Henry P. Roybal Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen

Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya Commissioner, District 3



Anna T. Hamilton Commissioner, District 4

Ed Moreno

Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller County Manager

DATE:

December 21, 2017

TO:

Santa Fe County Planning Commission

FROM:

Miguel "Mike" Romero, Development Review Specialist Sr. M2



VIA:

Penny Ellis-Green, Growth Management Director

Vicki Lucero, Building and Development Services Manager V

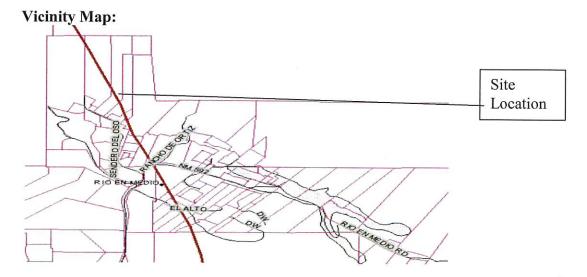
FILE REF.:

CASE # V17-5280 Pamela Barish Variance

ISSUE:

Pamela Barish, Applicant, Santa Fe Planning INC. (Scott Hoeft) Agent, request a variance to the requirements set forth in the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) of Chapter 7, Table 7-13 (Rural Road Classification and Design Standards for SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than (20) feet in width and Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

The property is located at 30 Sendero del Oso, and is zoned Rural Residential (RUR-R), within Section 32, Township 19 North, Range 10 East (Commission District 1).



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SUMMARY:

On October 26, 2017 the Application was presented to the Hearing Officer. The Hearing Officer recommended approval of a variance of Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing roadway to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than 20 feet in width, and a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

On November 28, 2017, the BCC approved changes to the road standards of the SLDC. The changes included allowing roads and driveways of up to 15% grade in areas of steep terrain, and the requirement for a 5% grade within a 100 linear ft. of an intersection now only applies to non-residential, multifamily and subdivisions. Unless there is an appeal these changes will become effective on December 29, 2017. At that time the Applicants variance request for the road grade and grade at the approach to the intersection will not be needed.

The Applicant, Pamela Barish, is the owner of the property at Sendero del Oso as indicated by the warranty deed recorded in the records of the Santa Fe County Clerk on October 30, 2005, as Instrument No. 1455680.

The Applicant's intention is to obtain a residential building permit either by the Applicant or their representatives. But Sendero del Oso doesn't meet the off-site road requirements per Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3). Therefore, the Applicant is requesting a variance to allow an existing road to exceed the required 9% grade and to have a road width of 10-14 feet, which is less than the required 20 feet with two 10-foot driving lanes as indicated in Table 7-13. The Applicant is also requesting a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

The property at 30 Sendero del Oso consists of 6.623 acres that lies within the Rural Residential Zoning District. The property is accessed off S.R 592 onto Sendero del Oso, which is identified as a private dead end road with a 20 foot right-of-way (ROW) easement that serves 15 lots.

The Applicant's agent states in 2017, the Applicants were advised by Land Use Planning staff that Sendero del Oso would need to be re-engineered and redeveloped to meet the recently adopted standards of the SLDC. Accordingly, the SLDC requires development Applicants served by "nonconforming" private roads to be responsible for improving those roads to County standards prior to the issuance of a building permit, irrespective of the parcel's legal lot status historical development rights, or approved zoning classification. Staff has confirmed that Sendero del Oso has been in existence since 1964.

The Applicant's agent further states, Sendero del Oso is an existing road that serves approximately 15 parcels with 11 of the lots being improved. Sendero del Oso ranges from 10-14 feet and has some sections as wide as 20-ft in width for emergency vehicle turn-outs. The Applicant's agent states that the easement is 20 feet in width and has a road grade that that exceeds 9%, with grades ranging from 9-15%.

Staff has conducted a site visit and has confirmed that Sendero del Oso does range between 10-14 feet in width with one section of the road that is approximately 20 feet in width and has a platted 20 foot wide ROW easement indicated in Plat Bk. 622 Pg. 008. Staff has also confirmed that there is one section of Sendero del Oso that is at a 15% grade for 300 linear feet and one section that is at 13% for 61 feet.

The Applicant's agent states as Sendero del Oso connects to S.R. 592 it does so at an angle less than 90 degrees and a grade greater than 5%. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 states that grades at the approach of intersections shall not exceed five (5%) for one hundred linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection. Staff has confirmed that within the 100 linear feet at the approach of the intersection of Sendero del Oso and S.R. 592 there is a grade of 7%. Even if the Applicant were to request a minor deviation of 10% it would bring the road grade to only 5.5%. Intersection angles are not an issue and meet code criteria.

The Applicant further states that to meet the SLDC's minimum grade requirements of 9%, an extensive excavation responsibility would be imposed on the Applicant. The Applicant's agent further states that such a project would involve significant re-grading within and outside of the platted 20 foot easement, retaining walls would likely be required on the up-slope side of the road and the project would be prohibitively expensive to engineer, construct and re-vegetate.

Staff Response:

Sendero del Oso is required to meet Santa Fe County Rural Road Classification and Design Standards with regard to Cul-de-Sac requirements which would require two driving lanes, each lane must be a minimum of 10 ft. in width, a max grade of 9%, with a 20 ft. easement, and 3 in. of base course as stated in Chapter 7, Table 7-13 Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3). The Applicant is asking for a variance of the max 9% grade and lane width of two, ten foot driving lanes. The Applicant is not asking for a variance of the minimum ROW, since the ROW meets code criteria. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.11.5 Standards for Residential Development indicates that residential development may reduce the road easement width for off-site and on-site roads to no less than 20 feet. Staff has confirmed that Sendero del Oso has a platted 20 foot ROW easement with road widths of 10-14 feet with two areas exceeding the required 9% grade. Staff has confirmed that within the (100) linear feet at the approach of the intersection of Sendero del Oso and S.R. 592 there is a grade of 7%. Intersection angles are not an issue and meet code criteria.

Per Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.6 Administrative minor deviations:

The administrator is authorized to administratively approve minor deviations upon a finding that the deviation is required that the result is consistent with the intent and purpose of this SLDC, and that the deviation is not detrimental to adjacent or surrounding properties as follows:

1. minor deviations from the dimensional requirements of Chapter 7, 8 and 9 of the SLDC not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the required dimension; and

2. minor deviations from the density dimensional standards of Chapter 8 of the SLDC not to exceed five tenths of a percent (0.5%) of the gross acreage allowed in the zoning district.

The applicable requirements under the Santa Fe County Sustainable Land Development Code, Ordinance No. 2016-9 (SLDC), which governs this Application are the following:

Chapter 8, Section 8.6.4.1 Rural Residential (RUR-R) Purpose:

The purpose of the Rural Residential (RUR-R) district is to provide for the development of single-family homes on large lots, either individually or as part of rural subdivisions; to preserve the scenic and rural character of the County; to provide consolidated open space and agriculture lands; and to recognize the desirability of carrying on compatible agriculture operations and home development in areas near the fringes of urban development while avoiding unreasonable restrictions on farming or ranching operations. Uses that support rural character of the broader area shall be allowed including agriculture productions, small-scale renewable energy production, home-based businesses, bed and breakfasts, agrotourism, equestrian and boarding facilities, farmers markets and produce stands. Density transfers and clustered development shall be allowed in order to support continued farming and/or ranching activities, conserve open space or protect scenic features and environmentally sensitive areas.

Chapter 7, Section 7.11.1. Purpose and Findings states:

- 7.11.1.1. ensure that the design of the roads conforms to the policies of the SGMP;
- 7.11.1.2. provide for the safety of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic;
- 7.11.1.3. provide for livable residential, mixed-use and commercial environments;
- 7.11.1.4. provide for economy of land use, construction, and maintenance; and
- 7.11.1.5. provide for safe and efficient access to property.

Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6. Intersections and roundabouts states:

Grades at the approach of intersections shall not exceed five percent (5%) for one hundred (100) linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection, excluding vertical curve distance.

Chapter 7, Section 7.11.11.5 Standards for Residential Development.

1. Residential development may reduce the road easement width for off-site and on-site roads to no less than 20 feet if adequate drainage control is provided and may allow the surface to be hardpacked dirt with compaction of 95% of the maximum density.

Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3). Cul-de-Sac, (Exhibit 4).

Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.1, Variances, Purpose, states:

The purpose of this Section is to provide a mechanism in the form of a variance that grants a landowner relief from certain standards in this code where, due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner. The granting of an area variance shall allow a deviation from the dimensional requirements and standards of the Code, but in no way shall it authorize a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district.

Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.4, Variance Review criteria states:

A variance may be granted by only a majority of all the members of the Planning Commission (or the Board, on appeal from the Planning Commission) based upon the following criteria:

- 1. where the request is not contrary to public interest;
- 2. where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner; and
- 3. so that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.5 Conditions of approval.

- 1. The Planning Commission may impose conditions on a variance request necessary to accomplish the purposes and intent of the SLDC and the SGMP and to prevent or minimize adverse impacts on the general health, safety and welfare of property owners and area residents.
- 2. All approved variances run with the land, unless conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission specify otherwise.
- 3. All approved variances automatically expire within one year of the date of approval, unless the applicant files a plat implementing the variance or substantial construction of the building or structure authorized by the variance occurs within that time.

The Applicant has addressed the variance criteria for each variance as follows: Roadway Width

1. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest;

Applicant's Statement: Without the variances, the existing roadway will need to be redeveloped with 20-ft travel lanes. The travel lanes currently exist at 20-ft in some sections, but for the most part exist as 14-ft as typical, down to 11-ft in width in certain sections. The redevelopment of the travel lanes to the required size would require significant cut/fill and retaining walls within the 20-ft easement and outside of the 20-ft easement, which may or may not be feasible. Such an endeavor would be a significant undertaking for any property owner along the roadway. It would even be a hardship for a public entity such as Santa Fe County public works to complete given the 20-ft easement size and the multiple property owners along the road.

As noted above, Sendero del Oso serves 11 residential homes. Over its duration, building permits have been issued to properties located along Sendero del Oso. Building permits have been approved without the requirement for supplemental improvements to Sendero del Oso even though the 1981 Land Use Development Code specified 20-ft travel lands as the development standard.

Staff Response: The Applicant could request a 10% minor deviation per Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.6 of the SLDC to the table to allow the roadway to be at a width of 18 feet. However, the Applicant is requesting not to widen the road. Staff has determined that Sendero del Oso would have to go through major construction in widening the road to meet the 20 ft. driving surface or a 10% minor deviation to that standard (18 ft.). The redevelopment of Sendero del Oso would include disturbance of manmade and natural 30% slopes in several areas, retaining wall installation in several areas, a major bridge structure to the existing Rio en Medio crossing and possible disturbance of existing underground acequias. Staff recommends that a minimum 14 foot driving surface be required for vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Staff has researched through the AS400 (Permitting database), property information documentation obtained from County Assessor's Office show that there have been development permits approved for residential development along Sendero del Oso without the requirements of improving the road, as the majority of Sendero del Oso ranges from 10-14 feet with road grades up to 15%. The permits were approved under the 1996 Land Development Code.

2. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties and undue hardship to the owner;

Applicant's Statement: So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project variances of the SLDC requirements are sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement of Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality. However, well intended in their drafting intent (to improve public safety and enhance accessibility), the road improvement standards required by the SLDC impose an impractical and disproportionate burden on property owners served by Sendero del Oso. By requiring extensive road improvements as a condition of building permit approval, the SLDC deviates dramatically from County land use permitting precedence.

Staff Response: Staff acknowledges the fact that it would be a major expense for the Applicant to bring Sendero del Oso up to SLDC requirements by widening the road to a minimum of 20 ft. or with a 10% minor deviation 18 ft. Staff has determined that disturbance of manmade and natural slopes of 30% or greater with installation of retaining walls would have a major impact on the terrain. The Applicant would also have to endure a major bridge construction at the Rio en Medio and extensive amounts of fill to bring the two areas that exceed 9% grade into code compliance. Staff has confirmed that the majority of Sendero del Oso from S. R. 592 to the Applicant's property doesn't meet the 20 foot driving surface and 9% grade in two areas. Staff acknowledges that Sendero del Oso has been in existence since 1964. Although the Applicant's agent never provided a Plan and Profile, it is clear that the Applicant would need to use extensive amounts of fill to alter the current road grades to meet the 9% grade. Staff agrees that adding a substantial amount of fill is excessive.

3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Applicant's Statement: Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicly dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redeveloping the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars - a cost that would be unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

The offsite road improvement provisions associated with Section 7.1.11 and Section 7.11.6 of the SDLC threaten to significantly diminish the value and marketability of undeveloped, legally platted lots served by roads with development conditions similar to or worse than Sendero del Oso.

Rather than retroactively applying offsite development responsibilities to properties that have been legal lots of record, and whose proposed uses conform to the development allowances of the SDLC, the Applicant requests that no new road improvement requirements be mandated, and that building permits be available to such properties without special condition or limitation.

Staff Response: The SLDC has restrictions on slope disturbance along with cut and fill. All development including roads shall be located so as to minimize areas of cut and fill. Widening the road would require excessive grading.

The Applicant has addressed the variance criteria for each variance as follows: Road Grade

1. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest:

Applicant's Response: Without the variances, the existing roadway will need to be redeveloped to a grade of less than 9%. It exists currently at a grade of 9-to-15% and small portions of the road exceed the 9% requirement. The physical conditions in the field demonstrate that the cost of reducing the slope of the road to be a hardship in terms of costs but also the lack of easement to complete the work. Cut

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and fill improvements would be required outside of the existing 20-ft easement and on private property. Such work to improve the road would require the collective effort of all properties owners along the road or a public entity to accomplish.

As noted above, Sendero del Oso already serves 11 residential homes. Over its duration, building permits have been issued to properties located along Sendero del Oso.

<u>Staff Response</u>: Staff has confirmed through a site visit that the existing road ranges between 9-15% grades in two locations. Staff believes that in order to bring Sendero del Oso into compliance there would have to be significant work done to the road by adding large amounts of fill in two locations, which would compromise existing driveways and underground acequias, and cause slope disturbance of 30% slopes, retaining wall construction, and major bridge construction. The previous code, the Santa Fe County Extraterritorial Zoning Ordinance, as amended (EZO), allowed grades of 15% in mountainous areas.

2. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner; and

Applicant's Response: So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project variances of the SLDC requirements is sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement of Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality. However, well intended in their drafting intent (to improve public safety and enhance accessibility), the road improvement standards required by the SLDC impose an impractical and disproportionate burden on property owners served by Sendero del Oso. By requiring extensive road improvements as a condition of building permit approval, the SLDC deviates dramatically from County land use permitting precedence.

Staff Response: Staff confirms that extensive road work would be required to bring the road to County standards and the burden would be on the Applicant.

3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Applicant's Statement: Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicly dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redevelopment to the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars — a cost that would be unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

<u>Staff Response:</u> Although an engineer has not been hired to provide a cost estimate for the project, staff believes that a project like this would require substantial amounts of engineering along with substantial amounts of material in order to bring the road into conformance with requirements set forth in the SLDC.

The Applicant has addressed the variance criteria for each variance as follows: Grade at approach to intersection

1. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest.

Applicant's Response: This variance requires the grade at the intersections of roads to be 5% or less for 100-ft. The existing condition has a grade of 5% or less for a distance of approximately 50-ft. As the road continues on, the grade increases to 5-9% but is not severe for this first 100-ft of roadway. The existing condition does not pose a significant issue for vehicles or trucks traversing the road. It would be likely nearly impossible to correct this circumstance without significant changes to the grade to the entire length of road. In other words, if this first 100-ft of road is corrected, the entire length of road will require adjustment in order to catch the initial revised grade. The road is currently traversed by all existing land owners that have homes along the road without issue. This is an existing road and has been in this configuration since the 1960's.

Staff Response: Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 states, grades at the approach of an intersection shall not exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection, excluding vertical curve distance. Staff has confirmed that within the 100 linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection does so at a grade of 7%. Even with a minor deviation of 10% the grade still would not meet the allowable of 5.5%. However, staff confirms that if the Applicant were required to meet the 5% grade for the (100) linear ft., significant changes would have to be made for a great length of the roadway.

2. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner; and

<u>Applicant's Response</u>: So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project, variances of the SLDC requirements are sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement to Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality.

Staff Response: Staff confirms that extensive grading and terrain disturbance would be required. This is an existing road and has been in this configuration since the 1960's.

3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Applicant's Statement: Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicly dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redevelopment to the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars a cost that would be unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

<u>Staff Response</u>: Although an engineer has not been hired to provide a cost estimate for the project. Staff believes that a project like this would require substantial amounts of engineering along with substantial amounts of material in order to bring the road into requirements set forth in the SLDC. This is an existing road that has been in this configuration since the 1960's.

As required by the SLDC, the Applicants presented the Application to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on August 3, 2017, at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting, which satisfied the requirements set forth in Chapter 4, Section 4.4.4.3, Pre-application TAC Meeting.

Notice requirements were met as per Chapter 4, Section 4.6.3., General Notice of Application Requiring a Public Hearing, of the SLDC. In advance of a hearing on the Application, the Applicant provided an affidavit of posting of notice of the hearing, confirming that public notice posting regarding the Application was made for fifteen days on the property, beginning on October 11, 2017. Additionally, notice of hearing was published in the legal notice section of the Santa Fe New Mexican on October 11, 2017, as evidenced by a copy of that legal notice contained in the record. Notice of the hearing was sent to owners of land within 500' of the subject property and a list of persons sent a mailing is contained in the record.

This Application was submitted on August 25, 2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

On November 28, 2017 the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved An Ordinance Amending And Restating In Its Entirety Section 7.11 (Road Design Standards) Of The Santa Fe County Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC), Ordinance No. 2016-9. The amendments would allow road grades of up to 15% and road widths of no less than 12 ft. On December 29, 2017 the appeal period for the approved Ordinance would end and the approved amendments will be enforceable.

The Applicant did provide responses to the variance review criteria. Staff recommends approval of a variance from Ordinance No. 2016-9 the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) of Chapter 7, Table 7-13, Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing roadway to exceed 9% grade with a maximum grade of 15%.

Staff recommends approval of a variance from Ordinance No. 2016-9 the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection. The current grade is at 7% and with a minor deviation would allow the road grade to be 5.5%.

If the Applicant were to adhere to the 9% road grade, it would require the Applicant to add substantial amounts of fill, which is more intrusive and does not support the spirit of the SLDC.

Staff recommends denial to allow the road to go down 10 ft. in width. Staff recommends that a minimum 12 foot driving surface be required for vehicle and pedestrian safety, subject to review and approval by the County Fire Marshal.

This matter went before the Hearing Officer for a hearing on October 26, 2017. The Hearing Officer recommends approval of a variance of Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing roadway to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than 20 feet in width, and a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

If the decision of the Planning Commission is to approve the application, you may consider adopting the Hearing Officer's findings of fact and conclusion of law in the written recommendation.

EXHIBITS:

- 1. Applicants Request
- 2. Recorded Survey Plat
- 3. Aerial of Site and Surrounding Area/Site Photos
- 4. Chapter 7, Table 7-13 Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 & SDA-3)
- 5. Noticing
- 6. Hearing Officer Final Order/Meeting Minutes

Pamela Barish Variance Requests - Updated Information for Variance Criteria 30 Sendero del Oso

Project Location and Abutting Properties

The subject site is approximately 6.623-aces in size and is located off of County Road 592, in Section 32, Township 19N, Range 10E, near Rio en Medio, north of Tesuque. The subject site is abutted by residential lots that range in size from 10-acre to the west, 6.4-acres to the east, 1.25-acres to the south, and Nambe Pueblo lands directly to the north. Pamela Barish has owned the subject site for 11-years. The subject road is a private road and has been extant in some form of its present state for many years. The subject area is zoned RUR-R zoning, which permit $1 \, \text{du}/10$ -acres. The applicant is attempting to sell the parcel for a person to build a home. The variance is necessary in order for the person to submit for a building permit.

Variance Context

This variance application is presented for consideration by Santa Fe County in advance of any building permit application by the owner or their representatives. Accordingly, this application serves as a pre-emptive action: One that will ensure that the property can be developed in accordance with their designated zoning without risk of incurring costly and unlikely improvements to Sendero del Oso.

In May of 2017, the applicants were advised by the Land Use Planning staff that Sendero del Oso would need to be re-engineered and redeveloped to meet the recently adopted standards of the SLDC. Accordingly, the SLDC requires development applicants served by "nonconforming" private roads to be responsible for improving those roads to County standards prior to the issuance of a building permit, irrespective of the parcel's legal lot status historical development rights, or approved zoning classification.

Sendero del Oso

Sendero del Oso is an existing road that serves approximately 15-parcels and an estimate of 11 lots are improved properties (the lots range in size from 1.25-acres to greater than 10-acres. Sendero del Oso ranges in width from 10-14-ft and has certain portions as wide as 20-ft in width for emergency vehicle turn-outs. The easement is 20-ft in width. It features a road grade that exceeds 9% in one location. As it connects to County Road 592, it does so at an angle less than 90-degrees and a grade greater than 5%, and its right of way is less than 38-ft. Its length to the subject site is approximately 1400-lf.

Although a detailed slope analysis has not been made, it is estimated that Sendero del Oso may involve slopes with 12-15% grades. To meet the SLCD's minimum grade requirements of 9%, an extensive excavation responsibility would be imposed on the Applicant. Such a project would involve significant re-grading within and outside of the platted 20-ft. easement. Retaining walls would likely be required on the up-slope side of the road. Such a project would be prohibitively expensive to engineer, construct, and re-vegetate which is a significant burden of responsibility for a single land owner.

EXHIBIT ...

NBD-12

Pamela Barish Variance Requests 30 Sendero del Oso

Chapter 7.11 Table 7-13 Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3)

Variance #1. To allow a roadway to be less than 20-ft in width;

1. Where the request is not contrary to public interest;

Without the variances, the existing roadway will need to be redeveloped with 20-ft travel lanes. The travel lanes are currently exist at 20-ft in some sections, but for the most part exist as 14-ft as typical, down to 11-ft in width in certain sections. The redevelopment of the travel lanes to the required size would require significant cut/fill and retaining walls within the 20-ft easement and outside of the 20-ft easement, which may or may not be feasible. Such an endeavor would be a significant undertaking for any property owner along the roadway. It would even be a hardship for a public entity such as Santa Fe County public works to complete given the 20-ft easement size and the multiple property owners along the road.

As noted above, Sendero del Oso serves 11 residential homes. Over its duration, building permits have been issued to properties located along Sendero del Oso. Building permits have been approved without the requirement for supplemental improvements to Serdero del Oso even though the 1981 Land Use Development Code specified 20-ft travel lands as the development standard.

2. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLDC will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant;

So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project variances of the SLDC requirements is sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality. However, well intended in their drafting intent (to improve public safety and enhance accessibility), the road improvement standards required by the SLDC impose an impractical and disproportionate burden on property owners served by Sendero del Oso. By requiring extensive road improvements as a condition of building permit approval, the SLDC deviates dramatically from County land use permitting precedence.

3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicity dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redevelopment the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars – a cost that would be

unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

The offsite road improvement provisions associated with Section 7.1.11 and Section 7.11.6 of the SDLC threaten to significantly diminish the value and marketability of undeveloped, legally platted lots served by roads with development conditions similar to or worse than Sendero del Oso.

Rather than retroactively apply offsite development responsibilities to properties that have been legal lots of record, and whose proposed uses conform to the development allowances of the SDLC, the Applicant requests that no new road improvements requirements be mandated, and that building permits be available to such properties without special condition or limitation.

Variance #2. to allow grade to exceed 9%;

1. Where the request is not contrary to public interest;

Without the variances, the existing roadway will need to be redeveloped to a grade of less than 9%. It exists currently at a grade of 9-to-15% and small portions of the road exceed the 9% requirement. The physical conditions in the field demonstrate that the cost of reducing the slope of the road to be a hardship in terms of costs but also the lack of easement to complete the work. Cut and fill improvements would be required outside of the existing 20-ft easement and on private property. Such work to improve the road would require the collective effort of all properties owners along the road or a public entity to accomplish.

As noted above, Sendero del Oso already serves 11 residential homes. Over its duration, building permits have been issued to properties located along Sendero del Oso. Building permits have been approved without the requirement for supplemental improvements to Serdero del Oso.

2. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLDC will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant;

So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project variances of the SLDC requirements is sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality. However, well intended in their drafting intent (to improve public safety and enhance accessibility), the road improvement standards required by the SLDC impose an impractical and disproportionate burden on property owners served by Sendero del Oso. By requiring extensive road improvements as a condition of building permit approval, the SLDC deviates dramatically from County land use permitting precedence.

3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicity dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redevelopment the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars – a cost that would be unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

Variance #3. to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for every one hundred feet prior to the radius return of the intersection (Chapter 7 Section 7.11.6 Intersections and Roundabouts).

1. Where the request is not contrary to public interest;

This variance requires the grade at the intersections of roads to be 5% or less for 100-ft. The existing condition has a grade of 5% or less for a distance of approximately 50-ft. As the road continues on, the grade increases to 5-9% but is not severe for this first 100-ft of roadway. The existing condition does not pose a significant issue for vehicles or trucks traversing the road. It would be likely nearly impossible to correct this circumstance without significant changes to the grade to the entire length of road. In other words, if this first 100-ft of road is corrected, the entire length of road will require adjustment in order to catch the initial revised grade. The road is currently traversed by all existing land owners that have homes along the road without issue.

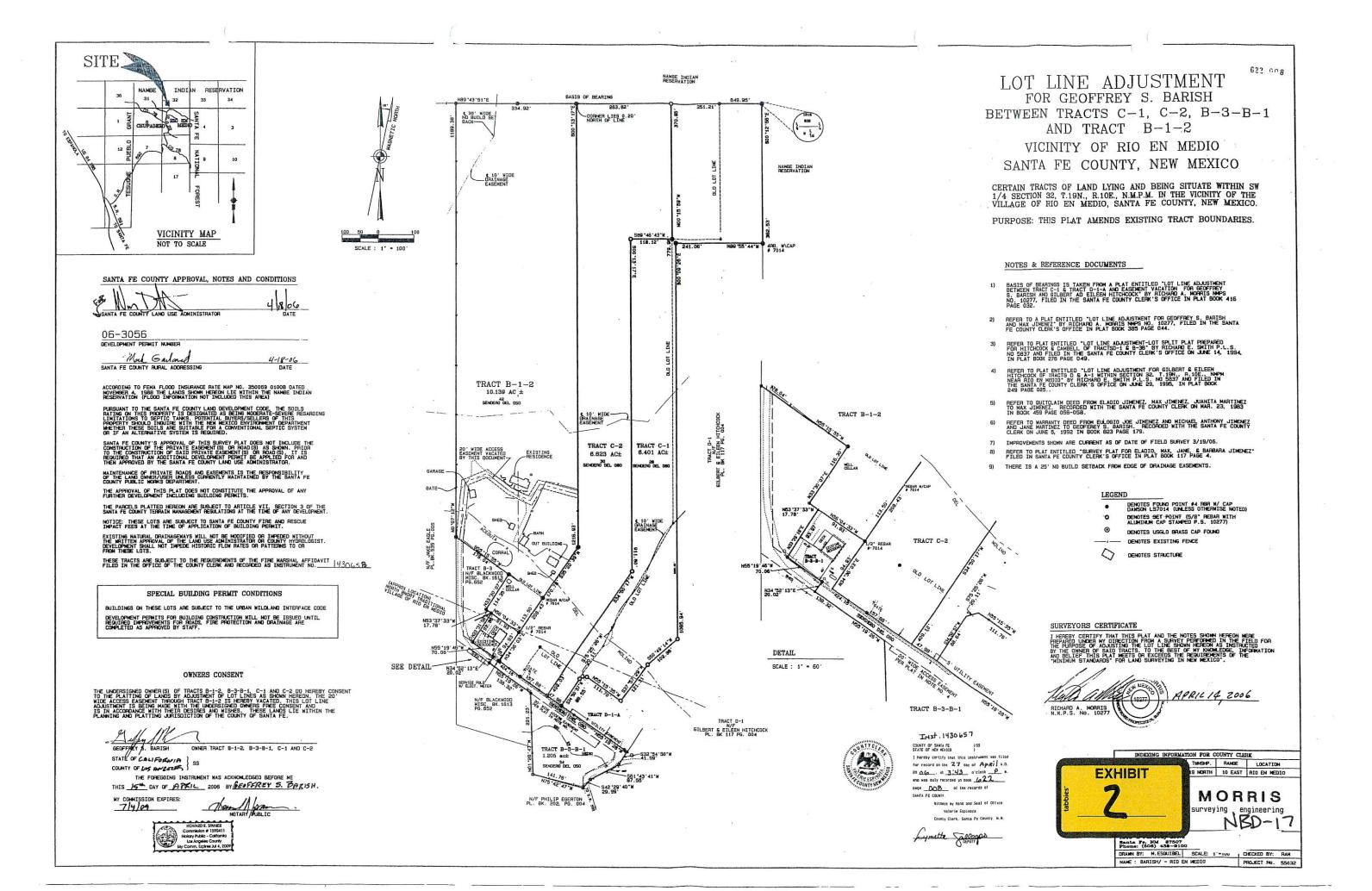
2. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLDC will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant;

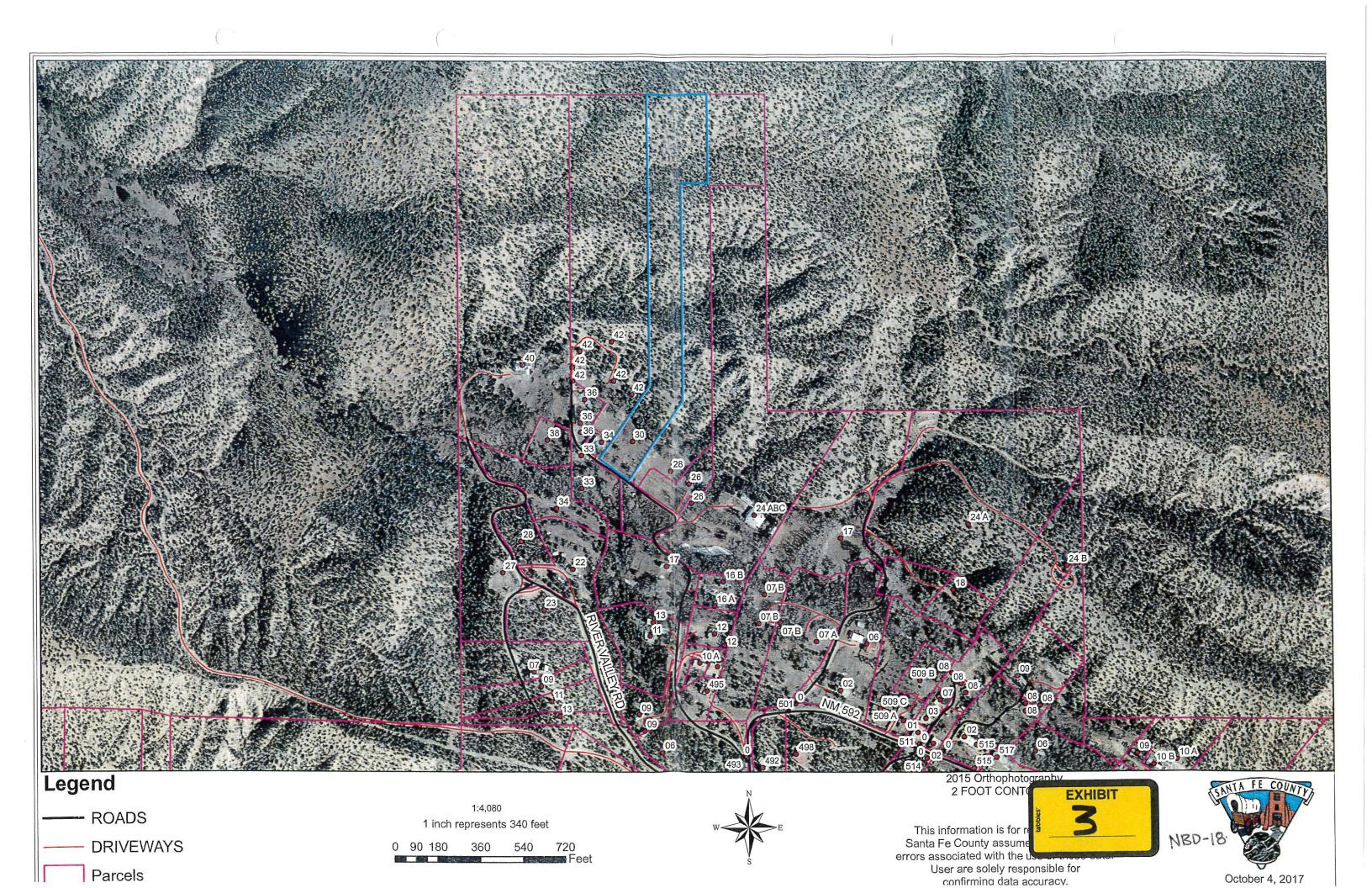
So as to spare the Applicant's the extraordinary expense and uncertainty that would be associated with a major road project variances of the SLDC requirements is sought to allow for the Properties' development as a single family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.

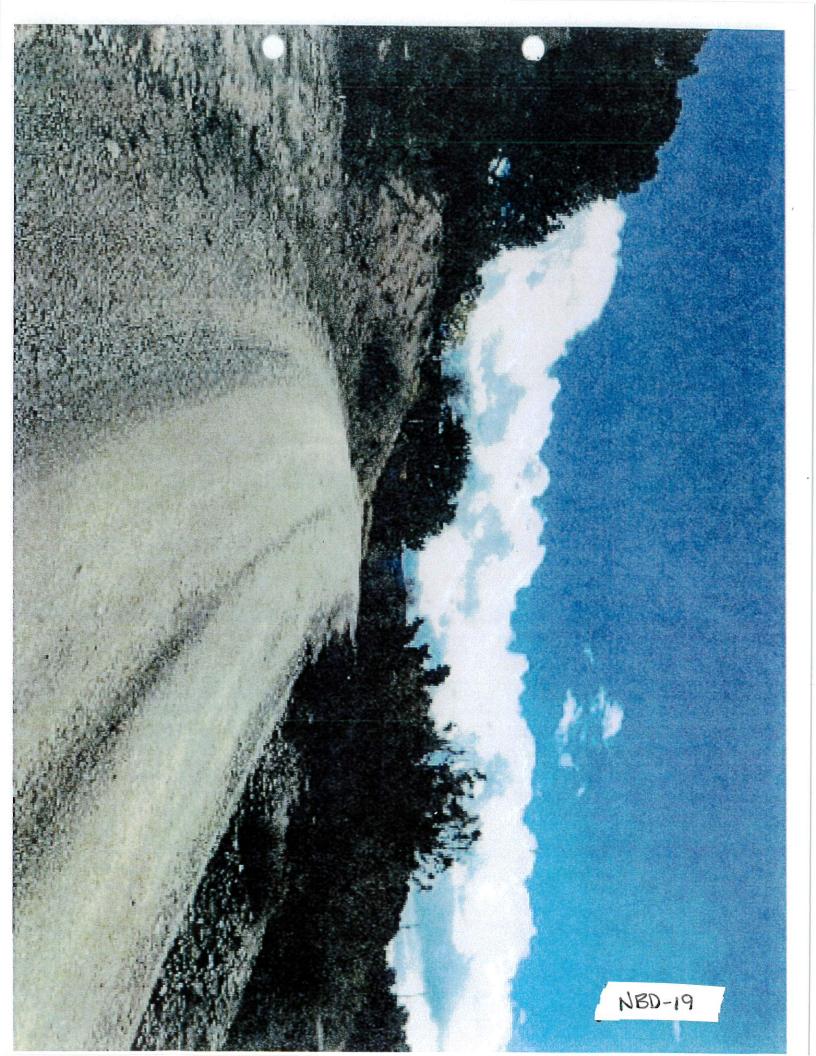
It is argued that the financial burden associated with improvement Sendero del Oso on a single property owner would be at a minimum, unfair and out of conformance with the accepted standards of proportionality.

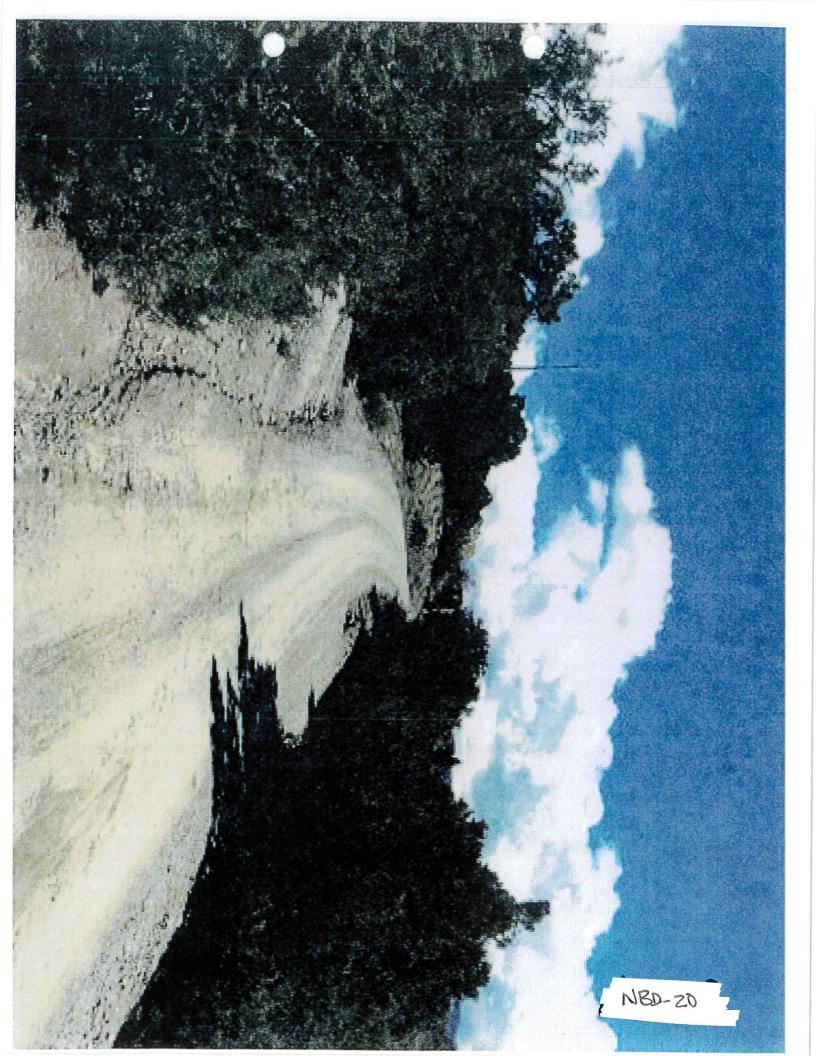
3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

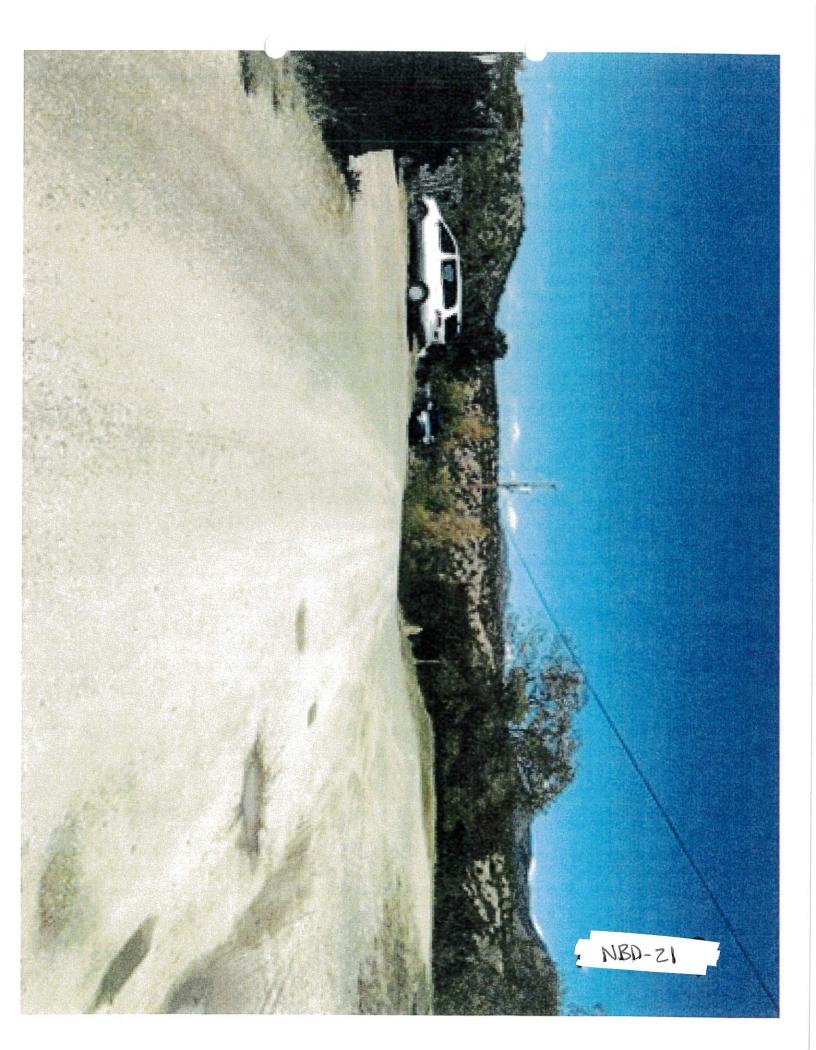
Given the vast length of nonconforming private and publicity dedicated roads throughout Santa Fe County, the cost of redevelopment the County's larger road network to SLDC standards would likely involve hundreds of millions of dollars – a cost that would be unfairly and disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.

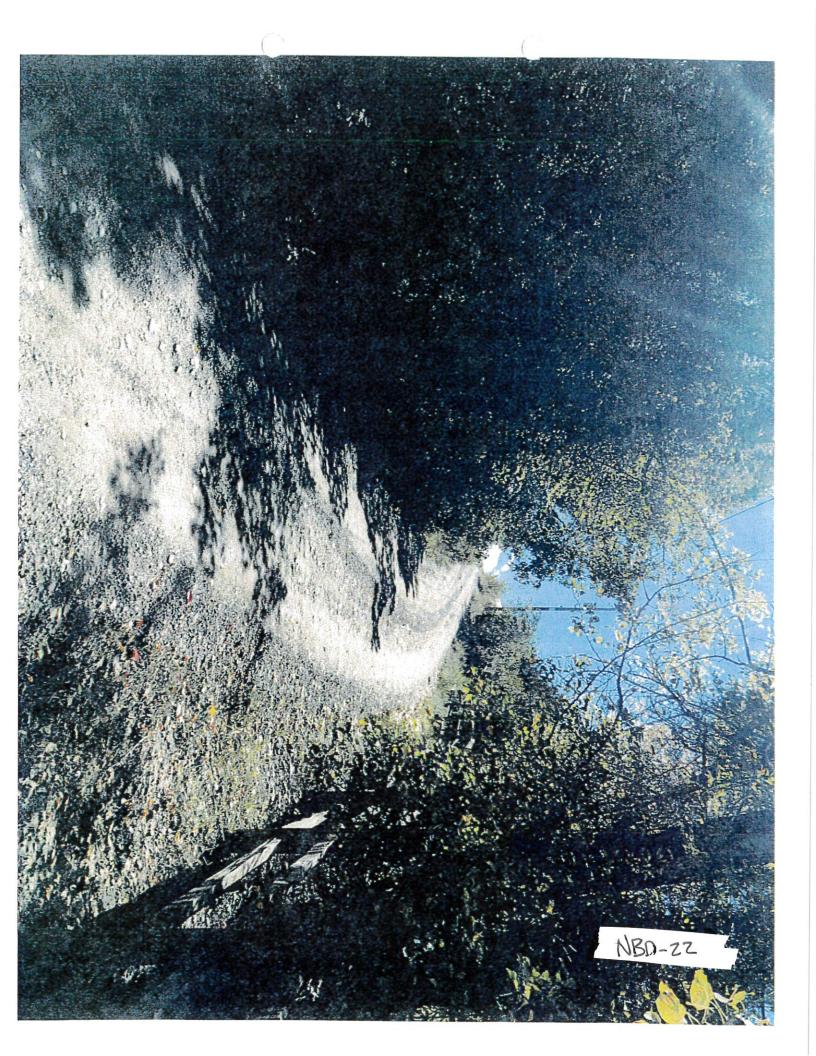


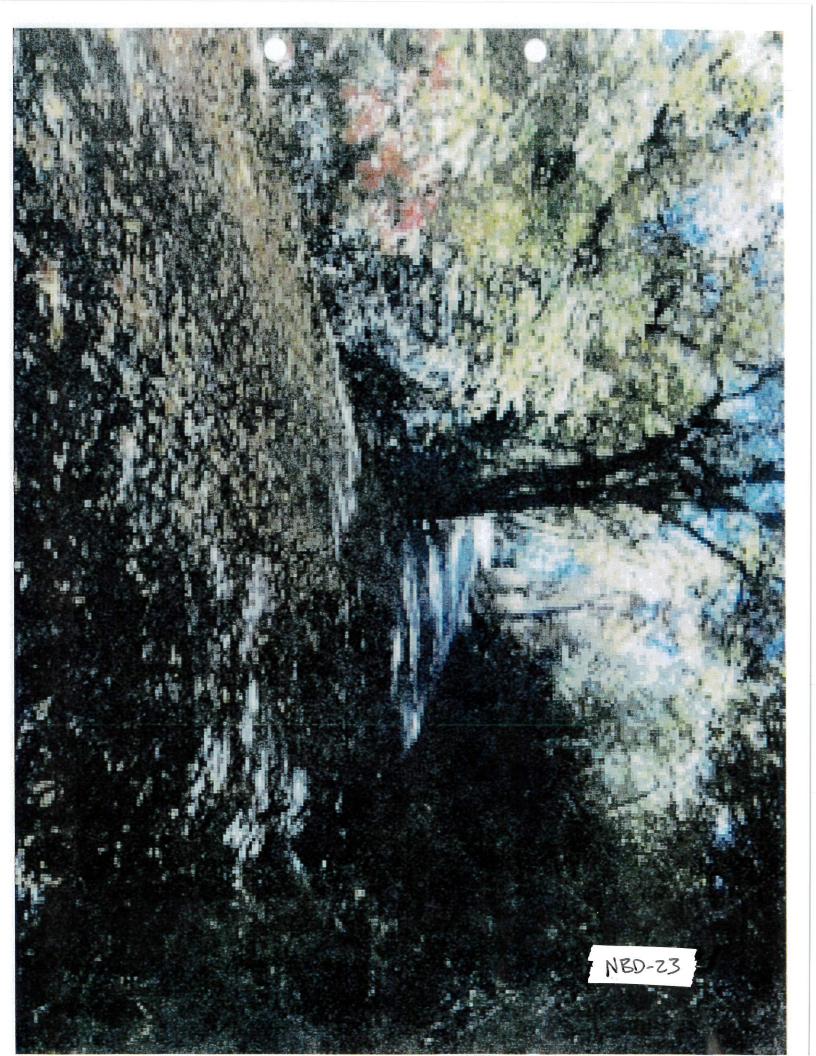












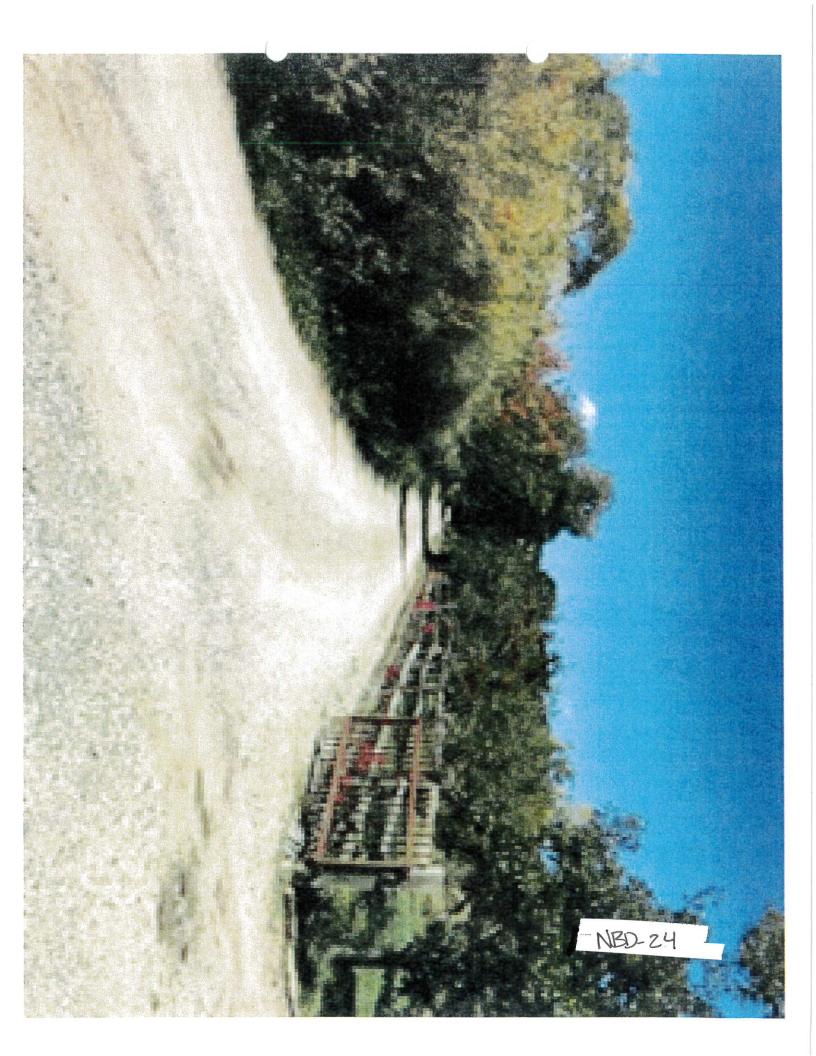


Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3).

	200										
	Avg. daily traffic	# of driving lanes	Lane width (ft)	Non- vehicular side paths	Bike lanes	Minimum ROW (ft)	Design Speeds (mph)	Max % Grade	Min. agg. base course	Min. bit. pavement	Max % Super- elev.
Major arterial or highway	5000	2-4	12	n/a	Two 5 ft. on-road	150	Level: 70 Rolling: 70 Mount.: 50- 60	5%	6"	6"	8%
Minor arterial	2000 to 4999	2 - 4	12	n/a	Two 5 ft. on-road	120	Level: 60-75 Rolling: 50- 60 Mount.: 40-50	5%	6"	5"	8%
Collector	401- 1999	2	11	n/a	n/a	80	Level: 40-60 Rolling: 20- 50 Mount.: 20-40	8%	6"	4"	8%
Local	0-400	2	10	n/a	n/a	50	Level: 30-50 Rolling: 20- 40 Mount.: 20-30	9%	3"	n/a	8%
Cul-de-Sac	0 to 300	2	10	n/a	n/a	38	Level: 30-50 Rolling: 20- 40 Mount.: 20-30	9%	63"	n/a	n/a
Residential Driveway	n/a	1	14	n/a	n/a	20	n/a	10 %	n/a	n/a	n/a

7.11.3. General Requirements. Adequate roads shall be provided such that the arrangement, character, extent, width and grade of each shall conform to this Section.

7.11.3.1. Connectivity. The arrangement of roads in any development shall provide for the continuation or appropriate projection of existing or proposed highway or arterial roads in surrounding areas according to the Official Map, and shall provide reasonable means of ingress and egress to surrounding property. Roads within subdivisions shall not be gated unless the road is a dead end road serving no more than five (5) lots.

7.11.3.2. Road Names. Road names or numbers shall not duplicate or be similar to the names or numbers of existing roads; if the proposed road is an extension of an existing road, then the proposed road shall have the name of the existing road. All road names and numbers shall be assigned by the Santa Fe County Rural Addressing Division.

7.11.3.3. Service Life. Pavement shall be designed for a 20-year service life, and the design of pavement structures shall conform to the New Mexico Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge C and signed by, or shall be prepared and signed by, or shall be professional engineer.

7.11.3.4. Rules of Inter

ction 7.11 fails to adequately address



LEGAL #83312

CASE # V 17-5280 Pamela Barish Variance

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held to consider a request by Pamela Barish, Applicant, Santa Fe Planning Group, INC. (Scott Hoeft) Agent, request a variance to the requirements set forth in the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) of Chapter 7, Table 7-13 (Rural Road Classification and Design Standards) (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than 20 ft. in width and Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% grade for every one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the Intersection. The property is located within the Rural Residential Zoning District (RUR-R) at 30 Sendero del Oso, within Section 32, Township 19 North, Range 10 East (Commission District 1). This case will go before the Santa Fe County Hearing Officer on October 26, 2017 and on December 21, 2017 before the Santa Fe County Planning Commission.

A public hearing will be held in the County Commission Chambers of the Santa Fe County Courthouse, corner of Grant and Palace Avenues, Santa Fe, New Mexico on the 26th day of October 2017, at 3:00 p.m. on a petition to the Santa Fe County Hearing Officer and on the 21st day of December 2017, at 4:00 p.m. on a petition to the Santa Fe County Planning Commission.

Please forward all comments and questions to the County Land Use Administration Office at 986-6225.

All interested parties will be heard at the Public Hearing prior

Ad Proof / C ar Confirmation / Invoice

Account Number 1811

Ad Order Number 0000210527

SF PLANNING GROUP INC.



NBD-26

to the Hearing Officer/Planning Commission taking action,

All comments, questions and objections to the proposal may be submitted to the County Land Use Administrator in writing to P.O. Box 276, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0276; or presented in person at the hearing.

Published in the Santa Fe New Mexican on October 11, 2017.

NBD-27 -

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

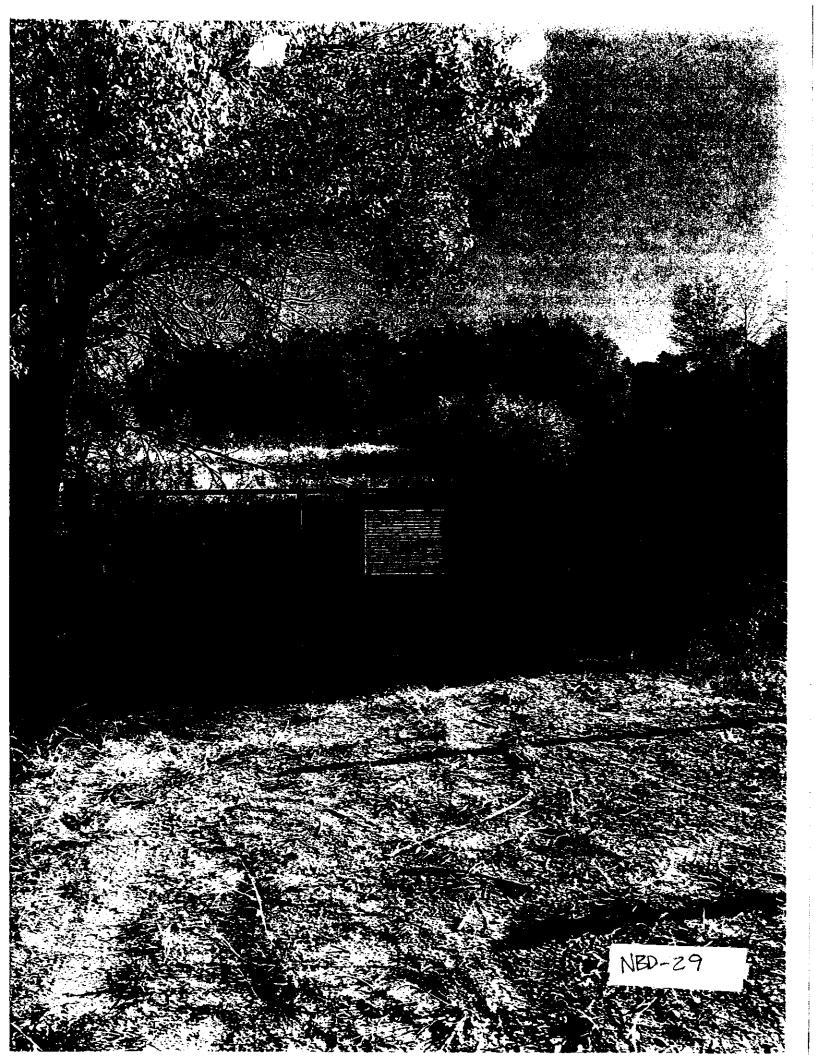
I herby certify that the public notice posting regarding Sustainable Land Development

Code.

Case # VM-5280 was posted for 15 days on the property beginning The 1th day of October 2017 ** Signature
*Photo of posting must be provided with certification
**PLEASE NOTE: Public notice is to be posted on the most visible part of the property. Improper legal notice will result in re-posting for an additional 15 days. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the notice is on the property for the full 15 days.
STATE OF NEW MEXICO } COUNTY OF SANTA FE }
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this day of
October , 2017, By Cynthia Hoeft.
Smeath Stary Public
My Commission Expires:
08-15-2021

NBD-28

Official Seal LYNETTE GONZALES Notary Public State of New Mexico My Comm. Expires <u>いょしい</u>



MAN WE PUBLIC NOTICE

NED-30

MORMORUNNI, CRISTINA L & CASEY SHAW
42 SENDERO DEL OSO
SANTA FE, NM 87506

THE R HOWARD SEARS FAMILY TRUST 22 RIVER VALLEY RD SANTA FE, NM 87506-8809

CULVER, JOHN KENNICOTT & LESLEY MEREDITH 1930 EDGCUMBE RD SAINT PAUL, MN 55116

EDGERTON, PHILIP B & GAYLE (TRUSTEES) 1814 SUN MOUNTAIN DR SANTA FE, NM 87505 BLACKWOOD, DANIEL & JOHNNY LYNN YOUNG TR 1682 TIERRA DEL RIO ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87107

SEARS, JEFF & HELENA 2715 HYDE ST SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

THE BELLRICHARD RITCHIE TRUST PO BOX 112 TESUQUE, NM 87574

NAMBE PUEBLO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 33 B ARROYO CUYAMUNGUE SANTA FE, NM 87506 BEE, ROSS BARNHART 5223 B MT. BONNELL RD AUSTIN, TX 78731-4605

STRONG, LARS D 157 NINE MILE ROAD SANTA FE, NM 87501

FORCE, BRYAN & FRANCES A COLE 34 SENDERO DEL OSO SANTA FE, NM 87506 Sustainable Land Development Code Hearing Officer Meeting October 26, 2017 CASE NO. V17-5280 Pamela Barish, Applicant

RECOMMENDED DECISION AND ORDER

THIS MATTER came before the Sustainable Land Development Code Hearing Officer for hearing on October 26, 2017, on the application of Pamela Barish (Applicant) for a Variance of the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC). The Applicant seeks a variance of Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than (20) feet in width, and a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for every one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

The property is located at 30 Sendero del Oso (Property) and is zoned Rural Residential (RUR-R), within Section 32, Township 19 North, Range 10 East (Commission District 1). The Hearing Officer, having reviewed the application, staff reports, and having conducted a public hearing on the request, finds that the application is well-taken and should be granted, and makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

- 1. On August 25, 2017, the Applicant submitted her application for a variance of Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than (20) feet in width, and a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for every one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.
 - 2. As required by the SLDC, the Applicant presented the application to the



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on August 3, 2017, at the regular scheduled monthly meeting, which satisfied the requirements set forth in Chapter 4, Section 4.4.4.3 Pre-application TAC Meeting and Table 4-1.

- 3. Notice requirements of the SLDC were met pursuant to Chapter 4, Section 4.6.3., General Notice of Application Requiring a Public Hearing. In advance of the hearing on the application, the Applicant provided an affidavit of posting of notice of the hearing, confirming that public notice posting regarding the application was made for fifteen days on the Property, beginning on October 11, 2017. Additionally, notice of hearing was published in the legal notice section of the Santa Fe New Mexican on October 11, 2017, as evidenced by a copy of that legal notice contained in the record. Notice of the hearing was sent to owners of land within 500' of the subject Property and a list of persons sent a mailing is contained in the record.
 - 4. The following SLDC provisions are applicable to this case:
 - A. Chapter 8, Section 8.6.4.1Rural Residential (RUR-R) Purpose

The purpose of the Rural Residential (RUR-R) district is to provide for the development of single-family homes on large lots, either individually or as part of rural subdivisions; to preserve the scenic and rural character of the County; to provide consolidated open space and agriculture lands; and to recognize the desirability of carrying on compatible agriculture operations and home development in areas near the fringes of urban development while avoiding unreasonable restrictions on farming or ranching operations. Uses that support rural character of the broader area shall be allowed including agriculture production, small-scale renewable energy production, home-based businesses, bed and breakfasts, agro-tourism, equestrian and boarding facilities, farmers markets and produce stands. Density transfers and clustered development shall be allowed in order to support continued farming and/or ranching activities, conserve open space or protect scenic features and environmentally sensitive areas.

- B. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.1. Purpose and Findings states:
 - 7.11.1.1. ensure that the design of the roads conforms to the policies of the SGMP;

- 7.11.1.2. provide for the safety of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic;
- 7.11.1.3. provide for livable residential, mixed-use and commercial environments;
- 7.11.1.4. provide for economy of land use, construction, and maintenance; and
- 7.11.1.5. provide for safe and efficient access to property.
- C. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6. Intersections and roundabouts states:

Grades at the approach of intersections shall not exceed five percent (5%) for one hundred (100) linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection, excluding vertical curve distance.

- D. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.11.5 Standards for Residential Development.
 - 1. Residential development may reduce the road easement width for off-site and on-site roads to no less than 20 feet if adequate drainage control is provided and may allow the surface to be hardpacked dirt with compaction of 95% of the maximum density.
- E. Chapter 7, Table 7-13 Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3), Cul-de-Sac.
- F. Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.1, Variances, Purpose, states:

The purpose of this section is to provide a mechanism in the form of a variance that grants a landowner relief from certain standards in this code where, due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner. The granting of an area variance shall allow a deviation from the dimensional requirements and standards of the Code, but in no way shall it authorize a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district.

D. Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.4, Variance Review criteria states:

A variance may be granted by only a majority of all the members of the Planning Commission (or the Board, on appeal from the Planning Commission) based on the following criteria:

- 1. where the request is not contrary to the public interest;
- 2. where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the

property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner; and

- 3. so that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.
- E Chapter 4, Section 4.9.7.5 Variance Conditions of approval states:
 - 1. The Planning Commission may impose conditions on a variance request necessary to accomplish the purposes and intent of the SLDC and the SGMP and to prevent or minimize adverse impacts on the general health, safety and welfare of property owners and area residents.
 - 2. All approved variances run with the land, unless conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission specify otherwise.
 - 3. All approved variances automatically expire within one year of the date of approval, unless the Applicant files a plat implementing the variance or substantial construction of the building or structure authorized by the variance occurs within that time.
- 7. The Applicant and Staff have addressed the variance criteria for **Roadway Width** as follows:
 - a. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest.
- i. The Applicant stated that without the variances the existing roadway will need to be redeveloped with 20-ft. travel lanes. The travel lanes currently exist at 20-ft in some sections, but for the most part exist as 14-ft as typical, down to 11-ft in width in certain sections. Redeveloping the travel lanes to the required size would require significant cut/fill and retaining walls within the 20-ft easement and outside of the 20-ft easement, which may or may not be feasible. Building permits for the 11 residential homes served by Sendero del Oso have been approved without the requirement for supplemental improvements to Sendero de Oso, although the 1981 Land Use Development Code specified 20-ft travel lanes.
- ii. Staff confirmed that development permits have been approved
 along Sendero del Oso without requiring improving the road, as the majority of Sendero del Oso

ranges from 10-14 feet with road grades up to 15%.

- b. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner.
- i. The Applicant stated that the variances are sought to allow for the Property's development as a single-family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels. Requiring the Applicant as a single property owner to fund such a major road project would be unfair and out of conformance with accepted standards of proportionality.
- ii. Staff stated that it would be a major expense to bring Sendero del Oso up to SLDC requirements by widening the road to a minimum of 20 ft. or with a 10% minor deviation of 18 ft. Staff has determined that disturbance of manmade and natural slopes of 30% or greater with installation of retaining walls would have a major impact on the terrain. Staff acknowledges that the road has been in existence since 1964.
 - c. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.
- i. The Applicant stated that rather than retroactively applying offsite development responsibilities to properties that have been legal lots of record and whose proposed uses conform to the development allowances of the SLDC, the Applicant requests that no new road improvement requirements be mandated, and that building permits be available to such properties without special condition or limitation.
- ii. Staff confirmed that widening the road would require excessive grading.

- 8. The Applicant and Staff have addressed the variance criteria for Road Grade as follows:
 - a. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest.
- i. The Applicant stated that the roadway currently exists at a grade of 9-to-15% and small portions of the road exceed the 9% requirement. Cut and fill improvements would be required outside of the existing 20-ft easement and on private property, requiring collective effort of all property owners along the road or a public entity to accomplish.
- ii. Staff stated that making the road conform to current grade requirements would require significant work by adding large amounts of fill in two locations, which would compromise existing driveways and underground acequias and cause slope disturbance of 30% slopes, retaining wall construction and major bridge construction.
- b. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner.
- i. The Applicant stated that the variance is sought to spare the Applicant an extraordinary expense associated with a major road project.
- ii. Staff confirmed that the Applicant would be required to shoulder the burden for extensive road work.
 - c. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.
- i. The Applicant stated that the substantial cost of the road development would be disproportionately shouldered by landowners whose properties remain undeveloped.
 - ii. Staff stated that the such a project would require substantial

amounts of engineering and material to comply with SLDC requirements.

- 9. The Applicant and Staff have addressed the variance criteria for Grade at Approach to Intersection as follows:
 - a. Where the request is not contrary to the public interest.
- i. The Applicant stated that the existing condition does not pose a significant issue for vehicles or trucks traversing the road, which has been in this configuration since the 1960's. Complying with SLDC requirements would require the collective effort of all property owners along the road or a public entity to accomplish.
- ii. Staff stated that if the Applicant were required to meet the 5% grade for the (100) linear ft., significant changes would have to be made for a great length of the roadway.
- b. Where due to extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property, the strict application of the code would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties or exceptional and undue hardship on the owner.
- i. The Applicant stated that the major road project would involve extraordinary expense and uncertainty, instead of allowing the Property's development as a single-family residence, in accordance with use rights previously recognized and legally available to the parcels.
- ii. Staff confirmed that extensive grading and terrain disturbance would be required without the variance.
 - c. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.
- i. The Applicant pointed to the vast length of nonconforming private and publicly dedicated roads throughout the County which would require hundreds of millions of

dollars to meet the SLDC requirements.

- ii. Staff stated that such a project would require substantial amounts of engineering and material to comply with SLDC requirements.
- 10. At the public hearing, a neighbor inquired as to whether any changes would be made to the existing road and requested that the road remain as is.
- 11. Based on the application and the evidence and testimony presented at the public hearing as described herein, the Hearing Officer finds there is sufficient evidence of extraordinary and exceptional conditions related to the Property that would result in undue hardship to the Applicant from a strict application of the Code and that the Applicant has met the variance criteria of the SLDC.

WHEREFORE, the Hearing Officer, based on the evidence presented, recommends approval of a variance of Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9% grade, to allow a roadway to be less than (20) feet in width, and a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5% for every one hundred (100) linear ft. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNTY OF SANTA FE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

SLDC HEARING OFFICER O PAGES: 8

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 28TH Day Of November, 2017 at 08:55:17 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1842286

Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

itness My Hand And Seal Of Office



Hearing Officer

Date: 11-15-17

HEARING OFFICER LONG: So you're saying the development application was separated from this one in order to get the variance first and proceed with that application.

MR. KARNES: Right, that there would be no need to go through the expense of going through the engineering and planning process on the application if this variance is denied.

HEARING OFFICER LONG. And that's why the religious use is implicated?

MR. KARNES: That is part of the same effort that we're going through this process in an effort to establish a religious use of the property.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: All right

MR. KARNES: Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: Thank you. Is there anyone here who came this afternoon to speak to this case? I will note for the record that there is no one wishing to speak to this case. All right, thank you Mr. Karnes and Mr. Romero. We will conclude that case.

D. <u>Case #V17-5280 Pamela Barish Variance</u>. Pamela Barish, Applicant, Santa Fe Planning INC. (Scott Hoeft) Agent, request a variance to the requirements set forth in the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) of Chapter 7, Table 7-13 (Rural Road Classification and Design Standards) (SDA-2 and SDA-3) to allow an existing road to exceed 9 percent grade, to allow a roadway to be less than (20) feet in width and Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5 percent for every one hundred (100) linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection. The property is located at 30 Sendero del Oso, and is zoned Rural Residential (RUR-R), within Section 32, Township 19 North, Range 10 East (Commission District 1)

Hearing Officer Long read the case caption and invited staff to provide their report.

MR. ROMERO: Thank you, Hearing Officer Long. The Applicant, Pamela Barish, is the owner of the property at Sendero del Oso as indicated by the warranty deed recorded in the records of the Santa Fe County Clerk on October 30, 2005, as Instrument number 1455680.

The Applicant's intention is to obtain a residential building permit either by the Applicant or their representatives. But Sendero del Oso doesn't meet the off-site road requirements per Chapter 7, Table 7-13: Rural Road Classification and Design Standards. Therefore, the Applicant is requesting a variance to allow an existing road to exceed the required 9 percent grade and to have a road width of 10 to 14 feet, which is less than the required 20 feet and two 10-foot driving lanes as indicated in Table 7-13. The Applicant is also requesting a variance of Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5 percent for 100 linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection.

NBD-40

The property at 30 Sendero del Oso consists of 6.623 acres that lies within the Rural Residential Zoning District. The property is accessed off State Road 592 onto Sendero del Oso, which is identified as a private dead end road with a 20 foot right-of-way easement that serves 15 lots.

The Applicant's agent states in 2017, the Applicants were advised by Land Use Planning staff that Sendero del Oso would need to be re-engineered and redeveloped to meet the recently adopted standards of the SLDC. Accordingly, the SLDC requires development Applicants served by nonconforming private roads to be responsible for improving those roads to County standards prior to the issuance of a building permit, irrespective of the parcel's legal lot status historical development rights, or approved zoning classification. Staff has confirmed that Sendero del Oso has been in existence since 1964.

The Applicant's agent further states, Sendero del Oso is an existing road that serves approximately 15 parcels with 11 of the lots being improved. Sendero del Oso ranges from 10 to14 feet and has some sections as wide as 20 feet in width for emergency vehicle turn-outs. The Applicant's agent states that the easement is 20 feet in width and has a road grade that that exceeds 9 percent with grades ranging from 9 to 15 percent.

Staff has conducted a site visit and has confirmed that Sendero del Oso does range between 10 to 14 feet in width with one section of the road that is approximately 20 feet in width and has a platted 20 foot wide right-of-way easement indicated in Plat Book 622 Page. 008.

Staff has also confirmed that there is one section of Sendero del Oso that is at a 15 percent grade for 300 linear feet and one section that is at 13 percent at 61 feet.

The Applicant's agent states as Sendero del Oso connects to State Road 592 it does so at an angle less than 90 degrees and a grade greater than 5 percent. Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 states that grades at the approach of intersections shall not exceed 5 percent for 100 linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection. Staff has confirmed that within the 100 linear feet at the approach of the intersection of Sendero del Oso and State Road 592 there is a grade of 7 percent. Even if the Applicant were to request a minor deviation of 10 percent it would bring the road grade to only 5.5 percent. Intersection angles are not an issue and meet code criteria.

The Applicant further states that to meet the SLDC's minimum grade requirements of 9 percent, an extensive excavation responsibility would be imposed on the Applicant. The Applicant's agent further states that such a project would involve significant re-grading within and outside of the platted 20 foot easement, retaining walls would likely be required on the up-slope side of the road and the project would be prohibitively expensive to engineer, construct and re-vegetate.

Recommendation: The Applicant did provide responses to the variance review criteria. Staff recommends approval of a variance from Ordinance No. 2016-9 the Sustainable Land Development Code Chapter 7, Table 7-13, Rural Road Classification and Design Standards to allow an existing roadway to exceed 9 percent grade with a maximum grade of 15 percent.

Staff recommends approval from Ordinance No. 2016-9 the Sustainable Land Development Code, Chapter 7, Section 7.11.6.6 to allow a grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed 5 percent for 100 linear feet. prior to the radius return of the intersection.

NBD-41

If the Applicant were to adhere to the 9 percent road grade, it would require the Applicant to add substantial amounts of fill, which is more intrusive and does not support the spirit of the SLDC. Staff supports the minimal easing to allow the grade at the approach of an intersection to exceed the required 5 percent grade for every 100 linear feet prior to the radius return of the intersection. The current grade is at 7 percent and with a minor deviation would allow the road grade to be 5.5 percent.

Staff recommends that a minimum 14 foot driving surface be required for vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Staff requests the Hearing Officer memorialize findings of fact and conclusion of law in a written order. The Santa Fe County Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on this matter on December 21, 2017. I stand for any questions.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: So is staff supporting a variance to the roadway width of 20 feet with the 14 foot recommendation? Or am I reading that wrong.

MS. LUCERO: Hearing Officer Long we would recommend that it be no less than 14 feet.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: So that would require a variance from the 20 foot requirement. Okay. Thank you. Would the applicant's agent come forward please.

[Duly sworn, Scott Hoeft, testified as follows]

SCOTT HOEFT: Scott Hoeft, Santa Fe Planning Group, 109 St. Francis, Santa Fe, 87505. First of all I would like to thank the staff for the staff report. I thought it was well-written and we concur with it because obviously they support our variance requests.

Just a little bit of background on this and color that doesn't come out in the staff report is what sparked this whole thing was my client was trying to sell the land to a person and when that person did their due diligence they learned in a visit to the County that they couldn't go right to building permit that because of the requirements of the SLDC that they needed to require the variances. So she wouldn't move forward until the land owner, who I work for, Mrs. Barish, would actually apply for and request the variances. So that's essentially what the background is. This process took about six months. When we first started working on it it was back in April and I had my TAC meeting in May I believe, so it has been quite a while to get here. The second thing is that once we made our submittal and we had our TAC we went ahead and met with the Fire Marshal on site along with staff to review the road conditions and we all came to the conclusion that improvements to this road were going to be extremely difficult. So the variances that came out of that were essentially five which we're now down to three variances. And so road width, grade, and then the length of the 100 feet from the intersection of the County road.

I stand for questions. The last thing I would like to comment on however, is the timeline. When a variance is approved in the code the way it is written is that all variances expire within one year and that is an extremely tight timeline and when I learned of that I thought they ran with the land indefinitely. But under the SLDC this will expire within one year unless the applicant can file a plat implementing the variance which is this case is really not applicable or, two, that substantial construction of the building occurs within that time which I think is also unrealistic. I mean, a one-year period of time is awfully quick when you consider that a new person is not going to begin

any kind of design work or permitting for at least six to eight months after this is approved. And so, what I request as part of this application is a condition that states that that in deed this variance if these variances are approved can be valid up to five years from the date of approval. And specific however to this particular use and request one of the things in talking to Penny that we discussed is if the project changes entirely than obviously those variances are not applicable – they not essentially ride with the land. But if it is specific to this type of request, the development of a house on this property, then this variance should be extended much farther in t4erms of the timeline. So what I'm requesting is a period of five years. With that, I stand for questions.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: I understand that concern. I don't know that it is something that we can do as part of this case as it was noticed. And would that require another variance, a variance to the variance conditions?

MS. LUCERO: Hearing Officer Long I believe that would require another variance, a separate variance. Staff is in the process of looking at the code, evaluating the code and that's one of the changes that we're considering right now so —

HEARING OFFICER LONG: That was what I was going to suggest that maybe we need to look at some retroactive application if we can get some relief that way. I understand that is a short timeframe anymore but I don't know that we could add it on to this case. I don't know whether it could be noticed as part of my recommendation, I wouldn't make that recommendation, but part of the case that would go to the Planning Commission. Maybe you could look into that.

MR. HOEFT: If I may. In terms of the conditions, the area under the variance conditions of the code state that all approved variances run with the land and it goes on to say, Unless conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission specify otherwise. So I'm uncertain if that tail end of that sentence refers to just simply run with the land or does that give you the flexibility to impose a condition, the type that I am requesting. Now, with that being said, I also know that staff from what I understand is working on amendments to the code and my understanding is that if those are approved that these types of variances may no longer be necessary in the future. But because I don't know that for sure, I want to try to make sure that we have something a little more solid here.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: I think there is the issue of looking at variances for some of these roadway variances that we have been getting routinely. I understand that staff is looking at that so that you wouldn't even need this sort of thing maybe for some cases. But some certainly still will need variances so I think separately staff is saying that they're also looking at the length of time a variance would be valid so that would be a separate issue. But I hear what you're saying in terms of how the code reads but we have a more specific provision that says, yes, they run with the land rather than the person, it means it goes with that land and not the applicant; however, we have a specific provision that says they're good for one year. So I think that's where that would stand.

MR. HOEFT: Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: But it was a good argument. Good try. All right, is there anyone that came to the meeting this afternoon to speak to this case? There's one person, please come forward ma'am. And you will need to be sworn in to start and then give us your name.

NBD-43

[Duly sworn, Kathy Jimenez, testified as follows]

KATHY JIMENEZ: My name is Kathy Jimenez and I'm actually here as a resident. I live at 12 Sandero del Oso and I just wanted to find out in layman terms what is going to happen to my road. So is there someone I can get some information on who this is going to affect me?

HEARING OFFICER LONG: Yes, you can visit with Mr. Hoeft after the meeting or with staff as well. But my understanding is that the variances are to allow what is there so that a house can be built on this property. There may be some improvements but I believe the idea is to allow what's there to remain.

MS. JIMENEZ: Oh, yes, please leave it alone.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: Pardon me.

MS. JIMENEZ: Yes, please leave the road alone.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: Okay, so you're in support of the variances then that would allow the road to stay as is. Okay, thank you.

And just to confirm, if you could come forward Mr. Hoeft. There are no road improvements planned as part of your client's construction of a house or I guess the buyer's construction of a house, you represent the seller.

MR. HOEFT: There are no road improvement planned; however, a condition from the Fire Marshal indicated that onsite the lot itself that we need to have a provision so that a hammerhead, so that they can turn around down that lane and back out. So we can't essentially put a gate right on the road; that has to be put back so a fire truck could turn in and then leave the area. That is the improvement that is required.

HEARING OFFICER LONG: Thank you for that clarification. [speaking to Ms. Jimenez] So the only change would be on the lot itself. Not on your lot, but the lot that is subject to the application if that helps. Okay, so that will conclude this case, thank you.

E. Case #CP 16-5280 Oshara Conceptual Plan Amendment. G.E. Richards Property, LDC, Applicant, Santa Fe Global Partners/Arroyo Hondo de Santa Fe, Agent, request Conceptual Plan approval to amend the previously approved Oshara subdivision (735 dwelling units on 470.62 acres) in order to reduce the estimated commercial square footage in future phases from 1,321,000 square feet to 303.330 square feet, eliminate the Employment Center Zone in Phase 2, eliminate the Institutional Campus Zone, increase the number of dwelling units to 855 from 735, reorganize the phasing plan from six phases to five, to have five sub-phases in Phase 2, and to amend the proposed source of sewer service. The property is located in the Community College District, within a Planned Development District, east of Richards Avenue and south of Rabbit Road, within Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 9 East (Commission Districts 4 and 5) [Exhibit 2-5 from the Santiago Subdivision]

Hearing Officer Long read the case caption and invited staff to present their report.

NBD-44