

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Telefax
(617) 796-1142
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
www.newtonma.gov

Candace Havens Director

Department of Planning and Development 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

ZONING REVIEW MEMORANDUM

Date: May 8, 2014

To: John Lojek, Commissioner of Inspectional Services

From: Jane Santosuosso, Chief Zoning Code Official

Alexandra Ananth, Chief Planner for Current Planning

Cc: Peter Sachs, Architect

Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development

Ouida Young, Associate City Solicitor

RE: Request to increase already nonconforming FAR

Applicant: Peter Sachs		
Site: 37 Ferncroft Road	SBL: 53007 0015	
Zoning: SR-2	Lot Area: 12,659 square feet	
Current use: Single-family dwelling	Proposed use: No change	

BACKGROUND:

The property at 37 Ferncroft Road consists of a 12,659 square foot lot improved with a single-family residence constructed in 1937 with an attached garage. The structure consists of two and a half stories and a basement. The applicant proposes to construct a 170 square foot mudroom to the rear of the garage increasing the FAR from .45 to .46, which exceeds the .35 maximum allowed by right.

The following review is based on plans and materials submitted to date as noted below.

- Zoning Review Application, prepared by Peter Sachs, architect, submitted 4/14/2014
- FAR Worksheet, prepared by Peter Sachs, architect, submitted 4/14/2014
- Plan of Land, prepared by VTP Associates, dated 3/12/2014
- Architectural Plans, signed and stamped by Peter Sachs, architect, dated 3/4/2014, revised 3/7/2014 and 3/14/2014
 - First floor plan proposed
 - Rear elevation proposed
 - o Side elevation proposed
 - FAR calculations
 - Basement floor plan existing
 - o First floor plan existing



- Second floor plan existing
- o Front elevation existing
- o Rear elevation existing

ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATIONS:

1. The proposed mudroom addition increases the structure's nonconforming FAR from .45, to .46, which exceeds the .35 maximum permitted by the Ordinance per Section 30-15, Table A. To construct the addition as proposed, the applicant must obtain a special permit from the Board of Aldermen per Section 30-15(u)(2) and Section 30-21(b).

SR2 Zone	Required	Existing	Proposed
Lot Size	10,000 square feet	19,071 square feet	No change
Frontage	80 feet	120 feet	No change
Setbacks			
• Front	25 feet	39.8 feet	No change
• Side	7.5 feet	7.6 feet	No change
• Rear	15 feet	48.7 feet	No change
FAR	.35	.45	.46
Max Lot Coverage	30%	16.3%	17.7%
Min. Open Space	50%	73.9%	72.6%

1. See "Zoning Relief Summary" below:

Zoning Relief Required				
Ordinance		Action Required		
§30-15 Table A,	Exceed nonconforming Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	S.P. per §30-24		
30-15(u)(2)				
30-21(b)				