

City of Newton, Massachusetts

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

Barney S. Heath Director

ZONING REVIEW MEMORANDUM

- Date: December 23, 2020
- To: John Lojek, Commissioner of Inspectional Services
- From: Jane Santosuosso, Chief Zoning Code Official Neil Cronin, Chief Planner for Current Planning
- Cc: Henry Finch, Architect Bhamini Vaidialingam and Venka Sarma Ravi, Applicants Barney S. Heath, Director of Planning and Development Jonah Temple, Assistant City Solicitor

RE: Request to extend nonconforming front setbacks

Applicant: Bhamini Vaidialingam and Venka Sarma Ravi		
Site: 4 Clarendon Street	SBL: 22009 0001	
Zoning: MR1	Lot Area: 5,823 square feet	
Current use: Single-family dwelling	Proposed use: No change	

BACKGROUND:

The property at 4 Clarendon Street consists of a 5,823 square foot corner lot improved with a singlefamily residence built in 1925. The petitioner proposes to construct a second story addition, vertically extending the nonconforming front setback on both Clarendon Street and Norwood Avenue. Additionally, a one-story greenhouse and enclosed porch will be constructed on the side of the dwelling.

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

- Zoning Review Application, prepared by Henry Finch, architect, submitted 12/6/2021
- Existing Conditions Plan of Land, signed and stamped by Bruce Bradford, surveyor, dated 8/21/2020
- Proposed Conditions Plan of Land, signed and stamped by Bruce Bradford, surveyor, dated 8/31/2020, revised 11/5/2020



ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATIONS:

 The dwelling was constructed 8.9 feet from Clarendon Street and 14.9 feet from Norwood Avenue. Utilizing the average front setbacks of the abutting properties per section 1.5.3.B, the required front setback from Clarendon Street is 20.4 feet while25 feet is required from Norwood Avenue. The petitioners seek to construct a 1.5-story addition vertically extending the nonconforming front setbacks, requiring a special permit per sections 3.2.3 and 7.8.2.C.2.

MR1 Zone	Required	Existing	Proposed
Lot Size	7,000 square feet	5,823 square feet	No change
Frontage	80 feet	85 feet	No change
Setbacks			
 Front (Clarendon St) 	20.4 feet	8.9 feet	No change*
 Front (Norwood Ave) 	25 feet	14.9 feet	No change*
• Side	7.5 feet	11.7 feet	7.7 feet
• Rear	15 feet	39.2 feet	39.2 feet
Max Stories	2.5	1.5	2.5
Max Height	36 feet	NA	34.6 feet
FAR	.56	.30	.53
Max Lot Coverage	30%	23.7%	26.3%
Min. Open Space	50%	68%	65%

*Requires relief

1. See "Zoning Relief Summary" below:

Zoning Relief Required			
Ordinance		Action Required	
§3.2.3	Request to vertically extend nonconforming front	S.P. per §7.3.3	
§7.8.2.C.2	setbacks		