

Board of Adjustment

Agenda

February 15, 2023 6:30 PM

ELECTRONIC MEETING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

This meeting will be held electronically. Residents interested in listening to the meeting or making public comments can join in one of two ways:

- You can call in to + 1 346 248 7799
 Webinar ID # 810 7350 9524, Passcode: 969190
 OR
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: <u>www.louisvilleco.gov/boa</u>

The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at <u>Planning@LouisvilleCO.gov</u>.

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Election of Officers Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary
- 4. Approval of Agenda
- 5. Approval of Minutes September 21, 2022
- 6. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- 7. Regular Items
 - a) 245 W Sycamore Lane Variance Request A request for a variance from the required minimum side setback to allow a 7 squarefoot portion of a bay window to encroach up to 3-feet 2-inches into the required five-foot side yard setbacks.

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

Board of Adjustment Agenda February 15, 2023 Page 2 of 2

VAR-000448-2023 – Public Hearing

- Applicant: Andy Johnson, DAJ Design
- Case Manager: Ellie Hassan, Planner II
 - ✓ Open Public Hearing
 - ✓ Opening Statement by Chair
 - ✓ Public Notice and Application Certification
 - ✓ Disclosures
 - $\checkmark\,$ Staff Presentation and Questions of staff
 - \checkmark Applicant Presentation and Questions of applicant
 - ✓ Public Comment
 - \checkmark Applicant discussion of public comment, if any
 - \checkmark Closing statement by staff and applicant and Final questions by board
 - \checkmark Close public hearing
 - \checkmark Board discussion
 - \checkmark Board action
- 8. Discussion Items:
 - a) Approval of 2023 Posting Locations
 - b) 2023 Meeting Dates
 - c) 2023 Open Government & Ethics Pamphlet
- 9. Staff Comments
- 10. Board Comments
- 11. Items Tentatively Scheduled for the Meeting on March 15, 2023:
 - a) 301 Pine St Reapplying for variance (expired)
 - b) Open Government Training
- 12. Adjourn



Board of Adjustment

Agenda

February 15, 2023 City Hall, Council Chambers 749 Main Street 6:30 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

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Board of Adjustment Agenda February 15, 2023 Page 2 of 2

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Community Development Department

749 Main Street + Louisville CO 80027 + 303.335.4592 + www.louisvilleCO.gov

MemoranduM

То:	Board of Adjustment Members
From:	Community Development Department
Subject:	Election of Officers and Appointment of Secretary
Date:	February 15, 2023

The Louisville Board of Adjustment (BOA) is required by its Bylaws to annually elect the following officers: Chair and Vice Chair, and Secretary.

The Bylaws do not establish a formal manner in which to establish officers. In the past, the officers and secretary have been elected/appointed either 1) at the first regular meeting in January, or 2) at the first meeting of the BOA after the effective date of appointment of new members of the BOA, in this case the February 15 meeting.

Board of Adjustment Action:

The BOA could either:

- 1) discuss and take action at this meeting by formally nominating each officer position and voting through a motion OR
- 2) accept nominations and letters of interest that could then be considered at the next BOA meeting

If the Board wishes to submit letters of interest or letters of nomination in advance of the meeting, staff could include those in your packets for that meeting. We would need to receive those by end of business fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting in order to forward in your packets.



Board of Adjustment

Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2022 City Hall, Council Chambers 749 Main Street 6:00 PM

Call to Order – Vice Chair Nakari called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present:

Board Members Present:	Vice Chair Matt Nakari Karen Cooper Joel Hawksley James Stuart		
Board Members Absent:	Chair Scott Berger		
Staff Members Present:	Lisa Ritchie, Fire Recovery and Planning Manager Ellie Hassan, Planner II Amelia Brackett Hogstad, HPC Planner		

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by all members.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the August 17, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

Public Comments

None is heard.

Regular Items

A. 110 Cherrywood Ln – Variance Request - A request for a variance from the minimum front setback of 18 feet to allow a 13 square-foot portion of a garage to have a front setback of 15 feet 11 inches at 110 Cherrywood Lane. Case VAR-0424-2022. Applicant: Bridgette Cole – Boulder Creek Neighborhoods Case Manager: Ellie Hassan

City of Louisville

Community Development 749 Main Street Louisville CO 80027 303.335.4592 (phone) www.LouisvilleCO.gov **Nakari** reviews the procedures for the meeting; opens the public hearing; and states there are six criteria, which must be met for the board to approve a variance request.

Nakari states that for the requested variance to be approved, four (4) votes will be needed to be affirmative.

Hassan verifies the application to be heard this evening is complete, and was mailed to the surrounding property owners on September 02, 2022, published in the Boulder Daily Camera on September 04, 2022, and the property was posted on September 02, 2022.

Cooper moves and **Hawksley** seconds a motion that confirms that all requirements have been satisfied and the application submitted by the applicant has been properly filed. Motion passes unanimously by a voice vote.

Berger asks if anyone at the hearing has any objections to the hearing procedures she described and asks if there were any other preliminary matters that needed to be taken care of. None are heard.

Staff Presentation:

Hassan begins her presentation by reviewing an aerial image of the property. The property is located in the Cherrywood II PUD and Cherrywood II Subdivision, both of which were approved by the City in 1991. The original home was built in 1993 and was destroyed in the 2021 Marshall Fire. The applicant is proposing a new home to replace the previous home destroyed in the Marshall Fire. The proposed footprint is larger due to the inclusion of a main floor primary bedroom, resulting in the encroachment of a portion of the garage into the front yard setback. The garage is about 23 ft. x 23 ft. or 529 square-feet in size. A 13 square-foot portion of the garage would encroach 2.1 ft. into the setback, resulting in a 15.9 ft. front yard setback at the most constrained point.

She concludes her presentation by reviewing the six variance criteria. The following indicates staff's analysis of each criteria:

Criteria 1 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - Staff finds the property has an unusual front lot line. The lot is part of a cul-de-sac, which creates a curved front lot line. The lot depth is about 90.76 ft. on the north property line, which is shallower than other lots in the subdivision.

Criteria 2 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - The lot is one of the shallowest lot lines in the Cherrywood II Subdivision. A majority of properties have side lot lines with lengths

of 100ft or greater. Lot 61 in the same cul-de-sac has a lot line of 60ft, but the lot has a larger area of 7,907 square feet.

 Lots 4 and 7 in the subdivision's other cul-de-sac have similar lot shape, but have either greater area (Lot 7 is 6,934 square feet) or greater lot depth (Lot 4 has 125.89 and 100 ft. side lot lines).

Criteria 3 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - Staff finds that the combination of the shallower lot line, unusual front lot line shape, and below average lot area create a physical circumstance that cannot reasonably be developed to have a main floor bedroom in the footprint without encroachment into the front lot line.

Criteria 4 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - The original home was destroyed by the Marshall Fire, which was a hardship not created by the applicant.

Criteria 5 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - Staff finds that the proposal would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The applicant, Boulder Creek Neighborhoods, is building other homes in the neighborhood in a similar style and massing. Numerous letters were received in support from neighbors, which are found in attachment 4.

Criteria 6 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - The proposal is a pre-designed spec home that has limited options for reduction in any of the floorplan dimensions. The location of the home on the lot is the minimum encroachment needed to achieve the requested floorplan and is otherwise conforming to side and rear setbacks.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff finds that all six criteria in Municipal code Section 17.48.110 are met and recommends approval with no conditions.

Board Questions of Staff:

Nakari asks if the administrative variance would have been the majority of what they are looking for.

Hassan says that is correct.

Hawksley asks if the applicant would be allowed to request multiple administrative variance setbacks.

Ritchie says they are eligible for multiple but we would review them individually.

Applicant Presentation:

Lisa Hill, Boulder Creek Neighborhoods

Hill says the property owners would like to rebuild in the same location. The owner's objective is to have a master bedroom on the main level for when they get older. What they are proposing is a 13 square foot encroachment, about 4.5 to 5 inches x 18 inches above what would be allowed through a recovery variance. We do feel like we meet all six criteria as staff as mentioned in their presentation. The owners have received much support from the neighbors.

Board Questions of Applicant:

Hawksley asks if the owners or the builder consider a small administrative variance for the rear setback.

Hill say she believes the owner considered that but there is not much to work with since they have a 15-foot setback in the backyard and they would like to preserve as much room at the back of the house as possible.

Public Comment

John Barrett, 110 Cherrywood Ln

Barrett says he wants to rebuild so that they can build a master bedroom on the main level. This will not adversely affect the neighborhood. We had 28 years in the house and hope to have that many in our new home.

Maria McClure, 105 Cherrywood Ln

McClure says she full supports this proposal. We have space in the neighborhood but the cul-de-sac is taking a lot of room in that neighborhood.

Roger Wilkerson, 125 Cherrywood Ln

Wilkerson offers his support for this proposal as well. He thinks it is a minimal setback change and supports the floor plan they are proposing.

Claire Largesse, 114 Cherrywood Ln

Largesse says she completely supports this variance.

Discussion by Board:

Stuart says he agrees with staff's recommendation and believes they meet all six criteria.

Nakari agrees with Stuart.

Cooper moves and **Stuart** seconds a motion to approve a variance from the minimum front setback of 18 feet to allow a 13 square-foot portion of a garage to have a front setback of 15 feet 11 inches at 110 Cherrywood Lane. Motion passes unanimously by a roll call vote.

B. 516 Lincoln Ave – Variance Request - A request for a variance to allow a lot coverage of 32.47% where 30% is the maximum height allowed; and to allow a floor area ratio of 38.11% where 35% is the maximum allowed in the Old Town Overlay District for a lot greater than 7,000 square feet at 516 Lincoln Avenue. Case VAR-0425-2022. Applicant: Kelly Schin Case Manager: Amelia Brackett Hogstad

Nakari reviews the procedures for the meeting; opens the public hearing; and states there are six criteria, which must be met for the board to approve a variance request.

Nakari states that for the requested variance to be approved, four (4) votes will be needed to be affirmative.

Brackett Hogstad verifies the application to be heard this evening is complete, and was mailed to the surrounding property owners on September 02, 2022, published in the Boulder Daily Camera on September 04, 2022, and the property was posted on September 02, 2022.

Nakari asks if anyone at the hearing has any objections to the hearing procedures she described and asks if there were any other preliminary matters that needed to be taken care of. None are heard.

Staff Presentation:

Brackett Hogstad begins her presentation by reviewing an aerial image of the property. She discusses the background on 516 Lincoln Ave saying that the old town overlay includes different standards for lots of different sizes. In this case, the lot coverage is 30% and the FAR is 35%. She then explains the existing layout in comparison to the proposed layout. The structure previously received a Preservation Bonus, which is why the existing structure has a lot coverage of 31.94%, 1.94% above what would otherwise be allowed as the maximum for the property.

She concludes her presentation by reviewing the six variance criteria. The following indicates staff's analysis of each criteria:

Criteria 1 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Not Met
 - No physical or topographical conditions that prevent meeting zoning

Criteria 2 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Not Met
 - \circ Size and shape of lot are typical

Criteria 3 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Not Met
 - Could develop while meeting standards
 - Above existing coverage and FAR
 - Preservation Bonus is an option with a change of building plans

Criteria 4 - Criterion Met

Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes September 21, 2022 Page 6 of 8

- Staff Recommendation Not Met
 - Desire to develop with higher coverage and FAR is self-imposed
 - Applicant has option to pursue Landmark Bonus with current building plans

Criteria 5 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Criterion Met
 - o Would not alter residential character
 - Structure with increased lot coverage already exists
 - Limits impact on adjacent properties
 - Historic treatment cannot be evaluated

Criteria 6 - Criterion Met

- Staff Recommendation Not Met
 - No hardship
 - Typical in size and shape
 - Development possible
 - Applicant does not qualify for Preservation Bonus

Staff Recommendation:

Staff finds the proposal does not meet the variance review criteria in LMC Sec. 17.48.110 and recommends denial of the request.

The Board may approve (with or without condition or modification), deny, or continue the application to a future meeting for additional consideration. The Board may also request additional information if they feel it is needed for their property consideration of the variance application. In approving the applicant, the Board must find that all size variance criteria, insofar as applicable, have been met. The Board should adopt specific findings for each review criterion in support of any motion.

Board Questions of Staff:

None is heard.

Applicant Presentation:

Kelly Schin, 516 Lincoln Ave

Schin says she bought the house last summer. She put her permit in for review and then was informed by planning that we were not allowed to do our proposal. We are here because we spent so much time in our design and wanted to give a try to see if we could get this variance.

Board Questions of Applicant:

Stuart says that it seems like the landmarked process would give more than what she needs. Are you thinking of pursuing that process if you cannot get the variance?

Schin says we will probably just remodel the plans so we can move in as quickly as we can.

Cooper asks if her proposed building height meets the old town overlay. **Brackett Hogstad** says with staff's review, which was something that was not triggered. It was only the lot coverage and FAR.

Cooper asks about lot coverage and how it is a 2% in order to pass. **Brackett Hogstad** shows the proposed addition image and shows the lot coverage.

Cooper asks if they are still staying within their side setbacks.

Brackett Hogstad say that they are.

Cooper asks if any neighbors have reached out.

Brackett Hogstad says we have received three emails of support.

Public Comment

None is heard.

<u>Summary and Request by Staff and Applicant</u>: None is heard.

Discussion by Board:

Cooper says she thinks it meets criteria one because it is a duplex and is moving to a single family home.

Bracket Hogstad says it is not being used as a duplex.

Ritchie says it is a nonconforming property and we have no building permit records that have suggested it as a duplex. You do not get the benefit of a larger lot coverage even if it a duplex use. She says they need to look at the form of the structure and not the use.

Stuart says if the applicant met the first few criteria then should could probably meet the rest but because she does not then he cannot approve it. She must meet all six criteria.

Nakari says because the FAR and setbacks are the same regardless if it is a duplex or single family, this does not meet criteria one.

Hawksley moves and **Stuart** seconds a motion to deny a variance to allow a lot coverage of 32.47% where 30% is the maximum height allowed; and to allow a floor area ratio of 38.11% where 35% is the maximum allowed in the Old Town Overlay District for a lot greater than 7,000 square feet at 516 Lincoln Avenue. Motion passes unanimously by a roll call vote.

Discussion Items for Next Meeting

None is heard.

Staff Comments

None is heard.

Board Comments

None is heard.

Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes September 21, 2022 Page 8 of 8

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

CITY OF LOUISVILLE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT STAFF REPORT September 21, 2022

APPLICANT/OWNER: Andy Johnson, DAJ Design

- **STAFF PLANNER:** Ellie Hassan, Planner II
- LOCATION: 245 W Sycamore Ln Lot 74, Sundance Subdivision
- **ZONING:** Residential Estate (R-E)
- **REQUEST:** Case #VAR-0448-2023 A request for a variance from the required minimum side setback to allow a 7 square-foot portion of a bay window to encroach up to 3-feet 2-inches into the required five-foot side yard setbacks.



SUMMARY:

The applicant, Andy Johnson of DAJ Design, requests approval of a variance from the Sundance Planned Unit Development (PUD) side setback of 5 feet to allow the construction of a 7 square-foot portion of a replacement bay window to encroach up to 3 foot-2 inches into the side setback area.

BACKGROUND:

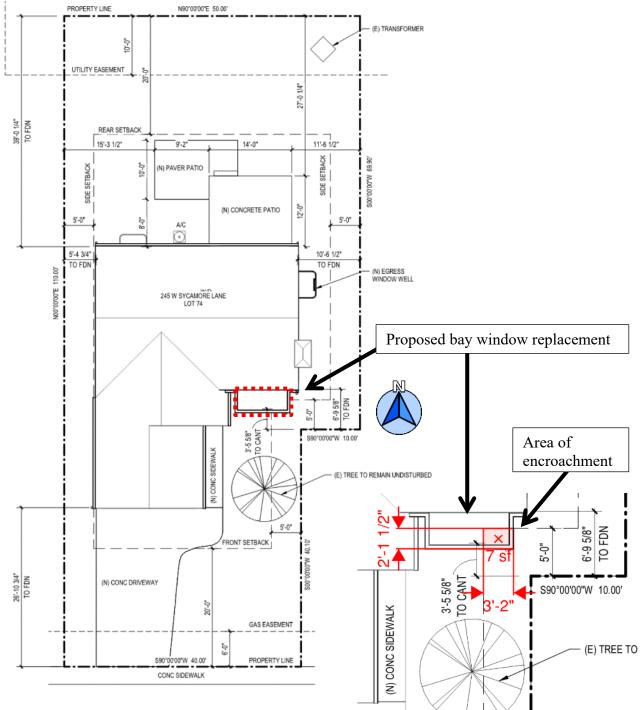
The property is located in the Sundance PUD and Sundance Subdivision, both of which the City approved in 1981. The following is a summary of the development standards based on the Sundance PUD and the underlying R-E zoning:

Minimum Lot Area:	12,000 sq. ft. (Per Sec. 17.12.030 – no listed min. lot area in PUD or Plat)
Front Setback:	20 ft.
Interior Side Setback:	5 ft.
Rear Setback:	20 ft.
Maximum Height:	30 ft.
Lot Coverage:	1,750 sq. ft.

The developer constructed the existing home in 1984, including a bay window in the southeast portion of the site. The existing bay window did not conform to the 5-foot side setback minimum required by the PUD for the eastern and southern property lines. The neighborhood was initially designed for attached duplexes on L-shaped lots in the Plat and PUD. The PUD was revised at an unknown date for single-family homes, however the revision did not alter the platted L-shaped lots, and many homes consequently encroached into the side yard setbacks.

PROPOSAL:

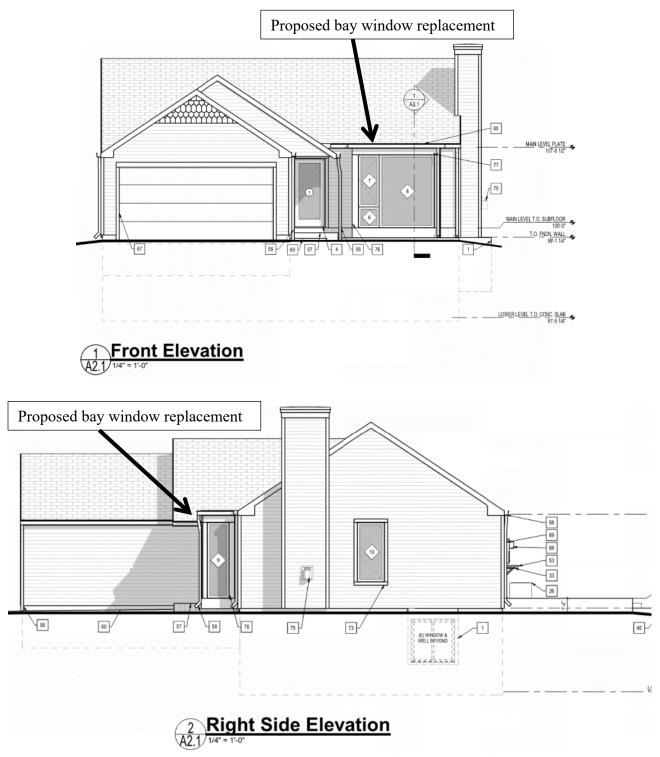
The applicant is proposing a renovation of the existing home, which includes a rebuild of the existing bay window. The existing and proposed bay window encroach 3ft-2in east and 2ft-1.5in south into the 5ft. side-yard setback area along the bend in the L-shaped lot. The rebuilt bay window will maintain the same 3ft-4in x 8ft-3in (27.5 sq. ft.) footprint at the same location as the existing window. The rebuilt bay window includes a new roof and wall structure, which is a structural alteration that requires a variance to remain in the same nonconforming location per Sec. 17.36.010 of the Municipal Code. The site plan and elevations of the bay window are shown below for reference.



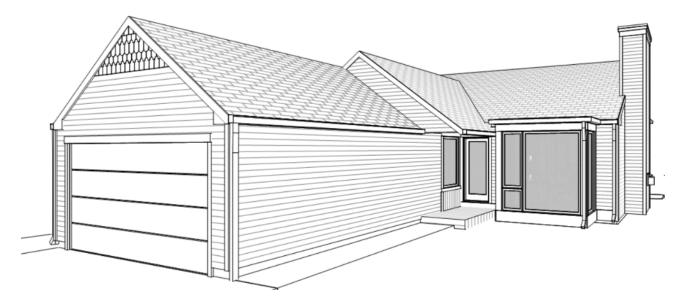
Proposed Site Plan and Details of Bay Window Encroachment

W SYCAMORE LANE

Building Elevations



Building Rendering



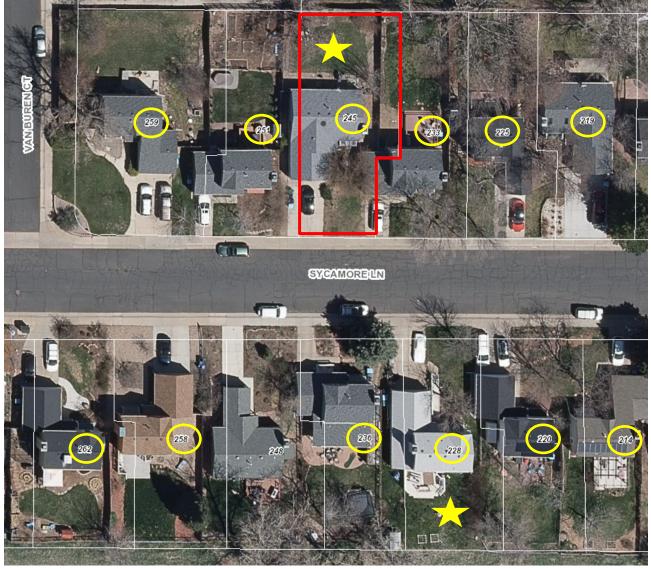
Existing Site Conditions





Comparison Area – Bay Windows on Sycamore Lane

The following image shows 245 W Sycamore and neighboring properties along Sycamore Lane. The properties with bay windows are circled in yellow. Properties with known or likely setback nonconformities in the bay windows, per the building permit records, are starred.



Staff found no documentation of variance approvals for the homes with non-conforming bay windows. These non-conformities appear to have been present since the original construction of the Sundance neighborhood. Staff may not have considered bay windows or overhangs as needing to meet side yard setbacks in the past, resulting in encroachments. A previous staff report for 327 W Sycamore Lane also noted that the City might have once considered the internal lot line between the paired lots to not have a 5-foot setback based on the original intent for duplexes. However, staff finds that the current PUD is unambiguous on the side-yard setback requirement and a variance is required.

REVIEW CRITERIA:

The Board of Adjustment has authority to grant, grant with conditions, or deny a variance request based on the review criteria found in Municipal Code Sections 17.48.110.B.1-6. The following are staff's analysis of the criteria with recommended findings on each.

1. That there are unique physical circumstances or conditions such as irregularity, narrowness or shallowness of lot, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the affected property.

Staff finds the lot is an irregular shape and the existing house location is a unique physical circumstance on this property. The L-shaped lots were originally designed for paired homes and are more restrictive in developing single-family dwelling units. The bend in the "L" creates a constrained location in the side yard area and provides limited areas for a bay window to be rebuilt. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion.**

2. That the unusual circumstances or conditions do not exist throughout the neighborhood or district in which the property is located.

Staff finds that the unusual "L" lot shapes, combined with developer-installed bay windows near or encroaching into side yard setbacks is a unique circumstance in the Sundance neighborhood that does not exist in other R-E zoned districts. While staff finds that other homes throughout the Sundance subdivision have similar conditions with respect to lot shape, it is unusual for R-E zoned neighborhoods in the City to have L shaped lots. The lots are also undersized for an R-E zone district, which has a minimum lot size of 12,000 square feet. The developer-installed bay windows are also not commonly seen this close to side yard setbacks in other neighborhoods. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion**.

3. That because of such physical circumstances or conditions, the property cannot reasonably be developed in conformity with the provisions of Title 17 of the Louisville Municipal Code.

Staff finds that the combination of the unusual side lot line shape and existing house footprint create a physical circumstance that cannot reasonably accommodate a similarly sized replacement bay window that conforms with setbacks. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion.**

4. That such unnecessary hardship has not been created by the applicant.

The original developer constructed the existing house with the bay window in 1984. The PUD established minimum setback standards that were likely not applied to bay windows at the time. The current owner purchased the property in 2022 and is not responsible for the nonconformity of the existing bay window. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion.**

5. That the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located, nor substantially or permanently impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property.

Staff finds that the proposal would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The rebuilt bay window will be the same footprint as the original window and will only have minor aesthetic changes in the windows and walls. The bay window mass is found on most homes in the development and is part of the overall neighborhood character. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion.**

6. That the variance, if granted, is the minimum variance that will afford relief and is the least modification possible of the provisions of Title 17 of the Louisville Municipal Code that is in question.

The rebuilt bay window has the minimum encroachment needed for a usable space and follows the same footprint as the original bay window. **Staff finds the proposal meets this criterion.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No comments were received at the time of writing this report.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff finds the proposal meets the applicable variance criteria in Section 17.48.110 of the LMC, and therefore, recommend approval of the variance request.

BOARD ACTION:

The Board may approve (with or without conditions), deny, or continue the application to a future meeting for additional consideration. The Board may also request additional information if they feel it is needed for their proper consideration of the variance application. In approving an application, the Board must find that all six variance criteria, insofar as applicable, have been met. The Board should adopt specific findings for each review criterion in support of any motion.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Application Materials
- 2. Sundance PUD
- 3. Sundance Subdivision





Department of Planning and Building Safety

749 Main Street + Louisville CO 80027 + 303.335.4592 + www.louisvilleco.gov

ELECTRONIC LAND USE HEARING REQUEST CASE NO.



922A MAIN STREET LOUISVILLE, CO 80027 T (303) 527-1100 INFO@DAJDESIGN.COM WWW.DAJDESIGN.COM

	(r			
APPLICANT INFORMATION Firm: DAJ DESIGN	TYPE (S) OF APPLICATION			
Contact: ANDY JOHNSON	 Zoning Preliminary Subdivision Plat 			
Address: 922A MAIN ST	Final Subdivision Plat			
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027	Minor Subdivision Plat			
and a second sec	 Preliminary Planned Unit Development (PUD) Final PUD 			
Mailing Address: (SAME)	Amended PUD			
000 507 1100	Administrative PUD Amendment			
Telephone: 303-527-1100	 Special Review Use (SRU) SRU Amendment 			
Fax: NONE	SRU Administrative Review			
Email: ANDY@DAJDESIGN.COM	Temporary Use Permit:			
	 CMRS Facility: Other: (easement / right-of-way; floodplain; 			
OWNER INFORMATION	variance vested right; 1041 permit; oil / gas			
Firm:	production permit)			
Contact: ANNADALE SULLIVAN	I hereby request the public hearing(s) on this application be			
Address: 245 W SYCAMORE	scheduled to be conducted by Electronic Participation in accordance with the attached Resolution No. 30, Series 2020,			
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027	as adopted by the City Council on April 7, 2020, and in			
Mailing Address: (SAME)	accordance with Resolution No. 38, Series 2020, as adopted by City Council on June 2, 2020 if such hearing(s) can be			
	scheduled during a time period when in-person meetings are not being held due to a health epidemic or pandemic. I			
Telephone: 571-228-7296	acknowledge that holding a quasi-judicial hearing by			
For NONE	Electronic Participation may present certain legal risks and involves an area of legal uncertainty, and that having this			
Email: SULLIVAN.ANNADALE@GMAIL.COM	application heard at a meeting held by Electronic Participation			
Email:	is optional and undertaken at my own risk. I also understand that in-person meetings are preferred for quasi-judicial			
REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION	hearings, and that even if electronic hearing(s) are scheduled,			
	this application will be heard at an in-person meeting if in- person meetings have resumed by the scheduled hearing			
Firm:	date(s). I further agree to defend and indemnify the City of Louisville in any action that may arise out of, or in connection			
Contact:	with, conducting the hearing by Electronic Participation.			
Address:				
market setting	SIGNATURES & DATE Applicant: AJ			
Mailing Address:	Print: ANDY JOHNSON			
	Owner: ADS			
Telephone:	Print: ANNADALE SULLIVAN			
Fax:	2005 N/ 0000			
Email:	Representative:			
	Print:			
PROPERTY INFORMATION	CITY STAFF USE ONLY			
Common Address: 245 W SYCAMORE Legal Description: Lot 74 Blk	Electronic Hearing Approved:			
Subdivision SUNDANCE	Date(s) of Hearing(s):			
Area: 5,170 Sq. Ft.				



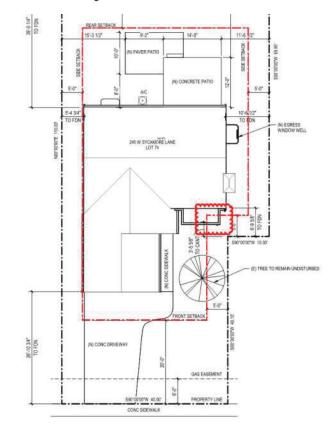
January 16, 2023

Ellie Hassan Planning & Building Safety City of Louisville 749 Main Street Louisville, CO 80027

RE: 245 WEST SYCAMORE LANE ADMINISTRATIVE VARIANCE

Dear Ms. Hassan,

I am pleased to present an application for a variance request for the home at <u>245 West Sycamore</u> <u>Lane</u>. The home was constructed in 1984 in the <u>Sundance PUD</u> and the <u>Sundance Plat</u> (a resubdivision of blocks 5, 6, 7, and 10 of the Centennial Valley 1 Subdivision). The existing home contains a cantilevered bay window that projects from the front of the house. The bay window includes floor to springline windows and also includes a partial glass roof enclosure that slopes to the south. The southeast corner of the bay window encroaches into the 5' side yard setback. This condition has existed since the home was originally constructed and is considered "legal, non-conforming."



The home does not appear to have undergone any modifications from the time when it was originally built, aside from possible re-roofing due to hail damage. The windows are original to the house and are of all-aluminum construction with 3/8" insulated glass. The bay window's glass roof enclosure is leaking, and all the windows are significantly energy inefficient and moisture damage is evident from condensation that has formed on the windows over decades of winter months.

The home was recently purchased in 2022, and an energy upgrade is being proposed along with a interior remodel of the kitchen and bathrooms. All the windows will be replaced with energy-efficient windows that meet the current building code. The proposed design for the front bay window replacement includes new windows in place of the existing windows, and the



922A MAIN STREET LOUISVILLE, CO 80027 T (303) 527-1100 INFO@DAJDESIGN.COM WWW.DAJDESIGN.COM



glass roof enclosure is being replaced with a weather-tight framed roof enclosure. The footprint of the bay window remains the same as the existing bay window footprint. Please see the attached building plans and elevations for details. Below is a zoning breakdown of the project and illustrates the allowable areas:

 Project Information

 Property Size:
 5,170 SF

 Zoning:
 R-E

 Building Height:
 35' max allowed

 ~17'-5" existing - No proposed change to one-level home

 Lot Coverage:
 1,551 SF (30% max allowed)

 1,149 SF existing - No additional building area proposed

Below are the six variance criteria as outlined in <u>Sec. 17.48.110</u> in the municipal code along with our responses of the six points below:

1. That there are unique physical circumstances or conditions such as irregularity, narrowness or shallowness of lot, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the affected property;

The lot has an irregular shape with a jog along the east property line boundary. The encroachment of the existing cantilevered bay window has existed since the home was constructed in 1984, and is a unique condition to this home within the neighborhood.

2. That the unusual circumstances or conditions do not exist throughout the neighborhood or district in which the property is located;

The condition presented by the existing bay window projection is unique to this home within the neighborhood.

3. That because of such physical circumstances or conditions, the property cannot reasonably be developed in conformity with the provisions of this title;

It is impossible to repair the existing bay window roof and upgrade the windows to new, modern windows under the current constraints of the PUD's setback requirements and the interpretation of the Municipal code.

4. That such unnecessary hardship has not been created by the applicant;

The current owners purchased the property in 2022 and did create the unnecessary hardship.

5. That the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located, nor substantially or permanently impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property;



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If the variance is granted, the essential character of the neighborhood will remain the same. The home will essentially have the same character as the original design intent, and no additional building area will be added to the home.

6. That the variance, if granted, is a minimum variance that will afford relief and is the least modification possible of the provisions of this title which are in question;

The requested variance is the minimum request and affords the relief to allow the necessary repairs and window replacements to be made to the existing cantilevered bay window.



Please feel free to reach out with any questions. Thank you for the consideration of our application.

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Warm regards, Andy Johnson, Al/

Ellie Hassan

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Annie <sullivan.annadale@gmail.com> Thursday, January 26, 2023 6:44 PM Andy Johnson Ellie Hassan Re: Authorization Email

Hello Ellie, We would like Andy Johnson to act as our representative for the variance application for our project. Thank you, AnnaDale Sullivan

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 26, 2023, at 4:42 PM, Andy Johnson <andy@dajdesign.com> wrote:

Hi AnnaDale,

Ellie Hassan, at the City, is processing the variance to allow us to do window replacement and maintenance on the front window well. She requested a little housekeeping for the City records. The City needs an email from you stating that I may act as your representative for the variance application for your project. Do you mind responding to this email to that effect? Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks!

Andy

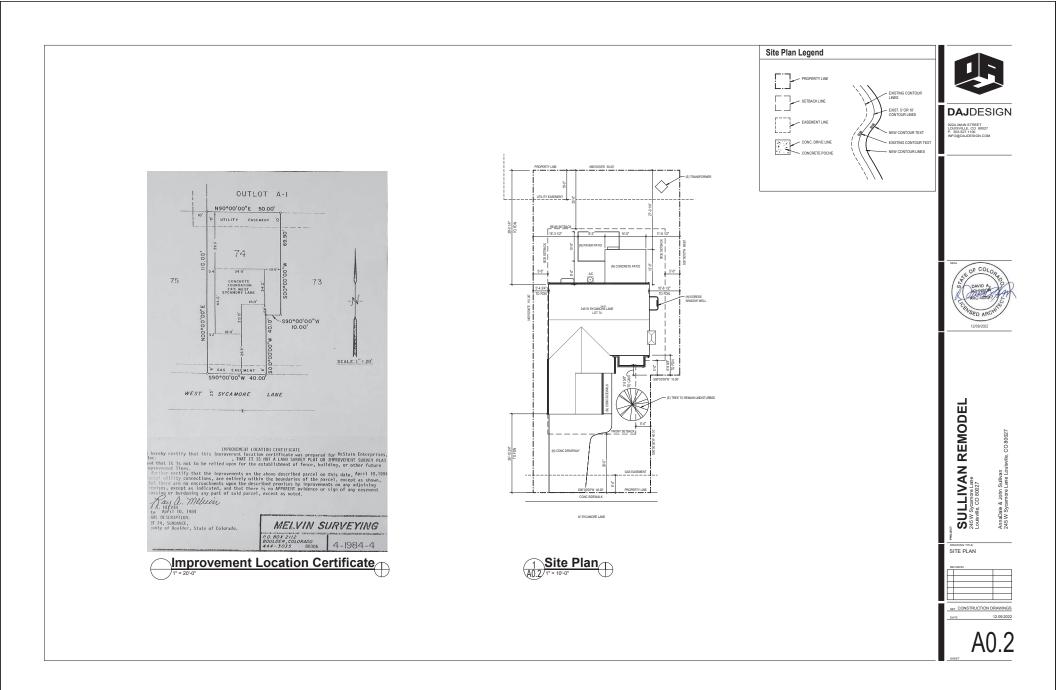
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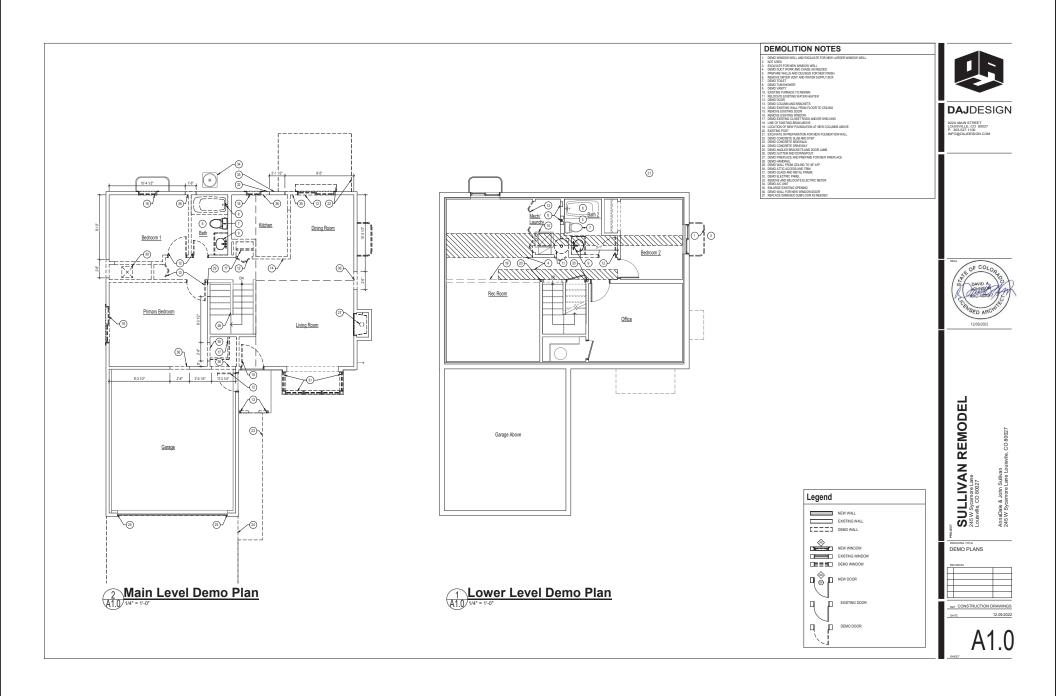
Andy Johnson, AIA DAJDESIGN w. <u>303.527.1100</u> m. <u>303.249.1624</u>

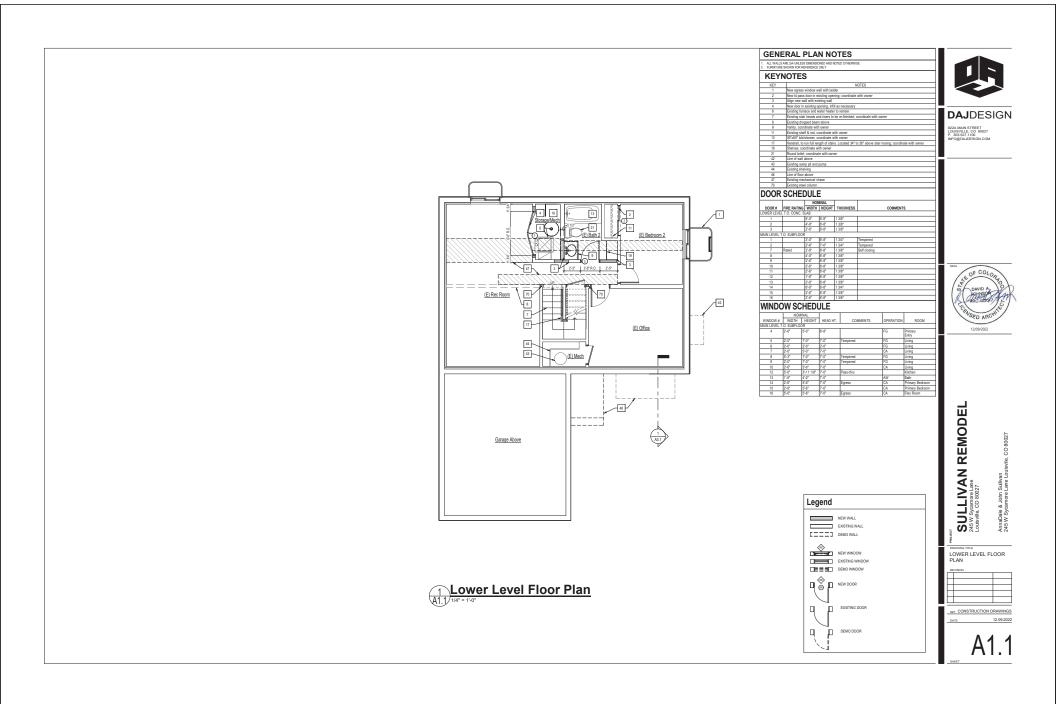
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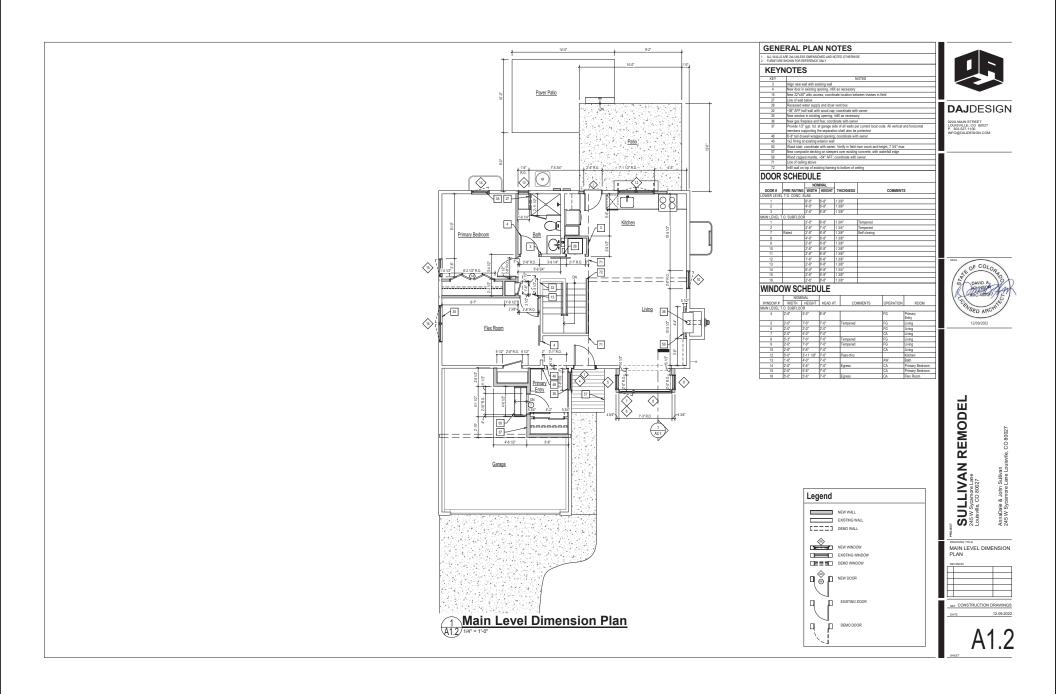
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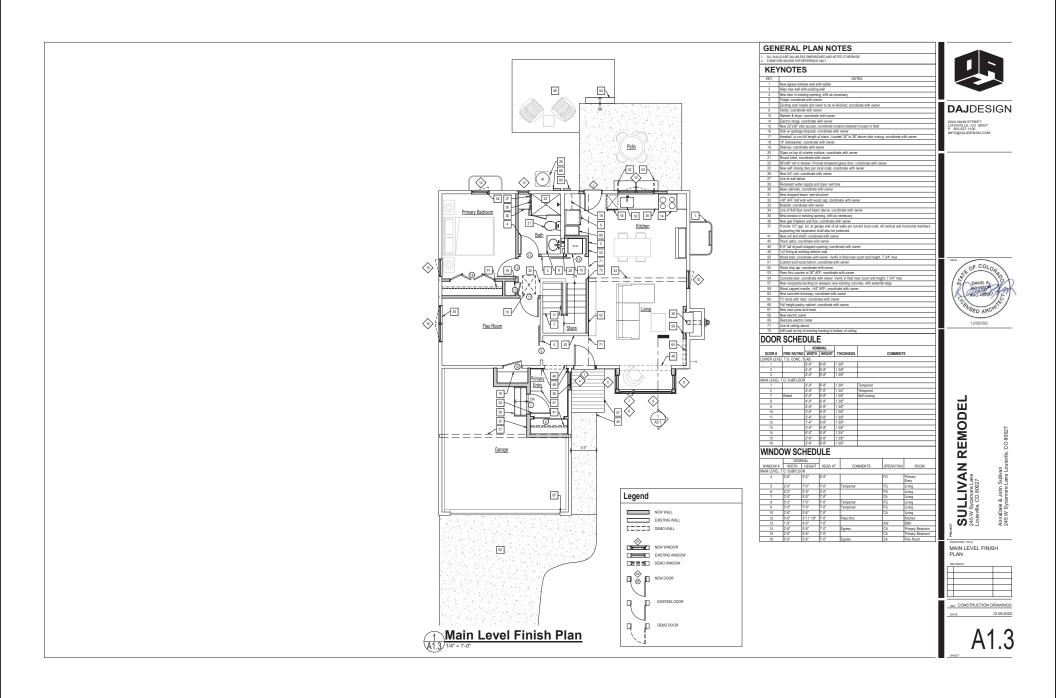
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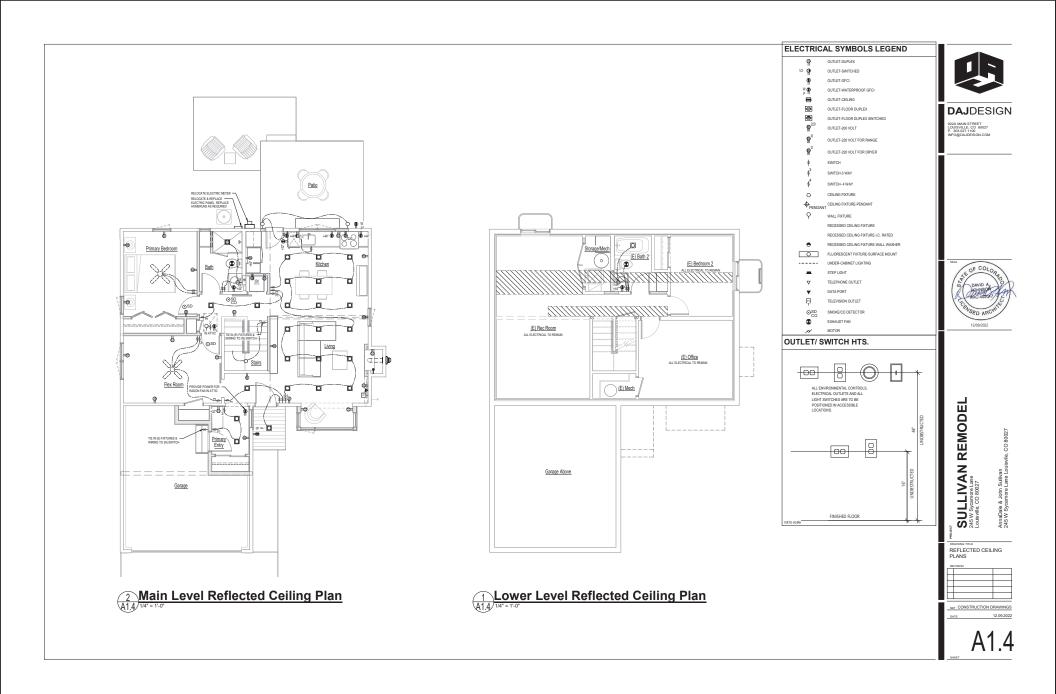


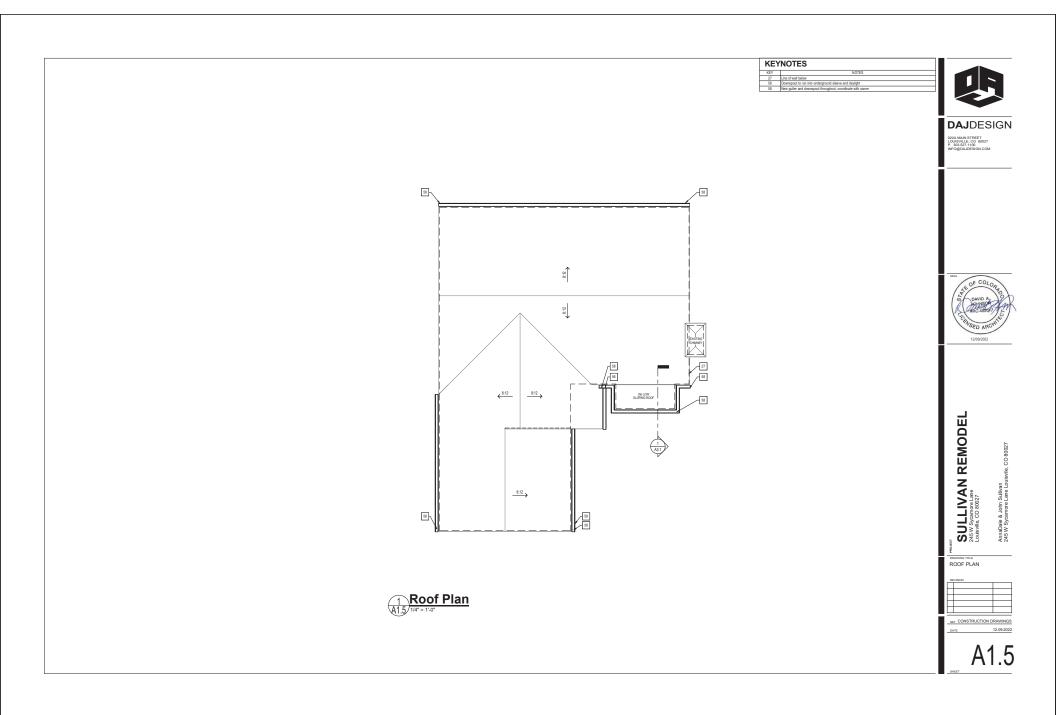


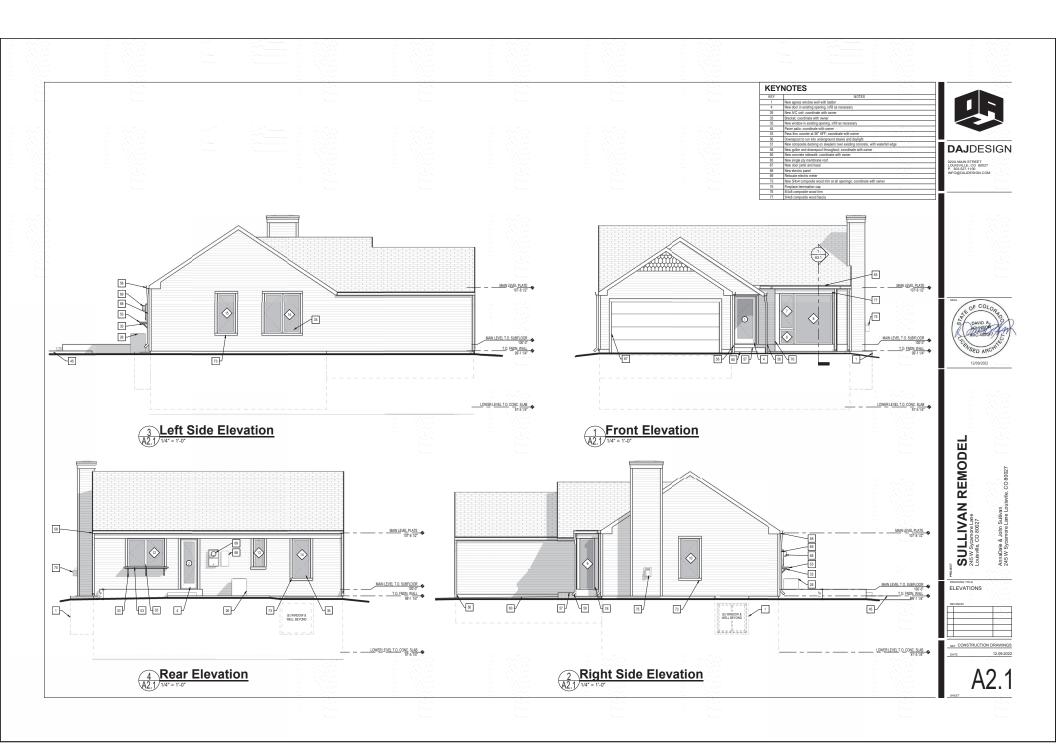


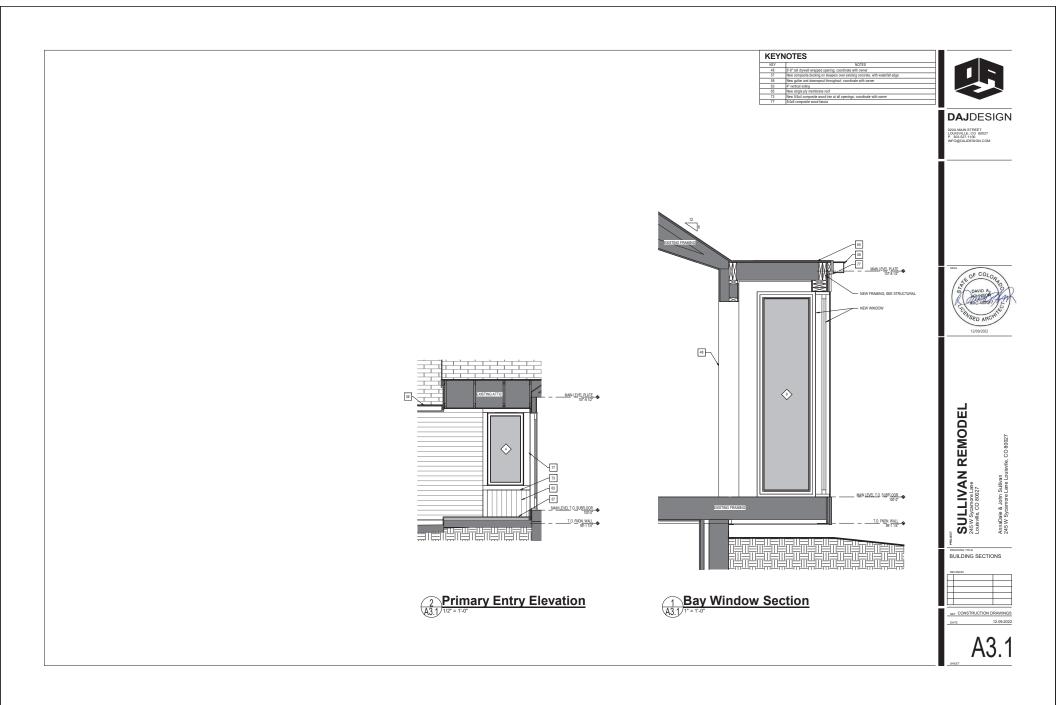








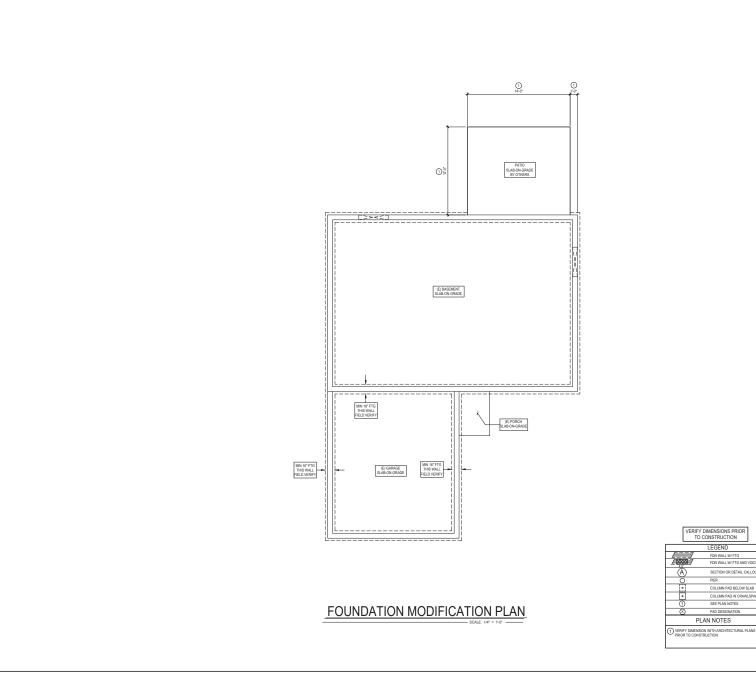




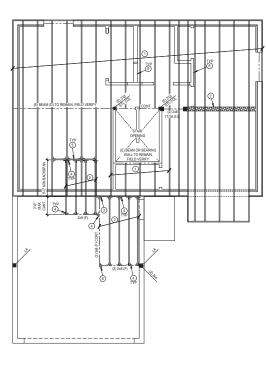
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2.LOADS USED IN DESIGN:	B1 BEAMHDR SCHEDULE	rest Architects
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C. These construction documents were prepared with information about the existing building provided by DAJ Design and limited field measurements taken by personnel of Rody Mountain Groupt on 11-14-22. If the contractor discovers existing conditions which way from hose shown on bese documents, he shall notify the Engineer of Record immediately for guidance on the necessary changes to be made.	HANGER (PER PLAN)	BADO REG/04
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F. A preconstruction meeting with personnel of Rocky Mountain Group, the architect, contractor and appropriate subcontractors is strongly recommended prior to construction to discuss structural plans.	BEARING WALL (INTERIOR)	100
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cold periods to maintain this surface temperature. Due to varying weather conditions, alternative curing processes, and the use of Type III cement, Rocky Mountain Group suggests forms remain in place a minimum of 3 days to assure this performance specification has been met. When forms are stripped there must be no excessive deflection or distortion or discoloration and no evidence of damage	LLH LONG LEG HORIZONTAL	245 SULLI 245 LOI ANNADAL
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Clocate beam pockets and windows per structural / architectural plans. No beam pocket shall be within 16" clear of window frame. Drape horizontal reinforcing below pockets as required. E. Mechanically compact all interior and exterior backfill per Geotechnical engineers recommendations. It will also be necessary to adjust and maintain the grade immediately against foundations	PLATE	
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D. Where not otherwise shown on plans, all nailing or screwing shall be as indicated in the Building Code. All sheathing must be nailed. Adhesives <u>SHALL NOT</u> be used in place of nailing. E. Metal connectors to be convided by "Smoons Driven Javient."		GEN GEN STR STR MOUECT STAT US
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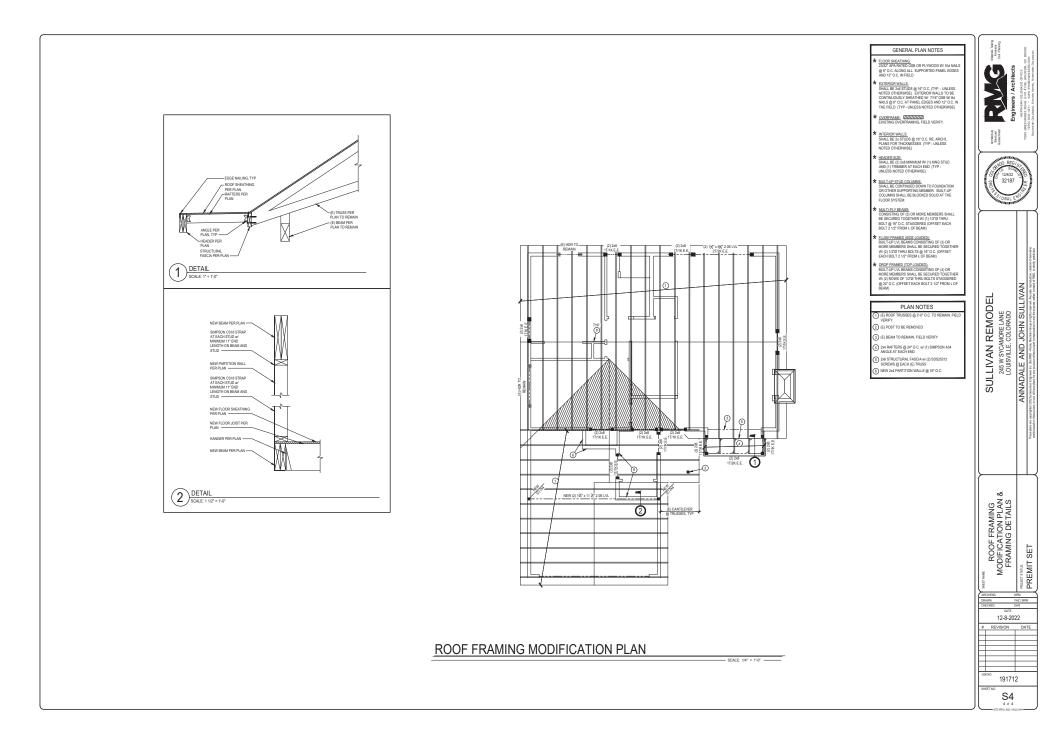


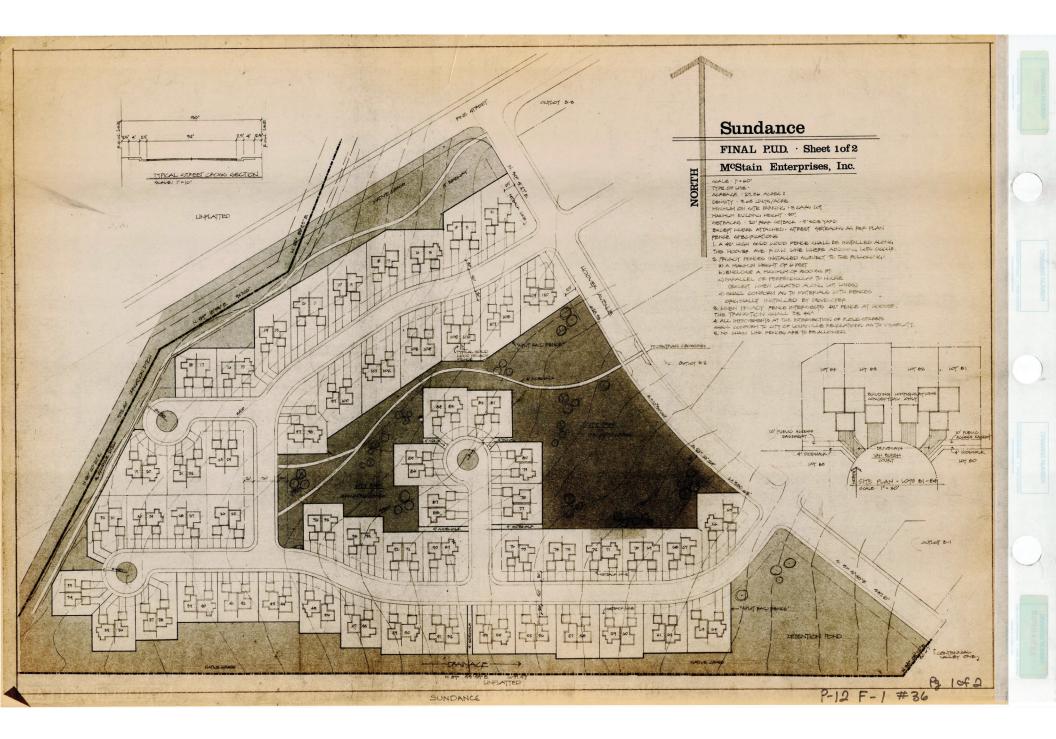


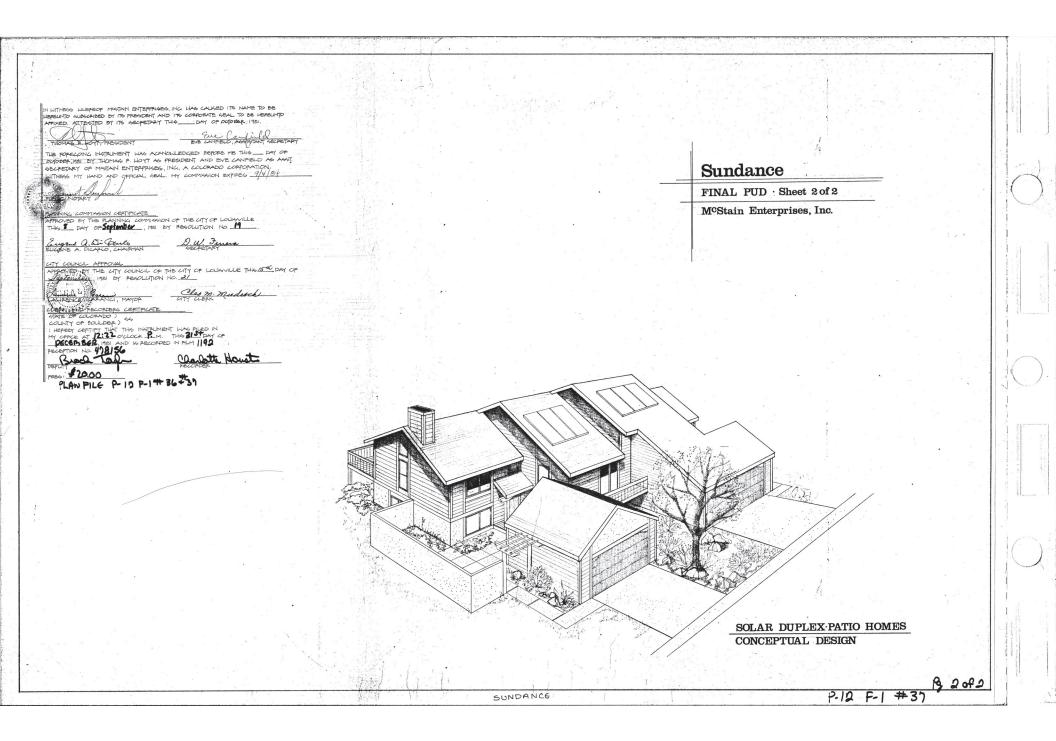


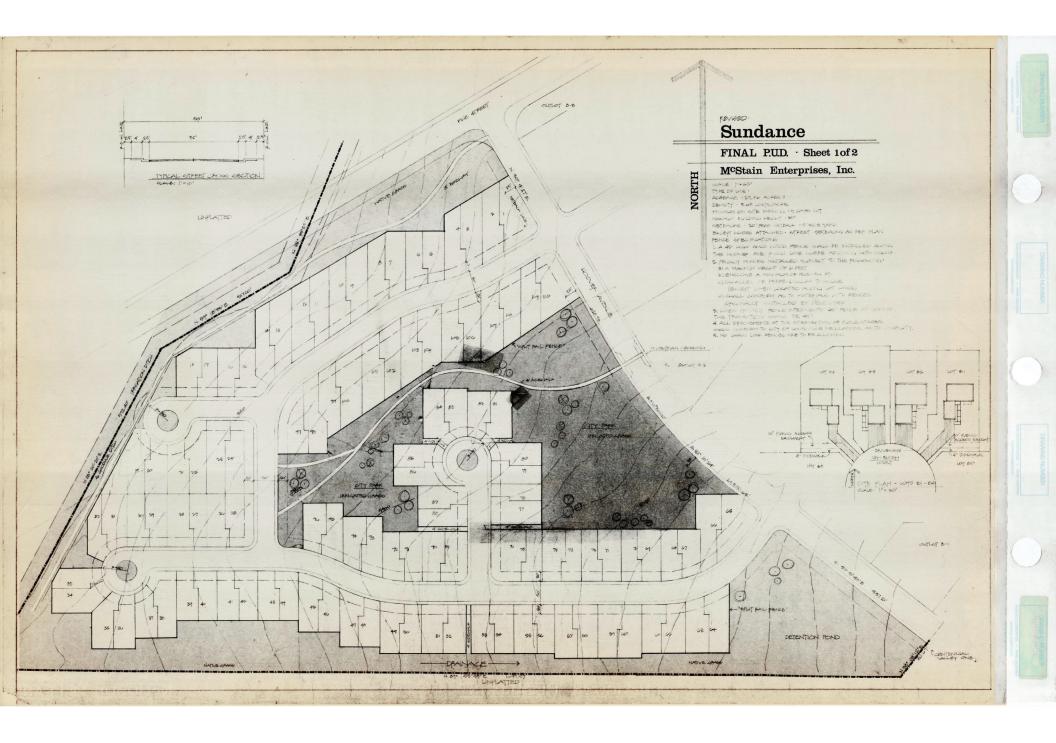
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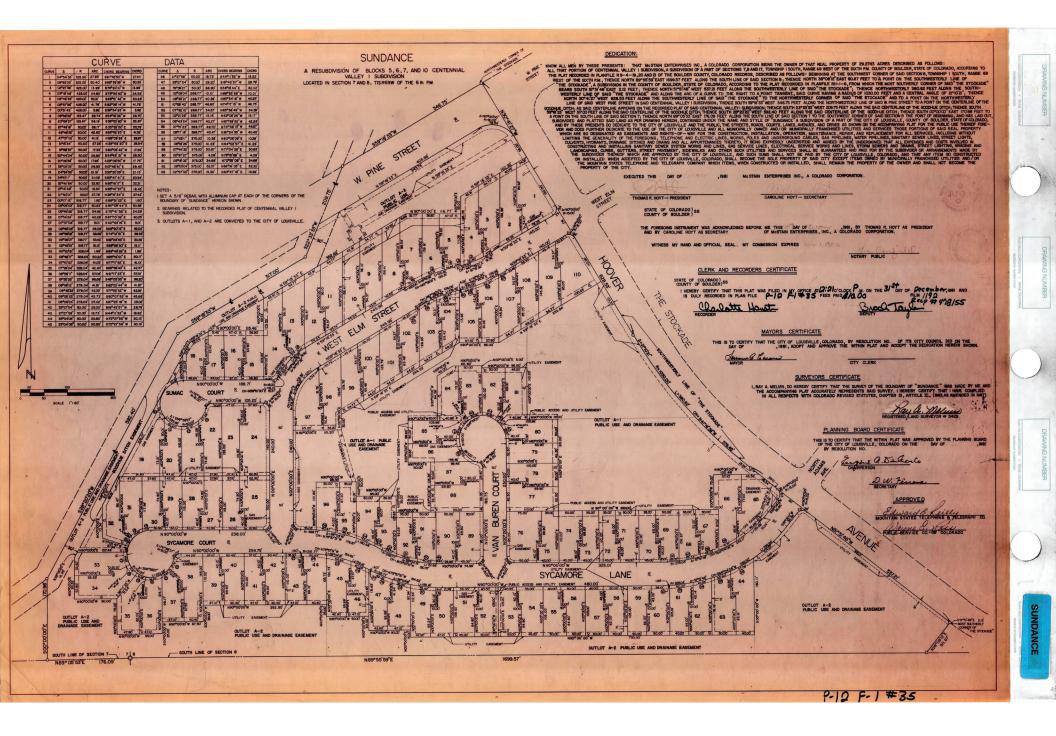
MAIN LEVEL FRAMING MODIFICATION PLAN













isville 749 Main Street + Louisville CO 80027 + 303.335.4592 + www.LouisvilleCo.gov

MemoranduM

То:	Board of Adjustment Members
From:	Community Development Department
Subject:	Establish Official Locations for Posting of Public Notice
Date:	February 15, 2023

State law requires that each year every municipal board or commission shall establish the locations where the notice of their public meetings will be posted. It is required the location be established at that body's first regular meeting of the year.

The City's Home Rule Charter requires that notice of City Council meetings be posted in four locations. The City Attorney and City Manager's Office recommend that city boards and commissions follow the same public notice posting practice.

Consistent with that recommendation, staff is recommending the Board of Adjustment establish for the year 2023 the official locations for posting of Board of Adjustment agendas as follows:

- The Lobby of City Hall, 749 Main Street
- The Louisville Public Library Bulletin Board, 951 Spruce Street
- The Louisville Recreation Center, 900 West Via Appia
- The Police / Municipal Court building, 992 Via Appia
- The City of Louisville website, <u>www.LouisvilleCO.gov</u>

The board may make a motion and vote to approve the above list. A resolution is not necessary.



Community Development Department

uisville 749 Main Street + Louisville CO 80027 + 303.335.4592 + www.louisvilleco.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Adjustment Members

From: Community Development Department

Subject: 2023 Meeting Dates

Date: February 15, 2023

Regular meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, in Council Chambers, 2nd floor of City Hall (749 Main Street) with hybrid participation options for the public, or remotely under limited circumstances (see below). Meetings are typically only held when there are agenda items.

A board may meet in a fully remote meeting only for the following reasons:

- Weather prevents a safe in person meeting;
- COVID or other illness transmission rates dictate not meeting in person;
- The meeting is expected to last no longer than 15 minutes;

And;

• The electronic meeting has been properly noticed on the agenda,

Month	Date
January	18
February	15
March	15
April	19
May	17
June	21
July	19
August	16
September	20
October	18
November	15
December	20



Open Government & Ethics Pamphlet 2023

City Clerk's Office 749 Main Street Louisville CO 80027 ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov 303.335.4536



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Public Involvement Policy	.9

Citizen Participation in Government

The City of Louisville encourages citizen involvement and participation in its public policy process. There are many opportunities for citizens to be informed about and participate in City activities and decisions. All meetings of City Council, and of appointed Boards and Commissions, are open to the public and include an opportunity for public comments. No action or substantive discussion on an item may take place unless that item has been specifically listed as an agenda item for a regular or special meeting. Some opportunities for you to participate include:

Reading and inquiring about City Council activities and agenda items, and attending and speaking on topics of interest at public meetings

City Council Meetings:

- Regular meetings are generally held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall, 749 Main Street;
- Study sessions are generally held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 PM in the Library Meeting Room, located on the first floor of the Library, 951 Spruce Street;
- Regular meetings include a remote participation option via Zoom, are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 8, and are available on demand on the City's website;
- Special meetings may be held occasionally on specific topics. Agendas are posted a minimum of 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Meeting Agendas for City Council meetings, other than special meetings, are posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting at the following locations:

- City Hall, 749 Main Street
- Police Department/Municipal Court, 992 West Via Appia
- Recreation/Senior Center, 900 West Via Appia
- Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street
- City website at <u>www.LouisvilleCO.gov</u>

Meeting packets with all agenda-related materials for regular meetings are available 72 hours prior to each meeting and may be found at these locations:

- Louisville Public Library Reference Area,
- 951 Spruce Street,
- City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 749 Main Street,
- City website at <u>www.LouisvilleCO.gov</u>

You may receive eNotifications of City Council news as well as meeting agendas and summaries of City Council actions by registering for eNotifications on the City's web site at www.LouisvilleCO.gov.

Meeting minutes of all regular and special meetings are available in the City Clerk's office and on the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov) once they are approved.

Information about City activities and projects, as well as City Council decisions, is included in the *Community Update* newsletter, mailed to all City residents and businesses. Information is also often included in the monthly eNewsletter.

Communicating Directly with the Mayor and City Council Members

Contact information for the Mayor and City Councilmembers is available at www.LouisvilleCO.gov, as well as at City Hall, the Louisville Public Library, and the Recreation/Senior Center. You may email the Mayor and City Council as a group at CityCouncil@LouisvilleCO.gov.

Mayor's Town Meetings and City Council Ward Meetings are scheduled periodically. These are informal meetings at which all residents, points of view, and issues are welcome. These meetings are advertised at City facilities and on the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov).

Mayor or City Council Elections

City Council members are elected from three Wards within the City and serve staggered four-year terms. There are two Council representatives from each ward. The mayor is elected at-large and serves a four-year term. City Council elections are held in November of odd-numbered years. For information about City elections, including running for City Council, please contact the City Clerk's Office, at ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov or 303.335.4536.

Serving as an Appointed Member on a City Board or Commission

The City Council makes Board and Commission appointments annually. Some of the City's Boards and Commissions are advisory, others have some decision-making powers. The City Council refers questions and issues to these appointed officials for input and advice. (Please note the Youth Advisory Board has a separate appointment process.)

The City's Boards and Commissions are:

- Board of Adjustment
- Building Code Board of Appeals
- Cultural Council
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Historical Commission
- Library Board of Trustees
- Local Licensing Authority
- Open Space Advisory Board
- Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board
- Planning Commission
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Revitalization Commission
- Sustainability Advisory Board
- Youth Advisory Board

Board information, meeting agendas, and schedules are available on the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov).

Agendas for all Board and Commission meetings are posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to each meeting at these locations:

- City Hall, 749 Main Street
- Police Department/Municipal Court, 992 West Via Appia
- Recreation/Senior Center, 900 West Via Appia
- Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street
- City web site at www.LouisvilleCO.gov

Copies of meeting packets containing agendarelated materials are available at least 72 hours prior to each meeting and may be found at the following locations:

- Louisville Public Library Reference Area, 951 Spruce Street;
- City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 749 Main Street
- City web site at www.LouisvilleCO.gov

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission evaluates land use proposals against zoning laws and holds public hearings as outlined in City codes. Following a public hearing, the Commission makes a recommendation of approval or denial to the City Council for all land use proposals.

- Regular Planning Commission meetings are held at 6:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month.
- Overflow meetings are scheduled for 6:30 PM on the 4th Thursday of the month as needed.
- Study Sessions are held occasionally as needed.
- Regular meetings include a remote participation option via Zoom, are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 8, and are available on demand on the City's website.

Open Government Training

All City Council members and members of a permanent Board or Commission are required to participate in at least one City-sponsored open government-related seminar, workshop, or other training program at least once every two years.

Open Meetings

The City follows the Colorado Open Meetings Law ("Sunshine Law") as well as additional open meetings requirements found in the City's Home Rule Charter. These rules and practices apply to the City Council and appointed Boards and Commissions (referred to as a "public bodies" for ease of reference). Important open meetings rules and practices include the following:

Regular Meetings

All meetings of three or more members of a public body (or a quorum, whichever is fewer) are open to the public.

All meetings of public bodies must be held in public buildings and public facilities accessible to all members of the public. Meetings may be held electronically under specific circumstances.

All meetings must be preceded by proper notice. Agendas and agenda-related materials are posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting at the following locations:

- City Hall, 749 Main Street
- Police Department/Municipal Court, 992 West Via Appia
- Recreation/Senior Center,
 900 West Via Appia
- Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street
- On the City web site at www.LouisvilleCO.gov

Study Sessions

Study sessions are also open to the public however, study sessions have a limited purpose:

- Study sessions are to obtain information and discuss matters in a less formal atmosphere;
- No preliminary or final decision or action may be made or taken at any study session; further, full debate and deliberation of a matter is to be reserved for formal meetings. If a person believes in good faith that a study session is proceeding contrary to these limitations, they may submit a written objection. The presiding officer will then review the objection and determine how the study session should proceed.
- A written summary of each study session is prepared and is available on the City's website.

Executive Sessions

The City Charter also sets out specific procedures and limitations on the use of executive sessions. These rules, found in Article 5 of the Charter, are intended to further the City policy that the activities of City government be conducted in public to the greatest extent feasible, in order to assure public participation and enhance public accountability. The City's rules regarding executive sessions include the following:

Timing and Procedures

The City Council and City Boards and Commissions may hold an executive session only at a regular or special meeting. No formal action of any type, and no informal or "straw" vote, may occur at any executive session. Rather, formal actions, such as the adoption of a proposed policy, position, rule or other action, may only occur in open session.

Prior to holding an executive session, there must be a public announcement of the request and the legal authority for convening in closed session. There must be a detailed and specific statement as to the topics to be discussed and the reasons for requesting the session.

The request must be approved by a supermajority (two-thirds of the full Council, Board, or Commission). Prior to voting on the request, the clerk reads a statement of the rules pertaining to executive sessions. Once in executive session, the limitations on the session must be discussed and the propriety of the session confirmed. If there are objections and/or concerns over the propriety of the session, those are to be resolved in open session.

Once the session is over, an announcement is made of any procedures that will follow from the session.

Executive sessions are recorded, with access to those tapes limited as provided by state law. Those state laws allow a judge to review the propriety of a session if in a court filing it is shown that there is a reasonable belief that the executive session went beyond its permitted scope. Executive session records are not available outside of a court proceeding.

Authorized Topics

For City Council, an executive session may be held only for discussion of the following topics:

- Matters where the information being discussed is required to be kept confidential by federal or state law;
- Certain personnel matters relating to employees directly appointed by the Council, and other personnel matters only upon request of the City Manager or Mayor for informational purposes only;
- Consideration of water rights and real property acquisitions and dispositions, but only as to appraisals and other value estimates and strategy for the acquisition or disposition; and

 Consultation with an attorney representing the City with respect to pending litigation. This includes cases that are actually filed as well as situations where the person requesting the executive session believes in good faith that a lawsuit may result, and allows for discussion of settlement strategies.

The City's Boards and Commissions may only hold an executive session for consultation with its attorney regarding pending litigation.

Ethics

Ethics are the foundation of good government. Louisville has adopted its own Code of Ethics, which is found in the City Charter and which applies to elected officials, public body members, and employees. The Louisville Code of Ethics applies in addition to any higher standards in state law. Louisville's position on ethics is perhaps best summarized in the following statement taken from the City Charter:

Those entrusted with positions in the City government must commit to adhering to the letter and spirit of the Code of Ethics. Only when the people are confident that those in positions of public responsibility are committed to high levels of ethical and moral conduct, will they have faith that their government is acting for the good of the public. This faith in the motives of officers, public body members, and employees is critical for a harmonious and trusting relationship between the City government and the people it serves.

The City's Code of Ethics (Sections 5-6 through 5-17 of the Charter) is summarized in the following paragraphs. While the focus is to provide a general overview of the rules, it is important to note that all persons subject to the Code of Ethics must strive to follow both the letter and the spirit of the Code, so as to avoid not only actual violations, but public perceptions of violations. Indeed, perceptions of violations can have the same negative impact on public trust as actual violations.

Conflicts of Interest

One of the most common ethical rules visited in the local government arena is the "conflict of interest rule." While some technical aspects of the rule are discussed below, the general rule under the Code of Ethics is that if a Council, Board, or Commission member has an "interest" that will be affected by his or her "official action," then there is a conflict of interest and the member must:

- Disclose the conflict, on the record and with particularity;
- Not participate in the discussion;
- Leave the room; and
- Not attempt to influence others.

An "interest" is a pecuniary, property, or commercial benefit, or any other benefit the primary significance of which is economic gain or the avoidance of economic loss. However, an "interest" does not include any matter conferring similar benefits on all property or persons similarly situated. (Therefore, a City Council member is not prohibited from voting on a sales tax increase or decrease if the member's only interest is that he or she, like other residents, will be subject to the higher or lower tax.) Additionally, an "interest" does not include a stock interest of less than one percent of the company's outstanding shares.

The Code of Ethics extends the concept of prohibited interest to persons or entities with whom the member is associated. In particular, an interest of the following persons and entities is also an interest of the member: relatives (including persons related by blood or marriage to certain degrees, and others); a business in which the member is an officer, director, employee, partner, principal, member, or owner; and a business in which member owns more than one percent of outstanding shares.

The concept of an interest in a business applies to profit and nonprofit corporations, and applies in situations in which the official action would affect a business competitor. Additionally, an interest is deemed to continue for one year after the interest has ceased. Finally, "official action" for purposes of the conflict of interest rule, includes not only legislative actions, but also administrative actions and "quasi-judicial" proceedings where the entity is acting like a judge in applying rules to the specific rights of individuals (such as a variance request or liquor license). Thus, the conflict rules apply essentially to all types of actions a member may take.

Conflicts

In addition to its purchasing policies and other rules intended to secure contracts that are in the best interest of the City, the Code of Ethics prohibits various actions regarding contracts. For example, no public body member who has decision-making authority or influence over a City contract can have an interest in the contract, unless the member has complied with the disclosure and recusal rules. Further, members are not to appear before the City on behalf of other entities that hold a City contract, nor are they to solicit or accept employment from a contracting entity if it is related to the member's action on a contract with that entity.

Gifts and Nepotism

The Code of Ethics, as well as state law, regulates the receipt of gifts. City officials and employees may not solicit or accept a present or future gift, favor, discount, service or other thing of value from a party to a City contract, or from a person seeking to influence an official action. There is an exception for the "occasional nonpecuniary gift" of \$15 or less, but this exception does not apply if the gift, no matter how small, may be associated with the official's or employee's official action, whether concerning a contract or some other matter. The gift ban also extends to independent contractors who may exercise official actions on behalf of the City.

The Code of Ethics also prohibits common forms of nepotism. For example, no officer, public body member, or employee shall be responsible for employment matters concerning a relative. Nor can they influence compensation paid to a relative, and a relative of a current officer, public body member or employee cannot be hired unless certain personnel rules are followed.

Other Ethics Rules of Interest

Like state law, Louisville's Code of Ethics prohibits the use of non-public information for personal or private gain. It also prohibits acts of advantage or favoritism and, in that regard, prohibits special considerations, use of employee time for personal or private reasons, and use of City vehicles or equipment, except in same manner as available to any other person (or in manner that will substantially benefit City). The City also has a "revolving door" rule that prohibits elected officials from becoming City employees either during their time in office or for two years after leaving office. These and other rules of conduct are found in Section 5-9 of the Code of Ethics.

Disclosure, Enforcement, and Advisory Opinions

The Code of Ethics requires that those holding or running for City Council file a financial disclosure statement with the City Clerk. The statement must include, among other information, the person's employer and occupation, sources of income, and a list of business and property holdings.

The Code of Ethics provides fair and certain procedures for its enforcement. Complaints of violations may be filed with the City prosecutor; the complaint must be a detailed written and verified statement. If the complaint is against an elected or appointed official, it is forwarded to an independent judge who appoints a special, independent prosecutor for purposes of investigation and appropriate action. If against an employee, the City prosecutor will investigate the complaint and take appropriate action. In all cases, the person who is subject to the complaint is given the opportunity to provide information concerning the complaint.

Finally, the Code allows persons who are subject to the Code to request an advisory opinion if they are uncertain as to applicability of the Code to a particular situation, or as to the definition of terms used in the Code. Such requests are handled by an advisory judge, selected from a panel of independent, disinterested judges who have agreed to provide their services. This device allows persons who are subject to the Code to resolve uncertainty before acting, so that a proper course of conduct may be identified. Any person who requests and acts in accordance with an advisory opinion issued by an advisory judge is not subject to City penalty, unless material facts were omitted or misstated in the request. Advisory opinions are posted for public inspection; the advisory judge may order a delay in posting if the judge determines the delay is in the City's best interest.

Citizens are encouraged to contact the City Clerk's Office with any questions about the City's Code of Ethics or to request a copy. A copy of the Code is also available at the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov).

Other Laws on Citizen Participation in Government

Preceding sections of this pamphlet describe Louisville's practices intended to further citizen participation in government. Those practices are intended to further dissemination of information and participation in the governing process. Some other laws of interest regarding citizen participation include:

Initiative and Referendum

The right to petition for municipal legislation is reserved to the citizens by the Colorado Constitution and the City Charter. An initiative is a petition for legislation brought directly by the citizens; a referendum is a petition brought by the citizens to refer to the voters a piece of legislation that has been approved by the City Council. In addition to these two petitioning procedures, the City Council may refer matters directly to the voters in the absence of any petition. Initiative and referendum petitions must concern municipal legislation—as opposed to administrative or other non-legislative matters. By law the City Clerk is the official responsible for many of the activities related to a petition process, such as approval of the petition forms, review of the signed petitions, and consideration of protests and other matters. There are minimum signature requirements for petitions to be moved to the ballot; in Louisville, an initiative petition must be signed by at least five percent of the total number of registered electors. A referendum petition must be signed by at least two and one-half percent of the registered electors.

Public Hearings

In addition to the opportunity afforded at each regular City Council meeting to comment on items not on the agenda, most City Council actions provide opportunity for public comment through a public hearing process. For example, the City Charter provides that a public hearing shall be held on every ordinance before its adoption. This includes opportunities for public comment prior to initial City Council discussion of the ordinance, as well as after Council's initial discussion but before action. Many actions of the City are required to be taken by ordinance, and thus this device allows for citizen public hearing comments on matters ranging from zoning ordinances to ordinances establishing offenses that are subject to enforcement through the municipal court.

Additionally, federal, state, and/or local law requires a public hearing on a number of matters irrespective of whether an ordinance is involved. For example, a public hearing is held on the City budget, the City Comprehensive Plan and similar plans, and a variety of site-specific or personspecific activities, such as annexations of land into the city, rezonings, special use permits, variances, and new liquor licenses. Anyone may provide comments during these hearings.

Public Records

Access to public records is an important aspect of citizen participation in government. Louisville follows the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) and the additional public records provisions in the City Charter. In particular, the Charter promotes the liberal construction of public records law, so as to promote the prompt disclosure of City records to citizens at no cost or no greater cost than the actual costs to the City.

The City Clerk is the custodian of the City's public records, except for police records which are handled by the Police Department. The City maintains a public policy on access to public records, which includes a records request form, a statement of fees, and other guidelines. No fee is charged for the inspection of records or for locating or making records available for copying, except in cases of voluminous requests or dated records, or when the time spent in locating records exceeds two hours. No fees are charged for the first 25 copies requested or for electronic records.

Many records, particularly those related to agenda items for City Council and current Board and Commission meetings, are available directly on the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov). In addition to posting agenda-related material, the City maintains a communication file (email) for the City Council which is available on the City's website (www.LouisvilleCO.gov).

CORA lists the categories of public records that are not generally open to public inspection. These include, for example, certain personnel records and information, financial and other information about users of City facilities, privileged information, medical records, letters of reference, and other items listed in detail in CORA. When public records are not made available, the custodian will specifically advise the requestor of the reason.

Citizens are encouraged to review the City's website (www.LousivilleCo.gov) for information, and to contact the City with any questions regarding City records.

Public Involvement Policy

Public participation is an essential element of the City's representative form of government. To promote effective public participation City officials, advisory board members, staff and participants should all observe the following guiding principles, roles and responsibilities:

Guiding Principles for Public Involvement

Inclusive not Exclusive - Everyone's participation is welcome. Anyone with a known interest in the issue will be identified, invited and encouraged to be involved early in the process.

Voluntary Participation - The process will seek the support of those participants willing to invest the time necessary to make it work.

Purpose Driven - The process will be clearly linked to when and how decisions are made. These links will be communicated to participants.

Time, Financial and Legal Constraints - The process will operate within an appropriate time frame and budget and observe existing legal and regulatory requirements.

Communication - The process and its progress will be communicated to participants and the community at-large using appropriate methods and technologies.

Adaptability - The process will be adaptable so that the level of public involvement is reflective of the magnitude of the issue and the needs of the participants.

Access to Information -The process will provide participants with timely access to all relevant information in an understandable and user-friendly way. Education and training requirements will be considered.

Access to Decision Making - The process will give participants the opportunity to influence decision making.

Respect for Diverse Interests - The process will foster respect for the diverse values, interests and knowledge of those involved.

Accountability - The process will reflect that participants are accountable to both their constituents and to the success of the process. *Evaluation* - The success and results of the process will be measured and evaluated.

Roles and Responsibilities - City Council

City Council is ultimately responsible to all the citizens of Louisville and must weigh each of its decisions accordingly. Councilors are responsible to their local constituents under the ward system; however they must carefully consider the concerns expressed by all parties. Council must ultimately meet the needs of the entire community—including current and future generations—and act in the best interests of the City as a whole.

During its review and decision-making process, Council has an obligation to recognize the efforts and activities that have preceded its deliberations. Council should have regard for the public involvement processes that have been completed in support or opposition of projects.

Roles and Responsibilities - City Staff and Advisory Boards

The City should be designed and run to meet the needs and priorities of its citizens. Staff and advisory boards must ensure the Guiding Principles direct their work. In addition to the Guiding Principles, staff and advisory boards are responsible for:

- ensuring that decisions and recommendations reflect the needs and desires of the community as a whole;
- pursuing public involvement with a positive spirit because it helps clarify those needs and desires and also adds value to projects;
- fostering long-term relationships based on respect and trust in all public involvement activities;
- encouraging positive working partnerships;
- ensuring that no participant or group is marginalized or ignored;
- drawing out the silent majority, the voiceless and the disempowered; and being familiar with a variety of public involvement techniques and the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches.

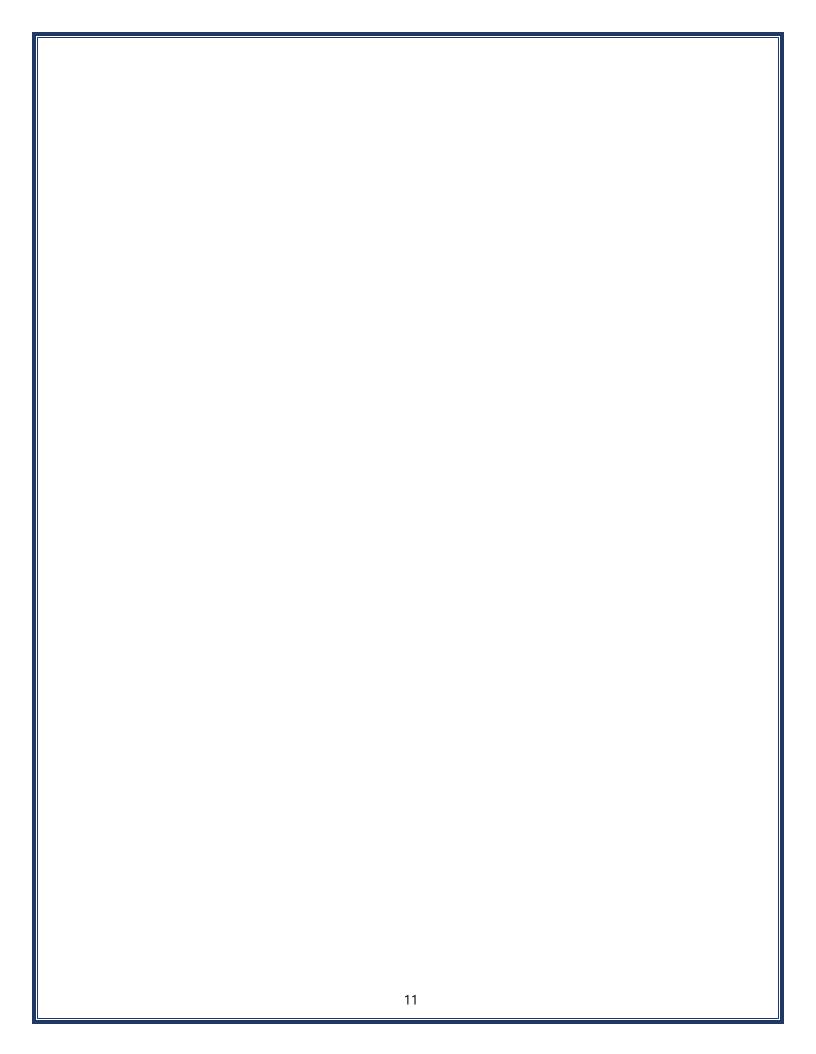
All Participants

The public is also accountable for the public involvement process and for the results it produces. All parties (including Council, advisory boards, staff, proponents, opponents and the public) are responsible for:

- working within the process in a cooperative and civil manner;
- focusing on real issues and not on furthering personal agendas;
- balancing personal concerns with the needs of the community as a whole;
- having realistic expectations;
- participating openly, honestly and constructively,
- offering ideas, suggestions and alternatives;
- listening carefully and actively considering everyone's perspectives;
- identifying their concerns and issues early in the process;
- providing their names and contact information if they want direct feedback;

- remembering that no single voice is more important than all others, and that there are diverse opinions to be considered;
- making every effort to work within the project schedule and if this is not possible, discussing this with the proponent without delay;
- recognizing that process schedules may be constrained by external factors such as limited funding, broader project schedules or legislative requirements;
- accepting some responsibility for keeping themselves aware of current issues, making others aware of project activities and soliciting their involvement and input; and
- considering that the quality of the outcome and how that outcome is achieved are both important.

Updated December 2022



This pamphlet is prepared pursuant to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Louisville.

This is a compilation of Articles 4 and 5 of the Charter of the City of Louisville and is available at all times in the City Clerk's Office, 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, and on the City's web site at www.LouisvilleCO.gov.

This pamphlet is also provided to every member of a public body (board or commission) at that body's first meeting each year.