

CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Notice is hereby given that the Comprehensive Residential Code Review Committee (CRCRC) of the City of Rollingwood, Texas will hold a meeting, open to the public, in the Municipal Building at 403 Nixon Drive in Rollingwood, Texas on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 5:00 PM. Members of the public and the CRCRC may participate in the meeting virtually, as long as a quorum of the CRCRC and the presiding officer are physically present at the Municipal Building, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. The public may watch this meeting live and have the opportunity to comment via audio devices at the link below. The public may also participate in this meeting by dialing one of the toll-free numbers below and entering the meeting ID and Passcode.

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5307372193?pwd=QmNUbmZBQ1IwUINjNmk5RnJrelRFUT09

Toll-Free Numbers: (833) 548-0276 or (833) 548-0282

Meeting ID: 530 737 2193

Password: 9fryms

The public will be permitted to offer public comments via their audio devices when logged in to the meeting or telephonically by calling in as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. If a member of the public is having difficulties accessing the public meeting, they can contact the city at dadair@rollingwoodtx.gov. Written questions or comments may be submitted up to two hours before the meeting. A video recording of the meeting will be made and will be posted to the City's website and available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request.

CALL COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Citizens wishing to address the Comprehensive Residential Code Review Committee for items not on the agenda will be received at this time. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the Committee is restricted from discussing or taking action on items not listed on the agenda.

Citizens who wish to address the Comprehensive Residential Code Review Committee with regard to matters on the agenda will be received at the time the item is considered.

CONSENT AGENDA

All Consent Agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Comprehensive Residential Code Review Committee and may be enacted by one (1) motion. There will be no separate discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Board Member has requested that the item be discussed, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Regular Agenda.

2. Discussion and possible action on the minutes from the May 14, 2024 CRCRC meeting

REGULAR AGENDA

- Discussion and possible action regarding building height recommendations following the April 17, 2024 City Council meeting Building Height discussion
- 4. Discussion and possible action regarding Tree Subcommittee recommendations following the May 8, 2024 Planning and Zoning meeting
- Discussion and possible action regarding Lighting subcommittee recommendations
- 6. Discussion and possible action regarding creation of Impervious Cover/Drainage subcommittee
- 7. Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates and agenda topics for discussion

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the Rollingwood Municipal Building, in Rollingwood, Texas and to the City website at www.rollingwoodtx.gov at **5:00 PM** on **May 24, 2024.**

<u>Desíree Adair</u>

Desiree Adair, City Secretary

NOTICE -

The City of Rollingwood is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the City Secretary, at (512) 327-1838 for information. Hearing-impaired or speech-disabled persons equipped with telecommunication devices for the deaf may call (512) 272-9116 or may utilize the stateside Relay Texas Program at 1-800-735-2988.

The City Council will announce that it will go into executive session, if necessary, to deliberate any matter listed on this agenda for which an exception to open meetings requirements permits such closed deliberation, including but not limited to consultation with the city's attorney(s) pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071, as announced at the time of the closed session.

Consultation with legal counsel pursuant to section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code; discussion of personnel matters pursuant to section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; real estate acquisition pursuant to section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code; prospective gifts pursuant to section 551.073 of the Texas Government Code; security personnel and device pursuant to section 551.076 of the Texas Government Code; and/or economic development pursuant to section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.



CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

The CRCRC of the City of Rollingwood, Texas held a meeting, open to the public, in the Municipal Building at 403 Nixon Drive in Rollingwood, Texas on May 14, 2024. Members of the public and the CRCRC were able to participate in the meeting virtually, as long as a quorum of the CRCRC and the presiding officer were physically present at the Municipal Building, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. A video recording of the meeting was made and will be posted to the City's website and available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request.

CALL COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Chair Dave Bench called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Present Members: Chair Dave Bench, Alex Robinette, Thom Farrell, Duke Garwood and Jay van Bavel

Also Present: City Administrator Ashley Wayman, Assistant City Administrator Desiree Adair, and Development Services Manager Nikki Stautzenberger

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Discussion and possible action on the minutes from the April 9, 2024 CRCRC meeting

Jay van Bavel moved to accept the minutes of the April 9th meeting as presented. Alex Robinette seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 in favor and 0 against.

REGULAR AGENDA

- Discussion and possible action on emails and letters relevant to the CRCRC from April 5, 2024 to May 10, 2024
- 4. Discussion regarding Special Exceptions

Chair Dave Bench discussed a PowerPoint presentation regarding special exceptions. He discussed the Zoning Board of Adjustment (BOA), what the BOA can do, special exceptions, special exception examples, and variances.

The CRCRC discussed special exceptions, how they are used, and the instances in which they could be used.

5. Discussion and next steps following the April 17, 2024 City Council meeting Building Height discussion

Chair Dave Bench invited members of the public to discuss building height.

Amy Pattillo, 3 Rock Way Cove, provided a handout (Attachment A) to members of the CRCRC. She discussed her observations regarding the number of lots that have drainage easements and are sloped in the City. Her concern is regarding piecemeal zoning within the City and the effect of this zoning on these sloped lots with drainage easements. Ms. Pattillo feels that lots that are not flat would be penalized with building height restrictions. She discussed floodplain maps and how they have evolved. Ms. Pattillo suggested a special zoning district for lots with drainage easements.

Jeff Ezell, 4709 Timberline, provided a handout (Attachment B) to members of the CRCRC. He discussed his concerns with the building height proposal including the comprehensive nature of the committee recommendations, the formation documents, community support, topography of the City, and creating hardship. Mr. Ezell continued to discuss the history of the CRCRC including documents from the Strike Force Survey, the CRCRC Survey, CRCRC workshops, and the results including comments. He requested proposals that don't create winners and losers. Mr. Ezell stated he is thankful for the work and respects the members of the CRCRC but encourages them to stick to their goals.

The CRCRC and Mr. Ezell discussed details regarding height, topography, parallel plane, roof types, the survey, the comments and the process.

Wendi Hundley, 401 Vale, discussed the lots that they have lived on in Rollingwood. She explained how she loves the neighborhood, the topography, and the trees. Ms. Hundley discussed the hiring of an architect who works well with topography, thanked the CRCRC members for their time and work, and asked that the CRCRC look at all viewpoints and consider them. She discussed steps that City Council has taken regarding reference datum and height. Ms. Hundley would like to gain some education regarding her house and whether it is in conformance. Ms. Hundley provided a handout (Attachment C) to members of the CRCRC. She discussed the sloping nature, elevations, footprint, and nearest adjacent grade of her lot and home. Ms. Hundley explained that she can't comment if it is difficult to understand.

The CRCRC and Wendi Hundley discussed the height of her home, adjacent grades and reference datum.

Debbie Arnow, 304 Inwood, thanked the CRCRC for their communication and appreciated the idea of a height restriction. However, she thinks that because lot prices are so expensive, the height restriction may promote building on much more of the lot than typical which she is against. She discussed how the home next door has clear cut to the lot line

debasing her fence stability. Ms. Arnow reiterated that she loves the building height restriction and likes that slope is being taken into account on different topographies on lots throughout the City.

Ryan Clinton, 4714 Timberline Drive, thanked the members for their time and hard work. He discussed the goal from the beginning of the CRCRC to come up with a community consensus. Mr. Clinton discussed his participation with the Strike Force and the Comprehensive Plan. He believes that the best indicator of community consensus is the survey, and the goal should be the least restrictive method to control the building height issues. He discussed the average grade and slope lot adjustment but believes the removal of any adjustment and tenting effectively forces split level home design. He encouraged the CRCRC to not use the parallel plane method because he believes it is something that families do not want. He provided a handout (Attachment D) to the CRCRC members with the Code and administrative guidance from the City of Lynnwood, Washington. He discussed public viewing points in Rollingwood that make new homes feel more imposing and is attempting to come up with a community solution that cuts off the worst offenders.

The CRCRC and Mr. Clinton discussed the handout, lot averaging, tenting, setbacks, grades, and an example drawing.

Chair Dave Bench invited all to come back to the next meeting in two weeks.

Thom Farrell moved to table agenda items 5 through 9 to the next meeting in two weeks. Jay van Bavel seconded the motion. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against.

Discussion and possible action regarding Tree Subcommittee recommendations following the May 8, 2024 Planning and Zoning meeting

The CRCRC did not discuss this item.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding Lighting subcommittee recommendations

The CRCRC did not discuss this item.

Discussion and possible action regarding creation of Impervious Cover/Drainage subcommittee

The CRCRC did not discuss this item.

9. Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates and agenda topics for discussion

The CRCRC did not discuss this item.

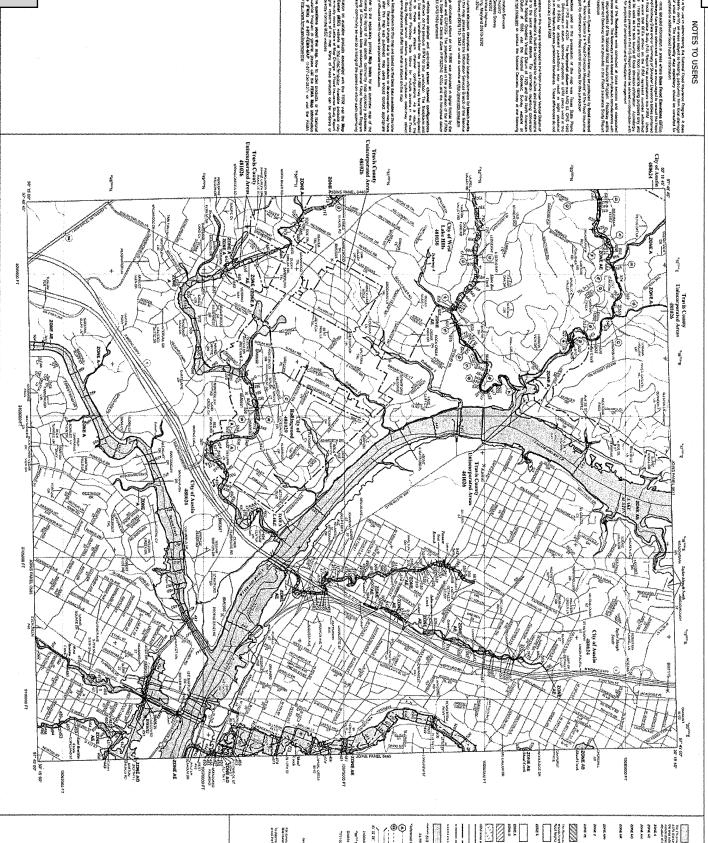
ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP

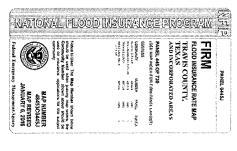
The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

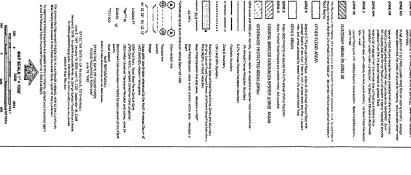
Minutes adopted on the	day of	, 2024.	
		Dave Bench, Chair	
ATTEST:			
	_		
Desiree Adair, City Secretary	_		

Attachment A









LEGEND

2.

Attachment B

Comprehensive Residential Code Review Committee ("CRCRC")

May 14, 2024 Meeting

Overview

Introduction:

does not have the necessary support. through the results derived from the raw data of the survey, other sources provided by the CRCRC and will deliver detailed evidence as to why the CRCRC adversely impact lots with topography, but do not impact lots without topography. It's punitive and unfair to a select group of residents. We will walk The CRCRC does not have enough support from the residents for the sumulative proposals they have made. Furthermore, the proposals they have made

Agenda:

- History, Position and Interpretation
- Why Does CRCRC Believe They Have Majority Support?
- Survey Results and Interpretation
- Examples of Concerns with the Proposals
- Examples of Unintended Consequences
- Quick Solutions / Thoughts

Item #1: History, Position and Interpretation

- Before this process began I had an opportunity to speak with two members of city council and two members of the soon to be provide a comprehensive proposal and ensure that no decision hurts some of our residents, but do not impact others formed CRCRC. I expressed at that time, which is still my position today, that no matter what is determined we should go slow,
- My reason for being here today is my great concern with what has been proposed
- First, it is not comprehensive, which will lead to a bunch of unintended consequences
- At the January 22, 2024 meeting Nikki Stautzenberger, Development Services Manager, explained that the recommendations are meant to be comprehensive and stated the reasons why this is important from the city's perspective. from the CRCRC to be comprehensive. What has changed? CRCRC agreed that anything taken to P&Z would only be for informational purposes and that they intended the final proposals
- **:**: And, more importantly, what has been proposed with regards to height will severely impact anyone with topographical winners and losers, which is incredibly un-neighborly, especially in light of the fact that nearly every home in Rollingwood change, yet leave those without topography changes unimpacted. This stand alone proposal will immediately create has topography at change at some level and more than 50% of the homes have topography changes of 5 feet or greater $^{(1)}$
- **b**) The cumulative proposals are extremely draconian:
- The proposal for measuring height was an explicit question on the survey and it only received 27% of the vote, which is not a majority, and that is a mandated deliverable per the CRCRC formation document
- ≓: The tenting proposal, in conjunction with the heigh measurement proposal, severely limits development on lots with material topographical change, and forces homes into split-level designs and/or flat roofs
- 12 conjecturing results The CRCRC is misinterpreting the available data, has not provided conclusive evidence in support of their proposals and is
- 3 The residents are not against change, but the residents are not supportive of such extreme proposals

Page 12

including rationale of majority viewpoint, and any votes that happened" The CRCRC Formation document outlines that one of their two deliverables is that the CRCRC should "Report recommendations

- Members of the CRCRC continually mention different sources of feedback, which they believe provide support for the unique opinions/votes. The sole purpose of the survey was to capture all opinions in one place received phone calls, emails, in person communications and survey responses, one cannot assume the different mediums are proposals. It is impossible to prove that any feedback outside of the survey is not duplicative. Although the members may have
- 12 The CRCRC posted a document entitled "CRCRC Survey Analysis with Recommendations on: Building Heights, Building provide recommendations (Link Here on page 6). Their recommendations are based on Height Measurement and 'Bulk/Tenting' Planes' with the intent to summarize feedback from it's multiple data sources and

Study of old, new and permitted homes in Rollingwood	2021 Comprehensive Plan Strike Force Survey
Public Workshop Posted Presentation and Comment Cards	78 Emails from 69 Individuals (Jan – Aug 2023)
Research of nearby cities building codes	CRCRC Survey Results

- a) Feedback from 2021 Comprehensive Plan Strike Force Survey:
- other concerns." The document states "The Strike Force never asked a question, "do you want to change the residential building rules", there were however a Q3 specifically cited concerns over new building trends, versus 1% of responses in favor of current building trends, the remaining addressed lot of unprompted responses regarding concerns about building trends. About 30% of responses on the 2021 Strike Force Residential Survey-
- To infer anything from a non-existent survey question and relate it to the CRCRC mandate is conjecture, furthermore, this question was asked in the CRCRC survey:
- b) The document states "Emails in 2023, regarding potential building code changes, indicate 47% in favor of changes, 28% asking for a limited or careful study, 15% preferring no changes, 10% N/A."
- These were unsolicited and varied, which doesn't provide evidence or support of favoring one of the current proposals
- If the opinions from this data set are to be used now than we must notate the key results as it relates to the current
- Only 31% of respondents noted a concern of height

Page 13

0% noted a desire for "tenting"

survey questions. Below see below for examples: More specifically, the provided summaries only relate how each respondent answered a question to how they voted on other The CRCRC's materials (e.g. - "Chart Summary's") provided to Planning & Zoning for the April 3, 2024 meeting (Link Here) in Rather, these materials are only a summary of how a respondent votes wholistically and relationally to other survey questions support of their proposals do not provide evidence of additional support beyond the base survey's questions tallied votes.

a) Chart 1 (Link Here):

- In this chart it takes all of the respondents that answered that they are "not satisfied with build trends" and then shows how they voted for the other survey questions (e.g. – do they want code changes, are ok with building heights, etc)
- The summary of this Chart 1 shows that the majority of respondents who voted that they were not satisfied with building trends also voted in separate survey questions that they wanted code changes wanted a change to the reference datum, wanted to limit upper stories, etc
- This is nothing more than a relational comparison. This chart does not provide additional or less support for the original question

b) Chart 3 (Link Here):

- then shows how they voted for the other survey questions In this chart it takes all of the respondents that answered that they "do want changes to the building code" and
- changes to the building code also voted in separate questions that they wanted changes to the reference datum, were supportive of FAR limits, wanted tenting, etc The summary of this Chart 3 shows that the majority of respondents who voted that they do want
- Again, this is only a relational comparison and does not provide additional support of the base question

. 2023 CRCRC Survey Results:

Page 14

Being that the aforementioned data sources are vague and unsubstantiated it is necessary for the CRCRC to focus on the results of the survey

Item #3: Survey Results

Question #1: Are you generally satisfied with the trend of new construction in Rollingwood?

77/	Total Votes
6	No Response
138	Yes Votes
130	No Votes
	130

Of the write-in comments only 31 out of 274 respondents, or 11% specifically mention height as a concern and four respondents made a comment regarding "tenting". I've noted the other concerns below (each respondent could have more than one concern)

31	Height	
73	Size	
4	Tenting	
13	Setbacks	Writ
7	Foundation Height	Write-In Concerns
25	Trees	
¢s.	Drainage	
48	Other	

Question #2: Do you think Rollingwood should consider changes to the its building code?

•	CRCRC Posted Results	8
No Votes	08	29.09%
Yes Votes	175	63.54%
No Response	20	7.27%
Total Votes	275	100.00%

- Important to notate that the question was should we "consider changes"
- Of the write-in comments only 49 out of 275 respondents, or 18% specifically mention height as a concern. 7 respondents noted the "tenting" concept. I've noted the other concerns below (each respondent could have more than one concern)

49	Height	
9	Size	
7	Tenting	
28	Setbacks	
2	Foundation Height	Write-In Concerns
11	Trees	rns
9	Drainage	
CO	Code Enforcement	
35	Others	

Page 15

Item #3: Survey Results (cont.)

Question #3: Is Rollingwood's maximum residential heigh of 35 feet...

CRC	CRCRC Posted Results	दि
About Right	175	63.87%
Too High	70	25.55%
Too Low	21	7.66%
No Response	Ċ0	2.92%
Total Votes	274	100.00%

- This question is specifically asking about the "maximum residential height of 35", which applies to all lots
- This has nothing to do with the 10' bonus, nor can it be inferred to do so. I've noted the other concerns below (each respondent could have more than one concern)

	Heig	
10	ht/Size	
2	Height / Size Parallel Plane	
7	Tenting	
w	Setbacks	
7	Foundation Height Measurement	Write-In Concerns
26	Measurement	
2	Lower Height for Flat Roofs	
23	Others	

Question #4: Should we look at alternative ways to measure building heights, and if so, which options are preferred?

CRCRC Posted Results	Results	
No Votes	89	32.48%
Yes Votes	172	62.77%
No Response	ij	4.74%
Total Votes	274	100.00%

- This vote confirms the respondents desire to "look at alternative ways..."
- The sub-question below provides additional details
- Option 1: measuring the height of the home using the average of the slope
- measured from the major corners Option 2: measuring the height of the home using an average elevation of the building footprint,
- Option 3: measuring the height of the home using the "parallel plane" methodology

J	CRCRC Posted Results	ed Result	(A
\neg	Option 1	22	8.03%
	Option 2	26	9.49%
	Option 3	75	27.37%
L	No Response	151	55.11%
	Total Votes	274	100.00%

Item #3: Survey Results (cont.)

Question 4 (cont.):

- "Adjusted CRCRC Posted Results"
- Adjusted Results take into account actual votes of Question 4, actual votes for Options 1, 2 and 3 and the write-in comments:
- 5 respondents did not vote for either "No" or "Yes", but had write-in comments
- 1 respondent via write-in that supported "No"
- 89 respondents voted "No" to question 4. These votes were included in the "No Response" line item above 4 respondents via write-in were open to a new measurement, but did not support the parallel plane
- 5 respondents that voted "No" voted for Option 1 (one vote), Option 2 (two votes) or Option 3 (two votes)

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Adjusted Q4 & Sub-Q4 Results		
"No" to Alternative Ways to Measure	87	31.75%
Option 1 - average of the slope	24	8.76%
Option 2 - average elevation of building	28	10.22%
Option 3 - parallel plane	78	28.47%
"Yes" but did not select an Option but had write-in support of Option 1 or 2	<u> </u>	0.36%
"Yes" but did not select an Option but had write-in support of Option 1, 2 or 3	[0.36%
"Yes" but did not select an Option but had write-in comments were "unsure"	20	7.30%
"Yes" but did not select an Option and did not provide a comment	29	10.58%
"Yes" but did not select an Option but had write-in support of parallel plane		0.36%
Did not vote "No" or "Yes" but had write-in "unsure"	G	1.82%
Total Votes	274	100.00%

Item #3: Survey Results (cont.)

Question #10: Should we develop a set of "tenting" rules for RW that restrict building height along a setback?

CRCR	CRCRC Posted Results	lts
Yes	142	51.82%
No	112	40.88%
No Response	20	7.30%
Total Votes	274	100.00%

This vote shows that the respondents did want the CRCRC to develop a set of "tenting" rules

Question #18: Should we consider the creation of special zoning districts for unusual lots?

CRCR	CRCRC Posted Results	lts
No	n/a	49.40%
Yes	n/a	48.00%
No Response	n/a	2.60%
Total Votes	0	100.00%

• I am providing the results of this question, because the respondents have said that they do not want special zoning districts. The write-in comments also noted concerns of confusion and complexity, how to determine which lots qualified, and controversy associated with establishing these exceptions. There was a general concern of treating each lot equally and fairly.

Item #4: Examples of Concerns

- If you review the topographical change in the lots between Timberline Drive and Rollingwood Drive between Edgegrove and Ruley. The majority of those lots have a ravine (drop of elevation) between the two backyards
- i. Think of a "U-Shape" topography change between the homes
- In this example, even though they have huge topo changes they are equal on both sides, so neither lot / homeowner is everyone who has not rebuilt yet, which means they have now created winners and losers. The loser being the person who is adversely impacting the other because they are both impacting each other equally. But, the CRCRC proposal will impact sandwiched between already built homes, but no longer has the ability to recreate what their neighbors have already built
- 5 Think of a lot that slopes left to right from the street that has a 9' change in topo in the buildable area
- Assume....that on the high side of the lot the home owner's adjacent neighbor has a tree that has canopy that grows into reduce the canopy of their tree their buildable area, which means that buildable area is not utilizable without written consent of the neighbor to remove
- ≓: setback that would only leave 16' of buildable height on that end of the house Given 9' change in topo on the subject property's buildable area, the new "tenting" rule, which limits height at 25' at the 10'
- But, since the other side of the house is precluded from building due to the neighbors tree this home has no way to build a 2-story home on either end of the property and maximize livable square footage
- S. The proposal still leaves the community at risk for 35' front facades, even on flat lots. For example, in the case of a modern build an imposing street side façade that impacts anyone who drives by house / flat roof, such as the spec builder next door to my home, this proposal wouldn't solve anything, because they can still

Item #5: **Examples of Unintended Consequences**

- The parallel plane methodology will limit architectural diversity and result in more flat roof homes
- By measuring the height of the home from the ridgeline it does two things
- Punishes homes with pitched roofs, because they will lose usable height by selecting a pitched roof. But, if they select a flat roof what would be the attic in a pitched roof now become part of the conditioned space
- By pushing people to build flat roofs at a max height could create more of an "optically imposing" home because there is no slope at the top of the home softening the appearance
- 12 On a sloped lot; both the parallel plane methodology and tenting will force people into split level homes
- A split level home is not functional for elderly, those with disabilities or those who are building their forever home
- A split level home is not functional for families with young kids as it requires additional needs for safety concerns / gates to ensure kids don't fall down the multiple levels of stairs
- 3 By creating abnormal rules it will results in additional problem for residents
- Architects will not want to deal with one off, complex rules that limit creativity, which is what CRCRC is proposing
- This may result in many top architects to stop working in Rollingwood
- They will charge more for the hassle, which puts additional burden on the home owner
- 4. a flat roof or a pitched roof. These rules would be considered very abnormal compared to the vast majority of the cities in the United States, which take aesthetically pleasing homes, allows the home owner to have a traditional level first floor, as well as allows them the choice to use average measurements at both the ground level and the roof level. This allows the home builder / architect the flexibility to build

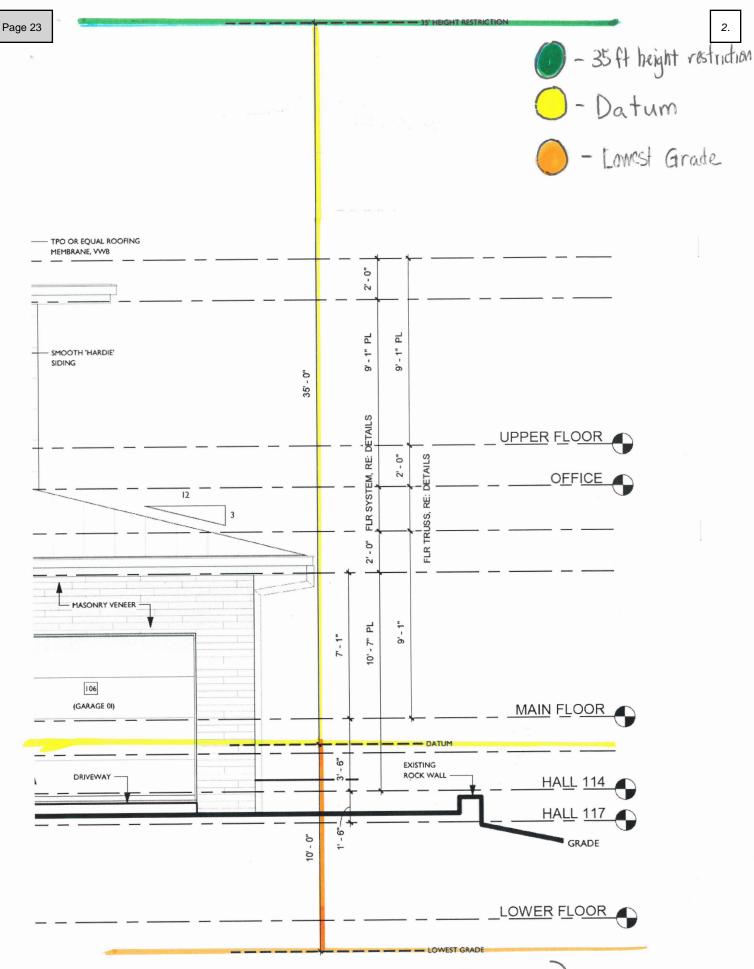
Page 20

Item #6: Quick Solutions / Thoughts

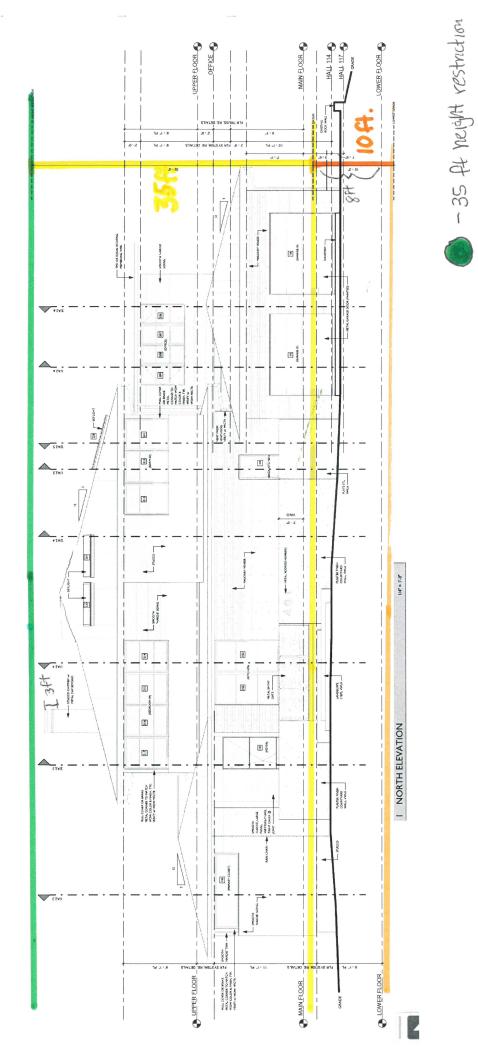
- 1. Do not allow 4th stories
- Make proposals that don't create winners and losers out of our residents
- a) We are a community, friends and neighbors...let's treat each other as such
- Focus on what the community supports and it is not the parallel plane methodology of measuring height

this process

Attachment C



North Elevation (Enlarged for Reference)



North Elevation

0 - Lowest Grade is

0 - Datum

Page 25

East Elevation



South Elevation

2.

- Lowest Grade

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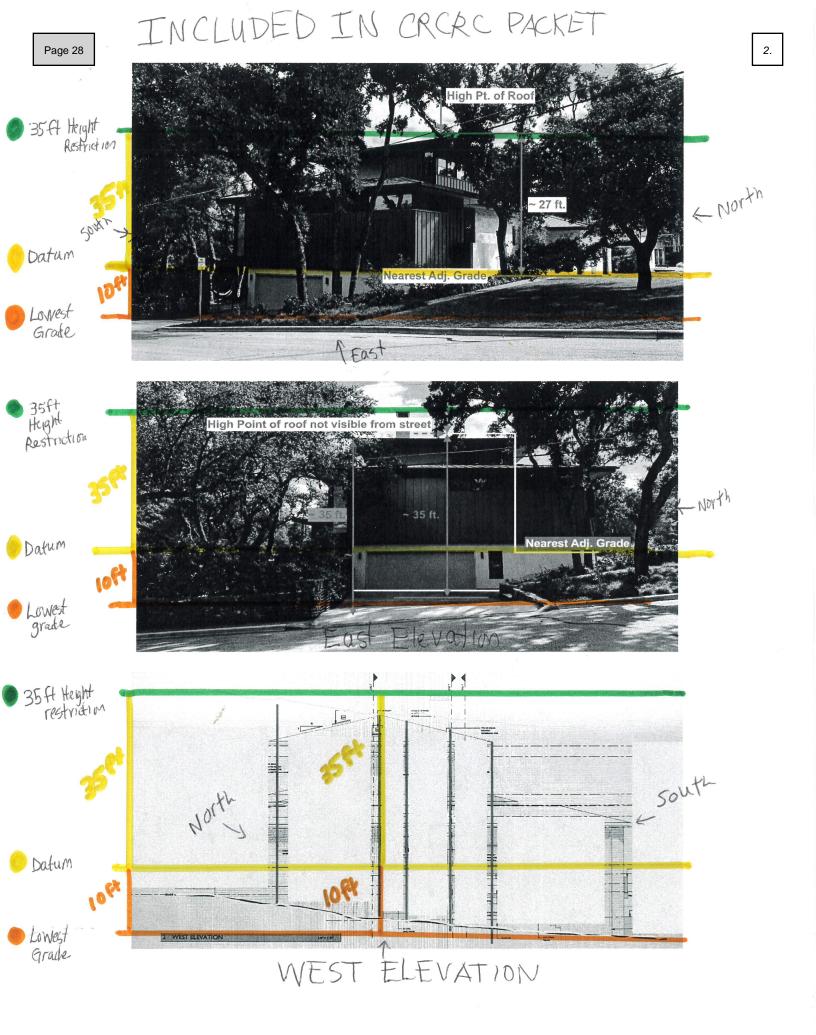
Lowest Grade

- 35 ft negut limit

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EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS



2.

Attachment D

How to Determine the Average (Existing Grade (AEG)

Average Grade Level

elevation of ordinary high water "Average grade level" means the average of the natural or existing topography at the center of all exterior walls of a building or structure to be placed on a site; provided, that in the case of structures to be built over water, average grade level shall be the

building and a point 6 feet from the building.) points within the area between the building and the lot line or, where the lot line is more than 6 feet from the building, between the (Note: Where the finished ground level slopes away from the exterior walls, the reference plane shall be established by the lowest

Procedure

 Determine the existing grade at the mid-point of all walls of the proposed

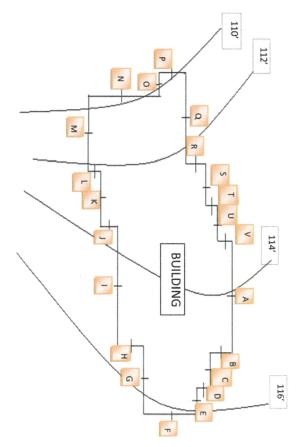
Determine AEG:

Formula: <u>sum of mid-point elevations</u> number of wall segments

 $\frac{A+B+C.....+V}{22} = \frac{2492.5}{22} = 113.30 \text{ AEG (Average [existing] Grade)}$

F 116.10	E 115.75	D 115.5	C 115	B 114.75	A 114
	_	-		I	6
112.25	113	113.5	114.8	115.5	115.75
R	۵	Р	0	z	3
112.25	111.2	110	110	109.8	111
		<	_	-	S
		113.5	113.25	113	112.6

AVERAGE EXISTING GRADE (AEG) IS REQUIRED TO BE LOCATED & LABELED ON ELEVATION DRAWINGS



Determining a Story Above Grade Plane

- Is the floor surface of the story in question located entirely above the grade plane elevation?
- Is the floor surface of the floor above the story in question located more than 6 feet above the grade plane elevation?
- at any point along the building exterior walls? Is the floor surface of the floor above the story in question located more than 12 feet above any of the grade measurements

If you answered yes to any of the three questions above, the floor in question is considered a story above grade plane.



21.02.145 Building height.

"Building height" means the vertical distance from the grade to the highest point of the coping of a flat roof, or to the deck line of a mansard roof, or to the average height of the highest gable of a pitch or hip roof.

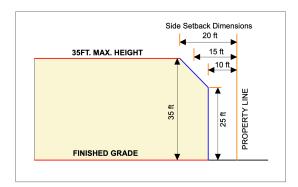
21.02.380 Grade, lot.

"Lot grade" means the average of the finished ground level at the center of all exposed walls of the building. In case walls are parallel to and within five feet of the sidewalk, the above ground level shall be measured at the sidewalk. (Ord. 2020 § 2, 1994; Ord. 190 Art. IV § 407, 1964)

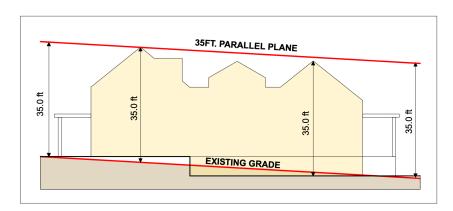
21.42.200 Development standards.

Maximum Building Height, 8400sf: 35 ft.

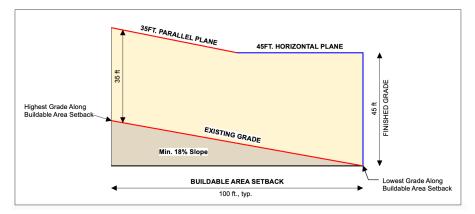
- Maximum Allowable Height by Parallel Plane General Case: locate a plane 35ft. above and parallel to <u>existing grade</u> within the buildable area limits, as measured along the outermost face of each building elevation.
 - a. Parallel Plane is a 2D line that represents the maximum vertical height limitation on any site, measured independently from the building itself.
 - Existing grade may be adjusted graphically as a straight line across unusual or minor topographic variations, including pools, ponds, existing basements, rock outcroppings, depressions, and natural drainage ways.
- 2. <u>Bulk Planes</u>: Maximum building height along the building setbacks, when starting from the 10ft. setback is 25ft., as measured from <u>finished grade</u>, adding one foot of height to every additional foot of setback, up to 35ft., such that the maximum height of 35ft. is at least 20ft. horizontal from the nearest property line.



3. <u>Maximum Building Height</u>: 35ft. measured vertically from <u>finished grade</u> to highest point of roofing surface or parapet. <u>Building height may not exceed 35ft. or the Parallel Plane</u>. Building areas concealed beneath existing grade are not included in height calculations.

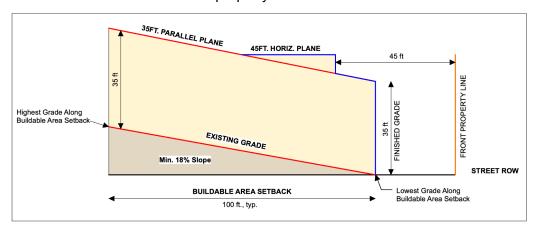


- 4. Maximum Building Height for Severely Sloped Lots:
 - a. <u>Establish Maximum Slope</u> (%): using contour elevations of any two opposing major corners along building setbacks, including diagonal. Slope is calculated as rise (height in ft.) over run (distance in ft.).
 - b. When Maximum Slope is minimum 18% as calculated above, then maximum height may be adjusted by extension of a horizontal plane located 45ft. above the lowest existing grade along any setback, which intersects the 35ft. parallel plane, established in General Case above.

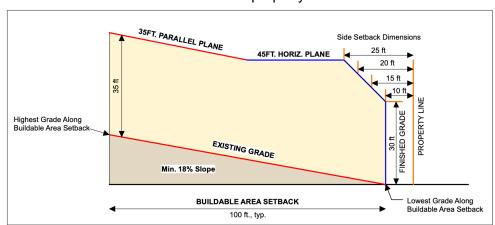


This new buildable area height limit, has the following setback constraints:

i. Maximum building height along the <u>front setback</u> is 35ft., until 45ft. horizontal from front property line:



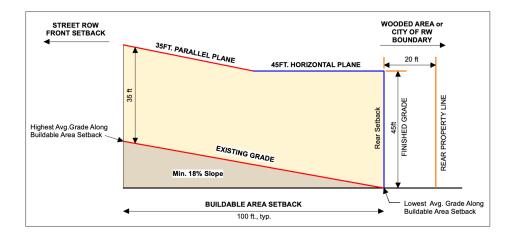
ii. Maximum building height along the <u>side setbacks</u>, when starting from the 10ft. setback is 30ft., adding one foot of setback to every additional foot of height up to 45ft., such that the maximum height of 45ft. is located 25ft. horizontal from the nearest property line.



iii. When adjoining a <u>wooded area or City of RW boundary</u>, maximum building height along the 20ft. <u>rear setback</u> is 45ft., as defined by a horizontal plane that intersects with the 35ft. parallel plane.

Side setback constraints still apply: 10ft. setback = 30ft. max ht;

15ft. setback = 35ft. max. ht.



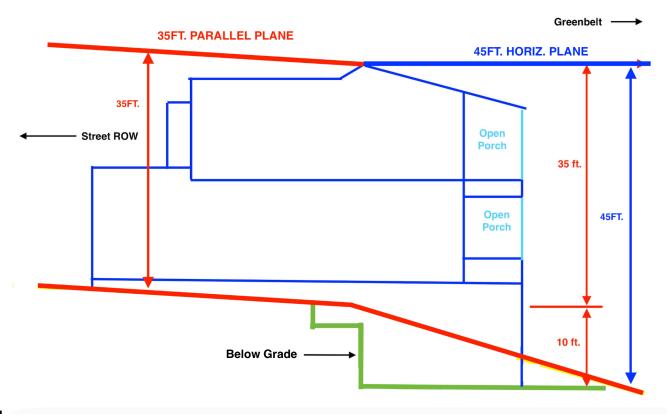
 Setback Intrusions: No portion of any structure can overhang any setback above 25ft., as measured from adjacent finished grade, with the exception of uninhabitable roof projections. (per RW code)

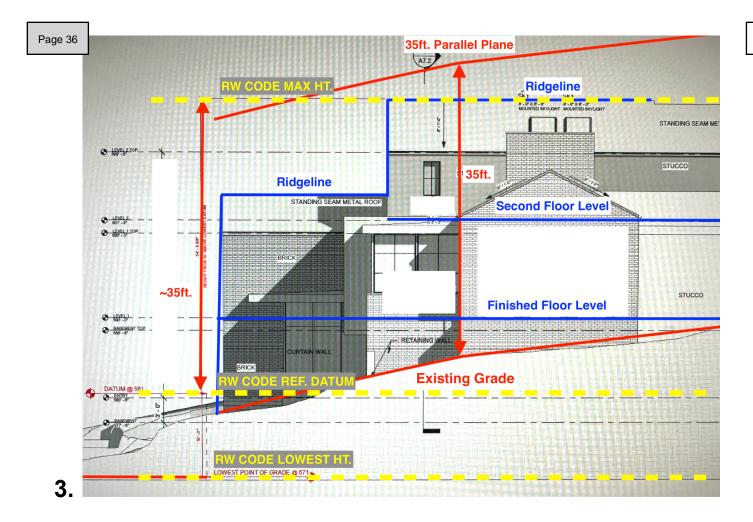
NOTES:

- 1. Using slope as a measure for existing conditions helps to eliminate the gaming of contours to meet certain criteria. It frees someone to build within the best features of the site, rather than the area that gets them the greatest height. Percent slope more accurately reflects the true character of a site in terms of whether it is gently or steeply sloping.
- 2. Establishing an imaginary parallel plane above the existing grade helps maintain the broader context of the highly variable topography in the city, and protect the sanctity of the surrounding neighbors. Its strength lies in its simplicity and dependence on a certified document required for all building permits, namely a survey. Recent changes in the way Rollingwood "ground truths" its surveys, that is, anchoring them to manhole cover elevations, makes establishing the imaginary parallel plane as simple as adding 35' to any existing elevation contour.
- 3. Imaginary Parallel Plane is more effective at controlling height than determining a reference datum based on average grade, or an average of building corners/midpoints. The latter two formulae still allow for an unknown amount of height to be added back in, which is what we have currently. We suspect a majority of people who chose that option in the survey noted this detail.
- 4. Setting a maximum height dependent on finished grade, rather than existing grade, offers more design flexibility, provided it doesn't break the 35ft. parallel plane barrier.
- 5. Bulk Plane/Tenting restrictions are generous and consistent with many other communities around the country, allowing for 2-story homes of any design style, with some restriction on where the maximum height can be located. Additional side setback height is allowed for slopes 18% or greater.
- 6. In comparing this approach to recent builds, we find that most fall within the new constraints, while a few of the outliers could have met the new constraints with minor adjustments.
- 7. There is some public interest in allowing houses built alongside a drainage easement some additional height consideration. The CRCRC will look at this when it gets to its drainage / impervious cover work, not yet started. We expect to find this issue as one that is not common and best worked through a special exception.

HEIGHT CALCULATION AND PARALLEL PLANE EXAMPLES:

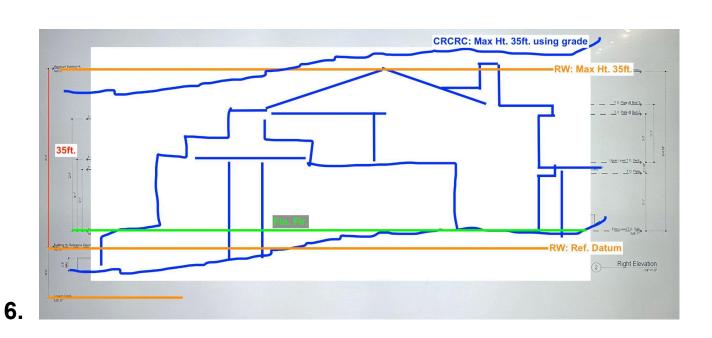










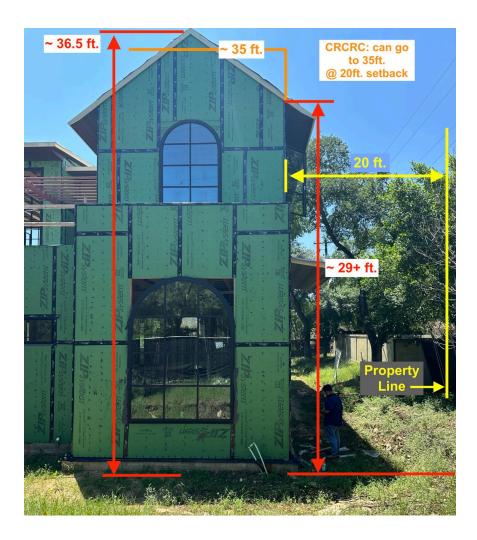




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Page 39



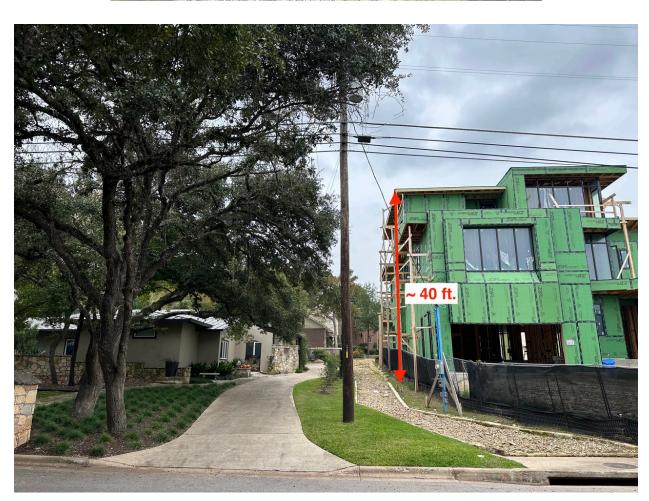
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Page 40 3.



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