Henry P. Roybal Commissioner, District 1

Miguel M. Chavez Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya Commissioner, District 3



Kathy Holian Commissioner, District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller County Manager

DATE:

June 16, 2016

TO:

Santa Fe County Planning Commission

FROM:

John Lovato, Development Review Specialist Sr.

VIA:

Penny Ellis-Green, Growth Management Director

Vicki Lucero, Building and Development Services Manager

Wayne Dalton, Building and Development Services Supervisor W

FILE REF.:

CASE # V 16-5060 Travis and Jessica Lucero Variance

## **ISSUE:**

Travis and Jessica Lucero, Applicants, request a variance of Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Table 8-10, Dimensional Standards RES-E, of Ordinance No. 2015-11, the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) to allow a residence to exceed 24 feet in height. The property is located at 300, Highway 472, within, Section 31, Township 11 North, Range 8 East, Commission District 3.

## Vicinity Map:



## **SUMMARY:**

On April 28, 2016, the Application for a variance of height was presented to the Hearing Officer for consideration. The Hearing Officer supported the Application as memorialized in the findings of fact and conclusions of law written order. (Exhibit 11)

The Applicants are the owners of the property as evidenced by warranty deed recorded in the records of the Santa Fe County Clerk on February 18, 2016, as Instrument # 17586724. The Applicants are representing themselves to pursue the request for a variance to allow a proposed residential structure to exceed 24 feet in height. The proposed height of the entire heated 3,190 square foot residence is 30' feet.

The property consists of 20 acres within the Residential Estate Zoning District, as defined by the SLDC, Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3., which states the maximum allowable height is 24 feet. Therefore, the Applicants are requesting a variance

The Applicants state the residence will be two stories and the neighboring incorporated area of Edgewood which is approximately two (2) miles west, allows for a 36' height requirement. They further state they would like to exceed height requirements to create a pitched roof due to snow loads that are possible during winter months and would like to raise the floor level in order for their two small children to remain safe from rodents and snakes in the area.

Staff Response: Some surrounding structures are legal non-conforming (constructed prior to the Code) and other structures meet height requirements of 24' applicable to former Ordinance No. 1996-10, The Land Development Code. The property is zoned within the Residential Estate Zoning District where maximum allowed height is 24'. The incorporated area of Edgewood is located approximately 2 miles west and not adjacent to the subject site. Staff has confirmed the required height limitation for Edgewood is 36'.

The applicable requirements under the Santa Fe County Sustainable Land Development Code, Ordinance No. 2015-11 (SLDC), which govern this Application are the following:

Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Table 8-10, Dimensional Standards RES-E states, that the maximum height within a Residential Estate Zoning District is 24'. (Exhibit 5)

Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.1, 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 of the Code, but in no way shall it authorize a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district. (Exhibit 6)

Chapter 4, Table 4-1, Procedural Requirements by Application, defines the review/approval process for a variance request. (Exhibit 7)

Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.4, 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) where authorized by NMSA 1978, Section 3-21-8(C):

- 1. Where the request is not contrary to public interest;
- 2. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLDC will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant; and
- 3. So that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.5 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 takes affirmative action consistent with the approval.

As required by the SLDC, the Applicants presented the Application to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on April 7, 2016, at the regular scheduled monthly meeting, which satisfied the requirements set forth in Chapter 4, TAC Meeting Table 4-1.

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 Applicants 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 April 11, 2016. Additionally, notice of hearing was published in the legal notice section of the Santa Fe New Mexican on April 13, 2016, 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 March 25, 2016

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends denial of the Applicants request for a variance to allow the proposed residential structure to be constructed 30' in height. Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Table 8-10, Dimensional Standards, states, the maximum height within the Residential Estate (RES-E) is 24'.

On April 28, 2016, the Application for a variance of height was presented to the Hearing Officer for consideration. The Hearing Officer supported the Application as memorialized in the findings of fact and conclusions of law written order.

## **EXHIBITS:**

- 1. Applicants Request
- 2. Proposed Site Plan/Elevations
- 3. Photos
- 4. Aerial Photo of Site
- 5. Chapter 8, Table 8-10
- 6. Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.1
- 7. Chapter 4. Table 4-1
- 8. Notice
- 9. Letter of support
- 10. Table 4-1
- 11. Hearing Officer Findings of Facts

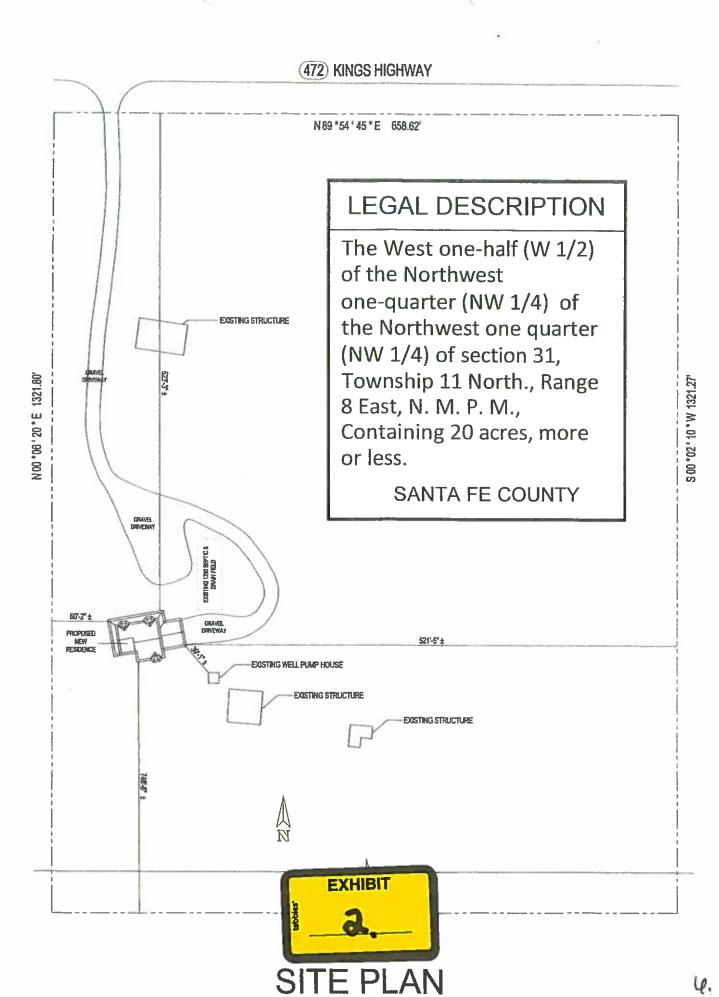
## To Whom It May Concern:

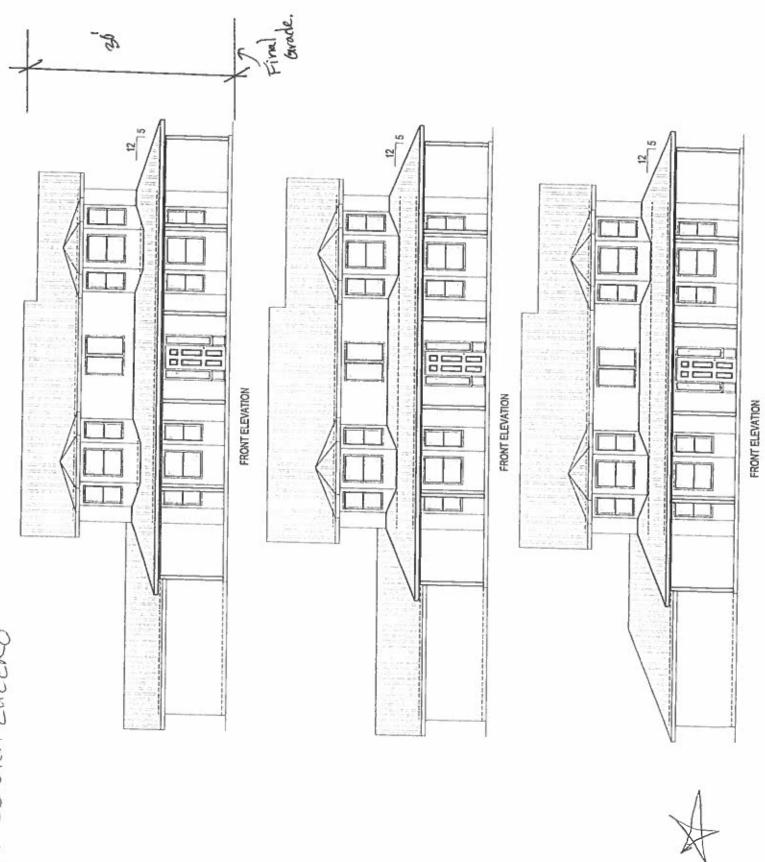
We Travis L. Lucero and Jessica A. Lucero are submitting application materials for a variance on a site built home to be located at 300 Hwy 472, Stanley, NM 87056. This property is located at the very most southern tip of Santa Fe County in Section 31 of T11N R8E.

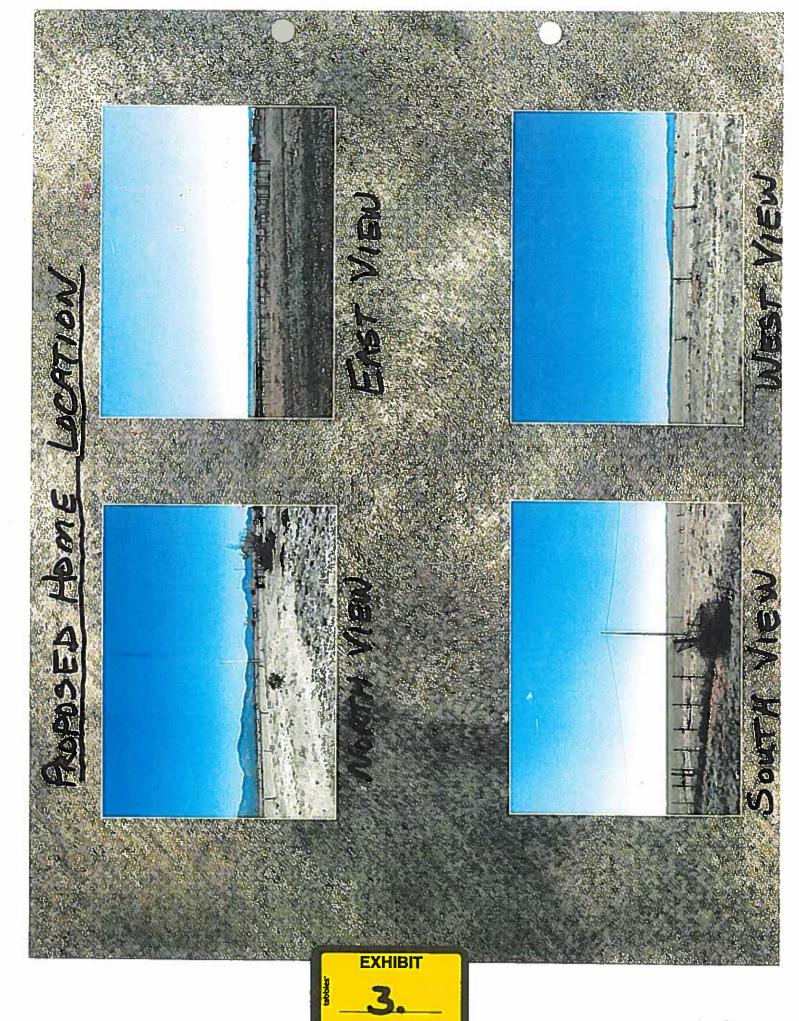
We are requesting a six feet height variance increase over the 24 foot height restriction, thus allowing for a total of 30 feet. The neighboring community of Edgewood as well as the area to the north (along hwy 41) of the said property allows for structures 36 feet in height. The proposed structure is a 2 story home with a 5/12 pitched roof. We have witnessed the amount of snow that can possibly fall and accumulate on the roof and would like a pitch that is efficient for snow and water shed. We also intend on raising the floor level of the structure as a means of both snow and wildlife mitigation. We have two small children and fear the dangers from wildlife such as rattlesnakes and plague. This 20 acre parcel is home to many wild rabbits, mice and the microecology that comes with them. Our thought is that a 2 story home will minimize ecological disturbance while allowing for the square footage our family desires. Furthermore, considering the style of the house (see attached elevation plan) this pitch and raised foundation would add an extra aesthetic value and attractiveness to the proposed property and surrounding areas.

The most recent home in the area is a modular home built / moved in approximately 5 years earlier. We have researched comparable homes, sales, and HUD homes in the area and are confident that our proposed home will add real property value to the area. Another important factor is the reality that the single family home with a height of 30 feet WILL NOT impact the views of any existing or future homes as the total lot size is 20.00 acres. Attached are pictures taken from all directions at the proposed home site to show that this description is valid. Based on the proposed location of our project within our 20.00 parcel and based on required setbacks with Residential Estate Zoning pursuant to SLDC 7.3.3 Table 7-A, the nearest possibility of a structure being affected by this variance would be at minimum approximately 600 feet away, if one were to be permitted and constructed. This can be verified with the attached pictures of the surrounding area and viewed in the proposed site plan. In addition to this we have secured multiple written statements from surrounding neighbors to ensure they have no objection. It is our opinion that our proposed structure falls exactly within the realm of purpose set forth in the SLDC 8.6.6.1.

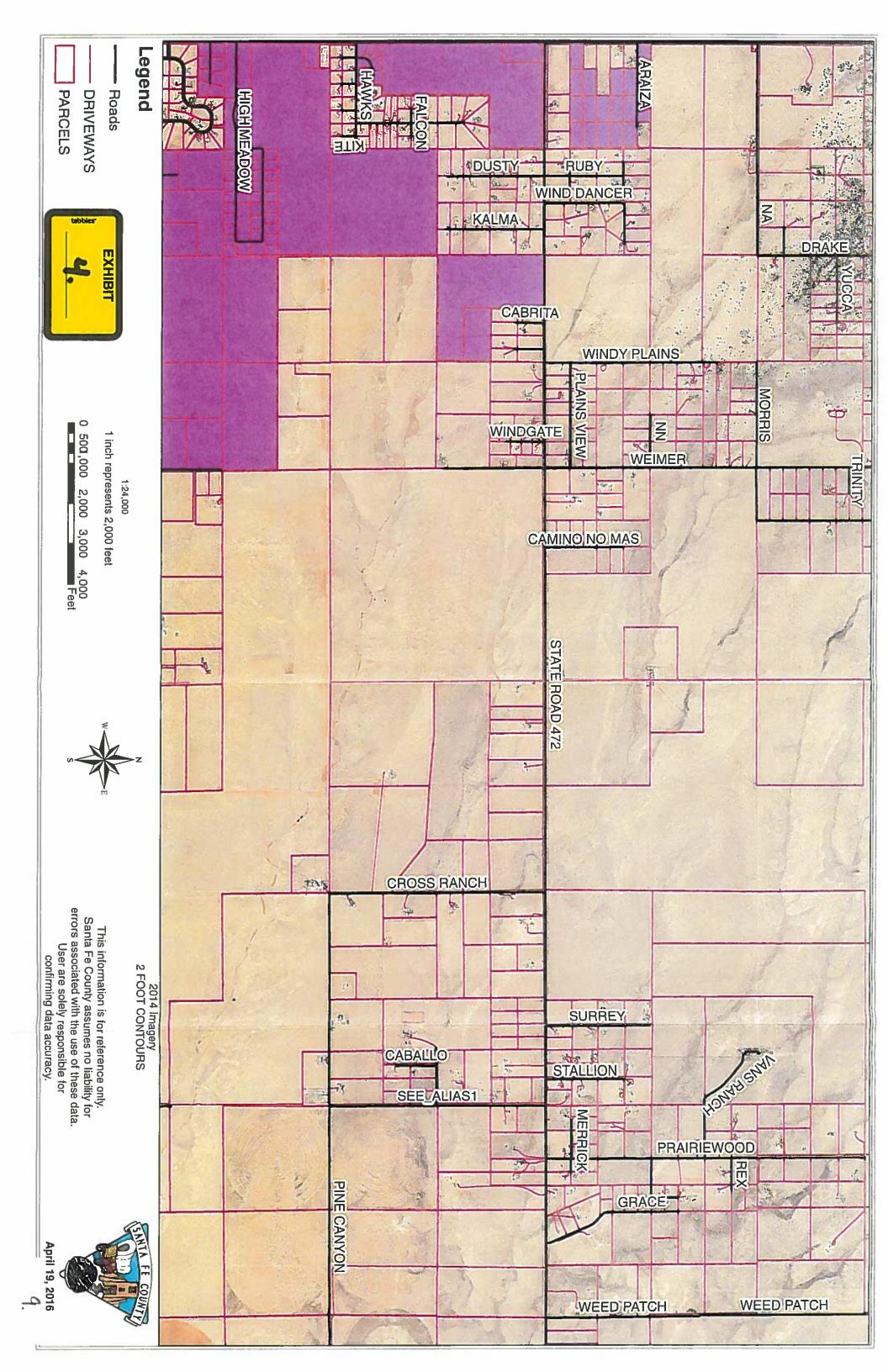








8.



neighborhoods (lands that are already committed to residential uses and have been subdivided for a specific development) and undeveloped or underdeveloped areas with a moderate to high development suitability. This category may include limited agricultural use accessory to residential uses. 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.

**8.6.6.2. Permitted Uses.** Appendix B contains a list of all permitted, accessory and conditional uses allowed within the within the RES-E district.

**8.6.6.3.** Dimensional Standards. The dimensional standards within the RES-E district are outlined in Table 8-10.

Table 8-10: Dimensional Standards – RES-E (Residential Estate).

| Zoning District                        | RES-E |
|--|-------|
| Density (# of acres per dwelling unit) | 2.5   |
| Frontage (minimum, feet)               | 100   |
| Lot width (minimum, feet)              | 100   |
| Lot width (maximum, feet)              | n/a   |
| Height (maximum, feet)                 | 24    |

# 8.6.7. Residential Community (RES-C).

**8.6.7.1. Purpose.** The purpose of the Residential Community (RES-C) district is to designate areas suitable for suburban-type residential development and other compatible uses. The RES-C district supports single-family homes on relatively small lots consistent with contemporary community development. Generally this district applies to existing medium to higher density residential development in established neighborhoods (lands that are already committed to residential uses and have been subdivided for a specific development) and undeveloped or underdeveloped areas with a moderate to high development suitability. 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.

**8.6.7.2. Permitted Uses.** Appendix B contains a list of all permitted, accessory and conditional uses allowed within the within the RES-C district.

**8.6.7.3. Dimensional Standards.** The dimensional standards within the RES-C district are outlined in Table 8-11.

Table 8-11: Dimensional Standards - R-1 (Residential).

| Zoning District                        | RES-C |
|--|-------|
| Density (# of acres per dwelling unit) | 1     |
| Frontage (minimum, feet)               | 100   |
| Lot width (minimum, feet)              | 100   |
| Lot width (maximum, feet)              | n/a   |
| Height (maximum, fee EXHIBIT           | 24    |
| Chapter 8 Zoning                       |       |

SLDC

- 14.9.7.1. Purpose. 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 of the Code, but in no way shall it authorize a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district.
- 14.9.7.2. Process. All applications for variances will be processed in accordance with this chapter of the Code.
- 14.9.7.3. Applicability. When consistent with the review criteria listed below, the planning commission may grant a zoning variance from any provision of the SLDC except that the planning commission shall not grant a variance that authorizes a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district.
- 14.9.7.4. Review criteria. A variance may be granted only by a majority of all the members of the Planning Commission (or the Board, on appeal from the Planning Commission) where authorized by NMSA 1978, Section 3-21-8(C):
  - 1. where the request is not contrary to the public interest;
  - 2. where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLDC will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant; and
  - 3. so that the spirit of the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.

## 14.9.7.5. 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 takes affirmative action consistent with the approval.
- Administrative minor deviations. The Administrator is authorized to administratively approve minor deviations upon a finding that the result is consistent with the intent and purpose of this SLDC and not detrimental to adjacent or surrounding properties as follows:
- 1. minor deviations from the dimensional requirements of Chapter 7 of the SLDC not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the required dimension.

2. minor deviations from th f Chapter 8 of the SLDC not to **EXHIBIT** exceed five tenths of a perce age allowed in the zoning district.

Table 4-1: Procedural Requirements by Application Type

|   | Application Requirements |                     | law de                        | Review/Approval Process |              |             |                    |                        |                 |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
|   |                          | Pre-<br>application |                               | Studies.                |              |             | Hearing Required?  |                        |                 |
| Application Type  | Discretionary<br>Review? | TAC<br>meeting      | neighborhood<br>meeting       | reports,<br>assessments | Agency       | Approval by | Hearing<br>Officer | Planning<br>Commission | BCC             |
| Development permit:<br>Residential  | no                       | no                  | no                            | по                      | as<br>needed | yes         | no                 | no                     | no              |
| Development permit:<br>non-residential, mixed<br>use & multi-family                         | no                       | yes                 | as needed                     | see Table<br>6-1        | as<br>needed | yes         | ло                 | по                     | no              |
| Land divisions,<br>subdivision exemptions<br>and other plat reviews                         | no                       | no                  | no                            | no                      | as<br>needed | yes         | no                 | no                     | no              |
| Family transfer   | 110                      | no                  | no                            | no                      | as<br>needed | yes         | no                 | no                     | no              |
| Temporary use permit  | no                       | no                  | no                            | no                      | as<br>needed | yes         | no                 | no                     | no              |
| Minor subdivision -<br>final plat, 5 or fewer lots  | 110                      | yes                 | no                            | see Table<br>6-1        | as<br>needed | yes         | no                 | 110                    | no              |
| Minor subdivision - final plat, more than 5 lots  | yes                      | yes                 | no                            | See Table<br>6-1        | As<br>needed | no          | no                 | no                     | yes             |
| Major subdivision -<br>preliminary plat   | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | see Table<br>6-1        | yes          | no          | no                 | no                     | yes             |
| Major subdivision final plat  | yes                      | yes                 | No                            | по                      | no           | no          | no                 | no                     | yes             |
| Conceptual plan for<br>subdivision - phased or<br>over 24 lots, phased MU,<br>I, IL, CG, CN | yes                      | yes                 | Subdivision - yes Others - no | See Table 6-1           | As<br>needed | no          | no                 | no                     | yes             |
| Conceptual plan PDD,<br>CGD   | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | See Table<br>6-1        | yes          | no          | yes                | yes                    | yes             |
| Vacation<br>of subdivision plat   | yes                      | по                  | no                            | по                      | as<br>needed | no          | no                 | tio                    | yes             |
| Conditional use permit  | yes                      | yes                 | as needed                     | see Table<br>6-1        | as<br>needed | no          | yes                | yes                    | no              |
| DCI Conditional use permit  | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | yes                     | yes          | no          | yes                | y'es                   | no              |
| Variance  | yes                      | yes                 | as needed                     | no                      | as<br>needed | no          | yes                | yes                    | no              |
| Time Extension  | yes                      | no                  | no                            | As needed               | As<br>needed | No          | No                 | No                     | yes             |
| Planned development district  | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | see Table<br>6-1        | yes          | no          | yes                | yes                    | yes             |
| Overlay zones   | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | no                      | as<br>needed | по          | yes                | yes                    | yes             |
| DCI overlay zones   | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | yes                     | yes          | по          | yes                | yes                    | yes             |
| Zoning map amendment rezoning)  | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | see Table<br>6-1        | as<br>needed | no          | yes                | yes                    | yes             |
| Text amendment  | yes                      | yes                 | no                            | no                      | as<br>needed | no          | no                 | yes                    | yes             |
| Area, District Community<br>Plan, or Plan Amendment   | yes                      | yes                 | yes                           | no                      | as<br>needed | no          | no                 | yes                    | yes             |
| Beneficial use<br>letermination   | yes                      | yes                 | по                            | no                      | no           | no          | yes                | no                     | yes             |
| Appeals   | See Sec. 4.5             | no                  | по                            | по                      | по           | no          | no                 | See Sec.               | See<br>Sec. 4.5 |

SLDC

# **CERTIFICATION OF POSTING**

| I herby certify that the public notice posting regarding Land Development   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Case # 16-5060 was posted for 15 days on the property beginning   |   |  |  |  |
| The 11 + h day of 12016 , 20 16 .**   |   |  |  |  |
|   | Train L'Annie   |  |  |  |
| **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 acknowledge , 20/6.  | d before me this/ day of  |  |  |  |
| By Jessica Lucero   | _•  |  |  |  |
| name L. Lucius  | Chwyl //<br>Notary Public   |  |  |  |
| My Commission Expires:  | OFFICIAL SEAL   |  |  |  |
| 11/30/2016  | CHRISTOPHER HOPPERS NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW MEXICO My Commission Expires 1130/2016 |  |  |  |
| EXHIBIT   |   |  |  |  |



#### Founded 1849

LUCERO. JESSICA 300 HWY 472 SANTA FE, NM 87506 ACCOUNT: 25278

AD NUMBER: 0000164027

LEGAL NO 80891 P.O. #:

1 TIME(S) 86.10

AFFIDAVIT 20.00

TAX 7.99

TOTAL 104.09

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF SANTA FE

I, W. Barnard, being first duly sworn declare and say that I am Legal Advertising Representative of THE SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN, a daily newspaper published in the English language, and having a general circulation in the Counties of Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, and Los Alamos, State of New Mexico and being a newspaper duly qualified to publish legal notices and advertisements under the provisions of Chapter 167 on Session Laws of 1937; that the Legal No 80891 a copy of which is hereto attached was published in said newspaper 1 day(s) between 04/13/2016 and 04/13/2016 and that the notice was published in the newspaper proper and not in any supplement; the first date of publication being on the 13th day of April, 2016 and that the undersigned has personal knowledge of the matter and things set forth in this affidavit.

ISI

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Subscried and sworn to before me on this 13th day of April, 2016

Notary

Commission Expires:

OFFICIAL SEAL PRIKE S. Flores NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW MEXICO

My Commission Expires:

LEGAL # 20891

CASE # VAR Travis and Lucero Variance. 16-5060

NOTICE OF HEARING PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held to consider a request by Travis 8 Jessica Lucero, Applicants, for a variance of Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Dimensional Standards RES-E (Residential Estate), Table 8-10, of The Sustainable Land Development Code to allow a resident to exceed 24'. The property is 20 acres and located at 300 Highway 472, within the vicinity of Stanley, within Section 31, Township 11 North, Range 8 East (Commission District 3).

A public hearing will be held in the County Commission Chambers of the Santa Fe county Courthouse, comer of Grant and Palace Avenues, Santa Fe, New Mexico on April 28, 2016, at 4 p.m. on a petition to the Santa Fe County Hearing Officer and on June 15, 2016 on a petition to the Santa Fe County Planning Commission.

Please forward all com-ments and questions to the County Land Use Ad-ministration Office at 966-6225.

All interested parties will be heard at the Public Hearing prior 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. hearing.

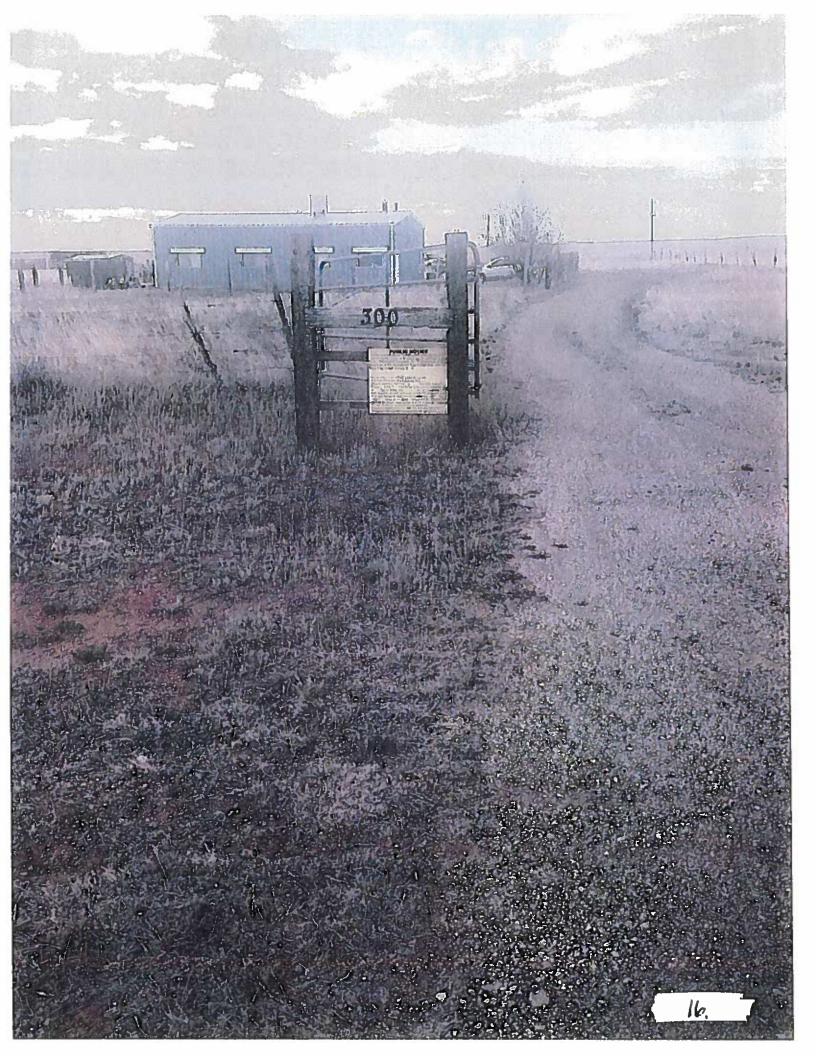
Please forward affidavit of publication to the County Land Use Admin-Istrator, P.O. Box 276, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0276.

Written verification of the publication shall be

Continued... ||

provided to the Administrator prior to the public hearing.

Published in the Santa Fe New Mexican on Wednesday, April 13,



TRANSPORT METERS IN THE SE



TRAVES 4: JUSTICE LUCKER.
STANLEY, NAM &TOSTA

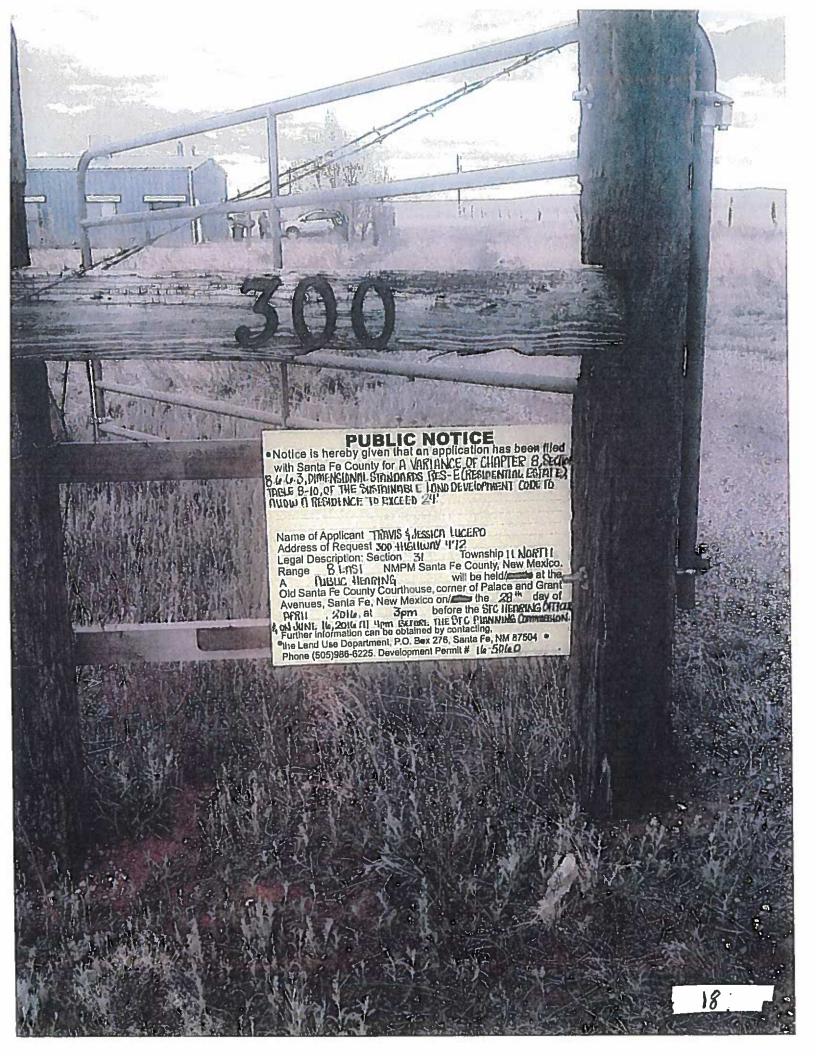


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TRAVIS + JESSICH LUCEPIL 300 HUY 21722. STANLEY, NON 8,7056



JOHN N. III + HAY JU COSTEN-6317 VATAPA PL. HE PILL RAICHL, NIM 20141



Tom and Kandy Perkins 299 Highway 472 Stanley, N.M. March 23, 2016

Santa Fe County Development Review Committee Santa Fe County Santa Fe, N.M.

Santa Fe County Development Review Committee:

Our neighbors Travis and Jessica Lucero are planning on building a new house at 300 Highway 472, Stanley, N.M. That location is directly across NM 472 from our home. The new house includes plans for overall height of twenty-eight (28) to thirty (30) feet, six (6) to 8 (8) feet above the current building code adopted by Santa Fe County. We have encouraged them to build the house of their dreams, not the house Santa Fe County will allow them to build.

We realize that building codes are followed for a multitude of reasons. We also believe private landowners should have the right to construct buildings including homes on private property with dimensions they choose within reason. Currently several homes exist in our immediate neighborhood that exceed the twenty-four (24) foot code limit for height.

We recently navigated the long, complicated process of obtaining a building permit from Santa Fe County to build our own home. As life-long residents of New Mexico and 30+ year residents of Santa Fe County we respectfully encourage and pose no objections to the county development committee allowing Travis and Jessica Lucero to build a home exceeding county building height code.

Sincerely,

Tom and Kandy Perkins



CASE NO. V 16-5060 Travis and Jessica Lucero, Applicants

## RECOMMENDED DECISION AND ORDER

THIS MATTER came before the Sustainable Land Development Code (SLDC) Hearing Officer for hearing on April 28, 2016, on the application of Travis and Jessica Lucero (Applicants) for a Variance from Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Dimensional Standards – RES-E (Residential Estate), Table 8-10 of the SLDC to Allow a Residence to Exceed 24'. The property is 20 acres and located at 300 Highway 472, within the vicinity of Stanley, within Section 31 Township 11 North, Range 8 East (Commission District 3). The Hearing Officer, having reviewed the application, staff reports, and having conducted a public hearing on the request, recommends that the application is well-taken and should be granted subject to conditions, and makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

- 1. On March 25, 2016, the Applicants submitted an application for Variance from Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Dimensional Standards RES-E (Residential Estate), Table 8-10 of the SLDC to Allow a Residence to Exceed 24'.
- 2. The property is 20 acres and located at 300 Highway 472, within the vicinity of Stanley, within Section 31 Township 11 North, Range 8 East.
- 3. Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Table 8-10, Dimensional Standards, RES-E states, that the maximum height within a Residential Estate Zoning District is 24'.
  - 4. Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.1, 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 of the Code, but in no way shall it authorize a use of land that is otherwise prohibited in the relevant zoning district.

- 6. Chapter 4, Table 4-1, Procedural Requirements by Application, defines the review/approval process for a variance request.
  - 7. Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.4, 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) where authorized by NMSA 1978, Section 3-21-8(C):

- 1. Where the request is not contrary to public interest;
- 2. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLCD will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant; and
- 3. So that the spirit o the SLDC is observed and substantial justice is done.
- 7. Chapter 14, Section 14.9.7.5 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 takes affirmative action consistent with the approval.
- 8. As required by the SLDC, the Applicant presented the application to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on April 7, 2016, at the regular scheduled monthly meeting, as required by Chapter 4, Section 4.4.4.3 Pre-application TAC Meeting and Table 4-1.
- 9. 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 Applicants 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 April 13, 2016. Additionally, notice of hearing was published in the legal notice

section of the Santa Fe New Mexican on April 13, 2016, 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.

- 10. At the public hearing before the Hearing Officer on April 28, 2016, County staff recommended denial of the Applicants' request for a variance to allow the proposed residential structure to be constructed 30' in height. Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Table 8-10, Dimensional Standards, states, the maximum height within the Residential Estate (RES-E) is 24'.
- 11. Staff requested that the Hearing Officer memorialize findings of fact and conclusions of law in a written order. The Santa Fe County Planning Commission (SFCPC) will be holding a public hearing on this matter on June 16, 2016.
- 12. In support of the application, the Applicant stated that the height variance is necessary for the following reasons:
  - The severe winter storms in the area make a pitched roof on the home necessary for the integrity and upkeep of the roof.
  - 2. In order to accommodate nine foot ceilings and a two-foot floor height from the ground, the roof height must be 30 feet at the pitch of the roof.
  - 3. Neighboring structures are 30 feet or taller. The Applicant presented pictures of neighboring structures demonstrating the height.
- 13. At the public hearing, letters of support were presented, and no one spoke in opposition.
- 14. The Hearing Officer finds that there are extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions of the property as demonstrated by the applicant, described above, and in addition the large size of the property will mitigate against any effects of the height variance. Also, the

applicant's proposal is for a variance at the pitch of a sloped roof only and not the entire roof, resulting in a minimal easing of the height restriction.

- 15. The use for which the variance is requested:
  - a. Is not contrary to public interest;
  - b. Owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the SLCD will result in unnecessary hardship to the applicant; and
  - c. Granting the variance will result in the spirit of the SLDC being observed and substantial justice done.

WHEREFORE, the Hearing Officer hereby recommends approval of the application of Travis and Jessica Lucero (Applicants) for a Variance Pursuant to Chapter 8, Section 8.6.6.3, Dimensional Standards – RES-E (Residential Estate), Table 8-10 of the SLDC to Allow a Residence to Exceed 24'.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Nancy R. Long
Hearing Officer

Date: 5-13-16

COUNTY OF SANTA FE

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 23RD Day Of May, 2016 at 09:15:35 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1794106 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Nitness My Hand And Seal Of Office Geraldine Salazar

OATH (NC)

PAGES: 4

ounty Clerk, Santa Fe, NM