACH UNIT TO FEATURE

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**      APPROVE [  ]    DISAPPROVE [  ]  
APPROVE WITH COMMENTS/STIPULATIONS:

NO QUORUM

Committee Chair Signature (or representative)

Date

## ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS.

2H. PORCH ELEMENTS SHOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE DESIGN; SPECIFICALLY AS IT RELATES TO A PROPOSED OVERHANG AT THE SECOND LEVEL.

## 24: QUESTIONS REGARDING PERVERSUS VS IMPERVERSUS.

ZH: CONSIDER AN ADDITIONAL BUFFER BETWEEN THE NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ACEQUIA.



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**OFFICE OF HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

# **Historic and Design Review Commission**

## ***Design Review Committee***

## ***Report & Recommendation***

DATE: JULY 23, 2019

HDRC Case# \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: 335 TRAIL

Meeting Location: 1401 SALAMO

APPLICANT: MARSHAL MICHAEL GLASSEL / MARK ODOM STUDIO

DRC Members present: CURTIS FISH, DANIEL LAZARINE

Staff present: EDWARD HALL, MATTHEW ELVORSON

Others present: ~~DAVID MOBIN~~ DAVID MOBIN

## REQUEST: CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-STRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT; DISCUSSION

## REGARDING "BUILDING 6"

COMMENTS/CONCERNS: MMG: DISCUSSION REGARDING PAST WORK TO DESIGN, OVERVIEW OF UPDATES, MMG: OVERVIEW OF UPDATES TO DESIGN OF UNIT 6. CANTILEVERS EXCEED SETBACK BY 3 FEET (SECOND FLOOR GABLES: FULL LENGTH AT FRONT). DL: QUESTIONS REGARDING CANTILEVER (TO ACCOMMODATE A DEEPER PORCH) DL: SUGGESTION TO STUDY CRITICAL ROOT ZONE ON TREES BETWEEN NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ACEQUIA. LF: NEW BLDG 6 MASSING IS GREATER; 28 FEET NOW, 25 FEET PREVIOUSLY. DL: COMMENTS REGARDING WINDOW SIZES (SMALLER WINDOWS IN BATHROOM); ENLARGE

Committee Chair Signature

Committee Chair Signature (or representative)

7-23-17  
Date

ALL: DISCUSSION REGARDING HEIGHT OF BUILDING 6 IN RELATIONSHIP TO ZAMBRAUD HOUSE.

CE: BUILDING 6'S INCREASE IN HEIGHT AND REDUCTION IN SETBACK IS CONCERNING; ENTIRE JND STORY SHOULD NOT PROJECT OUT.

ME: DISCUSSION REGARDING DIVERSION OF STORMWATER INTO ACEQUIA.



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**OFFICE OF HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

**Historic and Design Review Commission  
Design Review Committee  
Report & Recommendation**

DATE: AUGUST 13, 2019

HDRC Case# 2018-533

ADDRESS: 335 TRAIL

Meeting Location: 1901 S ALAMO

APPLICANT: MARK ODOM/MARK ODOM STUDIO, DAVID MORIN

DRC Members present: SCOTT CARPENTER, JEFF FETZER, CURTIS FISH

Staff present: EDWARD HALL

Others present: PATRICIA PRATCHETT, GEMMA KENNEDY, JOHN HERTZ

REQUEST: CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT  
WITH SIX SEPARATE STRUCTURES

COMMENTS/CONCERNs: DM: DISCUSSION REGARDING WINDOWS -  
IS IT POSSIBLE TO RECEIVE APPROVAL OF ALUMINUM WINDOWS  
RATHER THAN ALUMINUM CLAD WOOD. CF: WINDOW MUST MEET  
SPECIFICATIONS OF STAFF. DM: OVERVIEW OF DESIGN UPDATES.

ALL: DISCUSSION REGARDING ROOF UPDATES (ROOF SLOPES), GABLE  
MASS OVER GARAGE LOOKS ODD ON TWO STORY STRUCTURE (IN  
RELATIONSHIP TO MASONRY + GARAGE DOORS), ALL: DISCUSSION REGARDING  
SMALL EXTERIOR LANDING (MID-LEVEL). CF:  
NOT CONCERNED WITH  
LANDING.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**      APPROVE     DISAPPROVE   
APPROVE WITH COMMENTS/STIPULATIONS:

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read "John Doe", is written over a blue horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and cursive.

Committee Chair Signature (or representative)

8/13/19  
Date

CF: QUESTIONS REGARDING PROTECTION OF ACEQUIA / ~~DR~~ DRAINAGE ~~ON~~ ON SITE,

CF: BUILDINGS 5 AND 6 ARE MOST IMPORTANT / SENSITIVE

DM: WIDTH OF HUISACHE WILL BE INCREASED.

CF: ANY DETAILING ON BRICK THAT CAN ANNOUNCE THE ENTRANCE + PORCH?

ALL: DISCUSSION REGARDING PORCHES.

CF: IMPROVE DETAILING FOR ENTRANCES TO READ LIKE PORCHES,

CF: NO EAVES AND OVERHANGS IS AN ISSUE,

SC: INCORPORATE EAVES / OVERHANGS FOR SHADOW LINES.



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**OFFICE OF HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

**Historic and Design Review Commission  
Design Review Committee  
Report & Recommendation**

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2019

HDRC Case# 2018 -

ADDRESS: 335 TRAIL

Meeting Location: 1901 S ALAMO

APPLICANT: MARK ODOM STUDIO / DAVID MORIN

DRC Members present: JEFF FETZER, PAOLA FERNANAEZ, ANNE-MARIE GRUBE

Staff present: EDWARD RALL

Others present: PATRICIA PRATCHETT, GEMMA KENNEDY, JOHN HERTZ

REQUEST: OVERVIEW OF SITE TREATMENT / DRAINAGE IN REGARDS TO  
NEW CONSTRUCTION

COMMENTS/CONCERNS: AM: OVERVIEW OF DRAINAGE, ENGINEER -  
OVERVIEW OF EXISTING DRAINAGE, REQUIREMENTS OF CITY STAFF  
AND PRESENTATION OF DRAINAGE - OPTION 1 [2 DETENTION PONDS  
WHICH WOULD DIRECT DRAINAGE TOWARD HULSACH]. OPTION 2 -  
DETENTION + PERMEABLE PAVERS (MUST HOLD 15 YR STORM EVENT),  
AM: PROPOSED DRAINING PLAN WOULD NOT REPLACE FLOW. AM:  
GENERAL DISCUSSION REGARDING EXISTING GRADE, TREES, ETC. JF:  
CONCERN REGARDING GRAVING IMPACT ON EXISTING TREES,

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**      APPROVE [ ]    DISAPPROVE [ ]  
APPROVE WITH COMMENTS/STIPULATIONS:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Doe".

Committee Chair Signature (or representative)

8/28/19  
Date

CURRENT DRAINAGE ON TRAIL WILL BE REDUCED UNDER PROPOSED PLAN

JF + AMG: ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS REGARDING DRAINAGE.

AMG: POTENTIALLY REFINISH PORCH ENTRANCE DETAILING;

JF: ENTRY PLANTERS MAY BE TOO TALL, TOO MUCH. CONSIDER SOMETHING MORE OPEN.

AMG: NO CONCERN W/ FRONT FACING GARAGES. JF AGREED.

JF: FINDS THAT ALL TRAIL BE 2 STORIES IN HEIGHT.

# HDRC FINAL REVIEW / TRAIL STREET TOWNHOMES

## Narrative of Changes

Civil and Landscape Drawings have been updated to include two (2) options for stormwater.

- Option 1
  - 2 detention ponds w/ vertical walls - size/volume are not final
  - pond 1 discharges towards Huisache Ave; pond 2 discharges towards the acequia area (as it currently drains)
- Option 2
  - 1 detention ponds (at north east corner of property) w/ vertical walls - size/volume are not final
  - permeable pavers in shared drive w/ storage meet City of San Antonio requirements to be considered as 100% permeable.

**\*No increase in flow** proposed towards Trail Street or the acequia for either option.

Site is allowed to have 100% impervious cover, however it only has:

- ~52% impervious cover (buildings, concrete features)
- ~12% proposed pavers/permeable area
- ~36% open space

*\*Detention is provided to mitigate runoff increase*

## Porch Iterations

Double columns have been added on one side of a 24" tall planter which anchors one side of the 5' x 7'-6" porch.

Planter is 12" wide and made of brick.

## Overall Site Plan

Sidewalks have been reduced. Porch planters and columns have been included.

*Window alignment is being studied and will be presented at the final hearing.*

## Neighborhood Meetings

_September 2018	Door-to-door meetings with neighbors #1
_September 2018	Door-to-door meetings with neighbors #2
_October 13th, 2018	River Road Neighborhood Association Meeting (30-40 neighbors present)
_December 4th, 2018	Meeting with RRNA subcommittee
_December 16th, 2018	Informal visit with select subcommittee members
_April 5th, 2019	Meeting with RRNA subcommittee following DRC meeting
_May 21st, 2019	Meeting with RRNA subcommittee to discuss removal of sidewalk requirements

Neighbors were also present at numerous Design Review Committee Meetings

## HDRC and Design Review Meetings

_September 26th, 2018	DRC #1
_October 23rd, 2018	DRC #2
_November 7th, 2018	HDRC Hearing #1
_November 27th, 2018	DRC #3
_December 11th, 2018	DRC #4
_December 19th, 2018	HDRC Hearing #2
_January 2nd, 2019	HDRC Hearing #3 <b>Conceptual Approval Granted</b>
_April 5th, 2019	DRC Meeting #5
_May 7th, 2019	DRC Meeting #6
_July 23rd, 2019	DRC Meeting #7
_August 13th, 2019	DRC Meeting #8
_August 21st, 2019	HDRC Hearing for Final Approval #1
_August 28th, 2019	DRC Meeting #9
_September 18th, 2019	HDRC Hearing for Final Approval #2

## Staff Recommendations

- Staff **does not recommend approval based on finding q**, which notes the inclusion of street facing, front loaded garage doors, an architectural elements that is not present within the River Road Historic District. Staff finds this detail to be inappropriate and inconsistent with the Guidelines.

Excerpt from Conceptual Approval Letter:

d. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE – This request was reviewed a second time by the Design Review Committee on October 23, 2018. At that meeting, the committee asked questions regarding tree preservation, noted that the historic acequia should be protected, noted that the elimination of unit(s) at the end of Trail would facilitate more efficient automobile access and circulation and would ensure protection of the acequia, noted that variations in height should occur, commented on materials, noted that **ribbon driveways on Trail were appropriate and that garage doors fronting trail were not a concern** and noted that the applicant should consider additional roof forms.

- i. That the proposed small square windows found in bathrooms be modified to feature both a size and profile that are more consistent with those found historically within the district, when located on primary facades or where visible from the public right of way as noted in finding m.

**We will comply with this recommendation**

- ii. That the applicant must submit a construction management plan. The construction management plan should outline the steps taken to protect the acequia throughout the course of construction. Moreover, the formal construction plans should identify no subsurface work (utilities, grading, etc.) within 5 feet of the extant acequia. In-field protection of the acequia should include orange construction fencing and silt fencing at a buffer distance of 5 feet from the feature. No construction activities will occur within the buffer area. This fencing should be present on-site until construction is completed. As stated previously, the acequia shall not be used for storm water drainage. Furthermore, the acequia shall not be used for storage, equipment cleaning, or any other use during development that could impact the feature.

**We will comply with this recommendation**

- iii. That the applicant incorporate porches or distinct entrance elements as noted in finding p.

**We will comply with this recommendation**

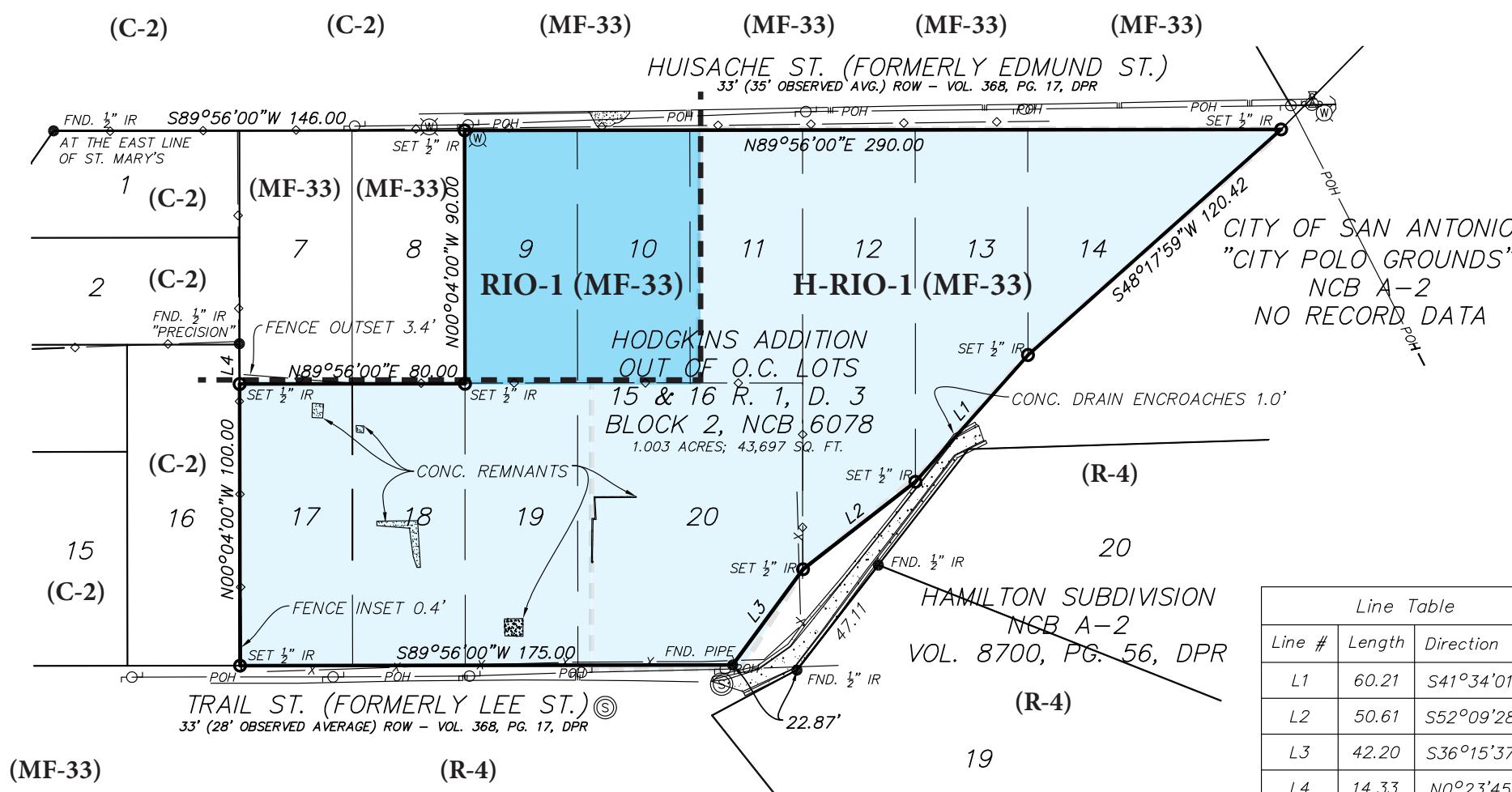
- iv. That the proposed standing seam metal roofs feature panels that are 18 to 21 inches wide, seams that are 1 to 2 inches in height, a crimped ridge seam or a low profile ridge cap, and a standard galvalume finish. If a low profile ridge cap is used, it must be submitted to OHP staff for review and approval.

**We will comply with this recommendation**

## LEGEND

■	TELEPHONE BOX	◎	GAS METER	— CTV —	CABLE TV	— TOH —	TELEPHONE OVERHEAD
■	TRAFFIC CONTROL BOX	—	GUY WIRE	— GAS —	GAS LINE	— TUG —	TELEPHONE UNDERGROUND
□	GATE VALVE	○	POWER POLE	— POH —	POWER OVERHEAD	— WAT —	WATERMAIN
●	HYDRANT	◎	SANITARY MANHOLE	— PUG —	POWER UNDERGROUND	— X —	FENCE LINE
○	WATER METER	○	SEWER CLEANOUT	— SAN —	SANITARY SEWER	—	CURB & GUTTER
■	CABLE TV BOX	■	CONCRETE SURFACE	— STO —	STORM SEWER	—	—

1" = 50'



H-RIO-1 (MF-33)

RIO-1 (MF-33)

The site is zoned MF-33, and has two (2) separate overlays: RIO-1 and H-RIO-1. The surrounding lots are mostly MF-33 of C-2, with residential zones located directly east and south of the property lines.

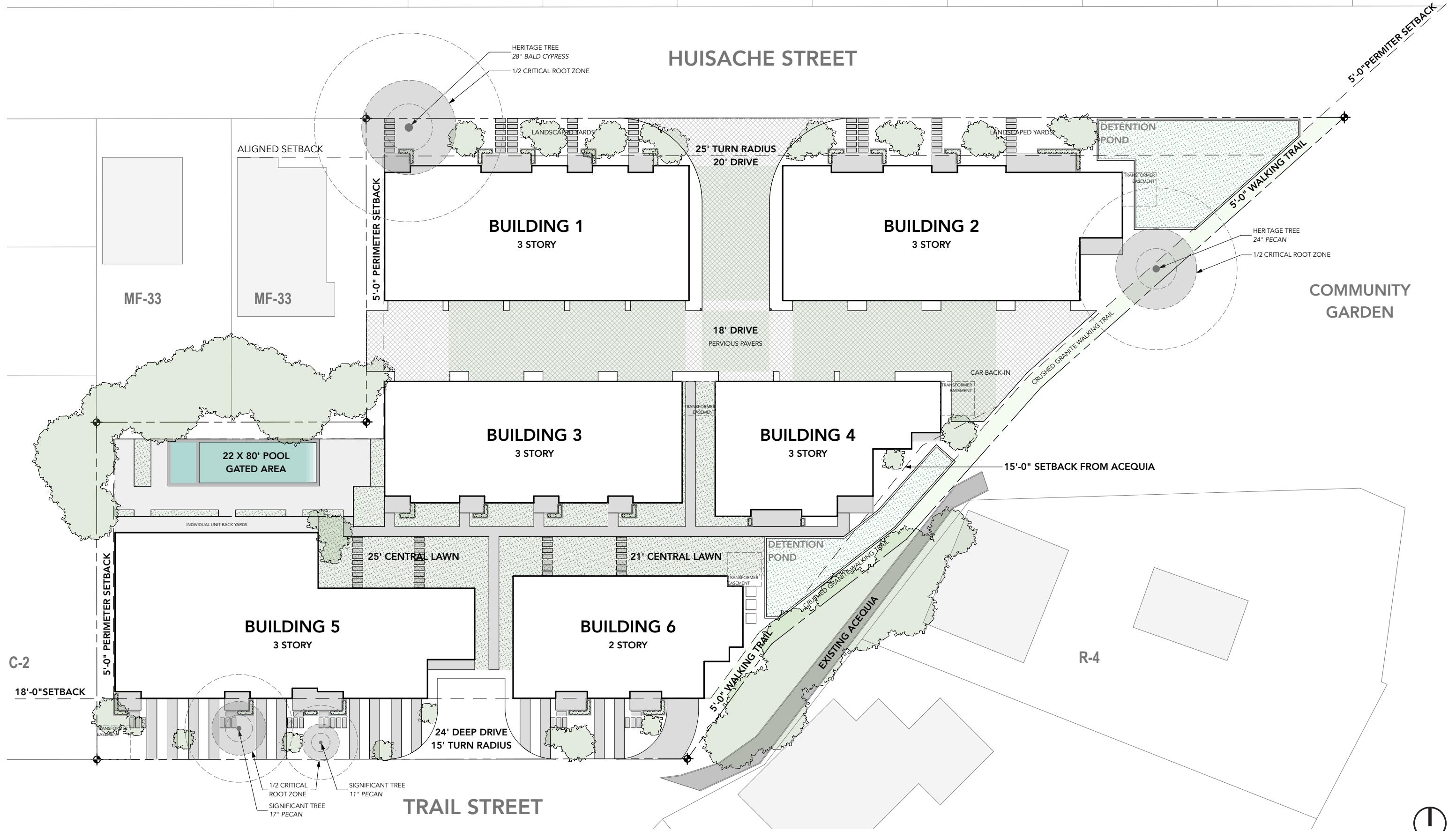
JOB NO.: 20196.00  
FW DATE 8-8-2018  
DRAWN: JRG  
CHECKED: JRG

AN ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY OF:  
LOTS 9-14, 17-20, BLOCK 2, NCB 6078  
HODGKINS ADDITION  
VOL. 368, PG. 17, DPR  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

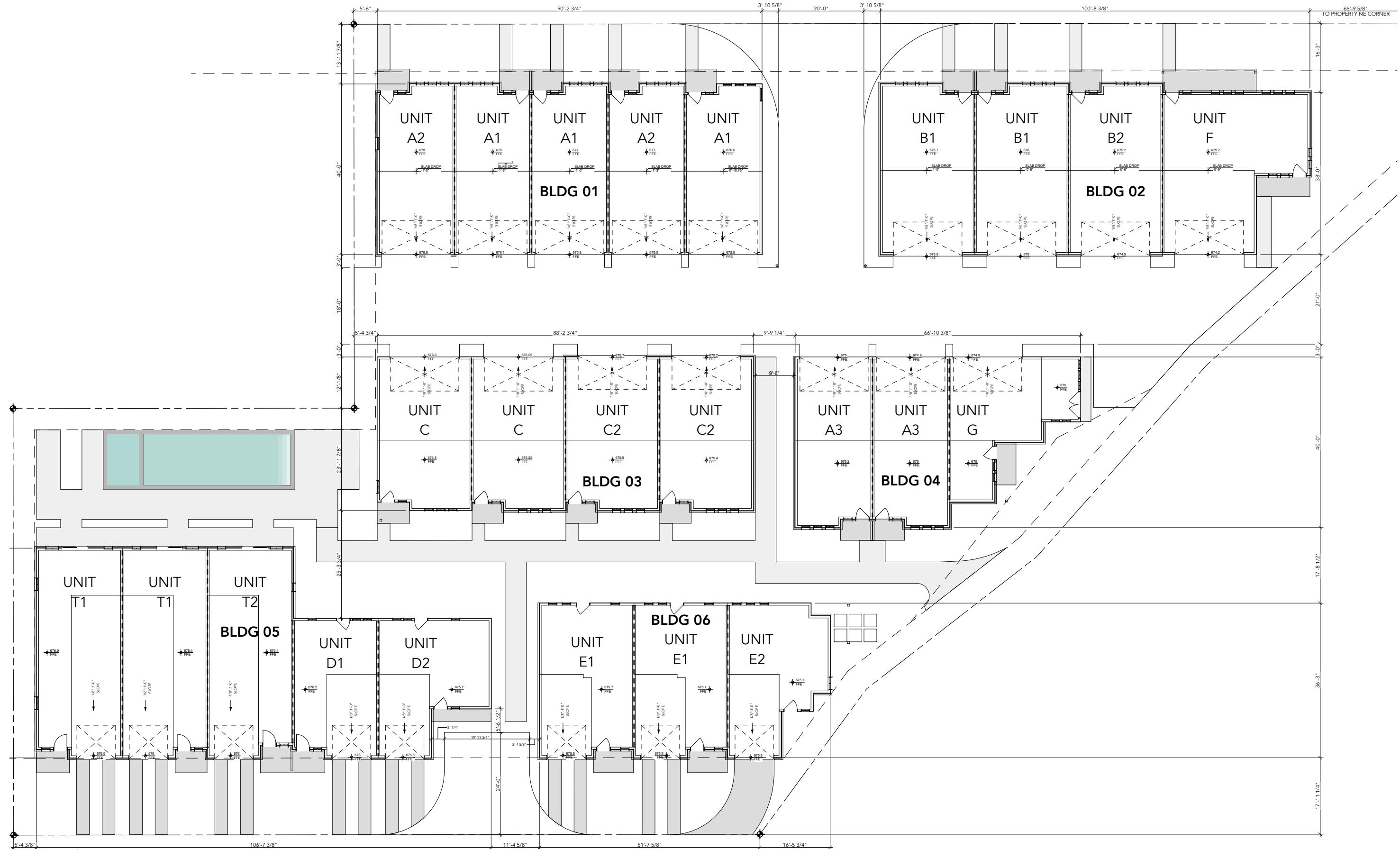
Westwood

Phone (210) 265-8300 1718 Dry Creek Way, Suite 110  
Toll Free (888) 937-5150 San Antonio, TX 78259  
westwoodps.com

Westwood Professional Services, Inc.  
TBPE Firm No. F-11756 - TBPLS Firm No. 10194064  
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## GROUND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN /



## ELEVATIONS /



HUISACHE STREET



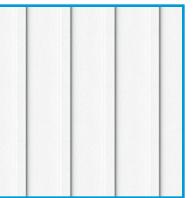
Standing Seam



CENTRAL LAWN



Hardie Siding



TRAIL STREET  
m(ødm)



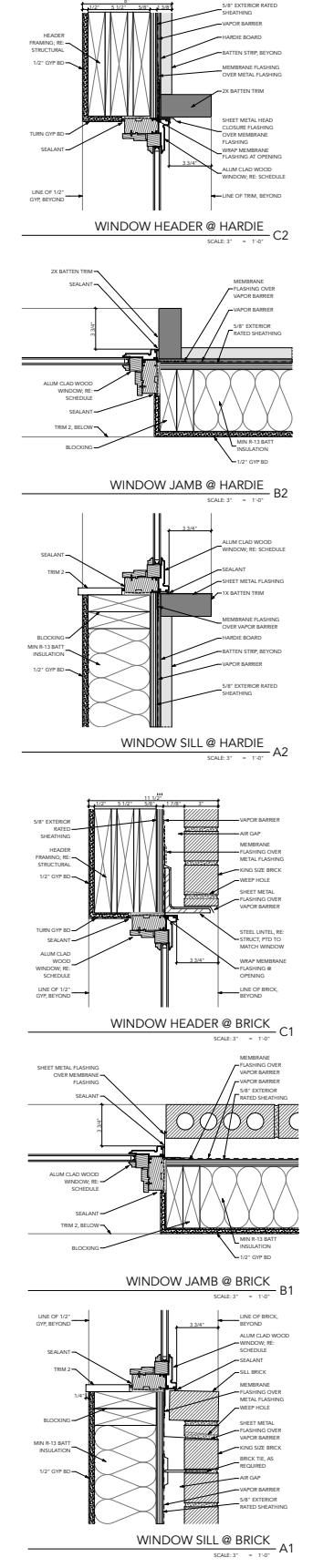
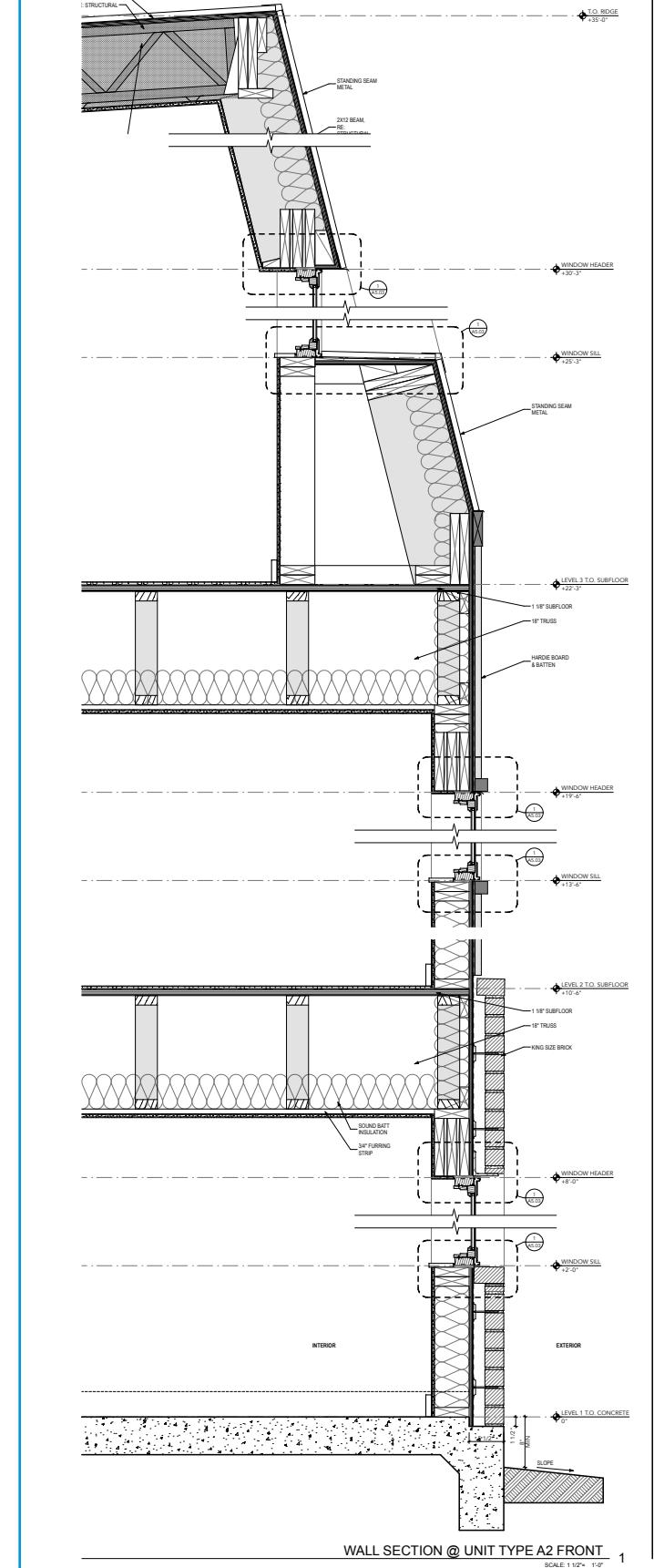
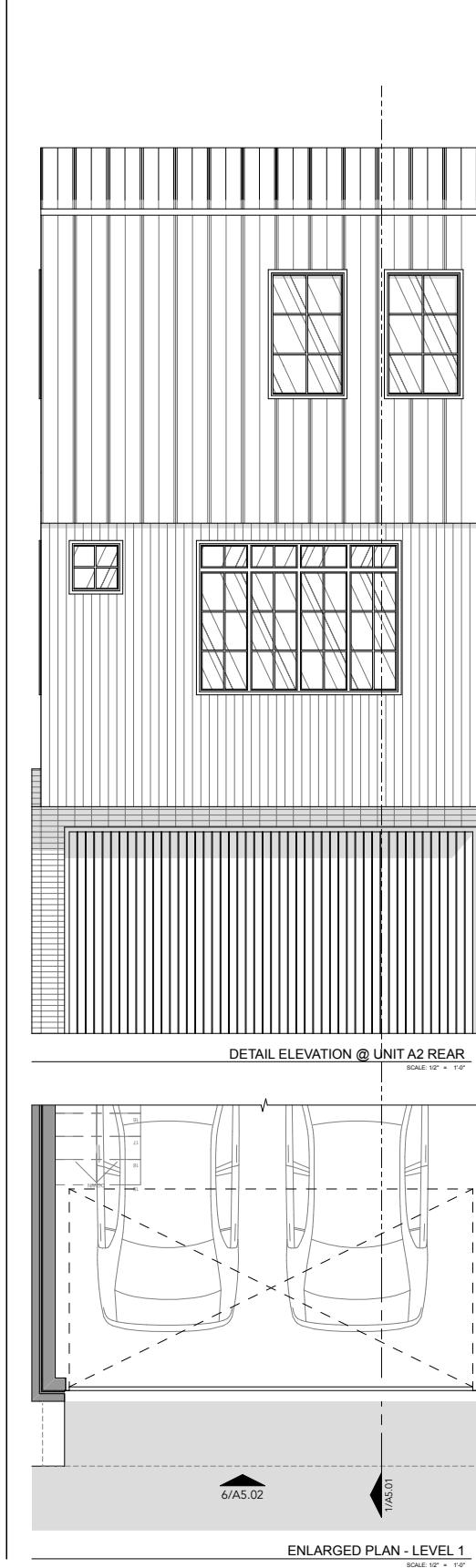
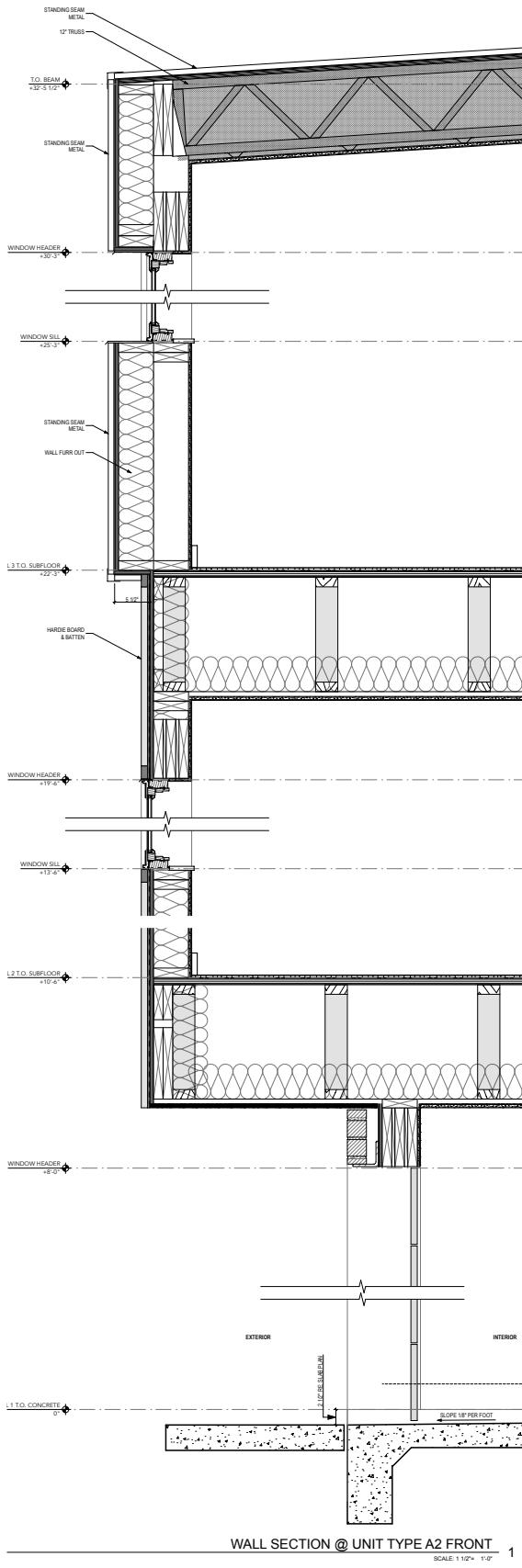
Brick - Light



Brick - Dark

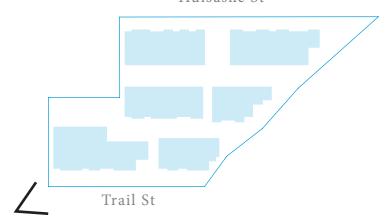


## DETAIL SECTIONS /





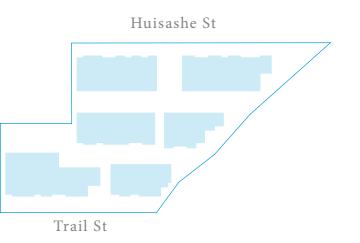
Huisashe St



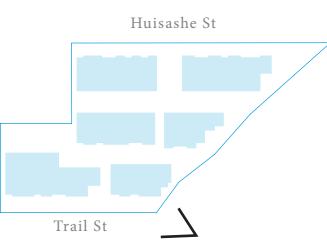
## ENTRY PORCH VIEW /

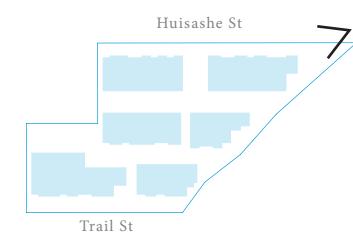


m(ødm)

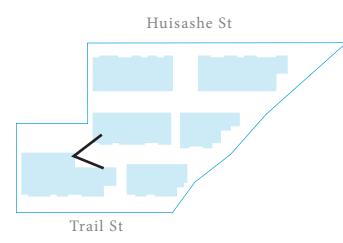


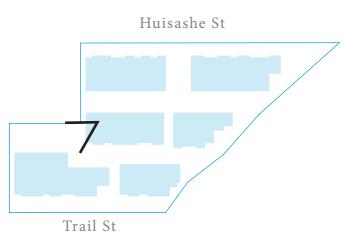
FINAL REVIEW / TRL  
markodomstudio.com  
19.09.18













## Aluminum-clad Wood Window



## All-aluminum Window



THANK YOU /