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November 5, 2015

Community Development

Dear City of Mountain View,

Mountain View Academy (MVA) formally requests Gate Keeper authorization to rezone the city block bordered by Shoreline Boulevard, California Street, Mountain View Avenue., and West Dana Street. Mountain View Academy submitted the required \$10,000 check. We request that the above mentioned city block be changed to P-planned development zoning from R1-single family to accommodate a small seven unit apartment building on the southwest side of the lot. This building will provide much-needed housing for some if the MVA faculty and staff at less than market rates.

The Need

Mountain View Academy struggles to hire and retain quality teachers due to the high cost of living in the city. By providing housing at a reduced rental rate we hope to enhance our ability to maintain a quality staff and thus continue providing a rich educational experience for our students.

Current Site

Mountain View Academy is located at 360 South Shoreline Blvd. on a city block at the edge of the downtown district. The school owns this 2.9 acre block bordered by Shoreline Boulevard, California Street, Mountain View Avenue, and West Dana Street which is divided into multiple parcels. Mountain View Academy plans to continue operating the high school on this site as it has since the 1920's. MVA facilities consist of four buildings which house classrooms, a library, gymnasium, chapel, staff offices, two parking lots, and a small athletic field. There are currently four dilapidated structures on the southwest corner of the block. The parcels on which these structures sit are the focus of the rezoning effort. The school has no plans to expand its existing facilities. If any building should need to be replaced, the new building would maintain the scale, scope, and intent of the previous buildings.

Vision

Rezoning to P from R1 would allow Mountain View Academy to remove the blighted structures from the southwest corner of the block. We would then adjust the lot lines in that corner to allow for a 12,000 square foot seven-unit apartment building. The apartment units would face California Street where it is a four-lane median divided road. MVA will rent the units at reduced rates to teachers and staff. This would help us keep quality faculty and staff from being priced out of the area. The adjustment of the lot lines and placement of the apartments would also allow a moderate increase in size to the small athletic field.

City Goals and Objectives

This project fits in with numerous city goals by providing needed housing for the community near public transit in a socially and environmentally conscious way. City goals we would help achieve include:

- Policy 1.4: Provide higher density housing near transit in the Downtown, near employment centers, and within walking distance of services.
- Policy 1.5: Support the development of both rental and ownership housing serving a broad range of incomes, particularly extremely low-, very low, and low income households.
- Goal 2: policy 2.2: Support opportunities for community service workers, such as city and other public agency staff, teachers, and public safety personnel, to live in Mountain View.


Note: the project is within 0.5 miles of the Mountain View Caltrain station.

Conclusion

This tastefully designed, appropriately scaled housing project would be a benefit to the city and Mountain View Academy by removing blight and meeting the housing needs of our faculty and goals of our community. With these factors in mind we ask that this project be allowed through the gatekeeper as a development project.

Sincerely,
Mountain View Academy


Jerry Corson, Principal


Greg Richmond, School Board Chairperson



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Project Number:	02155.00
Date:	11.05.15
Scale	1/16" = 1'-0"

DANA STREET

300'-0"

200'-0"

SHORELINE BLVD.

BASIC SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 16'-0"

1 2ND FLOOR
SCALE: 1" = 6'-0"