



Application for **SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

Department of Planning and Development Review

Land Use Administration Division

900 E. Broad Street, Room 511

Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 646-6304

<http://www.richmondva.gov/>

Application is hereby submitted for: (check one)

- special use permit, new**
- special use permit, plan amendment**
- special use permit, text only amendment**

**Project Name/Location**

Property Address: 109 E 17th Street Date: March 5, 2022

Tax Map #: S0000236009 Fee: \$300

Total area of affected site in acres: 0.122

(See **page 6** for fee schedule, please make check payable to the "City of Richmond")

**Zoning**

Current Zoning: R-7 Residential

Existing Use: Vacant

**Proposed Use**

(Please include a detailed description of the proposed use in the required applicant's report)

Two (2) new two-family attached dwellings on the currently vacant parcel.

Existing Use: Vacant

Is this property subject to any previous land use cases?

Yes  No  If Yes, please list the Ordinance Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant/Contact Person:** Will Gillette / Mark Baker

Company: Baker Development Resources

Mailing Address: 530 East Main Street, Suite 730

City: Richmond State: VA Zip Code: 23219

Telephone: (804) 874-6275 Fax: ( )

Email: markbaker@bakerdevelopmentresources.com

**Property Owner:** Nest Builders LLC

If Business Entity, name and title of authorized signee: Amanda Seibert

(The person or persons executing or attesting the execution of this Application on behalf of the Company certifies that he or she has or have been duly authorized and empowered to so execute or attest.)

Mailing Address: 2317 Carrington Street

City: Richmond State: VA Zip Code: 23223

Telephone: ( ) Fax: ( )

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Property Owner Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of all owners of the property are required. Please attach additional sheets as needed. If a legal representative signs for a property owner, please attach an executed power of attorney. **Faxed or photocopied signatures will not be accepted.**

**NOTE:** Please attach the required plans, checklist, and a check for the application fee (see Filing Procedures for special use permits)

# APPLICANT'S REPORT

*April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

*Special Use Permit Request  
109 E 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond, Virginia  
Map Reference Number: S000-0236/009*

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Submitted to:	<b>City of Richmond</b> Department of Planning and Development Review Land Use Administration 900 East Broad Street, Suite 511 Richmond, Virginia 23219
Submitted by:	<b>Baker Development Resources</b> 530 East Main Street, Suite 730 Richmond, Virginia 23219



however, two-family units can be found throughout the neighborhood, including nearby at the corner of 17<sup>th</sup> and Decatur. Extensive commercial uses can be found to the west and north, along Richmond Highway and Hull Street. Further to the east lies JH Blackwell Elementary School.

## **EXISTING ZONING**

The Property and those in the immediate area are zoned R-7. To the west, along the Richmond Highway corridor lies a B-3 zoning district. Properties to the north, along the Hull Street corridor, are zoned B-5 business.

## **MASTER PLAN DESIGNATION**

The Richmond 300 Master Plan (the "Master Plan") designates the Property as "Community Mixed-Use". This future land use category is described as "medium-density, walkable commercial and residential uses that provide neighborhood services to nearby residential communities..." and recommends two-family dwellings as a secondary use which can "complement existing context" while "prioritizing pedestrian, bike and transit access."

In addition to the Property-specific guidance offered by the Vision and Core Concepts chapter, there are a number of other goals elsewhere within the Master Plan that support this request:

- Page 109 (Equitable Transportation Chapter), Objective 6.1 to "Increase the number of residents and jobs at Nodes and along enhanced transit corridors in a land development pattern that prioritizes multi-modal transportation options."
  - b. Develop housing at all income levels in and near Nodes and along major corridors (see strategies Goal 14).
- Page 136 (Diverse Economy Chapter), Objective 11.1 to "Increase the areas of appropriately zoned land near various transportation modes and housing to retain, create, and attract employers."
  - d. Encourage the development of a variety of quality housing types to house employees across the economic spectrum (see Goal 14).
- Page 150 (Inclusive Housing Chapter), Objective 14.1 to "Increase city-wide awareness of the importance of integrating housing at all income levels into every residential neighborhood so every household has housing choice throughout the city."
- Page 152 (Inclusive Housing Chapter) (see map on p. 153), Objective 14.4 to "Increase the number of mixed-income communities along enhanced transit corridors."

- Page 152 (Inclusive Housing Chapter) (see map on p. 153), Objective 14.5 to “Encourage more housing types throughout the city and greater density along enhanced transit corridors and at Nodes (shown in Figure 38 [p.153]) by amending the Zoning Ordinance. “
  - e) Allow the development of middle housing (2- to 4- unit buildings) by-right within 1/2 mile of high-frequency transit stops.
- Page 155 (Inclusive Housing Chapter), Objective 14.8 to “Develop inclusionary and equitable housing options for our gentrifying neighborhoods to prevent involuntary displacement.”
- Page 159 (Thriving Environment Chapter) Objective 15.1 to “Reduce air pollution related to transportation.”
  - a. Increase the number of Richmonders living in a development pattern that encourages density and reduces dependency on single-occupancy vehicles (see Goal 1, Goal 8, Goal 14).
- Page 86 (High-Quality Places Chapter), Objective 1.4, to “maintain and improve primarily residential areas by increasing their linkages to...corridors...and maintaining high-quality design standards”
- Page 100 (High Quality Places Chapter), Objective 4.1, to “create and preserve high-quality, distinctive, and well-designed neighborhoods and nodes throughout the City,” as the request introduces thoughtfully designed new construction in a manner not otherwise assured by-right.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The Property is located near Hull Street and Richmond Highway which are serviced by the 1 and 3 bus lines, both of which are considered “high-frequency” lines with busses arriving approximately every 15 minutes.

# **Proposal**

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The applicant is proposing to construct two, new two-family attached dwellings on the Property.

## **PURPOSE OF REQUEST**

The Property consists of a single lot (Lot 85) of the original Marx Addition Subdivision. The Property is comparable to or larger than, both in width and lot area, many other lots within the block. While the two-family use is found throughout the area, including nearby

the subject Property, the two-family attached use not permitted by the underlying zoning and therefore, a SUP is required to permit the proposed development.

In exchange for the SUP, the intent of this request is to ensure the development of a high-quality infill dwelling. The overall project will be appropriately dense and efficient as contemplated by the Richmond 300 Master Plan. At the same time, it will remain respectful to the historic development pattern in the vicinity thereby remaining consistent with the predominant character of the area. Finally, the quality assurances conditioned through the SUP will guarantee a higher quality development than might otherwise be guaranteed with a by right development.

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

The new two-family attached dwellings would be two stories in height and are intended to be consistent in design with the historic dwellings found throughout the neighborhood. The units would be configured as flats and each would contain two bedrooms and two bathrooms, totaling approximately 1,000 square feet of floor area. The dwellings have been designed with open living/kitchen areas and spacious bedrooms with en suite bathrooms to ensure a quality living experience for residents. The exterior design would be traditional in style and would be consistent with the character of the area. The building would be designed with a single entrance to have the appearance of a single-family attached dwelling from the street.

The new dwelling would be clad in quality building materials including cementitious lap siding in order to ensure durability. A covered two-story, full-width front porch would engage the street and provide usable outdoor living space. The building's massing and architectural style is designed to be compatible with nearby dwellings and is consistent with the architectural styles of existing homes found in the neighborhood.

## **Findings of Fact**

The following are factors indicated in Section 17.11 of the Charter and Section 114-1050.1 of the Zoning Ordinance relative to the approval of special use permits by City Council. The proposed special use permit will not:

- ***Be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved.***

The proposed special use permit for high-quality infill construction will not impact the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the nearby neighborhoods.

- ***Tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved.***

The proposed special use permit will not result in significant traffic impacts to nearby residential neighborhoods. The negligible traffic generation will create no congestion on streets, roads, alleys or any other public right of way.

- ***Create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers.***

The Property will be developed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the building code and in accordance with the requirements of Fire and Emergency Services. The City's codes applicable to this development are designed to eliminate such hazards.

- ***Tend to overcrowding of land and cause an undue concentration of population.***

The proposed special use permit will not tend to over crowd the land or create an undue concentration of population.

- ***Adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements.***

The special use permit will not adversely affect the above referenced City services. To the contrary, the proposal will provide positive fiscal (tax) benefits that will enhance the City's ability to provide these services to the proposed development.

- ***Interfere with adequate light and air.***

The light and air available to the subject and adjacent properties will not be affected. The proposed building is of compatible massing and spacing to the existing in the vicinity. As a result, this request will not interfere with the provision of adequate light and air to the adjacent buildings.

## Summary

In summary, we are enthusiastically seeking approval for the construction of the proposed two-family attached dwellings. The dwellings have been thoughtfully designed in order to provide appropriate, high-quality, infill residential development. The request offers compatibility with the City's Master Plan in terms of use. The request would upgrade the Property while maintaining a desirable variation in housing style and type in the vicinity.

The proposed development would help encourage a pedestrian friendly traditional streetscape in the block and contribute to the vibrancy of the block through the addition of street life in the form of a street-oriented full width front porch along E 17<sup>th</sup> Street. The traditional building form would provide the much-desired traditional neighborhood design which is appropriate to this area of the City. Finally, the quality assurances conditioned through the SUP would guarantee a higher quality development than might otherwise be developed by right.