HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

February 07, 2018

HDRC CASE NO: ADDRESS: LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	2018-060 211 W HOLLYWOOD AVE NCB 6459 BLK 10 LOT 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & W 18 FT OF 18
ZONING:	R-5 H
CITY COUNCIL DIST.:	1
DISTRICT:	Monte Vista Historic District
APPLICANT:	Jozsef Terenyi and Zsuzsanna Maros
OWNER:	Jozsef Terenyi and Zsuzsanna Maros
TYPE OF WORK:	Conceptual review of proposed lot division and site plan for new construction
APPLICATION RECEIVED:	January 18, 2018
60-DAY REVIEW:	March 19, 2018

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting conceptual approval of a site plan. The proposed plan will subdivide the existing lot addressed 211 W Hollywood Ave and include new construction of a primary single family residential structure, rear accessory structure, and site elements.

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

C. RELATIONSHIP OF SOLIDS TO VOIDS

i. Window and door openings-Incorporate window and door openings with a similar proportion of wall to window space

as typical with nearby historic facades. Windows, doors, porches, entryways, dormers, bays, and pediments shall be considered similar if they are no larger than 25% in size and vary no more than 10% in height to width ratio from adjacent historic facades.

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. B. REUSE OF HISTORIC MATERIALS

Salvaged materials—Incorporate salvaged historic materials where possible within the context of the overall design of the new structure.

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

i. *Massing and form*—Design new garages and outbuildings to be visually subordinate to the principal historic structure in terms of their height, massing, and form.

ii. *Building size* – New outbuildings should be no larger in plan than 40 percent of the principal historic structure footprint.

iii. *Character*—Relate new garages and outbuildings to the period of construction of the principal building on the lot through the use of complementary materials and simplified architectural details.

iv. *Windows and doors*—Design window and door openings to be similar to those found on historic garages or outbuildings in the district or on the principle historic structure in terms of their spacing and proportions.

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

B. SETBACKS AND ORIENTATION

i. Orientation—Match the predominant garage orientation found along the block. Do not introduce front-loaded garages or garages attached to the primary structure on blocks where rear or alley-loaded garages were historically used.
ii. Setbacks—Follow historic setback pattern of similar structures along the streetscape or district for new garages and outbuildings. Historic garages and outbuildings are most typically located at the rear of the lot, behind the principal building. In some instances, historic setbacks are not consistent with UDC requirements and a variance may be required.

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.

7. Designing for Energy Efficiency

A. BUILDING DESIGN

i. *Energy efficiency*—Design additions and new construction to maximize energy efficiency.

ii. *Materials*—Utilize green building materials, such as recycled, locally-sourced, and low maintenance materials whenever possible.

iii. *Building elements*—Incorporate building features that allow for natural environmental control – such as operable windows for cross ventilation.

iv. *Roof slopes*—Orient roof slopes to maximize solar access for the installation of future solar collectors where compatible with typical roof slopes and orientations found in the surrounding historic district.

B. SITE DESIGN

i. *Building orientation*—Orient new buildings and additions with consideration for solar and wind exposure in all seasons to the extent possible within the context of the surrounding district.

ii. Solar access—Avoid or minimize the impact of new construction on solar access for adjoining properties.

C. SOLAR COLLECTORS

i. *Location*—Locate solar collectors on side or rear roof pitch of the primary historic structure to the maximum extent feasible to minimize visibility from the public right-of-way while maximizing solar access. Alternatively, locate solar collectors on a garage or outbuilding or consider a ground-mount system where solar access to the primary structure is limited.

ii. *Mounting (sloped roof surfaces)*—Mount solar collectors flush with the surface of a sloped roof. Select collectors that are similar in color to the roof surface to reduce visibility.

iii. *Mounting (flat roof surfaces)*—Mount solar collectors flush with the surface of a flat roof to the maximum extent feasible. Where solar access limitations preclude a flush mount, locate panels towards the rear of the roof where visibility from the public right-of-way will be minimized.

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 5, Guidelines for Site Elements

1. Topography

A. TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES

i. *Historic topography*—Avoid significantly altering the topography of a property (i.e., extensive grading). Do not alter character-defining features such as berms or sloped front lawns that help define the character of the public right-of-way. Maintain the established lawn to help prevent erosion. If turf is replaced over time, new plant materials in these areas should be low-growing and suitable for the prevention of erosion.

ii. *New construction*—Match the historic topography of adjacent lots prevalent along the block face for new construction. Do not excavate raised lots to accommodate additional building height or an additional story for new construction.

iii. *New elements*—Minimize changes in topography resulting from new elements, like driveways and walkways, through appropriate siting and design. New site elements should work with, rather than change, character-defining topography when possible.

2. Fences and Walls

A. HISTORIC FENCES AND WALLS

i. *Preserve*—Retain historic fences and walls.

ii. *Repair and replacement*—Replace only deteriorated sections that are beyond repair. Match replacement materials (including mortar) to the color, texture, size, profile, and finish of the original.

iii. *Application of paint and cementitious coatings*—Do not paint historic masonry walls or cover them with stone facing or stucco or other cementitious coatings.

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. C. PRIVACY FENCES AND WALLS

i. *Relationship to front facade*—Set privacy fences back from the front façade of the building, rather than aligning them with the front façade of the structure to reduce their visual prominence.

ii. Location – Do not use privacy fences in front yards.

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.

C. MULCH

Organic mulch – Organic mulch should not be used as a wholesale replacement for plant material. Organic mulch with appropriate plantings should be incorporated in areas where appropriate such as beneath a tree canopy.

i. *Inorganic mulch* – Inorganic mulch should not be used in highly-visible areas and should never be used as a wholesale replacement for plant material. Inorganic mulch with appropriate plantings should be incorporated in areas where appropriate such as along a foundation wall where moisture retention is discouraged.

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.

iii. *Maintenance* – Proper pruning encourages healthy growth and can extend the lifespan of trees. Avoid unnecessary or harmful pruning. A certified, licensed arborist is recommended for the pruning of mature trees and heritage trees.

4. Residential Streetscapes

A. PLANTING STRIPS

i. *Street trees*—Protect and encourage healthy street trees in planting strips. Replace damaged or dead trees with trees of a similar species, size, and growth habit as recommended by the City Arborist.

ii. *Lawns*— Maintain the use of traditional lawn in planting strips or low plantings where a consistent pattern has been retained along the block frontage. If mulch or gravel beds are used, low-growing plantings should be incorporated into the design.

iii. *Alternative materials*—Do not introduce impervious hardscape, raised planting beds, or other materials into planting strips where they were not historically found.

B. PARKWAYS AND PLANTED MEDIANS

i. *Historic plantings*—Maintain the park-like character of historic parkways and planted medians by preserving mature vegetation and retaining historic design elements. Replace damaged or dead plant materials with species of a like size, growth habit, and ornamental characteristics.

ii. *Hardscape*—Do not introduce new pavers, concrete, or other hardscape materials into parkways and planted medians where they were not historically found.

C. STREET ELEMENTS

i. *Site elements*—Preserve historic street lights, street markers, roundabouts, and other unique site elements found within the public right-of-way as street improvements and other public works projects are completed over time.

ii. *Historic paving materials*—Retain historic paving materials, such as brick pavers or colored paving, within the public right-of-way and repair in place with like materials.

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.

C. CURBING

i. *Historic curbing*—Retain historic curbing wherever possible. Historic curbing in San Antonio is typically constructed of concrete with a curved or angular profile.

ii. *Replacement curbing*—Replace curbing in-kind when deteriorated beyond repair. Where in-kind replacement is not be feasible, use a comparable substitute that duplicates the color, texture, durability, and profile of the original. Retaining walls and curbing should not be added to the sidewalk design unless absolutely necessary.

FINDINGS:

- a. The primary structure located at 211 W Hollywood is a 2-story single family home constructed in approximately 1938 in the Monterey style. The home features a side gable configuration, double height front porch in the central bay of the façade, and wood windows with multiple divided lites. The structure is contributing to the Monte Vista Historic District. The property also contains multiple rear accessory structures, including a rear garage, also constructed in 1938. The garage features the same side gable configuration and simplified detailing relative to the primary structure. This accessory structure is also contributing to the Monte Vista Historic District. The applicant is requesting conceptual approval to subdivide the lot and construct a new primary and accessory structure. The proposal under consideration that this time is exclusively a conceptual site plan. No elevations or designs of structures are being evaluated at this time.
- b. Conceptual approval is the review of general design ideas and principles (such as scale and setback). Specific design details reviewed at this stage are not binding and may only be approved through a Certificate of Appropriateness for final approval.
- c. LOT DIVISION: DEVELOPMENT PATTERN The applicant has proposed to subdivide the existing lot addressed 211 W Hollywood Ave. Hollywood Ave is historically and presently a residential street and retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Of the lots on Hollywood, as bounded on the west by San Pedro Ave and the east by McCullough Ave, 211 W Hollywood is the largest, measuring 167 feet x 140 feet, or 0.4821 acres. Comparable lot sizes on Hollywood Ave are 123 W Hollywood Ave and 123 E Hollywood Ave. The rest of the lots on the street, and on nearby residential streets including Rosewood Ave and Lullwood Ave, are half the acreage of 211 W Hollywood Ave. According to a 1911-1951 Sanborn Map, 211 W Hollywood Ave, divided to occupy a double width lot. The lots were replatted sometime after the 1950s. While a primary structure has not historically existed between 211 W Hollywood Ave and 201 W Hollywood Ave, the predominant development pattern is for single-width lots. The proposed lot division creates this condition. Based on these factors, staff finds the concept of a lot division with new construction of a single family structure consistent.
- d. FOOTPRINT The proposed lot division will create a new lot to the east of 211 W Hollywood Ave. The new lot will measure 167 feet by 56 feet for a total of 0.2147 acres. Per the submitted conceptual site plan, the proposed primary structure will feature a rectangular footprint spanning nearly the full width of the new lot. According to the Historic Design Guidelines, new construction should respond to the existing development pattern of the district. While the proposed primary structure closely matches the footprint of the primary structure at 211 W Hollywod Ave, the footprint is very close to the proposed side lot lines. Historic structures in the district do not feature footprints that span the entirety of the width of the lot. Staff recommends that the width of the structure be reduced to be more consistent with historic development patterns and lot relationships, as well as modern zoning setback requirements, which require a setback of a minimum of 5feet from all lot lines.
- e. FRONT SETBACK The applicant has proposed to closely match the existing front setback of the primary structure at 211 W Hollywood Ave. According to the Historic Design Guidelines, setbacks for new construction should respond to the predominant setback established on the block by contributing historic structures. Staff finds that the new structure should be set back slightly from the existing nearby historic structures to comply with the Guidelines.
- f. LOT COVERAGE According to the Historic Design Guidelines, new construction should be consistent with adjacent historic buildings in terms of the building to lot ratio. The building footprint for new construction should be limited to no more than 50 percent of the total lot area. The proposed site elements, including a primary structure, rear garage, and pool, do not total 50% lot coverage. Staff finds the proposal generally consistent with the level of information provided at this time.
- g. DEMOLITION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES AND SITE ELEMENTS The proposal will require the removal of a rear shed and in-ground pool. Neither of these structures is contributing to the existing lot. Staff finds their

removal appropriate.

- h. TREE REMOVAL The proposal will require the removal of two palm trees, one magnolia, and one mature tree. Several other mature trees will be retained. According to the Historic Design Guidelines for Site Elements, mature and heritage trees should be preserved. The applicant is required to coordinate with the City Arborist's office to determine the significance of the trees to be removed. Staff encourages the applicant to explore all design solutions that can potentially retain existing mature trees, including modifying the proposed footprint and incorporating any mature trees into the overall design of the home.
- i. NEW REAR ACCESSORY STRUCTURE The proposal includes a new rear accessory structure. According to the Historic Design Guidelines, new garages and outbuildings should be visually subordinate to the principal historic structure in terms of their height, massing, and form. New garages should also follow established setback and orientation patterns in the district. There is an established development pattern of garages placed close to the rear lot lines and accessible from the rear alley. Staff finds the proposal conceptually consistent with the information provided. The applicant will be required to obtain a variance if this location is pursued for final approval.
- j. DRIVEWAY AND PARKING The applicant has proposed to utilize an existing concrete slab in the rear of the lot for parking and garage access. The parking will be accessed from a rear alley. As noted in finding i, this is a common precedent in the historic district and nearby houses. Staff finds the proposal consistent.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends conceptual approval of the lot division and site plan based on findings a through j with the following stipulations:

- i. That the applicant reduces the width of the primary structure as noted in finding d.
- ii. That the applicant increases the front setback of the primary structure as noted in finding e. The applicant is required to submit a setback analysis of nearby structures on the street in their future HDRC submittals.
- iii. That the applicant coordinates with the City Arborist's office to determine the significance of the trees to be removed.
- iv. That the applicant explores all design solutions that can potentially retain existing mature trees, including modifying the proposed footprint and incorporating any mature trees into the overall design of the home. If this is not feasible, additional HDRC submissions should clearly illustrate why mature trees are unable to be preserved.

CASE MANAGER:

Stephanie Phillips





Flex Viewer

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1911-1951 SANBORN MAP







Picture 1 - From the north west corner of the proposed new lot facing south



Picture 2 - From the north east corner of the proposed new lot facing south



Picture 3 - From Hollywood Ave facing north of the proposed new lot



Picture 4 - Magnolia, palm and dying pecan tree that need to be cut down. Shed and pool that need to be demolished