



TOWN OF TIBURON
1505 Tiburon Boulevard
Tiburon, CA 94920

Design Review Board Meeting
March 17, 2016
Agenda Item: **1**

STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Design Review Board

From: Planning Manager Watrous

Subject: 2225 Vistazo East Street; File Nos. VAR2015022/DR2015145; Site Plan and Architecture Review for Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling (Continued from February 18, 2016)

Reviewed By: _____

BACKGROUND

The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for the construction of a new two-story single-family dwelling on property located at 2225 Vistazo East Street. The subject property is currently vacant.

This application was first reviewed at the February 18, 2016 Design Review Board meeting. At that meeting, several property owners in the vicinity raised concerns about the overall size and visual mass of the proposed house, compatibility with the surrounding neighborhood, and the proposed widening of the private roadway of Vistazo East Street.

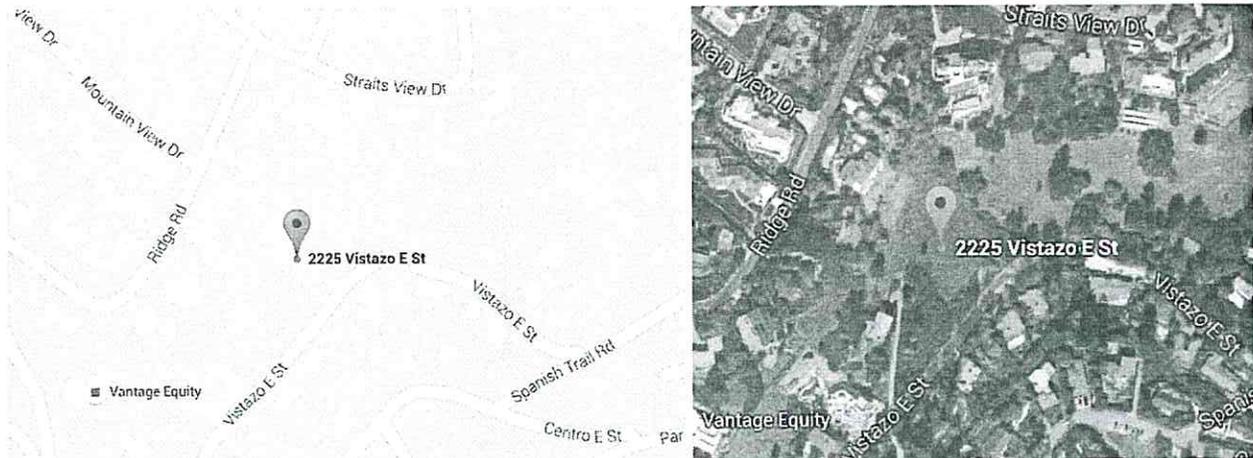
The Design Review Board shared the concerns about the overall size of the house, concluding that a variance for excess lot coverage was not warranted for a house of this size on such a large lot. The Board also raised objections to a proposed rooftop deck, the amount of glazing on the front of the house and the overall roof height. The Board determined that the proposed street widening was a requirement of the Fire District and would not be a substantial change to the neighborhood. The Board directed the applicant to revise the house design to address these issues and continued the application to the March 17, 2016 meeting.

The applicant has now submitted revised plans for the project. The overall floor plans and house layout on the site have not been substantially changed. The lower floor was reduced by 95 square feet and the upper floor reduced by 5 square feet. The garage was reduced by 144 square feet. The rooftop deck and putting green were removed. The overall roof height was lowered by one foot. The swimming pool was shortened in depth. The windows on the building elevations appear to be unchanged.

The floor area of the proposed house has been reduced by 100 square feet to would be 5,730 square feet, with the garage reduced in size by 144 square feet to 716 square feet, resulting in a

total floor area which would be 328 square feet less than the floor area ratio for a lot of this size. The lot coverage of proposed house has been reduced by 535 square feet to cover 6,260 square feet (15.0%) of the site, which is 1 square foot less than the 15.0% maximum lot coverage permitted in the RO-2 zone. A variance is therefore no longer requested for excess lot coverage.

PROJECT SETTING



ANALYSIS

Design Issues

The revised house design appears to respond to many of the issues raised by the Design Review Board, although most of the changes are minor or incremental in nature. The lot coverage was reduced almost the absolute minimum necessary to eliminate the need for a variance. The floor area of the house was reduced by 1.7% and the one foot height reduction is similarly small in scope. The elimination of the rooftop deck and putting green would eliminate one potential privacy concern.

The Design Review Board should evaluate the revised project design and determine if the changes are sufficient to address the concerns raised at the February 18, 2016 meeting.

Zoning

Staff has reviewed the proposal and finds that it is in conformance with the development standards for the RO-2 zone. The applicant is no longer requesting a variance for excess lot coverage.

Public Comment

As of the date of this report, no letters have been received regarding the subject application since the February 18, 2016 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

The Design Review Board should review this project with respect to Zoning Ordinance Sections 16-52.020 (H) (Guiding Principles) and determine that the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as specified in Section 15303. If the Board agrees with staff's conclusions, it is recommended that the attached conditions of approval be applied.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Conditions of approval
2. Design Review Board staff report dated February 18, 2016
3. Minutes of the February 18, 2016 Design Review Board meeting
4. Submitted plans

Prepared By: Daniel M. Watrous, Planning Manager

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

2225 VISTAZO EAST STREET

FILE #VAR2015022/DR2015145

1. This approval shall be used within three (3) years of the approval date, and shall become null and void unless a building permit has been issued.
2. Construction shall conform with the application dated by the Town of Tiburon on November 17, 2015, or as amended by these conditions of approval. Any modifications to the plans of March 3, 2016 must be reviewed and approved by the Design Review Board.
3. Project elements shown on construction drawings submitted to the Building Division for plan check shall be essentially identical to those project elements shown on drawings approved by the Design Review Board. The permit holder is responsible for clearly identifying on construction drawings any and all changes to project elements. Such changes must be clearly highlighted (with a "bubble" or "cloud") on the construction drawings. A list describing in detail all such changes shall be submitted and attached to the construction drawings, with a signature block to be signed by the Planning Division Staff member indicating whether these changes have been reviewed and are approved, or will require additional Design Review approval. All such changes that have not been explicitly approved by the Town are not "deemed approved" if not highlighted and listed on construction drawings. Construction of any such unapproved project elements is in violation of permit approvals and shall be subject to Stop Work Orders and removal.
4. The applicant must meet all requirements of other agencies prior to the issuance of a building permit for this project.
5. All exterior lighting fixtures other than those approved by the Design Review Board must be down-light-type fixtures.
6. All skylights shall be bronzed or tinted in a non-reflective manner (minimum 25%) and no lights shall be placed in the wells.
7. If this approval is challenged by a third party, the property owner/applicant will be responsible for defending against this challenge. The property owner/applicant agrees to defend, indemnify and hold the Town of Tiburon harmless from any costs, claims or liabilities arising from the approval, including, without limitations, any award of attorney's fees that might result from the third party challenge.
8. A construction sign shall be posted on the site during construction of the project, in a location plainly visible to the public. The sign shall be 24" x 24" in size and shall be made of durable, weather-resistant materials intended to survive the life of the construction

period. The sign shall contain the following information: job street address; work hours allowed per Chapter 13 of the Tiburon Municipal Code; builder (company name, city, state, ZIP code); project manager (name and phone number); and emergency contact (name and phone number reachable at all times). The sign shall be posted at the commencement of work and shall remain posted until the contractor has vacated the site

9. A copy of the Planning Division's "Notice of Action" including the attached "Conditions of Approval" for this project shall be copied onto a plan sheet at the beginning of the plan set(s) submitted for building permits.
10. A photovoltaic energy system shall be installed in compliance with the requirements of Section 16-40.080 of the Tiburon Zoning Ordinance.
11. Prior to issuing a grading or building permit the applicant shall implement measures for site design, source control, run-off reduction and stormwater treatment as found in the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agency Association (BASMAA) Post-Construction Manual available at the Planning Division or online at the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP) website at www.mcstoppp.org.
12. All requirements of the Town Engineer shall be met, including, but not limited to, the following, which shall be noted on building plan check plans:
 - a. The public right-of-way shall be protected from damage during construction, or repairs shall be made to the satisfaction of the Tiburon Public Works Department.
 - b. Any proposal that would encroach onto the public right-of-way is not permitted. This would include fences, retaining walls and other structures.
 - c. Typical encroachments, such as driveway approaches, walkways, drainage facilities, and short-height landscaping, need to be processed through a standard Public Works encroachment permit application with plans for review.
 - d. Storm drain improvements shall be designed in accordance with Marin County criteria. Hydrology calculations, pipe sizing and storm drain plans shall be submitted for the review and approval by the Town Engineer.
 - e. No lot-to-lot drainage is allowed except where easements for drainage are provided. No drainage shall discharge across sidewalks.
 - f. Post-development stormwater flows shall be limited to pre-development levels. Detention basins or similar structures may be required. Calculations shall be submitted showing that post-development stormwater peak flows will not be greater than pre-development peak flows for the 10, 25 and 100 year, 30 minute event.

- g. All site drains and ditches shall be privately maintained and shall be contained within private storm drain easements. A 10 foot easement width is required for any pipes outside the right-of-way.
 - h. An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) shall be required to document and identify potential pollution sources that may affect stormwater runoff discharges from the site and best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented to prevent such discharges.
 - i. Sewer easements shall be protected at all times and no construction shall take place on or beneath such easements.
 - j. A civil engineer shall prepare a detailed site drainage plan and incorporate the erosion control notes for review and approval by the Building Division and Engineering Division.
10. The final landscape and irrigation plans must comply with the current water efficient landscape requirements of MMWD, including, but not limited to, the following:
- a. A High Pressure Water Service application shall be completed.
 - b. A copy of the building permit for this project shall be submitted.
 - c. Appropriate fees and charges shall be paid.
 - d. The structure's foundation shall be completed within 120 days of the application.
 - e. The project shall comply with all indoor and outdoor requirements of District Code Title 13 (Water Conservation). Plans shall be submitted and reviewed to confirm compliance. The following items are required:
 - 1. Verification of indoor fixtures compliance.
 - 2. Landscape plan.
 - 3. Irrigation plan.
 - 4. Grading plan.
 - f. Compliance with the backflow prevention requirements, if, upon the District's review backflow protection is warranted, including installation, testing and maintenance.
 - g. Compliance with District requirements for installation of gray water recycling systems.
11. The project shall comply with the requirements of the California Fire Code and the Tiburon Fire Protection District, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. The structure shall have installed throughout an automatic fire sprinkler system. The system design, installation and final testing shall be approved by the District Fire Prevention Officer. The automatic fire sprinkler system shall be upgraded to a NFPA 13R system. CFC 903.2
 - b. Access shall extend to within 150 feet of all portions of the facility and all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility. Additional fire personnel steps shall be installed to the satisfaction of the Fire District. CFC 503.1.1
 - c. Approved smoke alarms shall be installed to provide protection to all sleeping areas. CFC 907.2.10
 - d. The vegetation on this parcel shall comply with the requirements of TFPD and the recommendations of Fire Safe Marin. CFC 304.1.2
 - e. The access gate shall have a minimum unobstructed width of 12 feet. Gates shall be operable using the Fire District's "Knox" key system. CFC 503.6.2
 - f. The water mains and new fire hydrant shall be installed and made serviceable prior to the start of any construction above the foundation. CFC 501.4
 - g. The fire apparatus road slope shall comply with Fire District Standard 503.2.1. Alternative means of protection shall include widening the roadway of Vistazo East Street to 12 feet and adding a fire hydrant at on Vistazo East Street at the driveway entrance to the subject property.
13. The project shall comply with all requirements of Sanitary District No. 5.
 14. A construction staging plan shall be approved by the Building Official prior to issuance of a building permit for this project.



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Design Review Board Meeting
February 18, 2016
Agenda Item: **1**

STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Design Review Board

From: Planning Manager Watrous

Subject: 2225 Vistazo East Street; File Nos. VAR2015022/DR2015145; Site Plan and Architecture Review for Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling, with a Variance for Excess Lot Coverage

Reviewed By: _____

PROJECT DATA

ADDRESS: 2225 VISTAZO EAST STREET
OWNER: SHOR CAPITAL, LLC
APPLICANT: COUTURE ARCHITECTURE
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL: 059-091-55
FILE NUMBERS: VAR2015022/DR2015145
LOT SIZE: 41,740 SQUARE FEET
ZONING: RO-2 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL-OPEN)
GENERAL PLAN: M (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL)
FLOOD ZONE: X
DATE COMPLETE: FEBRUARY 2, 2016

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

Town Planning Division Staff has made a preliminary determination that this proposal would be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as specified in Section 15303.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for the construction of a new two-story single-family dwelling on property located at 2225 Vistazo East Street. The subject property is currently vacant.

The upper floor of the house would include a living room, dining room, kitchen, family room and a master bedroom suite, along with a mud room and an additional bathroom. The lower floor would include four more bedrooms and bathrooms, along with a media room, laundry room, wine

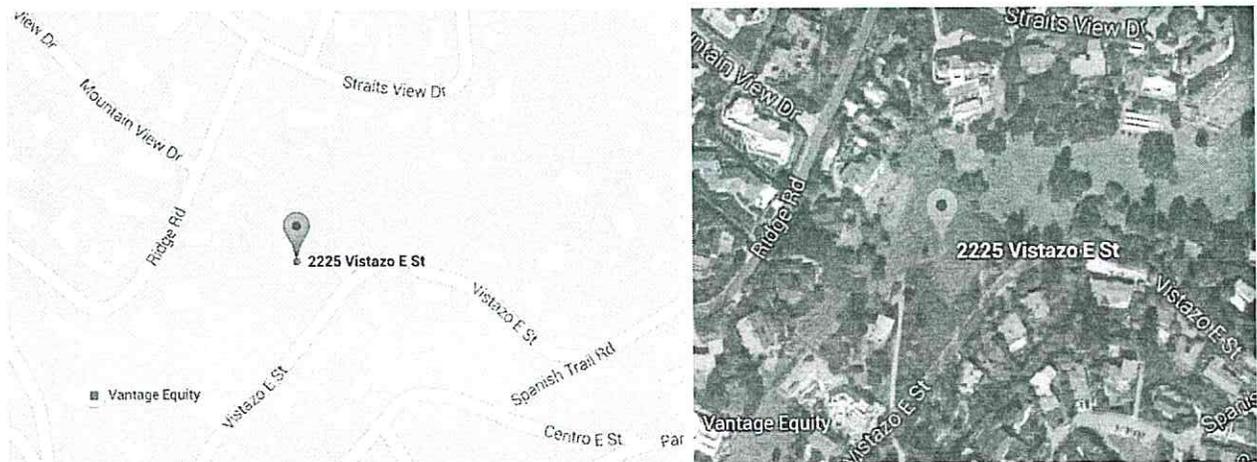
cellar and storage room. Decks would extend off both floors to the east and patios would be located at ground level on several sides of the building. A roof deck would cover much of the southern portion of the upper floor. A swimming pool would be situated off the upper floor. A 6 foot tall wood and wire deer fence would surround most of the lot.

An attached three-car garage would be situated on the uphill side of the house. Vehicular access to the house would be provided by a long driveway leading uphill from the street below, bordered by retaining walls up to 6.5 feet in height. A driveway gate would be installed near the bottom of the site.

The floor area of the proposed house would be 5,830 square feet, with 860 square feet of garage space, which is 84 square feet less than the floor area ratio for a lot of this size. The proposed house would cover 6,795 square feet (16.3%) of the site, which is greater than the 15.0% maximum lot coverage permitted in the RO-2 zone. A variance is therefore requested for excess lot coverage.

A color and materials board has been submitted, and will be present at the meeting for the Board to review. The structure would be finished with cedar and limestone siding with black trim. The color and materials of the flat roof has not been specified, but a living roof would be installed above the garage and a portion of the upper floor adjacent to the proposed roof deck.

PROJECT SETTING



The subject property is steeply sloped, with frontage on Vistazo East Street below, accessed from Diviso Street to the west. The portion of Vistazo East directly adjacent to the site is a private street. The lot is situated below homes in the Hillhaven neighborhood along Ridge Road and Straits View Drive.

BACKGROUND

On May 15, 1997, the Design Review Board held a public hearing to consider the approval of a Site Plan and Architectural Review application (File #797029) for construction of a new 6,668

square foot single-family residence on the subject property by a prior property owner. Over the course of three meetings, nearby property owners and the Board raised concerns about the size and scale of the home compared to other dwellings in the vicinity, while the applicant made only minor changes to the project design. On October 2, 1997, the Board adopted Resolution No. 97-1 (**Exhibit 3**) denying the application.

The applicant appealed this decision to the Town Council, which heard the appeal on February 4, 1998. The Council concurred with the decision of the Design Review Board and adopted Resolution No. 3267 (**Exhibit 4**) denying the appeal, finding in particular that the mass, bulk and size of the proposed house was incompatible with the character of the Old Tiburon neighborhood.

Several years later, the same property owner submitted a Site Plan and Architectural Review application for a similar house design, prepared by a different architect. The application was never deemed complete and was ultimately withdrawn.

ANALYSIS

Design Issues

The proposed home would be situated on the upper portion of the site. Story poles have been erected for the proposed house. Existing vegetation along the uphill side of the street provides some screening of the house site, but would likely be removed during construction of the project. However, the homes below on Vistazo East Street are oriented away from the site toward Angel Island and Raccoon Strait, with limited views uphill toward the site of the proposed house, so the removal of this screening should have little effect on views from these nearby residences.

The proposed house would be situated well below the nearest uphill homes along Ridge Road. An evaluation of the story poles indicates that the house should not intrude into water views from any of these uphill neighboring dwellings. There are no other nearby homes on the same elevation as the subject property with sideways views across the proposed house location.

The private roadway of Vistazo East Street is very narrow in the area of the site. The Tiburon Fire Protection District will require that the street be widened to 12 feet to provide better emergency access to the site and that a fire hydrant be installed near the street.

The design of the proposed home is more consistent with the design of other homes in the vicinity than the design proposed in 1997 for this property. The previous house design featured a Mediterranean theme, with stucco walls and tile roofing, and a third level below for a garage in front of the house. The driveway design also included stucco walls much taller than 6 feet. The more contemporary design of the currently proposed house would spread the house more horizontally on the site and blend with the hillside in a manner more consistent with the Hillside Design Guidelines.

The previous project review included an analysis of the floor area of 31 homes in the vicinity of the subject property and found that 25 of these 31 homes were less than half the size of the proposed house. Although the proposed house would have only a slightly smaller floor area than

the previous house design, a number of larger homes have been approved and built in the adjacent Hillhaven neighborhood since 1997. As a result, the floor area of the proposed house would appear to be more consistent with the sizes of other homes in the vicinity than that of the previously requested dwelling.

Zoning

Staff has reviewed the proposal and finds that it is in conformance with the development standards for the RO-2 zone, with the exception of the requested variance for excess lot coverage.

In order to grant the requested variance, the Board must make all of the following findings required by Section 16-52.030 (E) of the Tiburon Zoning Ordinance:

- 1. Because of special circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings, the strict application of this Ordinance will deprive the applicant of privileges enjoyed by other properties in the vicinity and in the same or similar zones.***

The subject property is very steep, with no level area upon which to develop a new dwelling or surrounding improvements. The strict application of the maximum lot coverage requirement would deprive the owners of this property of development privileges enjoyed by other properties in the vicinity.

- 2. The Variance will not constitute a grant of special privileges, inconsistent with the limitations upon other properties in the vicinity and in the same or substantially the same zone.***

Numerous other properties in the RO-2 or similar zones have received variances for excess lot coverage, although many such variances have been approved to maintain a one-story house design, in contrast to the proposed two-story home.

- 3. The strict application of this Zoning Ordinance would result in practical difficulty or unnecessary physical hardship. Self-created hardships may not be considered among the factors that might constitute special circumstances. A self-created hardship results from actions taken by present or prior owners of the property that consciously create the very difficulties or hardships claimed as the basis for an application for a Variance.***

The proposed house design includes substantial deck and pool areas that count toward the calculated lot coverage for this project. Although these outdoor spaces could be reduced in size to comply with the maximum allowable lot coverage, the applicant contends that this space is necessary to provide usable outdoor space which would otherwise be infeasible on such a steep lot. The strict interpretation of the lot coverage requirement would result in a project design that would not accommodate outdoor uses normally associated with a new single-family dwelling.

4. *The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to other properties in the vicinity.*

As noted above, the proposed project would not create substantial view or privacy impacts for other homes in the vicinity.

From the evidence provided, Staff believes that there is sufficient evidence to support the findings for the requested variance.

Public Comment

As of the date of this report, no letters have been received regarding the subject application.

RECOMMENDATION

The Design Review Board should review this project with respect to Zoning Ordinance Sections 16-52.020 (H) (Guiding Principles) and determine that the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as specified in Section 15303. If the Board agrees with staff's conclusions, it is recommended that the attached conditions of approval be applied.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Conditions of approval
2. Application and supplemental materials
3. Design Review Board Resolution No. 97-1
4. Town Council Resolution No. 3267
5. Submitted plans

Prepared By: Daniel M. Watrous, Planning Manager

**MINUTES #2
TIBURON DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2016**

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Tollini.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Tollini, Vice Chair Kricensky, Boardmembers Chong, Cousins and Emberson

Absent: None

Ex-Officio: Planning Manager Watrous and Associate Planner O'Malley

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

C. STAFF BRIEFING

Planning Manager Watrous stated that the item for 681 Hawthorne Drive was continued to the March 3, 2016 meeting.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **2225 VISTAZO EAST STREET:** File No. VAR2015022/DR2015145; Shor Capital, LLC, Owner; Site Plan and Architectural Review for construction of a new single-family dwelling, with a Variance for excess lot coverage. The applicant proposes to construct a new 5,830 square foot house. The lot coverage of the house would be 6,795 square feet (16.3%), which is greater than the 15.0% maximum lot coverage permitted in the RO-2 zone. Assessor's Parcel No. 059-091-55.

The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for the construction of a new two-story single-family dwelling on property located at 2225 Vistazo East Street. The upper floor of the house would include a living room, dining room, kitchen, family room and a master bedroom suite, along with a mud room and an additional bathroom. The lower floor would include four more bedrooms and bathrooms, along with a media room, laundry room, wine cellar and storage room. Decks would extend off both floors to the east and patios would be located at ground level on several sides of the building. A roof deck would cover much of the southern portion of the upper floor. A swimming pool would be situated off the upper floor. A 6 foot tall wood and wire deer fence would surround most of the lot. An attached three-car garage would be situated on the uphill side of the house. Vehicular access to the house would be provided by a long driveway leading uphill from the street below, bordered by retaining walls up to 6.5 feet in height. A driveway gate would be installed near the bottom of the site.

The floor area of the proposed house would be 5,830 square feet, with 860 square feet of garage space, which is 84 square feet less than the floor area ratio for a lot of this size. The proposed

house would cover 6,795 square feet (16.3%) of the site, which is greater than the 15.0% maximum lot coverage permitted in the RO-2 zone. A variance is therefore requested for excess lot coverage.

Scott Couture, architect, said that when they first started the project they reached out to neighbors with a letter and they met with several residents and corresponded with others by email. He said that they took the neighbors' advice to not block views or create a design similar to the Frankovich project that was previously proposed on the property that was denied. He noted that the roadway is about 10 feet wide and very narrow and the neighbors have told them that they like that and did not want the road widened or connected through to Paradise Drive. He stated that because this is a steep hillside lot, there were only a few options for the fire truck turnaround, so a turnaround at the base would require extensive retaining walls 12-15 feet tall, but a turnaround in the corner of the property near the existing acacia trees was the best solution. He said that they were able to tuck the driveway up and around the house and locate the garage underground without requiring extensive retaining walls, which was a good solution to reduce the visual mass of the house. He said that the house was designed around the location of the driveway and garage. He said that the fire district required that the roadway be widened to 12 feet and that a fire hydrant be installed.

Mr. Couture stated that the house would be well below the height limit, with only one section that would touch the 30 foot height limit. He said that the garage would be fully buried and be landscaped on top. He said that no skylights were proposed to eliminate uphill glare issues. He described the landscape plan and pointed out existing trees and proposed trees to be planted for screening. He stated that this would be a low profile house that would step up the hillside. He felt that they had addressed the neighbors' screening concerns by planting trees and hedges.

Boardmember Emberson asked Mr. Couture to explain the difference between placing the garage under the house and digging into the hillside since each would require excavation. Mr. Couture said that it was a matter of appearance and described the impact of placing the garage in both locations.

Chair Tollini asked if the 1997 "Frankovich" project was ever approved. Planning Manager Watrous said that it was denied, then denied on appeal.

The public hearing was opened.

Carol McKegney said that she owns the vacant lot adjoining the site and said that she did not receive any contact until she contacted the applicant. She stated that the homes on Vistazo East Street are all under 4,000 square feet and she believed that this larger home would set a precedent. She also noted that there are some live springs in that area.

Lawrence Stotter said that he has lived in his home since the 1960s and almost everyone in the neighborhood is very pleased with the natural atmosphere. He said that he was very concerned that other improvements in the area have all been within the 3,500 to 4,500 square foot range. He stated that the previous application was rejected in 1997 when the Town found that the mass, bulk, and size of the proposed home was incompatible with the character of the Old Tiburon

neighborhood. He said that this proposed project would be totally different and he was concerned that the property was not being developed by someone living in the neighborhood. He requested the Board take the same action as on the 1997 project, for the same reasons.

James Bernhisel said that this property is incredibly steep. He was struck by the appearance of the solar panels which would be visible from his property. He noted that a rooftop deck and putting green was proposed at the highest point of the property, so he would be looking down on chairs, people, and noise, and he suggested moving the deck space to an area that is more private. He felt that the house should be moved downhill to be consistent with other houses in the area. He was also concerned about the height of the plantings if allowed to grow to full height.

Alison Swearingen said that she rents a home on Carol McKegney's property. She said that she has gotten to know the character of the neighborhood and felt that there is something special about it and the people. She characterized building a large mansion on this property for profit as out of place and greedy.

David Peterson said that Vistazo East Street consists of two dead end roads, one of which is gravel. He said that the houses in the Hillhaven neighborhood are similar in scale to the proposed house, but there is nothing like this proposed house on Vistazo East. He characterized the project as a "trophy" house that would be inconsistent with the neighborhood. He felt that the amount of decking would invite parties and there is no parking or ability to accommodate that amount of cars on the road. He had noise and light concerns for the deck. He noted that the site is in an RO-2 zone but it is served by a road that serves R-1 zoned dwellings.

Ann Diemer said that she was just learning about the project and she was concerned how the logistics would be handled on this road during the construction phase. She was also concerned with light pollution from the structure and the effect it would have on the neighborhood.

Mr. Couture agreed with the residents that developers can be difficult and described how he has worked in his practice with developers to be sensitive to the neighbors. He explained their neighborhood outreach efforts and said that they tried to be as forthcoming as possible. He stated that this lot has been vacant for a long time and the neighborhood may have gotten used to it as open space, but it is the property owner's right to be able to develop their property. He said that they utilized the Hillside Design Guidelines to the fullest and minimized the appearance and mass of the building. He thought that the home would fit nicely in the neighborhood and was designed with a lot of screening without creating any view blockages. He said that the solar panels would be well hidden on the site by existing landscaping and this seemed like the best location for them. He said that the developer wants to build a high quality house and wants it to fit in with the neighborhood. He said that construction parking would be on site.

Chair Tollini asked if any calculations were done to determine the net off haul of dirt. Mr. Couture stated that it would be just over 6,000 cubic yards.

The public hearing was closed.

Boardmember Chong asked if the State of California prevents the Board from discussing solar panels. Planning Manager Watrous said that the Board cannot discuss solar panels or suggest moving them.

Boardmember Emberson said that the house design was gorgeous, but it is not appropriate for the site. She said that the home would be appropriate for Ridge Road, but inconsistent with the smaller and less impactful houses on Vistazo East. She suggested that the house was positioned to capture views and not to avoid retaining walls. She said that the windows would be massive and the south facing windows would face the sun all day long. She agreed with the neighbors that the road is small and the house is too big and it does not fit on this street. She thought that the decking was massive. She said that she could not make the findings for the variance and suggested reducing the size of the house.

Vice-Chair Kricensky said that he liked the design of the house and that it was worked into the hillside. However, he felt that the house was not compatible with the neighborhood. He said that maximizing the floor area would make the house loom over the other homes below. He felt that placing the house lower on the site may not help, but that better colors might help. He thought that the house was too big and that a variance was not needed on such a large lot. He thinks the rooftop deck and putting green are inappropriate. He noted that large overhangs are necessary to shade the large windows, but was concerned with the amount and height of glazing.

Boardmember Cousins said that he liked the design of the house and he understood why the owner was requesting to build a house of this size. He said that he would not support a variance but found the floor area to be acceptable. He felt that moving the garage above the house made it less visible from the top and that the driveway was less intrusive. He said that there was a tremendous amount of exterior decking. He said that he would like to reduce the apparent mass of the house, possibly by reducing the decks and eliminating the rooftop deck. He also requested a reduction or some screening of the large windows on the eastern side.

Boardmember Chong said that he visited the site and said that he could have possibly supported the variance, as the outdoor space requires more lot coverage. He noted the list of concerns from the neighbors and agreed that the rooftop deck should be eliminated. He stated that the Fire District required widening the road. He said that a small house at the bottom of the lot is not appropriate for such a large site. He did not think that the project would fundamentally change the character of the neighborhood.

Chair Tollini noted that there are different zones for properties across the street from each other and there will be different houses on different sized lots. He said that the only recently developed lot on the uphill side has a very large house. He stated that this is a huge lot and will have a large house one way or another, but there are things that can be done to make the house feel smaller. He said that he could not support the variance and noted that the roof would be almost 30 feet tall at one point. He said that he would like to see the height of the roof brought down, and louvers or cutting down for the glazing on the east side. He agreed that the rooftop deck did not work. He believed that expanding the road to 12 feet would make it safer and not take away from its charm. He stated that mounding up the grade below the pool represented an artificial approach to developing the site.

Boardmember Chong and Chair Tollini summarized the Board's concerns that 1) variances should be avoided as a starting point for size reduction; 2) no rooftop deck; 3) reduce the glazing on the downhill and east sides; and 4) lowering the roof height.

ACTION: It was M/S (Emberson/Tollini) to continue the application for 2225 Vistazo East Street to the March 17, 2016 meeting. Vote: 5-0.

2. **4030 PARADISE DRIVE:** File No. FAE2015014/DR2015142; Taylor Lembi, Owner; Site Plan and Architectural Review for construction of additions to an existing single-family dwelling, with a Floor Area Exception. The applicant proposes to add 1,601 square feet of basement and a 214 square foot ground level addition to the existing house. The project would result in 5,283 square feet of floor area, which is greater than the 4,800 square foot floor area ratio for a lot of this size. Assessor's Parcel No. 039-091-11.

The applicant is requesting design review approval for the construction of additions to an existing single-family dwelling, with a floor area exception, on property located at 4030 Paradise Drive. The existing 3,468 square foot single-family dwelling includes a dining room, kitchen, living room, family room, and a bathroom on the main level; and a master bedroom suite, bathroom, and two bedrooms on the upper level. There is also an existing multi-level detached accessory structure with a 492 square foot garage in the front property and wooden decks to the sides and rears of the site.

As part of an interior remodel and additions to the existing home, the proposal would add a 1,601 square foot lower level, which includes a playroom, gym, laundry room, bathroom, and master bedroom suite. A 214 square foot addition to the main level would include a great room and library. Other improvements include new wooden decks with glass railings at the main level and lower level; a rooftop deck over a portion of the new addition; four new skylights; a new chimney; and solar panels on the roof of the main structure and accessory structure. A new pool, spa, BBQ area and retaining walls would be located in the rear adjacent to the lower level deck.

The proposal would result in lot coverage of 4,115.5 square feet (14.7%), which is below the maximum 15% permitted lot coverage in the RO-2 zone. The proposal would result in a floor area of 5,283 square feet, which is 483 square feet above the 4,800 square foot floor area ratio for the property. A floor area exception is therefore required.

Taylor Lembi, owner, introduced his architect who will make the presentation.

Yakuh Askew, architect, said that the owner wished to update the house and they tried to be as respectful of the existing house as possible. He said that this is a steep site and said that they wanted to provide additional outdoor space, so the remodel includes a pool which terraces down to meet the landscaping and some "pocket" outdoor spaces. He said that they wanted to bury the addition below the residence to allow better open space off the main area. He said that they were also updating and improving the design of the residence. He reviewed the materials and showed additional images of the residence.