

# 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: July 7, 2022

- To: John Lojek, Commissioner of Inspectional Services
- From: Jane Santosuosso, Chief Zoning Code Official Katie Whewell, Chief Planner for Current Planning
- Cc: Sean Zheng, Applicant Barney S. Heath, Director of Planning and Development Jonah Temple, Deputy City Solicitor
- RE: Request to extend a nonconforming detached accessory structure and to further increase nonconforming FAR

Applicant: Sean Zheng		
Site: 34 Westbourne Rd	SBL: 73044 0012	
Zoning: SR2	Lot Area: 7,640 square feet	
Current use: Single-family dwelling	Proposed use: No change	

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The property at 34 Westbourne Road consists of a 7,640 square foot lot improved with a single-family dwelling constructed circa 1895. The petitioner proposes to raze the detached garage and construct a new larger garage which will further extend the nonconforming setbacks and increase the nonconforming FAR, requiring a special permit.

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

- Zoning Review Application, prepared Sean Zheng, applicant, dated 4/6/2022
- Existing conditions plan, submitted 4/6/2022
- Proposed Conditions Plot Plan, signed and stamped by Alexander Crucioli, surveyor, dated 2/28/2022, revised 5/31/2022
- Floor Plans and Elevations, signed and stamped by John Karavolas, civil engineer, submitted 4/6/2022
- FAR calculations, submitted 4/6/2022

### ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATIONS:

- The petitioners propose to raze the existing 324 square foot detached garage structure at the rear
  of the property and construct a 528 square foot detached garage. The proposed construction
  increases the nonconforming FAR from .44 to .47, where .42 is the maximum allowed per sections
  3.1.3 and 3.1.9. A special permit per section 7.8.2.C.2 is required to further increase the
  nonconforming FAR.
- 2. The detached garage has a nonconforming side setback of 3 feet where 5 feet is required per section 3.4.3.A.1. The petitioners propose to further extend the nonconforming side setback four feet towards the front, further extending the nonconformity, requiring a special permit per section 7.8.2.C.2.
- 3. The detached garage has a nonconforming rear setback of 2.3 feet where 5 feet is required per section 3.4.3.A.1. The proposed construction extends the nonconforming rear setback southward and further reduces it to 2 feet, requiring a special permit per section 7.8.2.C.2

SR2 Zone	Required	Existing	Proposed
Lot Size	10,000 square feet	7,640 square feet	No change
Frontage	80 feet	78.6 feet	No change
Setbacks (Accessory)			
Front	25 feet	>70 feet	>70 feet
• Side	5 feet	3 feet	No change*
• Rear	5 feet	2.3 feet	2 feet*
Height (Accessory)	22 feet	NA	19 feet
Stories (Accessory)	1.5	1	1
FAR	.41	.44	.47*
Max Lot Coverage	30%	20.1%	22.8%
Min. Open Space	50%	59.8%	57.1%
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\*Requires relief

See "Zoning Relief Summary" below:

Zoning Relief Required			
Ordinance		Action Required	
§3.1.3	To further increase nonconforming FAR	S.P. per §7.3.3	
§3.1.9			
§7.8.2.C.2			
§3.4.3.A.1	To further extend a nonconforming side setback in a	S.P. per §7.3.3	
§7.8.2.C.2	detached garage		
§3.4.3.A.1	To further extend and reduce a nonconforming rear	S.P. per §7.3.3	
§7.8.2.C.2	setback in a detached garage		