DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Boulevard, 5th Floor • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6194 FAX (562) 570-6068

December 1, 2016

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS City of Long Beach California

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept Categorical Exemption CE 16-228 and find the proposed vacation of the City alley west of Cedar Avenue between La Reina Way to the north and 7th Street to the south in conformance with the adopted goals and policies of the City's General Plan. (District 1)

APPLICANT:

Department of Public Works

Sherbert Jones

333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802 (Application No. 1609-17)

DISCUSSION

The subject request pertains to a 5-foot-wide alley running north-south between La Reina Way and 7th Street (Exhibit A – Location Map). The majority of the alley measures 145 feet long by 5 feet wide and a small portion measuring 5 feet long by 10 feet wide. The alley is bounded by a privately-owned, residential-developed parcel to the west (327 W. 7th Street) and four privately-owned, residential-developed parcels to the east (307 W. 7th Street, 701 Cedar Avenue, 711 Cedar Avenue, and 719 Cedar Avenue) (Exhibit B – Alley Plan). The alley currently provides no vehicular access to these parcels, and no development is proposed with this application.

The alley lies within Subarea 1 of the Wilmore City Planned Development District (PD 10), which is intended to preserve and rehabilitate historic structures, and serve the housing resources of downtown by containing a mixture of housing densities and limited commercial professional office and personal service uses which are compatible with primarily residential neighborhoods. The properties abutting the alley are developed with uses permitted in this subarea. Vacation of the subject alley would not increase the potential for expansion of a nonconforming use.

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS December 1, 2016 Page 2

General Plan Consistency Findings

Before an application for vacation can go before the City Council, a finding of conformity with the maps and policies of the Long Beach General Plan must be made by the Planning Commission. The General Plan consists of 11 elements and each element carries the same authority concerning land use issues. All elements of the General Plan were considered and staff finds this vacation to be in conformance with all applicable elements. A review of the relevant elements and specific General Plan consistency findings are presented below.

Land Use Element

The Land Use Element divides the City into 21 land use districts, which provide general guidance as to the appropriate type and density of land uses. The alley is located within Land Use District Number 4 – High Density Residential (LUD 4). LUD 4 encourages an intensification of dwelling units in limited areas of the City where apartments and condominium lifestyles are logically related to transportation and services. Vacation of the subject alley would revert the land to private ownership. As all abutting parcels are developed with residential uses consistent with LUD 4, vacation of the alley would conform to the Land Use Element.

Mobility Element

The City's Mobility Element is aimed at transforming Long Beach into a community that offers flexible, convenient, affordable, and energy-efficient transportation options for residents and visitors alike. The alley to be vacated is regarded by the Department of Public Works as no longer necessary for present or prospective public use or convenience. Existing north-south rights-of-way providing vehicular and pedestrian access are located approximately 50 feet west and 95 feet east of the alley. Alley abandonment would therefore not prove detrimental to the movement of people and goods through the area.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the guidelines for implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Categorical Exemption CE 16-228 was issued for the proposed project (Exhibit C – Categorical Exemption).

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS December 1, 2016 Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA F. TATUM, AICP

Linda J. Jahim

PLANNING BUREAU MANAGER

AMY J. BODEK, AICP

Product

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

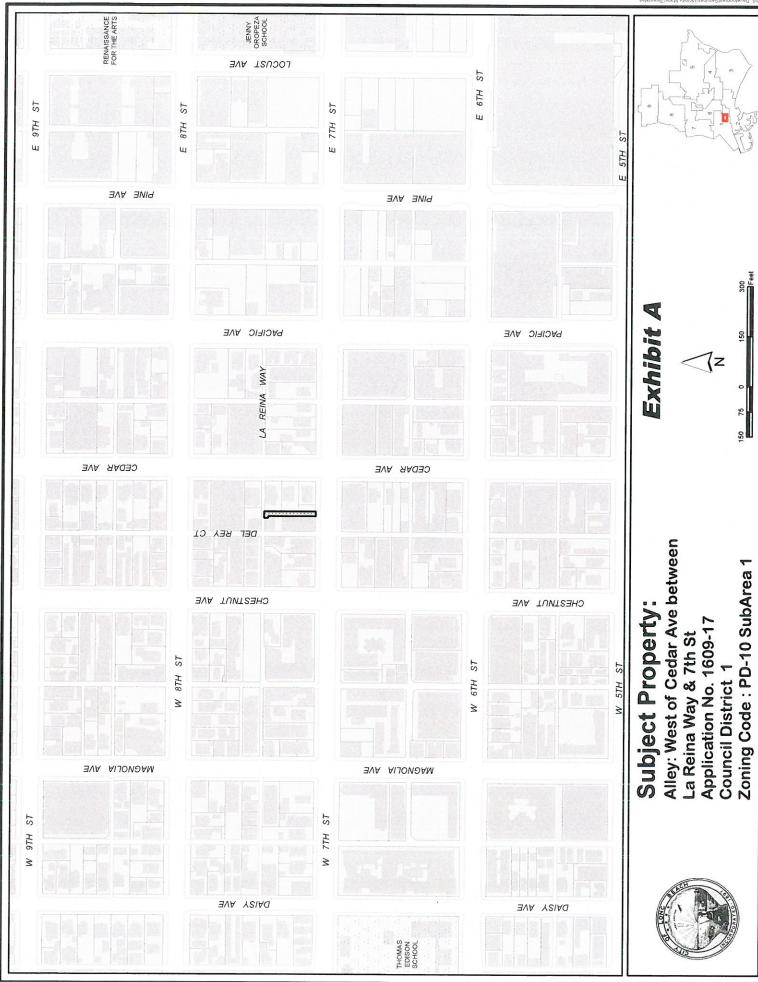
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Attachments:

Exhibit A - Location Map

Exhibit B - Alley Plan

Exhibit C - Categorical Exemption



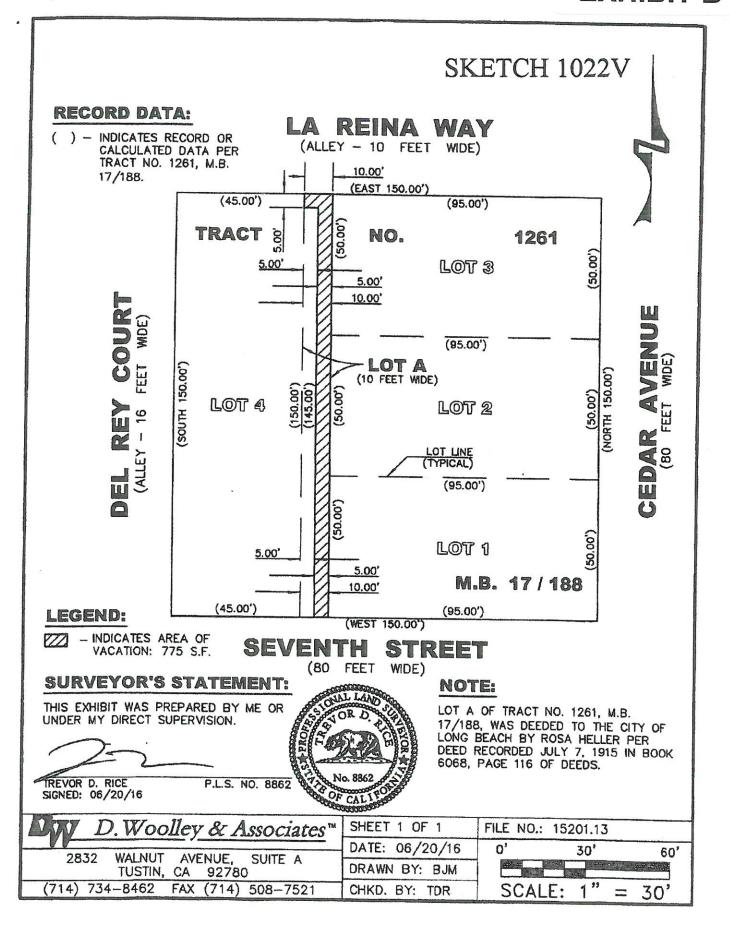


EXHIBIT C



NOTICE of EXEMPTION from CEQA

CITY OF LONG BEACH | DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 W. OCEAN BLVD., 5TH FLOOR, LONG BEACH, CA 90802

(562) 570-6194 Fax: (562) 570-6068

Ibds.longbeach.gov

TO: Office of Planning & Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814	FROM: Department of Development Services 333 W. Ocean Blvd, 5th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802
 L.A. County Clerk Environmental Fillings 12400 E. Imperial Hwy., Room 1201 Norwalk, CA 90650 	•
Project Title: CE-16-338	
Project Location/Address: alley west of Code Project Activity/Description: Appendix	Currently on that
unused alley	
Public Agency Approving Project: City of Long Beach Applicant Name: SNerbert Jones Mailing Address: 333 West Ocean Blud, Phone Number 6627570-6975 Applic	
BELOW THIS LINE FO	R STAFF USE ONLY
47-000 - 3,000	Initials: NV rmity Finding
THE ABOVE PROJECT HAS BEEN FOUND TO B STATE GUIDELINES SECTION	E EXEMPT FROM CEQA IN ACCORDANCE WITH Class 4 Minor Atteration to Land
Statement of support for this finding:	Alley Vacation
Contact Person: Nucl Vasuthasawat Signature:	Contact Phone: 562 570 - 6410 Date: 10/3/16
orginature.	Date: