



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov

Legislation Text

File #: ORD. 2024-051, **Version:** 1

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2904 Noble Avenue for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling with a driveway within the front yard, upon certain terms and conditions. (3rd District)

WHEREAS, the owner of the property known as 2904 Noble Avenue, which is situated in a R-5 Single-Family Residential District, desires to use such property for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling with a driveway within the front yard, which use, among other things, is not currently allowed by section 30-410.8, concerning driveways from streets, of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 17.11 of the Charter of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, it has been made to appear that, if granted subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance, the special use granted by this ordinance will not be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved, will not tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved, will not create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers, will not tend to overcrowding of land and cause an undue concentration of population, will not adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements, and will not interfere with adequate light and air; and

WHEREAS, (i) the City Planning Commission has conducted a public hearing to investigate the circumstances and conditions upon which the Council is empowered to authorize such use, (ii) the City Planning Commission has reported to the Council the results of such public hearing and investigation and its recommendations with respect thereto, and (iii) the Council has conducted a public hearing on this ordinance at which the person in interest and all other persons have had an opportunity to be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. **Finding.** Pursuant to section 30-1050.1 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, the Council hereby finds that the special use set forth in and subject to the terms and conditions of this ordinance will not (i) be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved, (ii) tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved, (iii) create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers, (iv) tend to overcrowding of land and cause an undue concentration of population, (v) adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements, or (vi) interfere with adequate light and air.

§ 2. **Grant of Special Use Permit.**

(a) Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance, the property known as 2904 Noble Avenue and identified as Tax Parcel No. N000-0870/010 in the 2024 records of the City Assessor, being more particularly shown on as a survey entitled “Building Permit Plat For Lot 23, Block C, Roland Park in the City of Richmond, VA,” prepared by Edwards, Kretz, Lohr & Associates, PLLC, and dated February 24, 2020, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this ordinance, hereinafter referred to as “the Property,” is hereby permitted to be used for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling with a driveway within the front yard, hereinafter referred to as “the Special Use,” substantially as shown on the plans entitled “Site Plan Drawn by Cameron Vanzura,” prepared by Cameron Vanzura, and dated May 23, 2023, hereinafter referred to as “the Plans,” copies of which are attached to and made a part of this ordinance.

(b) The adoption of this ordinance shall constitute the issuance of a special use permit for the Property. The special use permit shall inure to the benefit of the owner or owners of the fee simple title to the Property as of the date on which this ordinance is adopted and their successors in fee simple title, all of which are hereinafter referred to as “the Owner.” The conditions contained in this ordinance shall be binding on the Owner.

§ 3. **Special Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following special terms and conditions:

(a) The Special Use of the Property shall be as a single-family detached dwelling with a driveway within the front yard, substantially as shown on the Plans.

(b) All site improvements shall be substantially as shown on the Plans.

(c) The street tree planted in accordance with section 4(e) of this ordinance shall be planted between the street and public sidewalk, substantially as shown on the Plans. The species of such tree shall be selected from the City-approved street tree list and approved by the City Arborist and shall only be planted after all construction work related to the Special Use is completed.

§ 4. **Supplemental Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following supplemental terms and conditions:

(a) All required final grading and drainage plans, together with all easements made necessary by such plans, must be approved by the Director of Public Utilities prior to the issuance of the building permit.

(b) Storm or surface water shall not be allowed to accumulate on the land. The Owner, at its sole cost and expense, shall provide and maintain at all times adequate facilities for the drainage of storm or surface water from the Property so as not to adversely affect or damage any other property or public streets and the use thereof.

(c) Facilities for the collection of refuse shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Director of Public Works. Such facilities shall be located or screened so as not to be visible from adjacent properties and public streets.

(d) Any encroachments existing, proposed on the Plans or contemplated in the future shall require separate authorization and shall be subject to the applicable provisions of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such laws.

(e) The Owner shall make improvements within the right-of-way, including the planting of a street

tree along Noble Avenue, substantially as shown on the Plans, which improvements may be completed in one or more phases as approved by the Director of Public Works. All improvements and work within the public right-of-way shall be (i) completed in accordance with the requirements of the Director of Public Works, (ii) considered completed only upon written confirmation by the Director of Public Works, or the designee thereof, that such improvements and work are in accordance with such requirements, (iii) transferred to the City, following the written confirmation by the Director of Public Works, or the designee thereof, pursuant to a transfer of interest document approved as to form by the City Attorney and accepted by the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof on behalf of the City. The Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City, is hereby authorized to accept, in the manner for which this subsection provides, all improvements and work required by and meeting the requirements of this subsection. The final certificate of occupancy shall not be issued for the Property until all requirements of this subsection are fully satisfied.

(f) In all other respects, the use of the Property shall be in accordance with the applicable underlying zoning regulations.

§ 5. **General Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following general terms and conditions:

(a) No permit implementing this special use permit shall be approved until satisfactory evidence has been presented to the Zoning Administrator that any delinquent real estate taxes applicable to the Property have been paid.

(b) The Owner shall be bound by, shall observe and shall comply with all other laws, ordinances, rules and regulations applicable to the Property, except as otherwise expressly provided in this ordinance.

(c) Words and phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted to have the meanings ascribed to them by section 30-1220 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, unless the context clearly

indicates that a different meaning is intended.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this special use permit is being approved due, in part, to the mitigating effects of each and every condition attached hereto; consequently, if any portion of this ordinance is determined to be invalid for any reason by a final, non-appealable order of any Virginia or federal court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall cause the entire ordinance to be void and of no further effect from the effective date of such order.

(e) The privileges granted by this ordinance may be revoked pursuant to the provisions of sections 30-1050.7 through 30-1050.11 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such laws. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this ordinance shall constitute a violation of section 30-1080 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such law, or any other applicable laws or regulations.

(f) When the privileges granted by this ordinance terminate and the special use permit granted hereby becomes null and void, whether as a result of the Owner relinquishing this special use permit in a writing addressed to the Director of Planning and Development Review or otherwise, use of the Property shall be governed thereafter by the zoning regulations prescribed for the district in which the Property is then situated.

§ 6. **Implementation.** The Commissioner of Buildings is authorized to issue a building permit substantially in accordance with the Plans for the Special Use subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance. An application for the building permit shall be made within 730 calendar days following the date on which this ordinance becomes effective. If either the application for the building permit is not made within the time period stated in the previous sentence or the building permit terminates under any provision of the Virginia Statewide Building Code, this ordinance and the special use permit granted hereby shall terminate and become null and void.

§ 7. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.



City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: September 24, 2023

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor (by request)

(This is no way reflects a recommendation on behalf of the Mayor)

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Kevin J. Vonck, Director of Planning & Development Review

RE: To authorize the special use of the property known as 2904 Noble Street for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling with a driveway in the front yard, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: The applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit which would allow for driveway accessing the street when access to an alley is provided, which is not permitted by City Code. A Special Use Permit is therefore required.

BACKGROUND: The property is located in the Northern Barton Heights neighborhood at 2904 Noble Avenue, between Dupont Circle and West Brookland Park Boulevard. The property is currently a 6771 sq. ft. (0.155 acre) parcel of land that is currently occupied by an existing single-family dwelling. The application requests to construct a driveway within the front yard when access to an alley is provided, which is not permitted in City Code.

The City’s Richmond 300 Master Plan designates a future land use for the subject property as Residential. This designation is defined as a “Neighborhood consisting primarily of single-family houses on large- or medium-sized lots more homogeneous in nature.”

Primary Uses: Single-family houses, accessory dwelling units, and open space.

Secondary Uses: Duplexes and small multi-family buildings (typically 3-10 units), institutional, and cultural.

Secondary uses may be found along major streets.

The current zoning for this property is R-5 - Residential (Single Family). Adjacent properties are generally zoned the same R-5 zone. The surrounding land uses primarily include residential with Chamberlayne Avenue two blocks to the west.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: The Battery Park Civic Association was notified at the beginning of the project and after introduction. After introduction, surrounding property owners within 300 feet of the project were notified via mail, the project was posted in the newspaper, and signs will be posted on the property itself.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL: None

FISCAL IMPACT: The Department of Planning and Development Review does not anticipate any impact to the City’s budget for this or future fiscal years.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: December 11, 2023

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: January 8, 2024

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: None

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Office of Chief Administrative Officer

Law Department (for review of draft ordinance)

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: None

ATTACHMENTS: Draft Ordinance, Application Form, Applicant’s Report, Plans, Survey, Map

STAFF: Matthew J. Ebinger, Planning Supervisor - Land Use Administration 804-646-6308

Ray Roakes, Planner, Land Use Administration 804-646-5467

Key Issues:

Retain on Consent Agenda

Move to Regular Agenda

Refer Back to Committee

Remove from Council Agenda

Strike

Withdrawn

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