



Agenda Item # 6

BOA-003567-2025

View additional details on this proposal and all application materials using the following link:

[Applicant Materials for Consideration](#)

DETAILS

Location:

120 Michael Donald Avenue

Applicant / Agent:

KB Construction & Development, LLC

Property Owner:

KB Construction & Development, LLC

Current Zoning:

R-1, Single-Family Residential Urban District

Future Land Use:

Mixed Density Residential

Case Number(s):

6723

Unified Development Code (UDC) Requirement:

- The Unified Development Code (UDC) only allows single-family dwellings, with compliant access & maneuvering areas, compliant parking, and compliant tree plantings and landscape area in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Urban District.

Board Consideration:

- Use, Access and Maneuvering, Parking, and Tree Planting & Landscape Area Variances to allow a four-plex with reduced access & maneuvering areas, reduced parking, and no tree plantings with reduced landscape area in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Urban District.

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BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT VICINITY MAP - EXISTING AERIAL



The site is surrounded by residential units. Commercial units lie to the north.

APPLICATION NUMBER	6723	DATE	January 5, 2026
APPLICANT	KB Construction & Development, LLC		
REQUEST	Use, Access and Maneuvering, Parking, and Tree Planting & Landscape Area Variances		



SITE HISTORY

The subject site has been within the Mobile City limits since 1814.

With the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance in 1967, the site was assigned an R-3, Multi-Family Residential District zoning classification.

In January 1994, the site was rezoned from R-3 to R-1, Single-Family Residential District, via the Planning Commission's Old Dauphin Way Historic District Zoning Study.

The site has no history of Board of Zoning Adjustment or Planning Commission applications.

STAFF COMMENTS

Engineering Comments:

The proposed work shown on the submitted plans will require a Land Disturbance Permit be submitted through the CSS Portal.

The existing driveway and public sidewalk in the Right of Way must be replaced and shall be constructed per City of Mobile standards.

Traffic Engineering Comments:

Reducing the parking requirement may increase on-street parking and could result in unforeseen issues. Driveway number, size, location, and design to be approved by Traffic Engineering and conform to AASHTO standards. Any required on-site parking, including ADA handicap spaces, shall meet the minimum standards as defined in Article 3, Section 64-3-12 of the City's Unified Development Code.

Urban Forestry Comments:

Property to be developed in compliance with state and local laws that pertain to tree preservation and protection on both city and private properties [Act 929 of the 1961 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature (Acts 1961, p. 1487), as amended, and City Code Chapters 57 and 65]. Private removal of trees in the right-of-way will require approval of the Mobile Tree Commission. Removal of heritage trees from undeveloped residential sites, developed residential sites in historic districts, and all commercial sites will require a tree removal permit.

Fire Department Comments:

All projects located within the City Limits of Mobile shall comply with the provisions of the City of Mobile Fire Code Ordinance, which adopts the 2021 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC).

Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided to within 150 feet of all non-sprinklered commercial buildings and within 300 feet of all sprinklered commercial buildings, as measured along an approved route around the exterior of the facility.

An approved fire water supply capable of meeting the requirements set forth in Appendices B and C of the 2021 IFC shall be provided for all commercial buildings.

Fire hydrant placement shall comply with the following minimum standards:

- Within 400 feet of non-sprinklered commercial buildings
- Within 600 feet of sprinklered commercial buildings
- Within 100 feet of fire department connections (FDCs) serving standpipe or sprinkler systems

Although the International Residential Code (IRC) functions as a stand-alone document for the construction of one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses, it does not govern the design or layout of emergency access or community-level fire protection infrastructure. Therefore, residential developments must also comply with the applicable requirements of the International Fire Code, including, but not limited to, those listed above concerning the design, construction, regulation, and maintenance of fire apparatus access roads and fire protection water supplies.

Planning Comments:

The applicant is requesting Use, Access and Maneuvering, Parking, and Tree Planting & Landscape Area Variances to allow a four-plex with reduced access & maneuvering areas, reduced parking, and no tree plantings with reduced landscape area in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Urban District; the Unified Development Code (UDC) only allows single-family dwellings, with compliant access & maneuvering areas, compliant parking, and compliant tree plantings and landscape area in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Urban District.

The existing structure on the site is a nonconforming three-plex apartment house which the applicant states was originally a four-plex apartment house. The applicant proposes to renovate the building back into a four-plex apartment house. As this use would be more intense than the previous three-plex use, a Use Variance is needed to allow such. Furthermore, compliant parking would be required on-site, along with compliant access and maneuvering to such. Since the use would be considered commercial in nature, compliant tree plantings and landscape area would also be required.

The site is within an older area of the City with several surrounding properties in use as nonconforming two-family and multi-family housing units, as the area was zoned R-3, Multi-family Residential District until the 1994 rezoning to R-1, Single-Family Residential District. In 1963, a Use Variance allowed the construction of a 94-unit multi-family residential apartment complex across Michael Donald Avenue. There have not been any other variance requests within the neighborhood for multi-family residential use. However, it should be noted that a request for Reasonable Accommodation to allow up to eight (8) unrelated people to live in a recovery residence was granted administratively for the site at 103 Michael Donald Avenue in March 2020.

The applicant submitted a site plan for the site. However, the site plan was not prepared by a registered professional surveyor, engineer or architect, and does not accurately depict the site as the boundary dimensions do not agree with those indicated on the City's official GIS database, nor do they agree with those on the legal description of the deed of sale to the applicant. As the possible approval of a variance request is site-plan-specific, an accurate site plan must be provided for review which correctly depicts existing and proposed site elements for which relief is sought.

Furthermore, the applicant's narrative proposes future use as a four-plex, but the site plan labels the use as a three-plex.

Due to the fact that the proposed use would be counter to the intent of the area rezoning of 1994, and the fact that the proposed substandard access/maneuvering and parking would be contrary to the public interest, and the fact that the site would be over-developed, the Board should consider this application for denial.

VARIANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Standards of Review:

Variances are not intended to be granted frequently. The applicant must clearly show the Board that the request is due to very unusual characteristics of the property and that it satisfies the variance standards. What constitutes unnecessary hardship and substantial justice is a matter to be determined from the facts and circumstances of each application.

Article 5 Section 10-E. 1. of the Unified Development Codes states that the Board of Adjustment may grant a variance if:

- The Applicant demonstrates that the variance shall not be contrary to the public interest;
- Where, owing to special conditions a literal enforcement of the provision of this Chapter will result in unnecessary hardship; and
- The spirit of this Chapter will be observed and substantial justice done.

Article 5 Section 10-E.2. states no variance shall be granted:

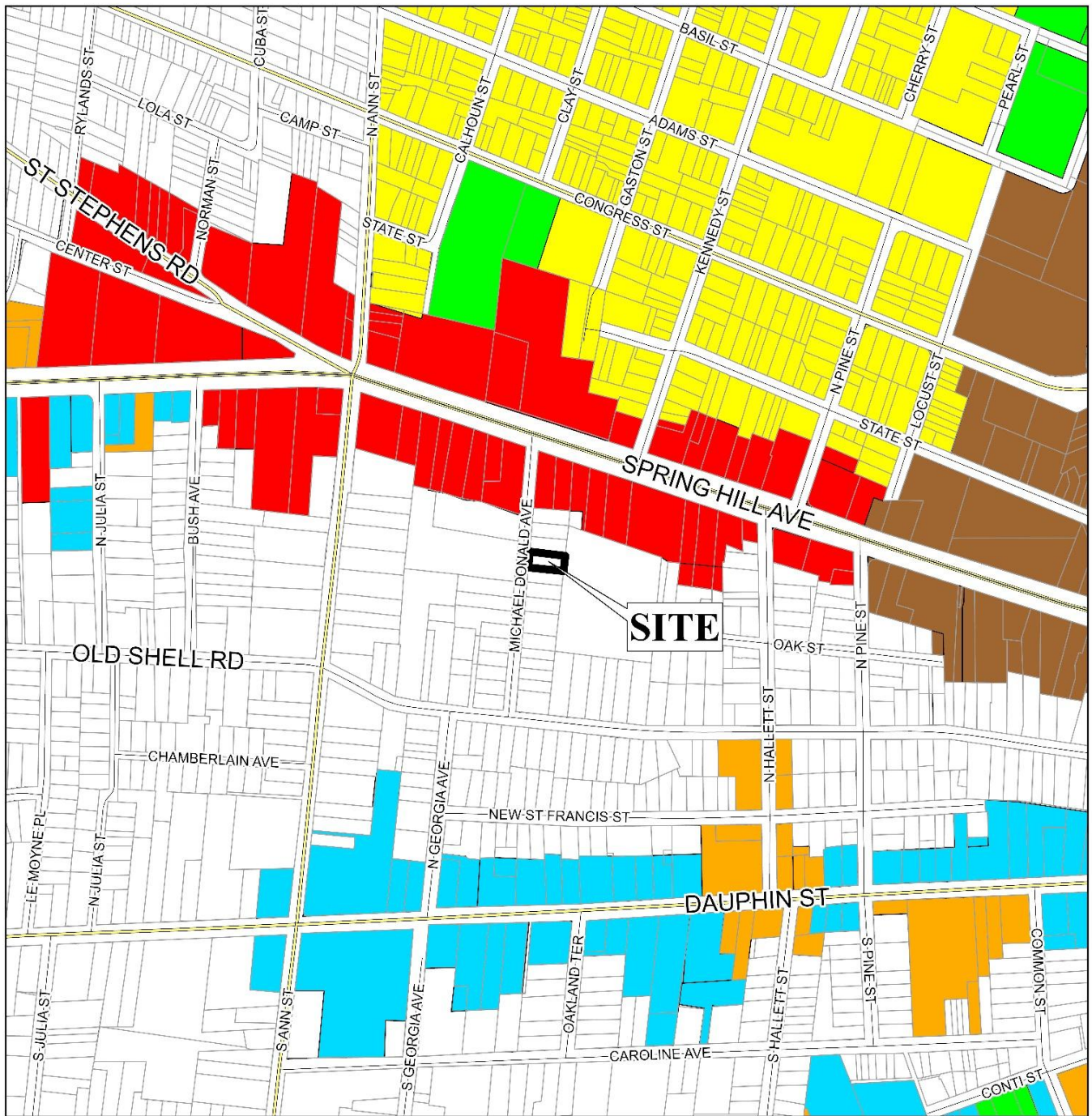
- (a) In order to relieve an owner of restrictive covenants that are recorded in Mobile County Probate Court and applicable to the property;
- (b) Where economic loss is the sole basis for the required variance; or
- (c) Where the variance is otherwise unlawful.

Considerations:

Based on the requested Variance application and documentation submitted, if the Board considers approval of the request, the following findings of fact must be presented:

- A) The variance **will not** be contrary to the public interest;
- B) Special conditions exist such that a literal enforcement of the provisions of the chapter **will** result in unnecessary hardship; and
- C) The spirit of the chapter **shall** be observed and substantial justice done to the applicant and the surrounding neighborhood by granting the variance.

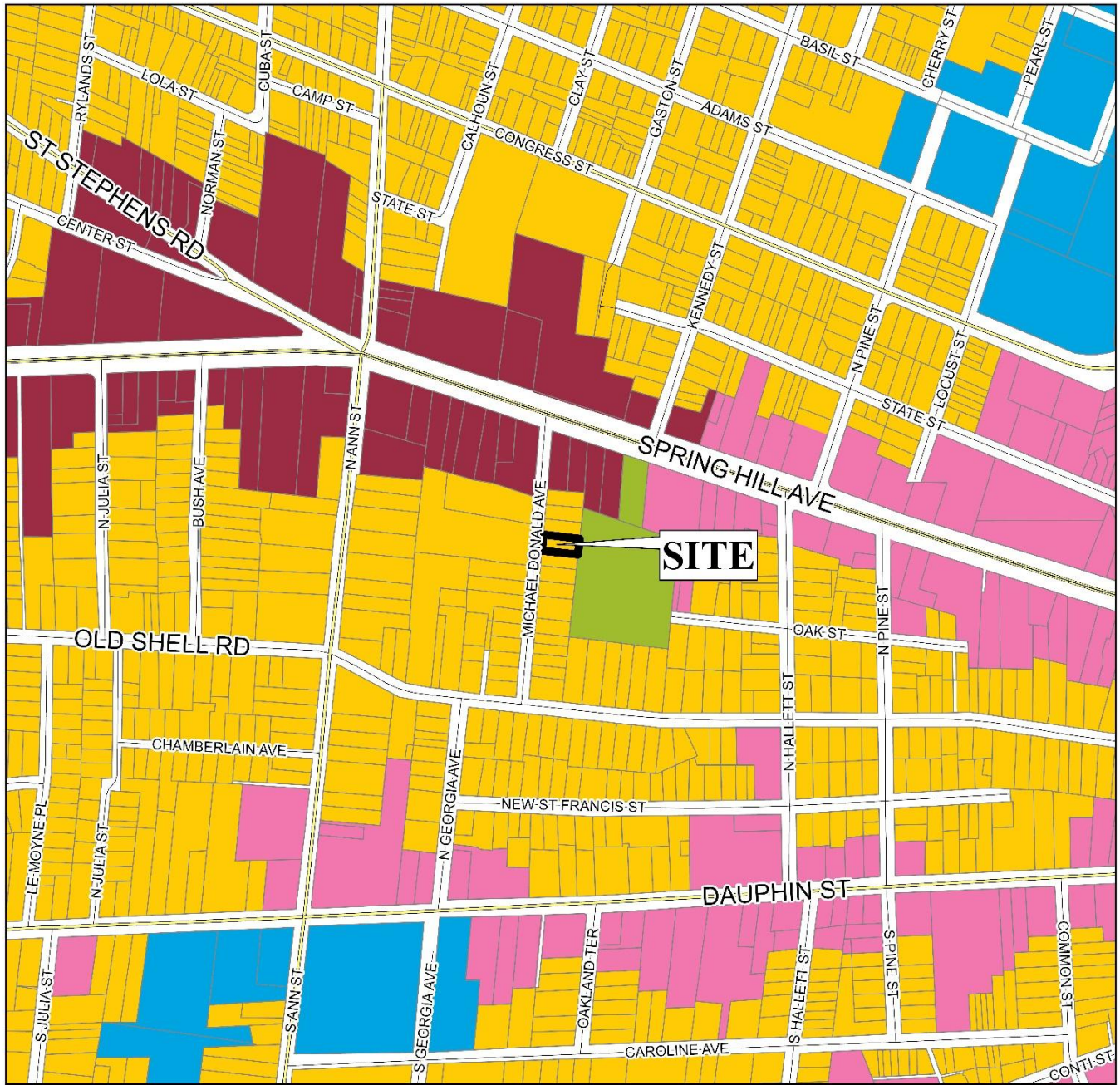
LOCATOR ZONING MAP



APPLICATION NUMBER 6723 DATE January 5, 2026
 APPLICANT KB Construction & Development, LLC
 REQUEST Use, Access and Maneuvering, Parking, and Tree Planting & Landscape Area Variances



FLUM LOCATOR MAP



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- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Low Density Residential | Neighborhood Center - Traditional | Light Industry | Water Dependent |
| Mixed Density Residential | Neighborhood Center - Suburban | Heavy Industry | Institutional |
| Downtown | Traditional Corridor | Institutional | Parks, Open Space |
| District Center | Mixed Commercial Corridor | | |



BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

VICINITY MAP - EXISTING ZONING



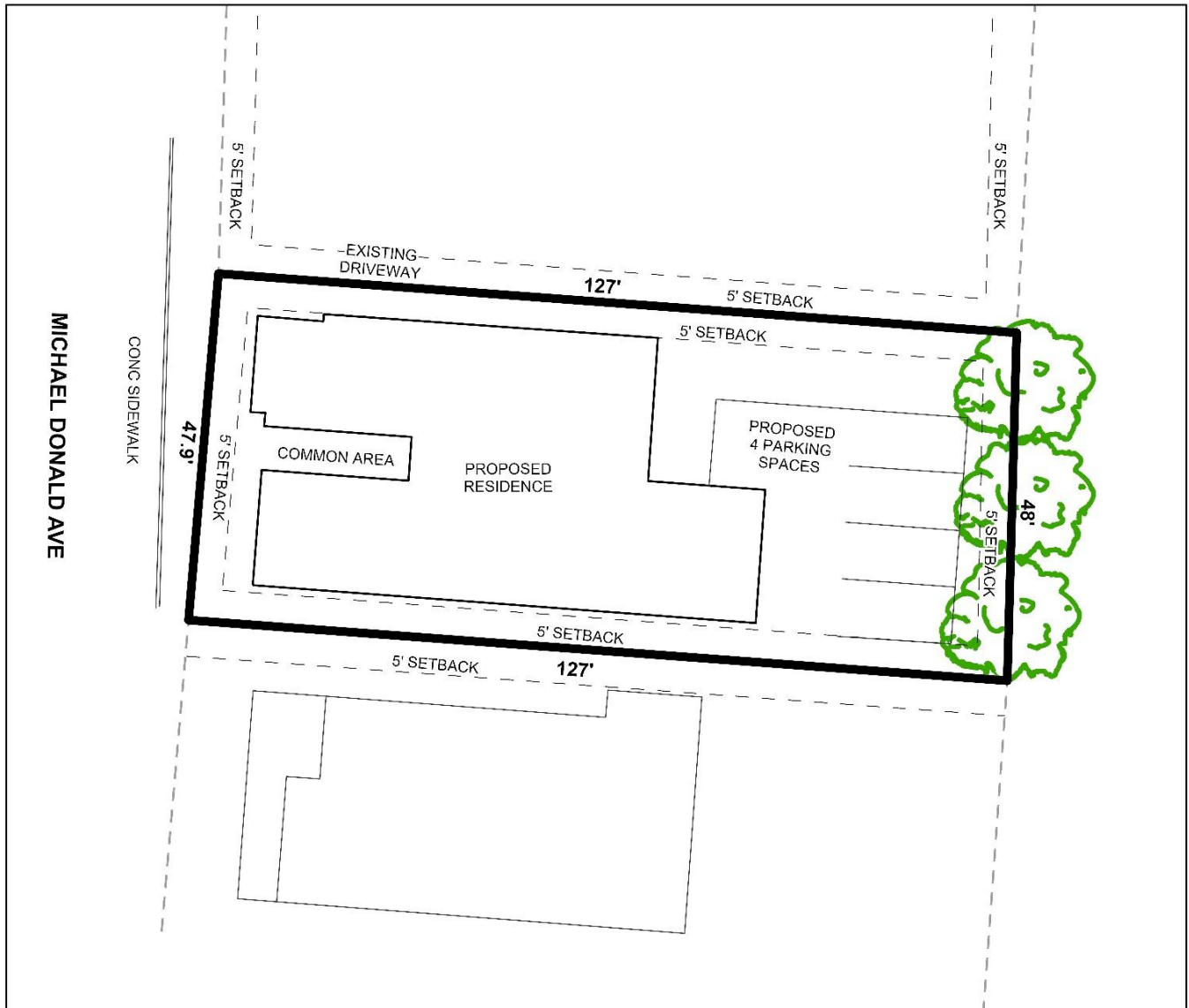
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R-A	R-3	B-1	B-2	B-5	ML	I-2	OPEN	T-3	T-5.2
R-1	R-B	T-B	B-3	CW	MH	PD	SD	T-4	T-6
R-2	H-B	LB-2	B-4	MM	I-1	MUN	SD-WH	T-5.1	



SITE PLAN

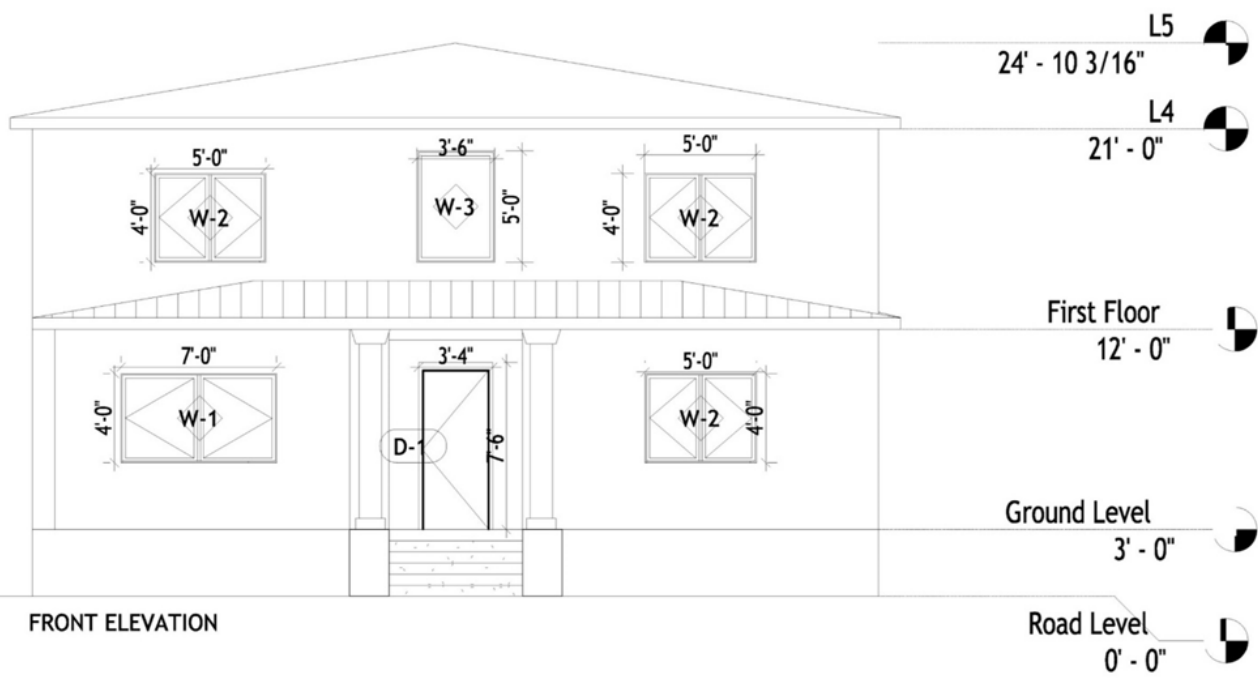


The site plan illustrates the proposed buildings, parking, and setbacks.

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DETAIL SITE PLAN



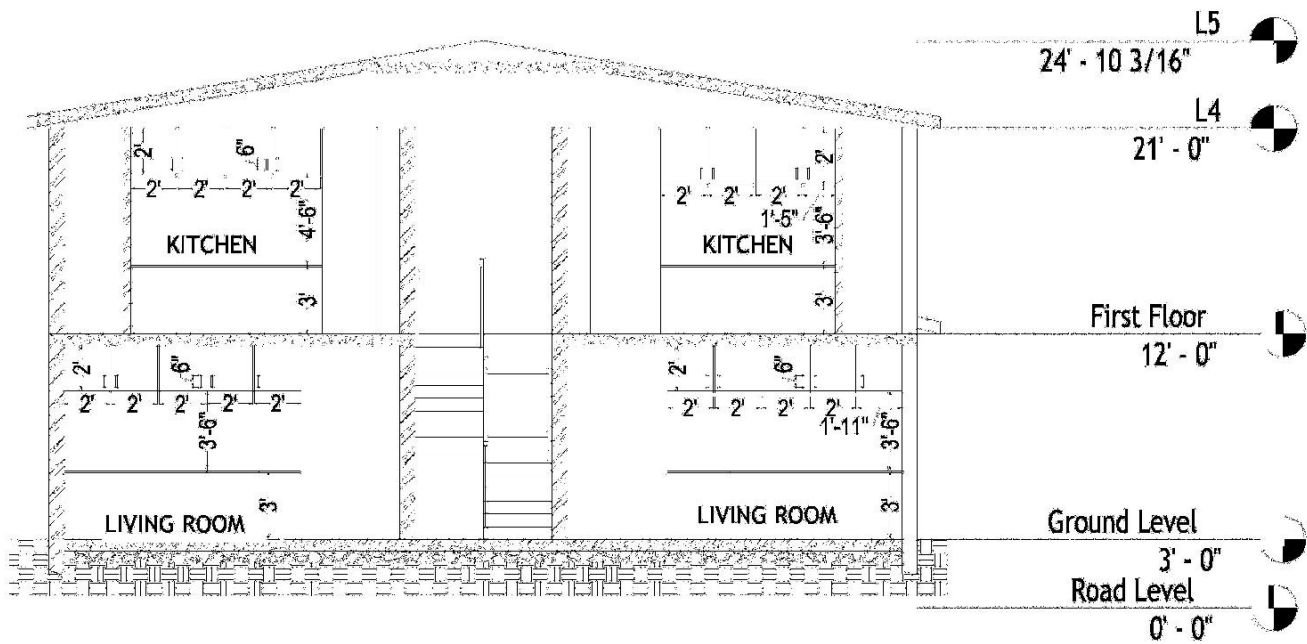
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REQUEST Use, Access and Maneuvering, Parking, and Tree



DETAIL SITE PLAN



SECTION AT A-A

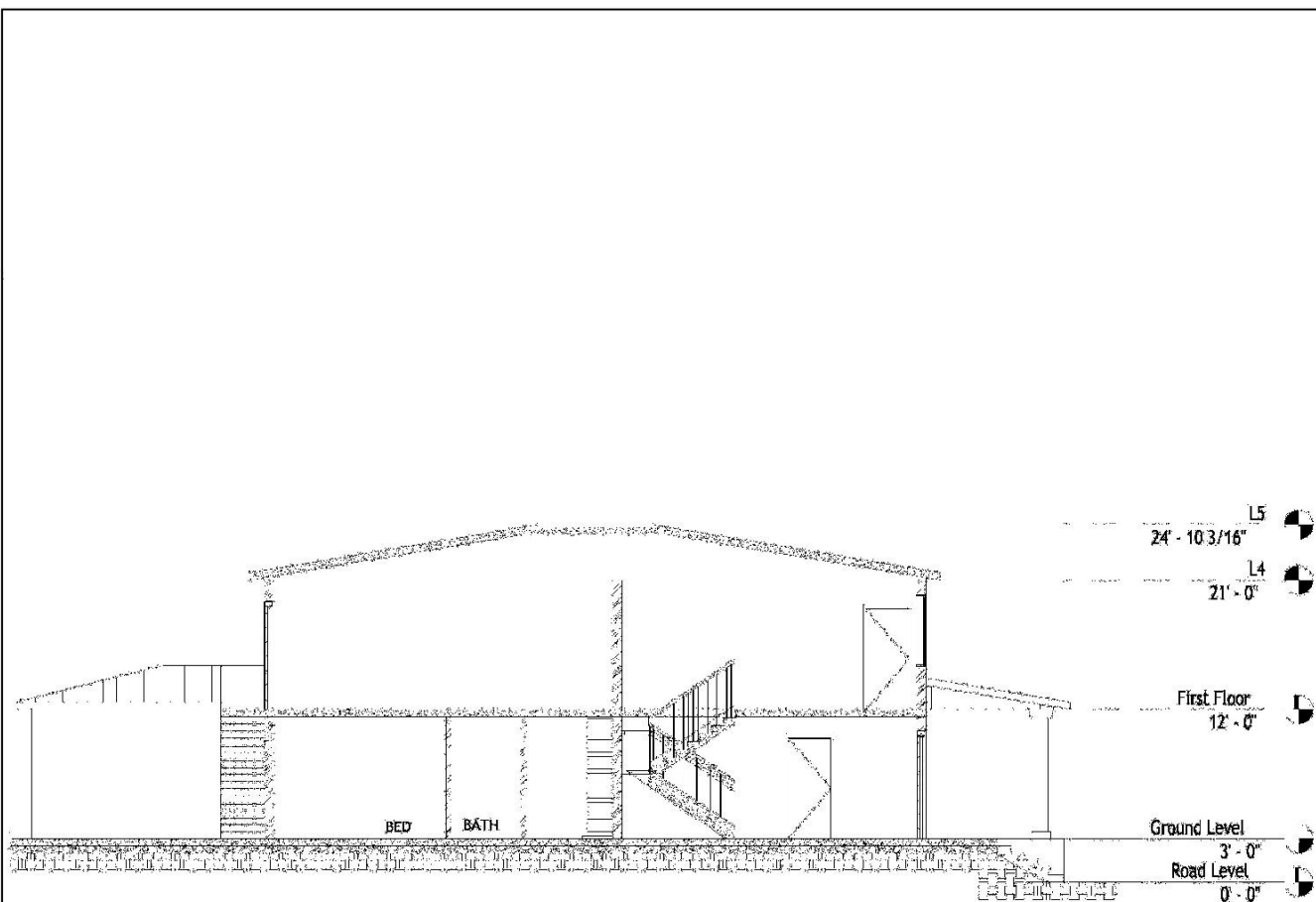
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DETAIL SITE PLAN



SECTION AT B-B

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NTS

[illegible]

MIXED DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MDR)

This designation applies mostly to residential areas located between Downtown and I-65, where the predominant character is that of a traditional neighborhood laid out on an urban street grid. These areas should offer a variety of residential types in a compact pattern at the scale of a single family neighborhood. They typically have a walkable block pattern with integrated neighborhood amenities such as parks and schools. Small office, commercial, and civic uses may also exist in these areas near major thoroughfares. Residential density ranges between 6 and 30 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) depending on the mix, types, and locations of the housing as specified by zoning.

Development Intent

- Continue historic preservation efforts to maintain the existing neighborhood character within city-designated historic districts.
- Support residential infill that fits-in with neighboring homes (building scale, placement, etc.). Support more intense residential infill and redevelopment adjacent to commercial or mixed use centers.

Land use mix

Primary Uses

- Residential, Single family
- Residential, Attached

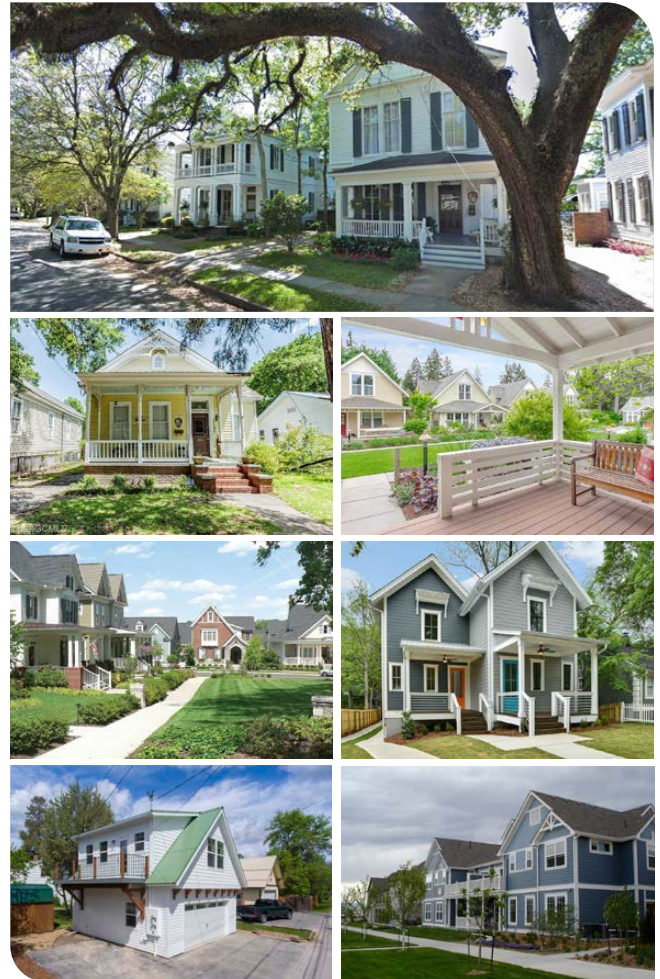
Secondary Uses

- Residential, Multifamily
- Commercial
- Civic
- Parks

Housing mix

- Single family on small to medium sized lots
- Attached residential such as duplexes, multiplexes, and townhomes
- Small scale multifamily buildings

Character Example



A mixed density neighborhood may include a range of housing types and densities at a similar scale.

Rendering: Dover Kohl