



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**21-3912

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**Agenda Item Number:** Z-2.

**Agenda Date:** 6/3/2021

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Development Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Michael Shannon

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** 1

**SUBJECT:** Zoning Case Z-2021-10700064 HL

**SUMMARY:**

**Current Zoning:** "R-6 NCD-5 AHOD" Residential Single-Family Beacon Hill Neighborhood Conservation Airport Hazard Overlay District

**Requested Zoning:** "R-6 HL NCD-5 AHOD" Residential Single-Family Historic Landmark Beacon Hill Neighborhood Conservation Airport Hazard Overlay District

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Zoning Commission Hearing Date:** May 4, 2021

**Case Manager:** Michael Pepe, Senior Planner

**Property Owner:** Emily and Juan Chavez

**Applicant:** Office of Historic Preservation

**Representative:** Office of Historic Preservation

**Location:** 1109 West Craig Place

**Legal Description:** Lot 41, Lot 42 & Lot 43, Block 41, NCB 1850

**Total Acreage:** 0.2238

**Notices Mailed**

**Owners of Property within 200 feet:** 30

**Registered Neighborhood Associations within 200 feet:** Beacon Hill Neighborhood Association

**Applicable Agencies:** Office of Historic Preservation

## **Property Details**

**Property History:** The property is part of the original 36 Square Miles of San Antonio and was originally zoned “C” Apartment District. The property was rezoned from “C” Apartment District to “R-1” by Ordinance 86704, on September 25, 1997. The subject property converted from “R-1 to “R-6” with the adoption of the 2001 Unified Development Code, established by Ordinance 93881, dated May 03, 2001.

**Topography:** The property does not include any abnormal physical features such as slope or incursion in a flood plain.

## **Adjacent Base Zoning and Land Uses**

**Direction:** North

**Current Base Zoning:** RM-4”

**Current Land Uses:** Residential mixed dwellings

**Direction:** South

**Current Base Zoning:** “R-6”

**Current Land Uses:** Single-family dwellings

**Direction:** East

**Current Base Zoning:** “R-6”

**Current Land Uses:** Single-family dwellings

**Direction:** West

**Current Base Zoning:** “R-6”

**Current Land Uses:** Single-family dwellings

## **Overlay and Special District Information:**

"AHOD"

All surrounding properties carry the "AHOD" Airport Hazard Overlay District, due to their proximity to an airport or approach path. The "AHOD" does not restrict permitted uses but can require additional review of construction plans by both the Development Services Department and the Federal Aviation Administration.

"NCD"

The Beacon Hill Area Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD-5) is an overlay zoning district that contains design guidelines for rehabilitation of existing residential and commercial development. Property owners, together with the Department of Planning and Community Development staff, develop the design guidelines. These guidelines can address building materials, height, size, massing, signage, sidewalk location, etc. A zoning review is performed by the Zoning Section of the Development Services Department.

"HL"

A number of surrounding properties carry the “HS” Historic Significant landmark designation, signifying the historic architectural character or cultural significance of the structure or location. Historic Landmark designations do not affect the possible uses of the property but do regulate the exterior aesthetic of the structure. Building plans and permit applications will be subject to review by the Office of Historic Preservation and the Historic and Design Review Commission (HDRC) prior to any permits being issued.

## **Transportation**

**Thoroughfare:** West Craig

**Existing Character:** Local

**Proposed Changes:** None

**Public Transit:** There are VIA bus routes within walking distance of the subject property.

**Routes Served:** 90, 95, 96, 97, 289, 296

**Traffic Impact:** A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is not required. The traffic generated by the proposed development does not exceed the threshold requirements.

**Parking Information:** There is no minimum parking requirement for a historic landmark designation.

**ISSUE:**

None.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

**Current:** “R-6” allows a Single-family dwelling (detached) with a minimum lot size of 6,000 square feet and a minimum lot width of 50 feet, foster family home, public and private schools.

**Proposed:** The proposed “R-6 HL” allows all of the above in addition to adding a Historical Landmark Overlay, which provides for design review of proposed construction.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None.

**PROXIMITY TO REGIONAL CENTER/PREMIUM TRANSIT CORRIDOR:**

The subject property is not located within a Regional Center but is located within a Premium Transit Corridor.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Staff Analysis and Recommendation:** Staff and Zoning Commission (10-0) recommend Approval.

**Criteria for Review:** According to Section 35-421, zoning amendments shall be based on the approval criteria below.

**1. Consistency:**

The subject property is located within the Midtown Neighborhoods Plan. Application of a Historic Overlay is consistent with the goals and objectives of the plan for historic designation.

**2. Adverse Impacts on Neighboring Lands:**

Staff does not find evidence of likely adverse impacts on neighboring lands in relation to this zoning change request. The proposed application of historic overlay requires design review for proposed changes to the property.

**3. Suitability as Presently Zoned:**

The current “R-6” is an appropriate zoning for the property and surrounding area. The base zone remains the same and the “H” is simply the addition of a historic overlay.

**4. Health, Safety and Welfare:**

Staff has not found indication of likely adverse effects on the public health, safety, or welfare.

**5. Public Policy:**

The proposed rezoning does not appear to conflict with the following goals, principles, and objectives of the Midtown Neighborhoods Plan:

Objective 1.1: Historic Character Preserve the historic character of the neighborhood commercial centers along Blanco, Fredericksburg, Hildebrand, Flores, and San Pedro

**6. Size of Tract:**

The subject property is 0.2238 acres, which reasonably accommodates a historic landmark designation.

**7. Other Factors:**

The request for landmark designation was initiated by the owner, Emily and Juan Chavez.

On March 3, 2021, the Historic and Design Review Commission (HDRC) approved a Finding of Historic Significance, identifying the property as historically significant based on criteria listed in Section 35-607 (b) of the Unified Development Code. The criteria identified as being applicable to the subject property are specified below.

3. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state, or nation; from 2010 to 2018, 1109 W Craig Pl was home of Dr Carmen Tafolla and Dr Ernesto Bernal, prominent San Antonio writers and educators. Dr Tafolla was the city's first poet laureate in 2012 and the Texas State Poet Laureate from 2015-16. Dr Bernal was a pioneer in the field of the gifted Latinx child and taught at universities across the Southwest.

5. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials; the property is an example of an elaborated Craftsman-style residence that retains its historic and character-defining features.

13. It bears an important and significant relationship to other distinctive structures, sites, or areas, either as an important collection of properties or architectural style or craftsmanship with few intrusions, or by contributing to the overall character of the area according to the plan based on architectural, historic or cultural motif; the property is located in the Beacon Hill neighborhood conservation district (NCD-5). Staff also finds Beacon Hill to be an eligible local historic district; were the neighborhood to pursue designation, 1109 W Craig Pl would be considered contributing.

HDRC evaluated the property for eligibility per the UDC Sec. 35-607(b).